

HIGHLIGHTS

OUR DISTRICT OUR STUDENTS OUR PRIDE



Fall

Volume 13

2016-2017



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which is an annual campaign to increase awareness of the disease. While most people are aware of breast cancer, many forget to take the steps to have a plan to detect the disease in its early stages.



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Time Warner Channel 39

BLENDED LEARNING ACADEMY



Blended Learning Academy kicked off its second year welcoming 160 students in grades 8-12 to the newly remodeled facilities. The fast paced school year led to participation in the 2016 Homecoming Parade with a fun filled entry which placed 1st in the Secondary School Division. Our thanks to the parents, students, staff (and their loved ones) for the outstanding teamwork.



ANDALE DEL RIO PHYSICAL CHALLENGE



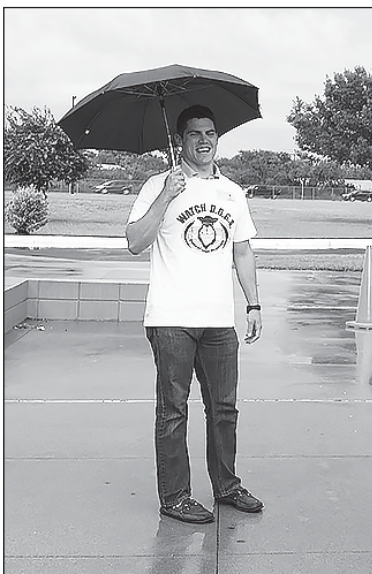
Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary third grade students participated in the annual Andale Del Rio physical challenge on Saturday, October 1, 2016. The community has this health fair and family run/walk annually and invites the elementary campuses of our district to be a part of it. This year DFC placed third place in the competition that involved demonstration in basketball skills, accuracy and speed.

HONOR STUDENT COUNCIL AWARD

The Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary School Student Council assists with different community and school-wide activities. Their hard work and dedication paid off this year as they received the distinction of Honor Council. With many of the members returning for the 2016-2017 school year, there are definitely high expectations and big goals in place. With their eyes set on school leadership and community involvement, great things are in store for this set of young minds!



WATCH D.O.G.S.



Dr. Fermin Calderon kicked off the WATCH D.O.G.S. program on Wednesday, September 28, 2016. Fathers, father figures, students and community members were invited that night to learn more about the program. WATCH D.O.G.S. is a K-5th grade program that invites fathers, grandfathers, uncles, or other father figures to volunteer at least one day all day at their child's school during the school year. DFC's WATCH D.O.G.S. were able to sign up at "Dads and Kids Pizza Night" that night. The program is overseen by a "Top Dog" volunteer who partners with the school administrator to coordinate scheduling and identify opportunities for Watch DOGS to provide assistance at the school. Watch DOG dads and volunteers perform a variety of tasks during their volunteer day including monitoring the school entrance, assisting with unloading and loading of buses and cars, monitoring the lunch room, or helping in the classroom with a teacher's guidance by working with small groups of students on homework, flashcards, or spelling. A big thank you goes out to our volunteers that have made the program a great success this school year so far! The "Top Dog" for this school year is Osiel Saldua, father of Edward Saldua, 1st grade student at Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary. You can contact our parental aide, Mrs. Juarez at 830-778-4620 if you are interested in volunteering as a WATCH DOG at our awesome school.



DR. FERMIN CALDERON ELEMENTARY

Young Entrepreneurs Club



The Young Entrepreneurs Club and sponsors held their first meeting on Thursday, September 22, 2016. The mission of our club is to strengthen students' financial literacy by exposing them to business type environments and becoming community helpers. The club had the privilege of working with Future Business Leaders of America Daniel Mata and Shane Creamer that day to learn more about business applications and more. A big thank you goes out to the FBLA sponsors at the Del Rio High School, Mrs. Larissa Garanzuay and Business Dual Credit Teacher, Salyna Guanajuato for their help in coordinating this meeting. Go Coyotes!



Chick-Fil-A School Spirit Night

It was an awesome turn out at Chick-Fil-A as they hosted Dr. Fermin Calderon Elementary for their first Spirit Night! A large group of parents, students, staff, and the community came out to show their support. Staff members greeted customers, cleaned tables, refilled condiments as well as drinks, making everyone feel welcomed! Thank you Chick Fil A for your commitment to encouraging families to come together while enjoying great food. It was a great way for our children, families, and staff members to socialize outside of school while raising money to support DFC Elementary.

CLASS OF 2020 WINS 2ND WITH THEIR FLOAT



Members of the class of 2020 worked tirelessly on their Homecoming float, and their efforts did not go unnoticed as they won the second place trophy in Division I. Pictured are Alexis Barrera, Sebastian Sanchez, Michael Meza, Dulceamor Guajardo, Ariana Solorio, Alyla Riojas, Clarissa Arreola, Britney Gomez, Hannah Montalvo, Zoe Rodriguez, Leianna Jimenez and Aleah Hernandez.

GARFIELD'S GREAT READERS



Garfield's Great Readers are working toward their Million Words Read goal. These 3rd graders were proud to display the books they'll be reading to try and reach their Million Words Read goal that has been set out by Garfield's Principal Mr. Jimenez. At Garfield we like to say, "Stay Calm and Read On!"

GARFIELD PARTICIPATES IN ANDALE DEL RIO



BIRDS OF PREY PRESENTATION AT GARFIELD



Bird of Prey – Garfield's 3rd graders got to see nature up close and personal during the Birds of Prey presentation given by the National Park Service. The students had a fabulous time learning about different birds and what kind of prey they hunt.



Garfield Mustangs Stomping it out! Garfield Mustangs ran and stomped their hearts out while participating in the Andale Del Rio Community Event on October 8th. Our Garfield's Mustangs ran hard and had a blast during the elementary basketball competition. Coach Gomez and Coach Vasquez, along with Garfield's Assistant Principal Mrs. Casillas, hooped and hollered cheering our little Mustangs on!

GARFIELD STUDENT COUNCIL OFFICERS

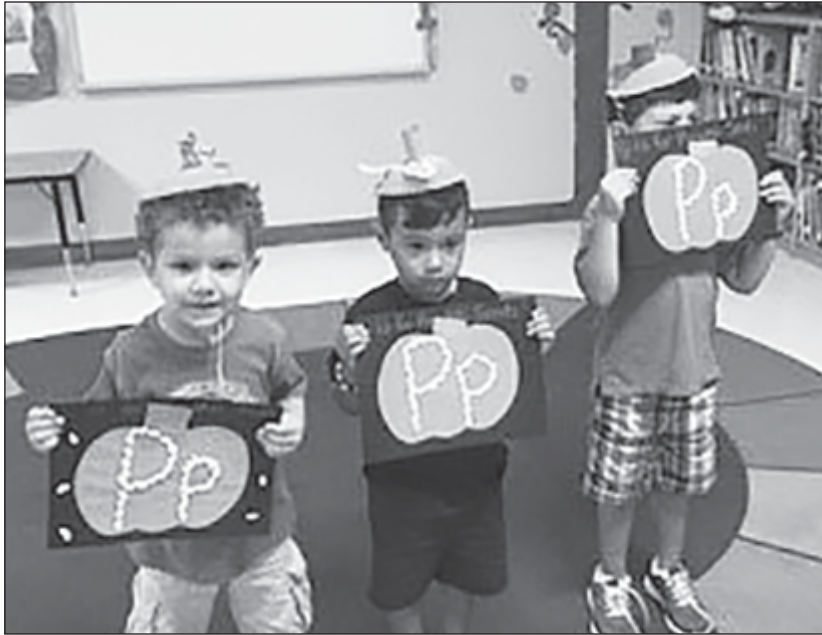


Student Council officers - Garfield newly elected student council officers for the year are ready to represent Garfield not only within our own Garfield family, but within the school district and Del Rio community. The officers are: President – Mariana Pena; Vice-President – Keren Magadan; Treasurer – Brianna Hernandez; Historian - Sabrina Duenes; Secretary – Luciana De Los Reyes

CARDWELL HEAD START/PRE-KINDERGARTEN

Fall Literacy Festival

In a two day event, Cardwell families learn how to promote literacy at home through a series of hands-on activities.



Fatherhood Training

Fathers attended their first special event as the program kicked off one of three major events for dads that focus on School Readiness and STEAM. Dads also listened closely to a special guest speaker who spoke about “The Legacy of a Great Father”. There were 64 male role models in attendance. These events are organized by Cardwell’s very own “Fatherhood Council” headed by Jose Salazar.

Appreciation Week at Cardwell



Cardwell custodial and cafeteria staff get recognition for their hard work and dedication.

Amigo Dentistry Tooth brushing lesson



Staff members of Amigo Dentistry and Amigo Mascot teach Cardwell students how to care for their teeth.

CARDWELL HEAD START/PRE-KINDERGARTEN



Wake Up Wednesday at Cardwell

Cardwell students wore pajamas to school on Zero Absence Day. Only six students were unable to attend school on October 12, making Cardwell the school with the second best attendance. Thank you parents for your support!



Families Reading Together

Once a month, families gather in the evening in the campus library to enjoy reading a book together as well as work on "make-n-take" projects that enhance the family literacy experience at home. In September, families worked on creating their very own home library. Door prizes given away that evening were, of course... books.



Start of a New School Year at Cardwell

Cardwell staff line up with pompoms and excitement to welcome students as they visit their school for the first time.

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow



Cardwell staff proudly pose in their new t-shirts promoting the benefits of attending school every day.

Learning About Cultures



Cardwell students learn about the Mexican culture through various instructional activities during the month of September.

LONNIE GREEN STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN HOMECOMING PARADE



Students of Dr. Lonnie Green participated in the 2016 Homecoming parade on October 12, 2016 to help the Rams take on San Antonio South San Bobcats. Students were ecstatic dressing the part of the fiesta theme with many different props and attire. A few students also learned the Folklorico dance by our very own first grade teacher, Mrs. Dominguez. Students practiced everyday to perform the dance in the parade and did extremely well. Thank you to everyone who helped out in anyway during this event, it was a success. Dr. Lonnie Green loves our Rams! VIVA RAMS!

LONNIE GREEN ELEMENTARY SPIRIT NIGHT AT CHICK-FIL-A



On September 21, 2016 Dr. Lonnie Green had the first Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A. Many students and families came out to meet new friends, visited with the old ones and enjoyed some good food to support the school. The night was a huge success. Thank you to the families who are new to the Lonnie Green family who came out and experienced a great night. A special "Thank You" to a few of our Rams Varsity football boys who came out to support our school by stopping by and having dinner. It was a great night to bring staff, students and families together.

LONNIE GREEN ELEMENTARY 1ST SIX WEEKS ASSEMBLY



On October 14, 2016 Dr. Lonnie Green had the 1st six weeks assembly. Parents were welcomed to the assembly throughout the day and enjoyed seeing the accomplishments of their children. Congratulations to the 3rd grade cluster for having the highest attendance for the 1st six weeks. The cluster was awarded with a trophy for their hard work. Great Job! Also, a BIG Congratulations to Mrs. Dewitt's first grade class for having PERFECT ATTENDANCE for the first six weeks of school. Mrs. Dewitt's class goal is to dunk the Principals in a dunking booth. Congratulations to every student on campus for their hard work towards the first six weeks. A job well done at Dr. Lonnie Green.

PERFECT ATTENDANCE!



Mrs. Dewitt's first grade class going strong with 41 consecutive days with PERFECT ATTENDANCE!! The students have been awarded with 10 extra minutes of recess, frosties ice cream, lunch with the principals and a bounce castle for the whole day. Dr. Lonnie Green is extremely proud of their hard work and effort. And a special thanks to the parents for bringing them to school every single day, we greatly appreciate your corporation. ATTENDANCE COUNTS!

NHE 20 CONSECUTIVE DAYS OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE



Miss Solis's 4th grade class celebrated 20 consecutive days of Perfect Attendance. They were rewarded with a refreshing treat.

4TH GRADERS HELP CLEAN UP



Ruby Esparza, a 4th grader in Mrs. Manrique's class, noticed that there was a lot of litter laying around the track and field area. She recruited other 4th grade students to help her pick up trash two days out of the week during their recess time.

NHE STUDENT COUNCIL OFFICERS



Student Council Officers attended and participated in a leadership workshop presented by Leaders R Us, at the Civic Center in September.

NHE EXPLORES STATES OF MATTER



Ms. Casarez's 3rd grade Science class explored states of matter during the 1st six weeks.

NHE KINDERGARTENERS LEARN ABOUT COLORS



During the 1st six weeks of school NHE Kindergarteners learned about colors. One of the activities during this unit of study was wearing the color of the day.

RCE IS AWARDED GRANT FOR SCIENCE CLUB



"A good education can change anyone. A good teacher can change EVERYTHING!" Mrs. Kelly Lujan and Ms. Michele Tschetter are perfect examples of good teachers. Spectacular teachers, actually! Recently they were awarded a grant from the SFDRICSD Educational Foundation that will help fund an after school science club for Ruben Chavira Elementary School 4th and 5th grade students. They also reached out to donors through the Donors Choose program and were awarded additional funds to assist with the project. Ms. Tschetter and Mrs. Lujan will be soliciting support from our community to help spark an interest in science. Speakers from Texas Parks and Wildlife, Del Rio Police Department, Sul Ross State University and Laughlin AFB will be invited to share their love of science and demonstrate how science is used in numerous careers.

RCE YOUTH POWER



Mrs. Debbie Escamilla, counselor at Ruben Chavira Elementary School, is the only counselor that was awarded a SFDRICSD Educational Foundation grant at the start of the school year. She applied for the grant to help fund an innovative idea that will encourage children to be more empathetic to their classmates and help foster the Leader In Me habits at RCE. The "Buddy Bench" will be a place students can sit on the playground if they are looking for a friend or playmate. Mrs. Escamilla also sponsors RCE's Youth Power program. This is an afterschool club that concentrates on high self-esteem and anti-bullying messages through interactive activities and guest speakers. RCE is fortunate to have such a positive club and such a caring counselor.



Youth Power members at Ruben Chavira Elementary know that safety is important. Students in Youth Power are allowed to apply for Safety Patrol officer positions. The Safety Patrol greets families in the mornings, helps keep hallways clear and assists visitors with directions. Safety first!

ECHS STUDENTS NEW STUDY CENTER



ECHS students help organize their new Study Center at the Freshman Campus.

ECHS STUDENTS AT LUNCH



ECHS students enjoy lunch together after a busy morning.

SFMS STUCO HONORS CUSTODIANS



SFMS's StuCo honored our wonderful custodians during the week of October 2nd in recognition of "Custodian's Week" with different treats daily and a basket of goodies. Thank YOU Carlos Espinoza-Aguilar, Juan Sanchez, Bertha Perez, Romelia Hernandez and Hector Marin for everything you do for our students and staff. We appreciate you!

SFMS STUDENTS ENJOY BBQ



SFMS students were rewarded with a BBQ on Tuesday, October 18th for having the best attendance for the 1st six weeks for secondary schools. They were served by their Superintendent, Dr. Carlos Rios, their CIO for Secondary Schools, Aida V. Gomez and other staff members from central administration. The cheeseburgers and chili hot dogs were amazing, but being able to eat out in the courtyard was even better.

SFMS PARTICIPATE IN HOMECOMING PARADE



The annual Homecoming parade made its way down Main Street Wednesday afternoon, October 12th, which entertained hundreds of ecstatic Del Rio citizens. More than 50 entries made up the hour-long parade of various innovative floats for this year's theme: Viva Rams! San Felipe Memorial Middle School embraced the challenge. Even though SFMS did not win first place, the Student Council members showed enthusiasm and excitement with their float, costumes and most importantly, their outstanding spirit. By: Valeria Galindo, SFMS Student

DRMS VEX BATTLE OF THE BORDER

Del Rio Middle School hosted a VEX Robotics Competition on Saturday, October 8th. Schools from Central and South Texas participated in this State qualifying contest. One of Del Rio Middle School's teams, Robo Squad 59360A, was awarded the Design and Excellence Award and advance to the State Championship in Houston in February.

RED RIBBON PROCLAMATION

The Del Rio Middle School Student Council were at hand for the Red Ribbon Campaign Proclamation at the SFDRICISD Student Performance Center on October 21st. This event is the kick-off for Red Ribbon Week for all schools in the district. Red Ribbon Week serves as a way to mobilize communities to educate youth and encourage participation in drug prevention activities.

UNDEFEATED

The Del Rio Middle School Tennis teams have had an amazing season. Both teams, boys and girls, remain undefeated and continue to dominate the courts. Congratulations to all student athletes and their coaches.

ALL-REGION CHOIR

The Del Rio Middle School participated in the Regional Chorus clinic in San Antonio on October 14th and 15th. Out of the 30 talented students that participated, four students qualified for the Regional Choir, a performance ensemble of exceptional musicians from across Central and South Texas. The four students representing Del Rio are Christian Montoya, Eduardo Vasquez, Rodolfo Perez and Luis Sanchez.

LAMAR RECEIVES EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION GRANT



As part of the Educational Foundation Grant, teachers at Lamar Elementary were given a grant to create a habitat last year. This year, the grant was given again with big plans for expansion. Recently, Mrs. Foley from Southwest Texas Junior College brought a very exciting donation for our habitat. Dr. Pharr at Val Verde Veterinarian Hospital had helped save a turtle that had been hit by a vehicle. After it was rehabilitated, Mrs. Foley brought it to Lamar so that it could live in our pond. Students were excited to help place the turtle in the pond and plan to name the turtle with a contest within their classroom.

LAMAR STUDENTS BECOME RAMS FOR A DAY



At Lamar Elementary, we have Shout Outs to honor students that are showing good leadership skills. As the Shout Outs are read on the intercom, they are placed in a drawing. At the end of the week, names are drawn and students get to be a Ram for the day. Students wear jerseys and show classmates what being a good leader looks like. This is something that all Lamar students look forward to.

LAMAR CELEBRATES RONALD McDONALD'S BIRTHDAY



In honor of McDonald's birthday, Ronald McDonald came to Lamar Elementary to visit with students and staff. Students in kinder thru second grade were thrilled to watch a great show, complete with reminders to be a good leader. Students were given a poster to remind them of what good leaders do.

LAMAR PARTICIPATES IN HOMECOMING PARADE



Lamar Elementary students, staff and parents came together to create a Fiesta themed float for the Del Rio High School Homecoming Float. The float was themed around the Plaza Brown and was made complete with students singing and dancing. Lamar Elementary was honored to receive 3rd place at the parade.

BUENA VISTA TAKES 1ST WITH FLOAT

Buena Vista Elementary took 1st place for the float that best embodied this year's theme, "Fiesta." The entry was inspired by the 3D computer-animated fantasy comedy, *The Book of Life*. The STUCO committee and its officers spearheaded the huge project, but the grand success came from the family members who so generously gave of their time. "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

**MAKE EVERY DAY COUNT!**

Mrs. Cecy Gonzalez Villarreal is definitely sending her students and parents the right message about attendance. Her first grade class has 38 consecutive days of perfect attendance! This huge accomplishment was rewarded with a luncheon provided and served by the Buena Vista principal and assistant principal. Mrs. Gonzalez Villarreal's high expectations and "star studded" parent support has shown everyone that in order for great things to happen, you first have to show up!

BUENA VISTA ELEM. JOURNEY FOR GOLD

It is with great excitement and eagerness that Buena Vista kicks off the 2016 UIL journey for "Gold." This year promises to be the best year ever! UIL is designed to motivate students as they acquire higher levels of understanding and it provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate mastery of a specific skill. This year hard work and dedication will be the Longhorn's driving force! Knowledge is our Super Power, what's yours?

**LEADERS AREN'T BORN, THEY ARE MADE!**

Buena Vista Elementary has launched the "Leader in Me" program and it's safe to say, it has had a great impact on all The Mighty Longhorns! This year the fourth and fifth grade star students in each classroom decided to "Leaderize" the first awards assembly. The class leaders practiced and then collectively announced, congratulated, and together shared in each other's accomplishments. The students called this effort a "Win-Win" for everyone!



ATTENDANCE COUNTS



98.05%

North Heights Elementary had the highest attendance for the 1st six-weeks with 98.05%. Students and staff will be served a BBQ during their lunch. Congratulations to the staff and students for making attendance a priority.

97.88%

The secondary campus with the highest attendance was SFMMS with 97.88%. Students and staff will be served a BBQ during their lunch. Congratulations to the staff and students for making attendance a priority.



99.11%

Lamar Elementary had the highest attendance on 2nd Zero Absence Day on October 12, 2016 with 99.11%! We only had 5 students absent on this day. As a result, the entire school received a pizza party! We are very proud of all of our students, parents and staff for making our Zero Absence Day a success!