

SCALES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Innovator

Scales Kindergarten Teachers Share What Their Students Are Learning



Kindergartners experienced the sights, sounds, and smells of the farm.

A Farm Field Trip- by teachers Karen McKenna, Najuana Robinson, and Karen Schmidt

Scales kindergarten classes visited Shamrock Farms to reinforce their recent study of farm animals and baby animals. At the farm, students saw cows grazing in the field and learned what kinds of grains cows eat. To illustrate how much food a cow eats in one day, Austin Jeffries of Ms. Schmidt's class participated in a demonstration. The students learned that it would take about 5 Austin's to make a meal for a cow. They enjoyed watching how cows were milked, petting and feeding baby cows, playing at the farm playground, and eating homemade ice cream. This was a great learning experience for the Scales kindergarten students. They all had a good time visiting the farm, but they did not enjoy the fresh air the cows made. Continued on page 2...

January 15, 2008

Issue 5

A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL DAVID DIOKNO

Welcome to 2008 and the fifth edition of the Scales Innovator! I hope you had a wonderful break and were able to catch up on valuable family time. Holidays are the perfect time for family bonding and provide much needed rest and relaxation which helps to recharge us for the coming challenges. I hope you are prepared for 2008 and have made New Year's resolutions to improve different facets of your life. Bringing in the New Year always signals a time for renewed energy and goal setting. 2008 is a very special year for us.

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Mid- January Calendar

18 and 25- 1:35 5th Grade Honor Choir Students to Connolly for rehearsal

21- **MLK Day- No School**

29- Kindergarten Roundup 5:30-7:30 p.m.

February 1st- 7:00 p.m. 5th Grade Honor Choir Concert with the Middle School Choir

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Teachers share...continued from page 1...

Kindergarten Technology Update- The kindergarten classes are fortunate to be able to use the school's mobile cart computer lab, which includes a dozen laptop computers. This allows our students to have daily use of the computers in addition to their regular learning time in the computer lab. Students explore and use sites like www.starfall.com. These websites reinforce the reading and learning they do each day. Our students write words and sentences on a mobile SMARTBoard (an interactive board that responds to touch and is connected to a computer). The kindergarteners are looking forward to learning more about technology this year and at the new Scales Technology Academy when it opens in August 2008.

Mr. Diokno continued from page 1...

It heralds the coming of our new school, Scales Technology Academy: A School for Innovative Learning. Preparing for a new school and focus is our challenge. We have so many things to think about for the coming school year. In preparation for Scales Technology Academy, the foundation for all we do is spelled out in our new Vision and Mission Statements: Vision Statement-- *Scales Technology Academy is an innovative learning community that promotes productive global citizens.* Mission Statement: *A balance of parent involvement, professional learning, and teaching for enduring understanding is necessary for each learner to achieve success at Scales Technology Academy.*

It is critical that each member of our community (staff, parents, and students) learns and lives by these simple statements. These will be the guiding principles for our school. How will we achieve success? By working together for our common goals, parents and teachers will be true partners in the learning process. Parents, please continue to be involved in your

child's education. Continue to have conversations about what they are learning in school, help and encourage them with homework, read with and to them, and most of all, **love them**. Children learn what they live... so please model your expectations.

Children Learn What They Live

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If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn.
If children live with hostility, they learn to fight.
If children live with fear, they learn to be apprehensive.
If children live with pity, they learn to feel sorry for themselves.
If children live with ridicule, they learn to feel shy.
If children live with jealousy, they learn to feel envy.
If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty.
If children live with encouragement, they learn confidence.
If children live with tolerance, they learn patience.
If children live with praise, they learn appreciation.
If children live with acceptance, they learn to love.
If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves.
If children live with recognition, they learn it is good to have a goal.
If children live with sharing, they learn generosity.
If children live with honesty, they learn truthfulness.
If children live with fairness, they learn justice.
If children live with kindness and consideration, they learn respect.
If children live with security, they learn to have faith in themselves and in those about them. If children live with friendliness, they learn the world is a nice place in which to live.



SCALES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A NOTE FROM THE NURSE

Many of our students have been struggling with colds, flu, ear infections, strep throat (which is contagious), and asthma issues these last few months. If you or your child cough for more than 3 days, have a high fever over 101 degrees °F and/or have a cold longer than 10 days, please see a doctor. For flu information, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>.

A simple cold can turn into a more serious illness. A cough that will not go away can become bronchitis or pneumonia or asthma, if untreated. Streptococcal throat infection can affect your heart. An untreated ear infection may lead to permanent loss of hearing.

Please see your nurse for treatment options if you do not have health insurance. Above all, do not send your sick child to school. Sick children need rest, fluids, and at times medicine from the doctor. Taking a multivitamin every day will help with your general health. For a stuffy nose and congestion, the latest research is saying that doing a salt-water nasal rinse at least 3x per day can be very effective in relieving symptoms. Good hand washing for 1 minute with soap and water, coughing into your elbow instead of your hands, and not sharing drinks or food will help prevent the spread of germs. Please teach your children all these things. We count on your support.

Streptococcal (Strep) Throat Infection symptoms: very painful to swallow, very bright red throat with possible white spots on tonsils, a high fever, body aches and fatigue. This requires a visit to the clinic for a throat swab to confirm an infection and prescription medicine to treat it. Strep is very contagious and a person must be on antibiotic medicine for 24 hours before he/she can return to school or work. Ear Infection Symptoms: a very painful ear, sometimes a fever. The nurse can look in your child's ear with an otoscope to check for this. A clinic visit is recommended for prescription medication.

For further information contact Scales School Nurse Halyna Chirovsky, RN, BSN, NCSN at 480-929-9909 ext 6903. Next month's health topic- Asthma

The Power of Logical Consequences by Dianne Berg, Counselor

Recently I met with parents who wanted help disciplining their child. I immediately thought of Active Parenting Today by Michael H. Popkin, Ph.D., which offers guidelines for applying logical consequences when correcting a child's misbehavior. Logical consequences are simply those rewards or punishments that should be connected to the misbehavior. They can be used to help teach the child responsibility for his/her actions.

The idea is to give the child a choice. This will help him/her learn to make better choices in the future. Two powerful types of choices are the either – or choice; and the when – then choice. With the either – or choice, you say, "Either you may do this ... or you may do that ... you decide." With the when – then choice, you say, "When you have chosen wisely – then you will be rewarded."

Ask the child to help set up the consequences. Even if he/she doesn't have a suggestion (or he/she doesn't help find the solution) at least you asked. This way the child is less likely to rebel. You may offer a few ideas of your own just in case the child has none. When giving a set of consequences, only give him/her choices that you can live with. As the adult, keep your tone firm and calm and offer the choice one time. Then act.

The child should see the connection between his/her choice and the result of that choice. Expect some opposition, and don't give up! And, most importantly, allow the child to try again later. I hope you find these tips as useful as I have. Good luck!

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A FIRESIDE CHAT WITH MR. WHITNEY,
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Hello Parents!

It is that time of year again when we make New Year's resolutions and *hope* to keep them throughout the upcoming months. One of the most important resolutions you can make regarding your child is your time spent with him or her on homework and reading. It is so important that you make sure that homework and reading are done each night. Don't forget Macro-Math! Just a few minutes per night will make a huge difference in your child's education.

Lunch Money:

Please be sure to put lunch money in an envelope for your child's lunches. Write your child's name and teacher's name on the envelope. If you need a running balance of your child's lunch account, please call the cafeteria at Gilliland Middle School. Their number is 480-966-7114.

Updated Information:

Please cut/tear out this updated information card with your **most current** information. It is **CRITICAL** that we have accurate information on your child. Please return it to your child's teacher as quickly as possible.

Special thanks to all who contributed to this issue of the Innovator:

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We appreciate you!
Rachel Trim, Editor
Library Media Specialist

_____ M F _____
Child's Last Name First Name B-day Teacher Year

Home Phone _____ Street _____ Apt.# _____

Father/Stepfather/Guardian _____ Bus. Phone _____

Address if different from above _____ Cell Phone _____

Mother/Stepmother/Guardian _____ Bus. Phone _____

Address if different from above _____ Cell Phone _____

I authorize the following person(s) to be contacted and to transport my child if I cannot be reached (names, telephone numbers, and addresses):

