

Dingeman Elementary School
11840 Scripps Creek Drive
San Diego, CA 92131
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Tiger Pause Bulletin



Sponsored by the Family Faculty Connection (FFC)

June 2012

From our Principal

Summer Greetings!

I hope this message finds you anticipating your summer together at the beach, camps, family gatherings and good times with friends. As I reflect on our 2011-12 school year, I realize we have been able to bring our school vision to life! We continue to develop the whole child through science, math, literacy, technology, and the visual and performing arts. We kicked off our Green Team effort and now have joined forces with the San Diego Zoo. Our students have been showcased on KUSI on the weather program, "Are You Smarter Than a Fifth Grader?" and our Honor Choir performed on the Sounds of the Seasons program. Our school was awarded the California Distinguished School Award. Our band and orchestra students won many accolades for their musical performances. We are very proud of all our children's accomplishments.

As we look forward to another great year, we are busily preparing for our students arrival on Tuesday, Sept. 4th at 9:05 a.m.

If you are new to the school and need to register, please come by the office anytime on or after August 24th from 9-4 p.m. New kindergarteners and their parents are invited to a meet and greet on Friday, August 31st from 10-11 a.m. in your child's new classroom. Immediately following, there will be a brief welcome in the auditorium and campus tours. We will have all kinder classroom assignments posted at the main entrance and our Kinder Connection volunteers will be on hand to welcome and assist you.

If you are returning to Dingeman, welcome back! Our 1st -5th grade classes will be posted at the main entrance on Friday, August 31st after 5 p.m. We are looking forward to seeing all of you on the first day of school. Until then, enjoy, be safe and read!

In Partnership for Excellence,
Kimie Lochtefeld
Dingeman Principal

Final 2011-2012 Message from the FFC President

Dear Dingeman Families,

Where did this year go? I can hardly believe that June is here, and that we have only a few more days left of school. For many of you, these are the last few days at Dingeman and I wish you and your kids a fond farewell. We will miss all our fifth grade students and parents!! We sure had a great time together this year, and I enjoyed my time as your FFC President. It was such a pleasure working with you on the many projects and events we organized for our Dingeman Tigers. I want to thank each and every one of you for your enthusiasm, support and generosity at Dingeman. Each parent, each teacher, each administrator and each staff member has given so much time, energy and financial support to our campus. Individually, we made a difference everyday; and collectively we made a difference for a lifetime. I am looking forward to working with you again next year. I hope that we can gather even more new faces on the FFC roster!! We are still looking for people who want to take on a small leadership role for next year. Please contact me if you are interested! In the meantime, I hope you have a wonderful summer with your families, enjoy a well-deserved rest, and get ready for a rockin' 2012-2013 school year!

Have a safe & restful summer!
Sincerely,
Jaylene Farry
FFC President 2011-2012

SCHOOL-WIDE ASSEMBLY HONORS COL. BOB DINGEMAN !!!

How does Dingeman Elementary celebrate its namesake turning 90 years young...?! By declaring Friday, April 27th "Bob Dingeman Day" and holding a special, school-wide assembly in his honor, **that's** how! Students, parents, current and former faculty members, administrators, and school and community leaders were all in attendance to celebrate Col. Bob's special 90th birthday!

Often referred to as "Mr. Scripps Ranch," Colonel Dingeman has worked tirelessly for the betterment of our community, and has been both a positive role model and a matchless advocate for the school that bears his name. As pointed out by Mr. William Kowba, Superintendent of San Diego City Schools, Dingeman Elementary School is the **only** school in SDUSD to be named after a living person. Quite an honor for a decorated war hero, but then again, it just confirms what an extraordinary man he is!

Members of the SRHS ROTC Color Guard opened the ceremony with the Presentation of Colors, escorting Col. Dingeman (in full dress uniform) and his lovely wife, Mrs. Gaye Dingeman, up the red carpeted aisle. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Dingeman was presented with a bouquet of flowers and Col. Dingeman graciously received birthday gifts from members of our Student Council and our FFC President, Jaylene Farry. The ROTC Color Guard also closed out the assembly with the Retiring of Colors (traditional flag ceremony).

Dingeman Principal Kimie Lochtefeld led with Opening Remarks, followed by heartfelt speeches presented by the following community leaders who were on hand to honor Col. Dingeman: Superintendent Bill Kowba, Dr. Nellie Meyer (Deputy Superintendent of Academics), Mr. Michael Beraud (Dingeman Vice Principal), Brad Callahan (Principal Lewis Middle School/Former Principal at Dingeman), and Jan Kaneko (Dingeman's first Principal when the school was opened). Additional community leaders in attendance



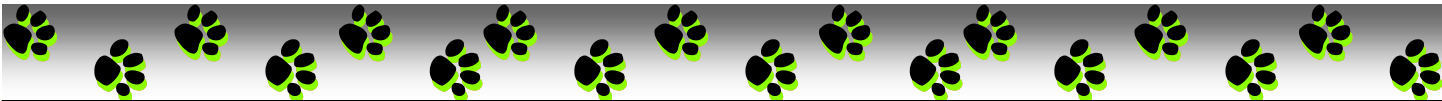
included Ann Menna (Principal Scripps Ranch High School), Sylvia McGrade (Vice Principal Central Elementary School/former Dingeman teacher), Godwin Higa (Principal Cherokee Point Elementary School/Former teacher at Dingeman), Jaylene Farry (Dingeman FFC President), and Dr. Judy Fogel (Former Dingeman Principal).

Col. Dingeman himself also spoke, eloquently imparting words of advice and wisdom to the Dingeman students, calling upon them to "learn all you can" and "take advantage of all the tremendous opportunities you have before you". He also expressed his appreciation to "the Dingeman students, parents, teachers, administration, God ... and for the privilege of living in the **greatest** country of all, the United States of America".

Our school's award-winning Honor Choir, under the direction of Mr. Garner Saguil (as accompanied by Miss Dolores and assisted by Mrs. Ashley Grobosky), performed several emotionally-stirring songs, including a special tribute song to the tune of "It's a Grand Old Flag" entitled "Colonel Bob Dingeman Song" (lyrics by J. Fogel). Additional Honor Choir songs included "Happy Birthday Song", "Let Freedom Sing", and "Seasons of Love". The Dingeman school band, led by Kirk Hoffman (for director Sandra Stram), performed rousing renditions of "Top Gun" and "Titanic Theme Song".

Many thanks to Patty Ayo-Portal for coordinating the post-ceremony reception held in the Dingeman Library. (Col. and Mrs. Dingeman were a bit delayed, due to the long line of well-wishers and to the many students wanting "hugs" and their photos taken with them!). A special thanks to Vice-Principal Michael Beraud, for organizing the special assembly, and for all the students, teachers, parents and community leaders who were able to share in this memorable day of recognition and appreciation for Col. Dingeman.

"Happy 90th Birthday, Col. Dingeman....WE LOVE YOU!"





Dingeman Students Doing Us Proud!



Best Mom Essay Winner here at Dingeman!

Of course, everyone thinks they have the best mom in the world. One of our students here at Dingeman wrote an essay about why her mom is the best, and was entered in the *50 Best Moms Essay Contest* sponsored by Time Warner Cable. The competition was fierce, since it was open to any San Diego County student from fourth to twelfth grade! Out of 2000 entries, her essay was one of the top 50! She was then invited along with her mom and her grandma to a delicious brunch honoring these fine writers and their moms at the Hyatt. This fifth grade student is our very own, **Alexandra Kotsos**! Not only was she honored for being in the top 50, she also won the elementary school division and a new Sony Tablet! Of all the elementary school essays, hers was the best! Congratulations to Alexandra Kotsos for her expressive, descriptive, unique style of writing!



Nicholas Emtage and Natalie Heim were outstanding as our "Principals for a Day." They enjoyed learning about how Dingeman is run from behind the scenes.

Congratulations to these fourth and fifth graders who represented Dingeman at the citywide Math Field Day Competition on May 23rd!!

Grade 4

- Math Wizardry-**Sahil Althalye** (Mrs. Grobosky)
- Crafty Calculator-**Nithyasree Palakadety** (Mrs. Harris)
- Mental Math-**Lauren Kogelman** (Mr. Saguil)
- Digit Deal-**Aidan Scudder** (Mrs. Lee)
- Sudoku-**Jennifer Zhou** (Mrs. Harris)

Grade 5

- Four Digits to 100-**Andrew Kim** (Ms. Morioka)
- Measurement & Geometry-**Timmy Camaclang** (Mrs. Becker)
- Luck or Logic-**Nicholas Calkins** (Mrs. Gonzalez)
- Heads Up-**Valerie Ho** (Ms. Morioka)
- Kakuro-**Lindsey Trinh** (Mrs. Schwartz)



Fifth Grader Nicholas Calkins shows off his medal for 5th place in the Luck or Logic Competition.



Ari Brin Successfully Competes in Odyssey of the Mind Competition

This Spring Dingeman's very own Ari Brin along with his team of 6 other Scripps Ranch students competed in the Odyssey of the Mind (OM) Competition. OM is a competition that centers around creative problem solving, and is open to students from Kindergarten through college. Team members work together at length to solve a predefined problem and present their solution to the problem at a competition.

The competition began with about 5000 teams. Fifty Four of these teams advanced to the 2012 World Finals at Iowa State University. The Scripps Miramar Ranch Library team ended up placing 2nd against other state champions from across the US and 14 countries around the world including China, Poland, India, Russia, and Singapore. They were also honored with the Ranatra Fusca award for exceptional creativity and risk taking. This is a tremendous accomplishment.

Congratulations to Ari and the rest of his team members for a job well done!

THANK YOU DINGEMAN PARENTS!

**Because of your generosity the 2011-2012 FFC
provided our students with....**

34 Classroom Funds
Instructional Supplies
Monthly Assemblies
Strings & Band Awards
Cardio Club
Health Office Supplies
Safety Patrol Gear
Parking Patrol Gear
CPR for Teachers
RAZ Kids Reading Program
PE Equipment
Grade Level Grants
T-Shirts and Spirit Gear
The Dingeman Family
Directory
Book Fair
Green Team T-shirts
Writing Enrichment
JA Biz Town
4th grade trip to Julian
Honor Choir

Supply Room Restocking
Technical Support
Ink Cartridges
Volunteer Fair
Copier Paper
Copier Machine Maintenance
Art Corps
Art Show
Family Art Nights
Family Fall Festival
Rockin' Science
Hospitality Committee
School Website
Family Dinner Nights

*Thank you for your generosity and support! We are
looking forward to an exciting 2012-2013 year!*

Another Successful Art Show!

Dingeman 's 14th Annual Art Show, "Express Yourself" took place May 14th—17th. All classrooms and parents were invited to come and see the wonderful masterpieces created by our very own students. Thank you so much to everyone who made the art show possible, including all of the parents who so generously volunteered their time to teach art lessons to our children. Without the Art Corps Program and our wonderful parent volunteers, none of this would be possible.

Book Fair Update

In May the book fair committee delivered over \$1,000 in books to our great library. Next year there will be many new biographies, wildlife books and children's best sellers available for checkout. Many are library bound which means that many of our students can enjoy them! This is all a result of the Book Fair proceeds. Thanks for all your support!.

25 Tips to Keep your Children and Grandchildren Safe...from the SRCA Neighborhood Watch Program

At Home:

1. Teach your children their full names, address, and home telephone number. Make sure they know your full name.
2. Make sure your children know how to reach you at work or on your cell phone.
3. Teach your children how and when to use 911 and make sure your children have a trusted adult to call if they're scared or have an emergency.
4. Instruct children to keep the door locked and not to open the door to talk to anyone when they are home alone.
5. Set rules with your children about having visitors over when you're not home and how to answer the telephone.
6. Choose babysitters with care. Obtain references from family, friends, and neighbors. Once you have chosen the caregiver, drop in unexpectedly to see how your children are doing. Ask children how the experience with the caregiver was and listen carefully to their responses.

On the Internet:

7. Learn about the Internet. The more you know about how the Web works, the better prepared you are to teach your children about potential risks. Visit www.NetSmartz.org for more information about Internet safety.
8. Place the family computer in a common area, rather than a child's bedroom. Also, monitor their time spent online and the websites they've visited and establish rules for Internet use. Know what other access your child may have to the Internet at school, libraries, or friends' homes.
9. Use privacy settings on social networking sites to limit contact with unknown users and make sure screen names don't reveal too much about your children.
10. Encourage your children to tell you if anything they encounter online makes them feel sad, scared, or confused.
11. Caution children not to post revealing information or inappropriate photos of themselves or their friends online.

At School:

12. Walk the route to and from school with your children, pointing out landmarks and safe places to go if they're being followed or need help. If your children ride a bus, visit the bus stop with them to make sure they know which bus to take.
13. Remind kids to take a friend whenever they walk or bike to school. Remind them to stay with a group if they're waiting at the bus stop.
14. Caution children never to accept a ride from anyone unless you have told them it is OK to do so in each instance.

Out and About:

15. Take your children on a walking tour of the neighborhood and tell them whose homes they may visit without you.
16. Remind your children it's OK to say NO to anything that makes them feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused and teach your children to tell you if anything or anyone makes them feel this way.
17. Teach your children to ask permission before leaving home.
18. Remind your children not to walk or play alone outside.
19. Teach your children to never approach a vehicle, occupied or not, unless they know the owner and are accompanied by a parent, guardian, or other trusted adult.
20. Practice "what if" situations and ask your children how they would respond. "What if you fell off your bike and you needed help? Who would you ask?"
21. Teach your children to check in with you if there is a change of plans.
22. During family outings, establish a central, easy-to-locate spot to meet for check-ins or should you get separated.
23. Teach your children how to locate help at theme parks, sports stadiums, shopping malls, and other public places. Also, identify those people who they can ask for help, such as uniformed law enforcement, security guards and store clerks with name-tags.
24. Help your children learn to recognize and avoid potential risks, so that they can deal with them if they happen.
25. Teach your children that if anyone tries to grab them, they should make a scene and make every effort to get away by kicking, screaming, and resisting.