



January 2008 Mintie White Elementary School 515 Palm St. 728-6321 Olga de Santa Anna, Principal Bertha Torres, Assistant Principal

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Most Tuesdays are restructured days.

Students in grades 1-5
are dismissed at 11:30
on these days.

January 21:
Martin Luther King's
Birthday No School

January 23 SSC/ELAC
School Site
Council/ELAC
6:30 Cafeteria

January 25
Home and School Club
Breakfast 8:15 Cafeteria

February 7
Academic Night: 5:45
School Site Council 7:00
Looking at Scores

February 15 ELAC/LIF

February 11& 18 :
Holidays (No School)

February 29
Home and School Club
breakfast 8:15

March 7th ELAC

March 21-March 28
Spring Break

March 25 Spelling Bee

April 10
SSC/ELAC/LIF

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2008 ! We are in the middle of Winter and have been lucky to get so much rain. This is the time of year when the most growth is made by all academically. Teachers are working very hard to provide the best instruction to all of your students. Your students are buckling down, working very hard and completing their homework.

Our After School Program, under the directorship of Claudia Burke and Khara Gutierrez, is working to provide academic opportunities to every child at Mintie White to ensure that they meet the state requirements of the No Child Left Behind Law. Our computer lab is up and running, students are being trained on the Accelerated Reader Program, SuccessMaker Math and the Read 180 Program . With all of this effort in place we cannot help but make our API. Our reading specialists and Migrant teacher help to further support your students in areas that are needed. It is very important for all of you to keep helping our school and your children every day with homework and parent involvement.

Home and School Club meets the last Friday of each month at 8:15
Parents have been meeting with Miss Olga and Miss Torres every Last Friday of each month. Parents are treated to a nice breakfast, coffee and lots of talk. We talk about issues in the community and

about fundraising. This wonderful group of parents helped to make over \$400.00 for Outdoor School during our Family Craft Night in December by making and selling tamales, pozole and atole. It was all very yummy and extremely appreciated. They all used the LIFESKILL of cooperation and resourcefulness! Thank you parents

School Site Council has been meeting monthly. They sent a letter to the Board of Education asking for some help with the security of the school. They asked for help with security cameras and higher fences. Because of the security issues, vandalism and break ins, it was decided that all fences will be locked on weekends. Please feel free to attend our next meeting on Wednesday January 25 with ELAC at 6:30 in the Cafeteria.

Special Students work hard in the Math Academy. Miss Torres and Elsa Sanchez have been working very hard with students who need help with their math every morning before school and during lunch in our new Math Academy. Thanks to the parents of students who have been getting up extra early to get your students to the Math Academy! It will pay off on our state tests !!

Our Extended Learning After School program is going very well. The Extended Learning Directors are Claudia Burke and Khara

As you all know, it is very important to have good attendance at school. We receive money for having good attendance and use it for our activity days . Please celebrate the LIFESKILL of Responsibility by honoring the following classes for the first part of the school year !

Best Attendance

December

Palmer	97.78
Fahey	97.78
Campos	97.08

November

Palmer	98.00
Mr. G	97.88
Vargas	97.63

October

Fahey	99.66
Palmer	99.65
Knopf	98.47

September

Goonetilleke	98.85
Knopf	98.75
Gutierrez	98.50

August

Huo	98.92
Audet	98.74
Shaw and G	98.62

We are looking for Parent Volunteers for yard duty. Let us know in the office.

Parents please put your child's name on their clothing and return any items that do not belong to you. Parents are complaining that their student's leave their jackets and sweaters on the playground and they are stolen by others.

Gutierrez. Please contact them with any questions. You may leave a message during the day or speak with them personally after school hours. They have many new programs and activities planned for the end of the year.

Remember to encourage your children to use their LIFESKILLS.

Please encourage them to be responsible and to come to school on time ! As the year progresses and we get closer to exam time, it is extremely important that your student comes to school on time every single day and prepared !

Remember, a little bit of thought and planning can help your child continue doing well in the 2008

Setting your child's bedtime a little earlier each night will help your child be on a regular bedtime schedule before school begins. Also, don't forget that you are your child's first teacher, and children are very observant. A positive attitude about school on your part will help your child feel positive, too.

OUTDOOR SCHOOL may be canceled

As you have heard, the state is cutting back many different types of funds that directly affect our students. It is very important that parents and students who are serious about going to Outdoor School begin to make payments for their students who will be attending in April. Parents need to make a commitment to this venture and

need to start their student's payments as soon as possible. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Acosta for their generous donation to the Outdoor School Science Fund and to the parents who made tamales and pozole at our Family Craft Night! Our next informational Outdoor School Science Meeting will be on January 23 where this will be discussed at the Site Council and ELAC meeting.

Mrs.Chien and Mrs. Berk are new mothers !

Mrs. Chien had a very nice baby boy, Kai, on January 6. Mrs. Berk will be giving birth any day now and will be bringing her new daughter, Zoe into the world.

Mintie White Elementary receives more Arts Grants

We have been very lucky to have received two more SPECTRA arts grants ! Women in Philanthropy has given us an arts grant and Betsy Woolpert has given us a drama grant. One grant is being used to pay for a visual art teacher in grades 4 and 5 and for a drama/ELD teacher in grade 3. We also have an art teacher that is working with grades K,1,2 being paid by a district grant !

Please Keep your Students Reading ! Remember , if your student reads a million words he or she will not only improve but will contribute to Miss Olga sitting on the roof dressed like Sponge Bob ! We need $\frac{3}{4}$ of the school to have read a million words !

