



Greetings to our DMS Community!

## **TOYS FOR TOWN**

The Toys for Town bin has arrived! Donations (new and unwrapped toys) can be dropped off in the office and will be accepted through Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **BE PREPARED FOR INFLUENZA SEASON**

Influenza season is here. Below is a quick review of symptoms and best practices. Please also open the attached PDF or click [HERE](#) for an “Influenza Symptom Screening Tool for Parents and Caregivers” offered by the MN Department of Health.

### **SYMPTOMS: FEVER – HEADACHE – FATIGUE – COUGH - SORE THROAT - BODY ACHES**

Influenza-like symptoms are defined as a temperature of 100 or greater AND either a cough or sore throat.

### **PLEASE PROMOTE GOOD HYGIENE WITH:**

- Frequent hand washing with soap and warm water
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or sleeve
- Stay home when sick
- Routinely clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces (*flu virus can remain on surfaces for up to 8 hours*)

## **ORDER A YEARBOOK – NAMES, PLACES, AND FACES – REMEMBER THEM ALL!**

2018-2019 yearbooks are available for purchase! 52 pages of memories from the year in full color for just \$25. There are also additional packages for personalization and icons. Prices will increase on December 21<sup>st</sup>, so order yours online today at [www.jostensyearbook.com](http://www.jostensyearbook.com)!

## **PARENT WELLNESS MESSAGE - GOT MILK? WHY DAIRY IS IMPORTANT FOR CHILDREN**



Consuming dairy is important for bone health, as it provides the necessary nutrients - calcium, potassium, vitamin D, and protein – for building bones and teeth. Childhood and adolescence are critical periods to encourage a diet with adequate dairy intake, as the body is continually building bone mass. By age 30, the bones will reach their maximum strength and density, as known as peak bone mass. Not eating enough dairy can put children at increased risk of osteoporosis later in life, as well as cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, and high blood pressure. [Click here for more information!](#)

*Sponsored by the Farmington Area Wellness Committee and the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership*



## **LOST AND FOUND BIN**

The Lost and Found bin is overflowing with jackets, sweatshirts, lunch boxes, gloves, hats, clothes, etc! Please encourage your student to look through the bin located in the main hall across from the office if they are missing anything. **Any items not claimed will be donated to charity over winter break.**

## **STEM CLUB - WINTER SESSION BEGINS TUESDAY 1-29-19 AT DMS**

Where can you build a mini-hovercraft, design a habitat for moose, or analyze a crime scene? STEM Club will begin meeting in October. Permission slips are found outside Ms. Hardyman's room 107 in Leopard House OR [CLICK HERE](#) for a permission slip.

Students from DMS will meet with students from BMS to do Hands-On investigations in the areas of science and engineering. They will use scientific observation, problem solving, inquiry and design skills while working with teams.

The winter session consists of 5 meetings each. The sessions will have different investigations and topics. Winter Sessions dates: Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, & 26<sup>th</sup>.

Contact Mary Hardyman for more information [mhardyman@farmington.k12.mn.us](mailto:mhardyman@farmington.k12.mn.us)

## **HOMEWORK HELP AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM – MONDAY & WEDNESDAY**

Monday October 1<sup>st</sup> we began our DMS "Homework Help" after school program. This program will run on ***Mondays and Wednesdays*** from 2:30 - 4:00pm when school is in session. It is opportunity for your child to stay after and work on their schoolwork. Students will need their own transportation home.

We are planning to have Farmington High School students serve as tutors, but due to their own course load requirements, sports and other commitments we cannot always guarantee to have a specific number of High School student tutors in attendance to assist our Dodge Middle School students. The tutors will arrive here at approximately 3:00pm and will work with students from 3:00 - 4:00pm. (At the beginning of each HS Trimester, tutors will arrive at 3:15pm)

Please note that we do not offer one on one tutoring in this program.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

Theresa Agerter

Geography Teacher

[tagerter@farmington.k12.mn.us](mailto:tagerter@farmington.k12.mn.us)

651-460-1570

Thank you for sharing your students with us every day. What a pleasure it is to work with all of our students "in the middle"!

Chris Bussmann, Principal



## **DID YOU KNOW?**

### **FAMILY WEB ACCESS & SCHOOLGY**

FWA (Family Web Access) allows parents to access information for grades, attendance and information to student progress.

Schoology helps parents communicate with their student's team of teachers, access assignments, projects and much more. We encourage every family at Dodge Middle School to have both accounts to fully support your student in their learning.

[Please click HERE to learn more or contact our office at 651-460-1500 with any questions you may have.](#)

### **ATTENDANCE LINE: 651-460-1505**

If a student will be absent, a parent/guardian must call Dodge Middle School's attendance line at 651-460-1505 between 7:00 AM and 8:15 AM each day of the absence. We ask that parents/guardians provide the reason for the absence at the time they call. The school determines if the absence falls within the excused or unexcused parameters. If the school does not receive a call from the parent/guardian the day of the absence, the student's absence is automatically unexcused. To request a pre-excused absence, a parent/guardian needs to complete the online "[Request to Waive Unexcused Status of Absence](#)" form (a link to the form is provided here).

You can access this link by visiting the Dodge Middle School webpage and clicking on the green icon located on the bottom right of the page titled "Pre-Arranged Absence". Below is the image of the icon on the DMS website:



Please note that the form should be submitted at least 5 school days in advance of the absence.

### **ASSIGNMENTS & HOMEWORK SHORTCUTS**

We've created a shortcut for you to view your child's weekly assignments and homework that are maintained in a Google Doc organized by grade level houses.

You can access these shortcuts by visiting the Dodge Middle School webpage and clicking on the yellow icon located on the bottom right of the page titled "Assignments". Below is an image of the icon on the DMS website:



You can also click [HERE](#).

The most recent information is located at the top of the document while past week's information can be viewed by scrolling down the document. This information is also present through Schoology.

Should you have a need to access specific assignments, please use your Parent Schoology Access Code or have your



student visit the specific course in Schoology. Questions related to specific assignments should be directed to your student's teacher.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Classes End (6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> – Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>: NO SCHOOL – Winter Break

## **COMMUNITY RESOURCES HIGHLIGHTS**

We are always updating the [Community Resources page](#) on our website with new events and activities that support our Farmington community. Click to learn more!

CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW TO RECEIVE COMMUNITY EDUCATION INFORMATION  
[SIGN UP FOR OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTER UPDATES!](#)

## **SPEAKING OF KIDS SERIES**

Free seminars are planned for February 11, 2019 and March 11, 2019 at either school district depending on the date. More information is available at [www.speakingofkids.info](http://www.speakingofkids.info)