

Alexander Elementary



Parents Make A Difference!

Vol. 12 No. 4 December 2009

A note from:
Mr. Wade
Elementary Principal

Along with the winter months come the potential for winter weather and the need to close school. When real threats of bad weather occur, Superintendent Mr. Haynes and Transportation Director, Mr. Buttram will be out early driving the streets and surveying country roads of our district.

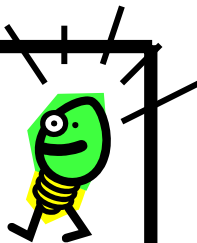
Our primary concern is for the safety of our children as they ride our buses, cars and walk to and from school. Announcements of school closing will be made through our new automated calling system, Alert Now. Through the use of Alert Now you will be notified through an automated phone call quickly after this type of decision is made. This way you will have more time to make plans for your family if school is cancelled.

Alert Now is a wonderful tool, but it is only as good as the contact numbers we program into the system. **If you have had any recent changes in phone number(s), please call the school secretary.**

As in the past we will also continue to provide school closing information through our local radio and television (Tulsa/Joplin) stations.

Bright Ideas!

*Don't let learning end during the Christmas Break. Find plenty of time to have fun playing but also find enjoyable ways to help your child keep learning. Some bright ideas include: Reading, art projects, trips to a museum, visit your local library or even to a zoo. When picking out gifts for your child give strong consideration to ones that increase learning!



December 09

Decorate City Hall Christmas Tree- Friday, December 4.

Trash to Treasure- Friday, December 4 starting at 1:00 PM.

5th Grade Smithsonian Exhibit Tour- Tuesday, December 8. Miami Public Library.

Welch State Bank (Miami)- Thursday, December 10. Pre-K and Kindergarten students will visit the bank to receive Christmas gifts from Santa!

Kindergarten Sing Christmas Carols at Nursing Home- Friday, December 11.

Elementary Christmas Program- December 15.
NEO A&M College, Miami. Fine Arts Building
Pre-K through 2nd grade starts at 6:30 PM
3rd grade starts at 7:15 PM
4th and 5th grade starts at 7:30 PM

Santa Pictures- Wednesday, December 16.
Beginning at 9:00 a.m. (\$3.00 for a 5" x 7")

Christmas Break- December 21-January 1.
Classes resume on Monday, January 4.

Grade Cards- Go out Tuesday, January 5, 2010.



Merry Christmas

--From the Teachers,
Staff and Principals at
Alexander Elementary!



Parents Can Help Make Sure Children Don't Become Bullies

It's a scene every parent dreads. Your child's teacher tells you that your child is often aggressive. He hits, kicks, shoves and even bites sometimes. You are stunned. What can you do?

- Don't be defensive with the person speaking to you about your child's behavior. Don't use excuses like, "My child would never do that." Listen carefully.
- Deal with anger. Show your child positive ways to get her anger out. Suggest exercising. Put your child in a team or individual sport where they have to learn self control. Look at your own behavior. Children often copy what they see. If you are a screamer or hitter, stop.
- Watch for good behavior, too. Notice and praise your child's gentle and tender moments.
- Wear the victim's shoes. Talk to your child about how harmful it is to be kicked or hit.
- Sometimes bullying is with words. Don't allow sarcasm or hurtful words. They do hurt others and can cause internal scarring.

Remember:
Words become Actions.
Actions become habits.



Gifts

As you think about gifts this Christmas we should all remember as parents there are some gifts only we can give. Unlike toys that may break before next month, these gifts will last a lifetime:

The gift of time. The old saying is true. Children really do spell love T-I-M-E. Give the gift of listening to your child, reading with your child, helping your child, and just hanging around with your child.

The gift of understanding. Children aren't perfect (no one is). If your child makes a mistake, listen first before reacting.

The gift of confidence. When you believe in your child, you help him believe in himself. When you tell him that you know he can do it, he'll never doubt that he can. Years from now when he faces another challenge, he'll hear your words in the back of his mind.

The gift of enthusiasm. Whether you're working on a household project or going out to toss a ball, do it with verve. Your excitement about the task will rub off on your child. When he has to tackle a tough project in school (or later in life), he'll find the energy to carry it through.



ALEXANDER ELEMENTARY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Tuesday, December 15
NEO A&M College, Miami- Fine Arts Building
Pre-K through 2nd grade starts at 6:30 PM
3rd grade starts at 7:15 PM
4th and 5th grade starts at 7:30 PM

