

EROUIS GENEROUIS CE...EROUS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS (

US BE...EROUS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENEROUIS GENE

DIVEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

DOLPHIN DISPATCH

DECEMBER 12, 2018 CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12
12 Days of Peace Continues
More Info in your Folder

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13
DSO Meeting 3pm - 4pm
Free Childcare Provided!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14
Movie Night: Incredibles 2
Meet in the Auditorium 6pm
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!*

YOU ARE THE ANGEL WE NEED!

Thank you to those Diven families who have volunteered to sponsor other Diven families this month, to make sure no little Dolphin feels left out this holiday season. These *Angel Fish Families* have inspired us to create a wishlist for all twelve children in need of a helping hand this holiday season. **You can help, too.** Sign up to choose a gift to donate:

<https://tinyurl.com/DolphinFamilyA>
<https://tinyurl.com/DolphinFamilyB>
<https://tinyurl.com/DolphinFamilyC>

Your generosity is inspiring! We will be wrapping gifts on December 20.

FREE CHILDCARE FOR ALL!

Free childcare for all...DSO attendees! That was a total bait and switch, sorry. *What's the DSO?* Well, it's the Diven School Organization! It's like a PTO except with more dolphinity good times. Want to get involved in planning school activities and fundraisers, and maybe dress up as a dolphin every now and then? Then please come hang out with the DSO at our monthly meeting. **Our next meeting is TOMORROW in the conference room at 3pm.** We (gently) throw all our kids in the gym for some supervised play --good for your school and your sanity! :)

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



Kit & Eliza brought in food for all 12 Days of Peace on the first day! What a very generous act!

We've been working with our scholars on the concept of generosity. It is a very special gift to be able to give and share with others. Our students have been exchanging kind words, bringing in donations for the food bank, and learning how to be kind friends. We've also been teaching our children about being kind to the earth by reducing our waste and recycling when we can. Finally, our students have been learning about different holidays, including Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa. We all have different beliefs, but the same need to be connected, loved, secure, and appreciated!

POPCORN! POPCORN!

There won't be a Popcorn Day this Friday because the DSO will be selling popcorn at our **FREE MOVIE NIGHT!** Join us at 6:00pm for The Incredibles 2. Children must be accompanied by an adult to attend. Popcorn and fruit snacks for a quarter. Bottled water for a dollar. See you there!

E-mail me! ezilinski@gstcontractors.com

SUPER PARTNERS: HOME & SCHOOL

"WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY?"



Left: Mrs. Whalen's reading group was working on names this week!

Right: Mrs. Kerwan's class was hard at work using manipulatives to spell holiday-themed words!



Mrs. Winsor's class was practicing CVC words. Aiden looks relaxed, but we know his brain is engaged!

SUPER TEACHERS!

"My daughters like to play a game where one of them is Mrs. Church and one is Mrs. West. They draw letters, do counting games, sing songs together, and do a lot of dancing. I'm not sure if this is how the teachers are in real life--my youngest daughter doesn't start school until next year and has only heard about these teachers from her older sister--but I'm pretty sure it means these teachers are amazing. I mean, Mrs. West and Mrs. Church taught our three-year-old how to count to twenty and she's never even met them!" -Jonathon

Why is your kid's teacher super?

Let me know by e-mailing:
ezilinski@gstcontractors.com

HELP ME OUT, HERE!

Our question this week comes from a pre-K parent: "Have you guys ever gone through this lock out thing before? I'm not sure how much to say or if the kids even know."

We have done lock-outs before, but *they are a rare event*, honestly. A lock-out happens when there is an imminent concern outside of the school, and a lock-down happens when there is an immediate threat outside or in the school. You'll recall there being a lock-out in November when two high school students made a threat against the school. You'll also recall it being misreported to WENY news as a lock-down--it was a lock-out, though, not a lock-down. It's an important difference, because those are two very different things.

In our schools, the lock-outs are no different than any other day, except that the kids can't play outside. *No, your kids won't know something is going on!* The doors to our school are *always* locked. A lock-out just means that we can't unlock the door for you until we get permission to do so. There's no reason to panic or worry, seriously. I have asked my kindergarten how school went when we had those lock-outs, and she reported nothing extraordinary. She had no idea that anything out of the ordinary had happened. Business (fun and learning) as usual.

A lock-down is different: the children can't play outside and have to stay in classrooms. They'll be made aware that something is going on. *We haven't had a lock-down at our school.* But if we do, rest assured that your children are in safe hands! Remember that our friends' and coworkers' children are Diven Dolphins. All of your children are a part of our dolphin family, too.

Send me your questions, please!

12 DAYS OF PEACE

We continue our 12 Days of Peace tomorrow, and you can help with the 12 Days of Peace at home, too!

Day 6 | St. Lucia Day

We'll learn about St. Lucia Day during morning meeting. At home, encourage your child to share a smile with everyone they meet!

Food Drive: Canned Fruit

Day 7 | Christmas Book Flood

We'll learn about the Iceland Christmas Book Flood and how important reading is! Our children will get to bring home a book to keep. You can read with your children after school each day.

Food Drive: Canned Veggies

Day 8 | Diven Spirit Day

We'll review the Dolphin Way and Dolphin Dos and encourage our students to mind their Ps and Qs. We'll also make a gift to bring home. You can encourage your child to say please and thank you by modeling that behavior as often as possible.

Food Drive: Pasta

Day 9 | Three Kings Day

We'll discuss Three Kings Day at morning meeting and ask our students to do at least three nice things for three students/teachers/family members today.

Food Drive: Egg Noodles

Day 10 | Christmas Day

We'll learn about Christmas during morning meeting and make some happy sticky notes to post around school today. You can leave a nice note for your child somewhere in your home.

Food Drive: Canned Tomato Soup

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