



February 2020



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3 Cheese Pizza	4 Chili w/ Meat Sauce	5 Chicken Nuggets	6 Hot Dogs	7 1/2 Day Dismissal @ 12:00
10 Cheese Pizza	11 Cheese Quesadilla	12 Taco Salad	13 Mid-Winter Break NO SCHOOL	14 Mid-Winter Break NO SCHOOL
17 Mid-Winter Break NO SCHOOL	18 Cheese Nachos	19 Spaghetti w/ Meat	20 Grilled Cheese Sandwiches	21 Mac & Cheese
24 Cheese Pizza	25 Cheese Calzone	26 Chicken or Beef Patty	27 Taco Salad	28 1/2 Day Dismissal @ 12:00

**Reminders**

- Please keep the office informed of ANY changes in your phone numbers or your address. Medication intake policy: *Parents must leave medication with the prescription in the office*
- School uniform is the polo and BLUE or BLACK pants/skirt: **NO JEANS, NO LEGGINGS, NO YOGAS**
- Hoodies must not have any logos except The Dearborn Academy
- Boots are NOT part of the uniform
- Safety is one of the most important issues for our children at The Dearborn Academy. Please report to the office when you are visiting the school
- Students will NOT be released to anyone NOT on their emergency cards.
- Students will NOT be released to siblings under the age of 18 years .

**The Dearborn Academy Board Meeting**

Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00 p.m. All are invited!



**The DolphIN-sider**

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**Mark Your Calendar**

January 27—March 6: Re-Registration for Existing Students

February: Black History Month (School-Wide Activities)

February 3—March 20: WIDA Testing (ELs ONLY)

February 7<sup>th</sup>: 1/2 Day: Dismissal @ 12:00

February 12: Late Start @ 9:00

February 12: Count Day

February 12: Middle School Winter Social

February 13—17: Mid-Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)

February 20: Hat Day

February 25: School Spirit Dress Down Day

February 26: Spring Picture Day (Dress Up/NO JEANS)

February 27: Progress Reports sent home

February 28: 1/2 Day: Dismissal @ 12:00

March: March Reading Month Activities (K-5 ONLY)



Please collect and send in all box tops to your child's teacher.

**Mission Statement**

The Dearborn Academy is a unique charter school serving a multicultural community through individualized, focused instruction allowing each student to achieve academic excellence and exhibit social responsibility.

**Vision**

We are an Academy dedicated to academic excellence for our young learners. We are innovative, empowering, and absolutely committed to the continuous social development and academic growth of all students. We establish a school learning environment in which our academic goals are articulated with laser sharp clarity and are regularly monitored.

We provide an academic environment where quality learning is fun and enjoyable. We create an atmosphere of trust and support for all learners where diversity is celebrated and honored. We develop actively involved learners who are building self-confidence and a sense of responsibility to be engaged in the global community.

**School Hours**

7:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Buses, student arrival, and breakfast begin at 7:15 a.m. Students are sent to their classrooms at 7:45 a.m.

Students wanting breakfast must arrive by 7:30.

Children who are late to school (after 8:05) **MUST** report to the office before going to class. We urge you to make every effort to have your child at school ON TIME each day so that your child has a good beginning to their day. When students are late, it disrupts the class as well as causing the tardy student to miss specific directions for the day.

If you need to pick up your child early, we ask that you call the school office at 313-982-1300 a minimum of ONE hour prior to arriving.

**Principal's Message**

Some friendly reminders:

The flu is making its way through The Dearborn Academy. Based on our experiences with the flu, please make sure your children are 100% better before sending them back to school.

Please respect the school zone speed limits of 15 miles and the placement of orange cones.

Please review the School Calendar for 1/2 days and Late Starts.

Please send healthy snacks with your children. If you need a list, please ask us for one.

Although it is barely the new year, we have begun to re-register our students for the 2020-2021 school year. Additional information and timelines have been sent home.

### PK News

"Play gives children a chance to practice what they are learning." (Fred. Rogers).  
Play is one of the main ways in which children learn and develop.  
Even though February is the shortest month of the year, we have a lot going on in our classroom. Every-day our children practice to become more independent by serving themselves, cleaning up their mess, and looking after their hygiene. The most important thing we encourage children to practice is buttoning, zipping, and snapping their own coats, and clothing. For that, we encourage all parents to practice it with them at home as well. This month we have our second Parent Advisory Meeting on Thursday February 20, at 8:00 a.m. Also, we have our fieldtrip to Ann Arbor Hands On Museum after the meeting...Yay. Please join us!

### Kindergarten News

We have started off 2020 with a lot of new learning. The students have started writer's workshop, where they are learning to label pictures, write sentences, and make lists. This month they will be introduced to narrative writing and will begin to write narrative stories. The students will learn how to stretch out words in order to spell them. They will also be learning high frequency words.  
In Math we will continue learning how to correlate sets with the correct number. We will start to learn shapes. We will be discussing shapes, their properties, and objects with the same shape. Addition will be following our unit on shapes.  
In Social Studies, we will finish up learning about Long Ago (the past, present, and future). Once we finish Long Ago, we will switch over to Science. Our Science topic will be Force and Motion.  
It has been a great start to a new year. Thanks for all the support and please remember to keep returning homework on Friday's.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade News

In February we will be celebrating 100 days of school! We will be doing fun activities and exploring the number 100. We will be using our math strategies to add and subtract within 20. We will be finishing up our unit on space and will be starting to learn about economics. We have been lucky to go outside a lot this winter for recess so please keep sending your child with a winter jacket, gloves, hat and scarf.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade News

For the month of February, we will continue to work on multiplication in math. Our next reading theme will be on the genre study of biographies. We will read and discuss the personal lives of well known and ordinary people. We will continue to work on various comprehension skills. For writing, we will continue with opinion. For Social Studies, we will begin the History of Michigan and continue with weather for Science.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade News

February is an exciting month in second grade! Valentine's Day is this month and students are welcome to bring in a valentine card for each student. Each class has 30 students. We will be learning many exciting concepts this month. In math, we will be solving word problems with money and time. In ELA, we will be writing fictional narratives and learning about abbreviations and possessive nouns. In social studies we will be learning about the government. In Science, we will be learning about ecosystems.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade News

As always, we have been leaning so many fun things! In science we are continuing to learn about the different types of rocks and the rock cycle. We will be completing this unit mid-February and moving into learning about Energy and Motion. During our Energy and Motion unit, children will learn how to complete a circuit.  
In social studies, we are learning about the three branches of government along with the responsibilities of each. Your child will also learn the core democratic values of our country such as freedom, fairness, and equality!  
During math we are progressing quickly. Within the next month we will be working on reading and creating different types of graphs. We use graphs to track information. This is a life skill that children will need. Along with graphs we will improve upon our measurement skills by practicing! To help your child with measurement, you can have them measure things around your home. As always, please continue to practice multiplication and division facts with your fourth grader!  
This month we will also be focusing on Black History Month. We will be reading many stories that are about the Civil Rights Movement and equality. While they are reading these stories, we will be talking about Author's Purpose and the elements of the stories. Continuing to practice these skills will help your child analyze stories. Reading at home for 30 minutes a night is a great way to see your child's reading skill improve.

### PE News

As we near the completion date for the new gymnasium, I would like to inform all households that students can only participate in physical activity, during physical education class if they are wearing the proper athletic shoe. Dress shoes, boots, cleats, flats, and slippers are not to be worn during physical education class for various reasons. If you have questions regarding whether or not a shoe is the right fit for physical education, please see Mr. Gapske.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade News

It is hard to believe that we are already half way through the school year! This point of the year is very critical for all of our students. We are learning lots of new things and preparing for the M-Step, which the students will take this April. This is not a good time for students to let their study habits start to slip; please make sure your students are completing their homework each night and reading. Also make sure students are arriving to school on time. If your student is going to be absent, make sure you call the main office. Your student will have to make up all of their work upon their return, and it is their responsibility to ask for the make-up work. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. Let's have a wonderful second half of the school year!

### World Languages News

**K-Lower Elementary**  
Students will be learning about greeting phrases. They will be learning the days of the week and months of the year.  
**Upper Elementary**  
Students will learn how to greet in Spanish and using some basic learning sentences. In addition, they will be working on a project about the weather using the months of the year and days of the week in Spanish.  
**Middle School**  
Students will be writing a dialog as a play using formal and informal sentences depending on the person they are meeting. For grammar, they will learn the articles, noun gender, number plural and singular.

### Middle School News

**Math:** 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be moving from fractional operations to the coordinate plane and how we can use this method for directions. 7<sup>th</sup> grade will be moving from proportions in the real world to percents. 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be moving from the amazing Pythagorean Theorem to Transformations and Linear Functions.  
**ELA:** In 6<sup>th</sup> grade, students will begin their work on an informational unit, centered around the text "The Chocolate Collection." In 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, students will be starting their new unit "Brain Science," focusing on the text "Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story About Brain Science," by John Fleischman. For 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, students will be working with a variety of different science fiction texts on their newest unit which will challenge them to read about modern works and past work like "Frankenstein."  
**Science:** For the month of February, 8<sup>th</sup> grade will continue its unit on chemical interaction with "An Introduction to Matter." 7A will start their unit on coding. 7B will be getting back to its unit on geology with "Earth's Interior" further investigating plate tectonics and exploring earthquakes. 6A will be starting their unit on coding. 6B will be continuing its unit on Biology with "What is Life?" exploring viruses and germs. In previous newsletters I had discussed students taking a week for an intro to coding. We had to change our plans as students were very interested and a more in depth investigation is required.  
**SS:** Social Studies is always mixing the creativity of students to whatever subject they are studying. After the expansion West by the United States it gets a bit complicated. Students will begin finding the identity of the North and South of the United States and its problems building towards the Civil War. The 7<sup>th</sup> graders on the other hand finished the rest of the Ancient Empires. That means that the Classical Empires are next and this becomes more recognizable as it shapes the world of today. The 6<sup>th</sup> Graders have just finished up culture and how it makes us who we are. That means things become a bit complicated as we tackle both Economics and Government on how people act on a bigger scale. As always, Social Studies is the best subject!

