



The Warrior Way

D'Iberville Middle School
Parent Newsletter
February 2012

Make a Difference Day at DMS

February 10 will be "*Make A Difference Day*" at DMS. We will reward 408 students who received NO discipline referrals for the entire 2nd nine weeks of the school year with a Bop's ice cream party at the end of the day. These students have made a difference at DMS by making good choices and doing what is right. We encourage every student at DMS to respect one another, respect themselves, to be responsible for their actions and their school work and to do the right thing. Our next "Make a Difference Day" will celebrate students who received no discipline referrals, had perfect attendance, and made honor roll in the 3rd nine weeks! Way to go Warriors!!!

DMS STARS!

- **DMS Reading Fair Winners:** Aurora Dement (Division E), Lexee Bosarge (Division F), Abby Hardy (Division H). All three projects competed at the district reading fair on January 26. Aurora's project won **FIRST PLACE** at the district fair and will now proceed to the regional fair in Hattiesburg on February 28. Congratulations!!!
- **DMS Overall Spelling Bee Winner:** Lily Nguyen. Lily will compete at the regional spelling bee on February 7. Alternate is Savannah Underwood. Other winners are Rhyann Casey (5th grade), Nicholas Nguyen and Emily Gusa (6th grade), Natalie King and Vienna Nguyen (7th grade). Congratulations!!!
- **Mississippi Council of Teachers of Mathematics (MCTM) school level competition winners:**
 - 7th Grade—1st Place Cloie Garris, 2nd Place Kameron Morgan
 - 8th Grade—1st Place Savannah Underwood; 2nd Place Long NguyenThese students will participate in the regional competition on February 29 at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College campus in Gautier. Congratulations!
- Congratulations to David Mentgen, Kiara Joiner and Morgan Hixson for a successful audition and participation in the Gulf Coast **Band Directors Association Honor Band** clinic in January.

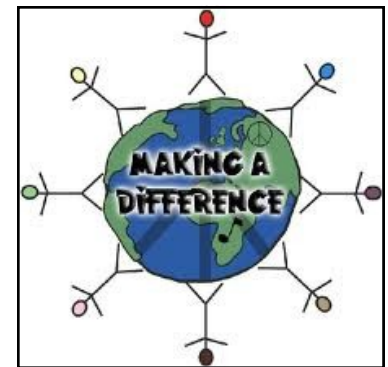
Yearbooks!

The DMS

Journalism/Yearbook Club will finish the school yearbook by the end of February.

Yearbooks can still be purchased at school or online until **February 29**. Go to www.jostens.com to order.

Yearbooks will be delivered in May.



One person can make a difference...
...and every one should try.

- John F. Kennedy

Federal Programs Online Survey for Parents and Students

As part of our Federal Programs Title I plan, all schools are asked to participate in an online survey to determine the parent, student and teacher needs for their school. DMS takes the results of this survey and writes a plan that address the needs. Our current plan addresses professional development for teachers in all academic areas, professional development in Common Core State Standards, parental involvement, tutoring services, academic resources, and many other important areas that effect the success of our school. Your feedback is extremely important. **Please take the time to go to the district website and complete this survey. It will only take a few minutes of your time but the feedback we get is invaluable. Go to www.harrison.k12.ms.us and click on “Harrison County School District Parent Survey”. We sincerely appreciate your support.**

Announcements

COMPREHENSIVE NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Thank you for taking a few moments of your time to help us evaluate our school district. Your responses will help us as we plan for the future in our district.

SURVEY

For a printed copy of the survey, please click on the appropriate link below.

[HARRISON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMUNITY SURVEY](#)
[HARRISON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHER SURVEY](#)
[HARRISON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT SURVEY](#)
[HARRISON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENT SURVEY](#)

DMS Family Literacy Night—March 15



DMS will host a family night that will focus on the importance of reading, celebrate our students' reading and writing abilities, and that will help parents gain ideas for ways to help with reading at home. It takes ALL of us as a team — parents, students and teachers— working together to improve students' success in reading and writing.

We will have an assembly and special presentation, our spring book fair will be in the library, and parents will have a chance to learn more about reading skills their children are taught each day. **Please make plans to spend your evening at DMS on March 15.** More information will come soon.

**Families That Read
Together
Succeed Together!!!**



March 2, the birthdate of the beloved author Dr. Seuss, will be a fun Accelerated Reader™ (AR™) Quiz-day. DMS will join a national “challenge” with schools across America taking part in a goal to shatter the one-day record for AR Quiz-taking. Students from coast to coast will be encouraged to read the most in the days leading up to the event. Then, when the big day arrives, students should come to school filled with lots of enthusiasm to take as many AR tests as possible that day. **Parents, please help us by encouraging your child to read, asking them to tell you about their AR books, and reading with them.** Read, read, read and help DMS be a part of history and celebrate this special day. Every book counts. Every quiz counts, too. The top three students will receive a prize.

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DMS Spring Book Fair

Opens during DMS Family Literacy Night March 15 and will be open during school hours March 16—23. Please support our library by shopping our book fair!!!

What's Going on at DMS???

- **“Big D on the Sea”**

The 8th Grade Engineering Team is competing in an engineering competition where the challenge is to build and design from can foods on a certain theme. This year's theme is Titanic. Students project—made from canned goods—will focus on the structure and design flaws of the Titanic. The competition and awards ceremony will take place at Ingalls Shipbuilding on February 24. Once the project is completed, the engineering students will donate all the canned goods to a local food bank.

- **Photography Contest**

Open to all students in grades 5—8. Students can submit original pictures taken by the student on 5x7 or 8x10. There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes. Turn in all submissions to Mrs. Brooks. The deadline is March 1, 2012.

- **8th Grade Famous Person Project**

8th grade History and English are doing a joint project beginning February 14. Students will select, from a list provided, a famous explore, inventor or statesman and research that person. Once the research is complete, students will write a one page report and complete a 5—6 slide Powerpoint presentation. History teachers will grade on content/instructions; English teachers will grade for grammar and punctuation. Each student will be given a very specific rubric and an instruction sheet to follow. Please help support this cross-curricular project by asking your child what famous person they chose, ask to see their rough draft, give them feedback and encourage them.

- **5th Grade D.A.R.E Program**

5th grade is finishing up the D.A.R.E program—Drug Abuse Resistance Education—the highly acclaimed program that gives kids the skills they need to avoid involvement in drugs, gangs, and violence. D.A.R.E. is a police officer-led series of classroom lessons that teaches children from kindergarten through 12th grade how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug and violence-free lives. We will have a special graduation for all students who complete the program. Parents, be on the look-out for more information on D.A.R.E graduation dates.

- **Letters About Literature Contest**

7th and 8th Grade Journeys students in Mrs. Williston's class entered the Letters About Literature contest. Students wrote to their favorite author describing how the author made a difference in students' lives. The students are now finishing their research papers for their independent study.

STATE WRITING ASSESSMENT FOR GRADES 4 AND 7—March 1, 2012

Students in grades 4 and 7 will be taking the Mississippi Writing Assessment on March 1, 2012. Students will choose one of the two prompts given and write one response to the prompt chosen. Students will be asked to write in one of three modes: narrative, persuasive, and/or informative. Explanations and examples of the three writing types, an interpretive guide and the rubric for scoring can be found at <http://www.mde.k12.ms.us/acad/osa/writing/#Mode>

All DMS 7th grade students will be working on essays between now and March 1 to prepare for the writing assessment. Students should be working on these essays at home as well. Parents, please help your child by asking about the essays they are writing, reading them and giving them feedback.





**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS
FOR THESE VERY IMPORTANT DATES:**

February 10, 2012 “Make a Difference Day at DMS”

All students who received NO discipline referrals for the entire 2nd nine weeks will receive ice cream from Bop’s and an extended activity time. We had 408 students earn this reward!!! Congratulations!!!

February 15, 2012 Spring Pictures

No money is required the day of pictures. A proof with packages and pricing will be sent home for you to approve and place your order.



February 20 and 21 Mardi Gras Holiday

February 23



The DHS counselors will speak with the 8th graders about scheduling options at DHS. The next day, students will take the Career Interest Inventory (ICAP) in their computer discovery class. The ICAP explores career clusters and interests so the 8th graders can better plan their high school path.

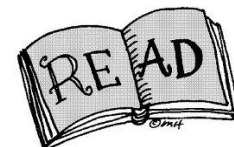
March 1 State Writing Assessment for 4th and 7th Grade



March 2 7th Grade Career Festival

March 7, 8, 9 Nine Weeks Exams

March 15 Family Literacy Night at DMS



March 19 Report Cards Go Out

March 23 Spring Band Concert at DMS Gym 6:30 PM



April 2—9 Spring Break

April 18 Family Engineering Night at DMS