

# CHARLES P. MURRAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



## NAVIGATOR NEWSLETTER



### September 28, 2015

#### Purpose Statement

*Murray Elementary School is committed to navigating students towards excellence by providing engaging, purposeful, and rigorous learning opportunities.*

## Dates to Remember

- ☺ September 28-October 2, Book Fair
- ☺ October 1, Family Night
- ☺ October 6, PTO Meeting, 5:30 pm
- ☺ October 6, Coffee with the Principal, 5:00 pm
- ☺ October 8, End of 1st Quarter

## A "Monster" of a Book Fair

Sept. 28 - Oct. 2

### Schedule

28 MONDAY	8:30am-3:30pm
29 TUESDAY	8:30am-3:30pm
30 WEDNESDAY	8:30am-3:30pm
1 THURSDAY	8:30am-1:50pm
1 FAMILY NIGHT THURSDAY	4:30pm-6:30pm
2 FRIDAY	8:30am-3:30pm

**Family Literacy Night**  
**Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Time: 4:30-6:30 PM**

**Online Book Fair Closes**  
**October 3rd**

### Principal's Corner

On Saturday, September 26, Murray hosted its first Green Apple Day of Service. We had a wonderful turnout for the event. Families were able to learn about planting and creating art from recycled materials; as well as assist staff with keeping the grounds of Murray beautiful. Thanks to all teachers, PTO members, and families who supported the event.

The first book fair for the school year will be held September 28 through October 2. On Thursday, October 1, we will hold a Family Night for the book fair from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Please come out and join us for a fun-filled night of literacy activities.

To protect instructional time, students will attend the Book Fair during their class's media time. If you would like to shop with your child, please make plans to come during their media time, after school, or during Family Night. Students will not be pulled out of class to attend the Book Fair. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Thompson.

MEDIA CENTER TIMES					
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
8:30-9:30		Waller	Chretien	Reid	Moncur
9:35-10:35	Burkeen	Osterman	Zayas	Kenny	Simmons
11:45-12:45	Brown		Graham	Black	Fett
12:45-1:45		Whitlow	Chase	Ebler	

### GradeSpeed Parent Connection

*For students in Grades 4-6*

Parents, did you know that you have instant access to your student's grades, including their assignments – past, current, and/or future? If you haven't done so already, please go to the web address below and sign up today. [dodea.gradespeed.net](http://dodea.gradespeed.net)

Parents, also ensure that your students are logging and checking for missing assignments. They have their own unique log in information as well.

# What's Happening Around Murray!

## Second Grade Snip-its:)

The last few weeks, 2nd graders have been focusing on the concept of identifying main idea and details. Families sent in a Main Idea bag, which consisted of 3-4 clues that students could look at and agree on a main idea for the bag. The bags that were submitted were amazing, and the kids had a great time looking through them!

Examples of the bags were; a baseball, tickets and a Sand Gnats program, a banana, apple and carrots and paintbrushes, paint, a small picture and an easel. The students were able to look at the details and arrive at a main idea. Excellent! Thank you for the support from home.



## Fifth Grade News!

In math, the fifth grade students learned three different ways to multiply. We are full of strategies! Next, we will be moving on to division. In reading, we learned about Satchel Paige and we sequenced the story. In social studies, we are now learning about Native American tribes

- Ms Burkeen & Ms Zayas

Attendance is essential to school success. However, too often, students and parents do not realize how quickly absences, excused and unexcused, can add up to academic trouble. Chronic absenteeism, missing 10% of the school year or more, or just 2-3 days every month-can translate into third-graders unable to master reading, sixth-graders failing courses and ninth-graders dropping out of high school.

## Data Point

### Terra Nova, Spring 2015 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

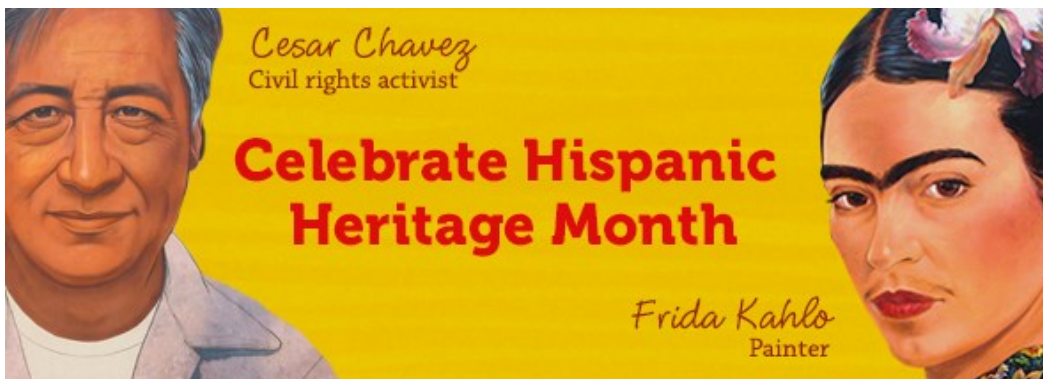
This past spring, our students had an outstanding performance on the Terra Nova. The third grade year is the first time our students are exposed to the Terra Nova. They performed very well. Seventy-eight percent of 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade students scored in the top two quarters on the math section and 85% of our students scored in the top two quarters on the science section. Sixty-five percent of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class scored in the top two quarters on the social studies section. Fifty percent of them scored in the top two quarters in both reading and language arts.

Join us in congratulating our students on their wonderful performance. We look forward to seeing even more positive results from them as they embark on their journey through fourth grade this school year.

## Sixth Grade Hi-Lites!!

Murray's 6th graders have been hard at work! They started the year creating graphs and analyzing data to solve problems. The students have also graphed ordered pairs on a coordinate plane to make pictures and maps. 6th graders researched and presented information on robots and their place in 21st Century schools, hospitals, and the military. Currently, 6th graders are taking an expedition back in time to Ancient Egypt to explore pharaohs' tombs, decode hieroglyphics, and discover the importance of the Nile River. Students will be refining their writing skills by infusing figurative language into their originally created stories. Murray's 6th graders are off to a great start in the new school year!

# Library/Information Center News



Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the cultures and traditions of those who can trace their roots to Spain, Mexico, and the Spanish-speaking countries of Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. The annual celebration is observed from September 15 to October 15.

September 15 is the anniversary of the independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico celebrates its independence on September 16 and Chile follows suit on September 18.

## Book Recommendations:

Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez by Kathleen Krull (921 CHA - Biography Section)

Dolores Huetra: A Hero to Migrant Workers by Sarah Warren (921 HUE - Biography Section)

Fiesta! By Sherry Shahan (394.269 SHA - Nonfiction Section)

Off We Go to Mexico! By Kaurie Krebs and Christopher Corr (972 KRE - Nonfiction Section)

Parrots Over Puerto Rico by Susan Roth and Cindy Trumbore (598.7 ROT - Nonfiction Section)

Lumpito and the Painter from Spain by Monica Kulling (E KUL - Everybody Section)

The Three Little Tamales by Eric A. Kimmel (E KIM - Everybody Section)

Martina and the Beautiful Cockroach: A Cuban Folktale by Carmen Deedy (398.2 DEE - Nonfiction Section)

Students and parents are able to access our online catalog from home at the following link:

<http://slicclassic.dodea.edu/search~S123>

(Be sure to select the Charles P. Murray ES between Charles F. Bolden MS and Crossroad ES on the drop down menu).

I know that students are looking forward to our upcoming school Scholastic Book Fair sponsored by our Parent Teacher Organization from September 28<sup>th</sup> through October 2nd!! Also, book suggestions and recommendations are always welcome. Thanks for your continued support of the Murray ES Navigator Library /Information Center!!