

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL** – Dr. Mathew Nelson

February is “I Love to Read Month”, and although the festivities will look a little different this year, we do have many fun activities planned to celebrate! We will continue our tradition of “Stop, Drop, and Read”, which is a favorite of the students. There is a good chance that your son or daughter will “get caught reading”, which is a great thing! Other planned “I Love to Read” month activities include Book Bingo, themed days, and Mystery Readers on the announcements.

With so much going on, we have decided NOT to run our annual Read-a-thon fundraising event. To culminate our “I Love to Read Month” activities, the students will be able to dress up like their favorite book character but instead of parading around the school we will parade in our classrooms and put together a video for our virtual character parade!

I continue to be impressed by the students of Discovery Elementary and their demonstration of exemplary social skills, care for one another, academic work, positive behavior, and the C’s of Discovery Elementary. In March we are going to focus on “Courageous” and what it means to demonstrate courage and recognize courageous acts by those all around us.

This year, in March our entire school will participate in the Global Day of Play! The purpose of "Day of Play" is to encourage children to PLAY, HAVE FUN, and to be CREATIVE. In the afternoon of March 17th, the students spent two hours organizing their own “technology free” play activities, inviting others to join them, being problem solvers, and compromising! To be honest, I believe that in general children (including my own) don’t spend enough time engaging in technology-free play enough, so this was a great opportunity for us to help encourage creative play. Furthermore, we believe that this uninterrupted playtime was very important for them emotionally, socially, and academically!

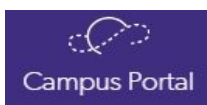
Thank you for your continued support of Discovery Elementary.

**“Together We’re Better”**

# January Community "C" Students of the Month

## "Collaborate"





## Report Cards on the Parent Portal



The students report cards are available electronically via the Infinite Campus Parent Portal twice a year. **The first report card will be accessible online, via the Parent Portal on Friday, February 5th.** If you aren't already set up with an account there is a one-time permission form that needs to be signed and verified to set up your login credentials. To get set up on the Parent Portal, please call 763-682-8400, email [crozeske@bhmschools.org](mailto:crozeske@bhmschools.org) or stop in the Discovery School office. Information will be verified, and you will be given the website and access information. If you already have a middle or high school student with a Parent Portal account, you already have access to your elementary child's portal account as well. If you have any questions or would prefer to receive a paper copy of your child's report card, please contact Candice Rozeske in the Discovery office at 682-8400 or at [crozeske@bhmschools.org](mailto:crozeske@bhmschools.org)



### Emergency School Closings

Emergency School Closings If the district has to close school and send students home early, we will assume that your child will go to his/her normal destination. If your child must go to a different destination, please be sure that you have contacted the office with this information. We only need to know if there is a change for your child. District 877 weather related school cancellations are reported on KRWC 1360, WCCO 830, local television stations as well as the district automated notification phone system.



### Gloves, Mittens and Hats-Oh My!

Winter temperatures and winds come and go these days, but we still have a number of children who arrive at school without appropriate cold weather outerwear. Unless the temperature or wind chill is below zero, all students go out for recess every day. It is essential that they have gloves, mittens, hats, a warm coat and boots. K-2 students will need snow pants, boots, these are also recommended for the upper grade students as well. K-2 should also have an extra set of clothing in their lockers for those emergencies. Please label your items so they can be returned to your child if lost or left behind. Thank you!

### Excused Absences for Family Vacations



We understand that time is precious and it might not always work for you to go on a family vacation when school is not in session. We are able to mark family vacations as excused absences if you let us know when they are planned. There is a formal family vacation pre-approval form in the office, or if you email the teacher and copy Dr. Nelson into the message that works as well for us to be able to mark those dates as excused.

# Updates from the Health Office

Greetings from the health office!

It is wonderful to have everyone back in school! While we continue to try to maintain distance between students, 6 feet is no longer the requirement. With that change, please know that while we are in the “in-person” learning model, we are not able to reduce quarantine times due to exposure to COVID to less than 14 days. Please continue to call in for all student illness and share all symptoms your student is experiencing. This allows our health ESP to give correct guidance regarding return dates. We appreciate your partnership and help in ensuring the health of our students during these times of COVID!

## **Parents of Preschoolers and Kindergartners**

If you have a child who is 3 ½ to four years old or one who is entering kindergarten in September and have not been contacted for Early Childhood Screening, please call Cheri at 763-682-8408. Early Childhood Screening is an early intervention program targeted for children ages 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 years old. It is a mandated program for all children entering kindergarten in the public school however it is intended to be administered at the 3 ½ - 4 years of age.

**Parents of Kindergarten Students Starting '21-'22 school year:** If you have a child beginning kindergarten in September, please consider taking care of their immunization needs now. It is the law that all students must submit an updated immunization status before starting kindergarten. Please submit one of the following: immunization record, notarized non-medical exemption form or physician signed medical exemption form.

Required shots for vaccinated students include:

**5 DTP**

**4 Polio (IPV or OVP)**

**3 Hepatitis B (HBV - not to be confused with Hib, which is the Haemophilus Influenza)**

**2 MMR (Measles, Mumps & Rubella)**

**2 Varicella (Chicken Pox)** – If your child has had the chicken pox illness, the school will need a statement from your health care provider indicating one of the following statements:

- o The signature of a provider along with the date of the child's varicella illness
- o The signature of a provider along with a statement that the parent's or legal guardian's description of the child's varicella disease history is indicative of past varicella infection, or
- o The signature of a provider or a representative of a public clinic along with laboratory evidence of the child's varicella immunity.

If you have questions, please contact Heidi Gallart, RN, at [hgallart@bhmschools.org](mailto:hgallart@bhmschools.org) or 763-682-8514.