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## DIVEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

# DOLPHIN DISPATCH

### DECEMBER 5, 2018 CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6**  
12 Days of Peace Begins  
*More Info in your Folder*

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7**  
Best Fin Forward Awards  
Bucket Filler Day

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14**  
Movie Night: Incredibles 2  
*Meet in the Auditorium*  
Cost: **FREE** to Attend

## YOU GOT THIS!

**DON'T MISS A MEAL**  
Food Bank of the So. Tier  
388 Upper Oakwood, Elm.  
607-796-6061

**DRESS FOR THE SEASON**  
Catholic Charities  
215 E. Church St., Elmira  
607-734-9784

**KEEP THE HEAT ON**  
Salvation Army  
414 Lake St., Elmira  
607-732-0314

**GIFTS FOR THE KIDDOS**  
Arctic League  
249 W. Clinton St., Elmira  
607-733-4576

*We have a long list of  
local resources available!*

## ARE YOU THE ANGEL WE NEED?

We are looking for Diven families who are able and willing to sponsor other Diven families this month, to make sure no little Dolphin feels left out this holiday season. These *Angel Fish Families* will receive a wish list with the age, gender, clothing size, and interests of a Dolphin scholar and/or sibling and will purchase one or more holiday gifts for that child. If you are interested in being an Angel Fish, please send an e-mail with the subject "Angel Fish Volunteer" to your Parent Partner at: [ezilinski@gstcontractors.com](mailto:ezilinski@gstcontractors.com). Thank you for your generosity!



## MEET YOUR NEW F.C.O.C.

I'm Liz Zilinski, your new Family and Community Outreach Coordinator, a.k.a. Parent Partner. I'm super shiny-new here, having just started last week! I have two little ones: Caitlin is my kindergartner, and Natalie will be in pre-K next year. My goal is to help provide programs and info that will help our Dolphin families get involved in our school culture and their children's education. Feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or advice you have. Together, we will make sure our children perform...swimmingly. :)

## OUR SUPER POWER WORD IS GENEROUIS I CAN GIVE AND SHARE WITH OTHERS.



Last year, all of our students made blankets to donate to a local organization. How generous!

This December, we will be working on a very important character trait in our scholars: *generosity*. We hope that you work on this important character trait at home, too. You can:

- ≈ Write a nice note to a teacher or friend.
- ≈ Give compliments freely and often.
- ≈ Volunteer at or donate to a charity.
- ≈ Share a smile and a kind word with a stranger.
- ≈ Bake a special treat for your neighbor.

Model and encourage generosity at home. Try saying, "When I saw you share your toy with your sister, it made me feel so happy!" Point out when others are being generous, too. "Look at your friend, sharing her toys with you—how generous!" Don't forget Suze Orman's quote:

**TIME AND LOVE ARE THE MOST VALUABLE  
POSSESSION YOU CAN SHARE.**

E-mail me! [ezilinski@gstcontractors.com](mailto:ezilinski@gstcontractors.com)



### "WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY?"



Here's a pic from Mrs. Cornacchio's class. It's called a Learning Reflection Meter, and we use them in our classrooms

to encourage students to reflect on our lessons. In your child's class, they may use thumb's up/down instead, but what we're asking your child is this: *What did you learn? Did you understand the lesson?* They either "got it," "sort of," or "not yet." **Learning is a process that takes time.** At home, ask your children what they're learning about in school and if they are understanding what they've learned. Encourage your child to keep trying! Eventually, they will "get it."

### SUPER TEACHERS!

"Mrs. West is an exceptionally positive and patient teacher. My son feels incredibly comfortable with her, and that makes it so much easier for me to feel confident about his experiences at school. A good example of this is the time my son noticed there was a sticker on the page of a book in class, but Mrs. West asked him not to peel it off, because it might rip the page. The next day, he did take the sticker off, and instead of getting upset with him for doing something she'd asked him not to do, she focused on the positive and told him that he'd done a great job in making the book easier for everyone to read. He came home full of confidence and pride in his success." -Laurie G.

**Why is your kid's teacher super?**

Let me know by e-mailing:  
[ezilinski@gstcontractors.com](mailto:ezilinski@gstcontractors.com)

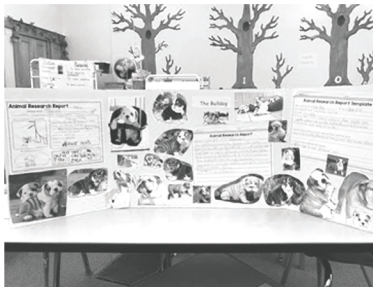
### HELP ME OUT, HERE!

Our question this week comes from a pre-K parent: "Something I'd love to know more about us what the different categories on the report card mean. Some are self-explanatory, but others are really confusing, you know?"

At our school, we are teaching more than just academics; we are teaching character-building--these categories are Social Skills and Work Skills. The skills within those categories will change each year as your child progresses through our district. Ultimately, we're looking to help you strengthen your child's ability to not just learn math or reading or science, but to learn how to work with others in the real world. Your report card lists these skills under each category, and we want you to work on these skills at home, too. Teachers are happy to explain subcategories to you, as they vary by grade level.

**Send me your questions, please!**

### LEARNING IS FUN!



Mrs. Krause's 2nd graders finished their animal research projects. Not only did the children learn a great deal about animals, but they had a great time gathering their facts and pictures to make these beautiful--and educational--boards! At home, ask your child what projects they are working on in class, and which lessons they are having the most fun learning! If your child is struggling with a concept, taking time to make it more hands-on can help them retain information without being frustrated--they are having too much fun!

### 12 DAYS OF PEACE

We will be kicking off our 12 Days of Peace tomorrow. Thursday, December 6, is our first day. You can help with the 12 Days of Peace at home, too!

#### Day 1 | Food Drive Begins

We will discuss food drives in school and start collecting food donations. We suggest peanut butter today. Use kind words and actions in everything you do today!

#### Day 2 | Happy Hanukkah

We'll learn about Hanukkah during morning meeting. At home, encourage your children to be positive and have a growth mindset!

Food Drive: Canned Tuna

#### Day 3 | World Recycling Day

We'll be learning about recycling and being kind to our world during morning meeting. At home, encourage your children to pick up trash and recycle when they can.

Food Drive: Canned Chicken

#### Day 4 | Happy Kwanzaa

We will learn about Kwanzaa during morning meeting. We encourage our students to be a great friend and give a compliment to someone today. At home, encourage your children to do the same.

Food Drive: Boxed Mac & Cheese

#### Day 5 | Feast of Our Lady

We'll learn about Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. We'll encourage children to thank an adult at home for something they help you with, and you can ask your children to thank an adult at school for helping them.

Food Drive: Soup

**E-mail me pics of your child helping our school or applying their lessons outside the school for our newsletter!**