

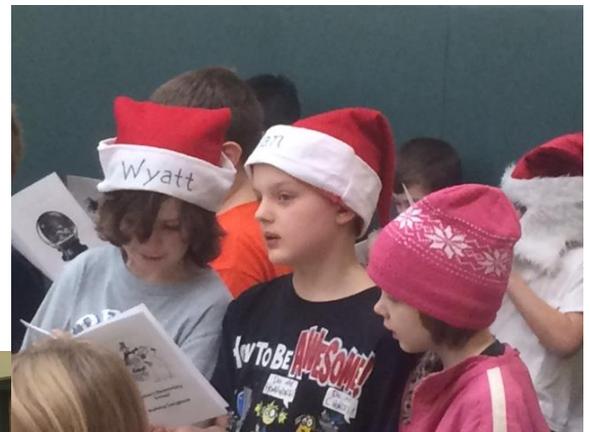
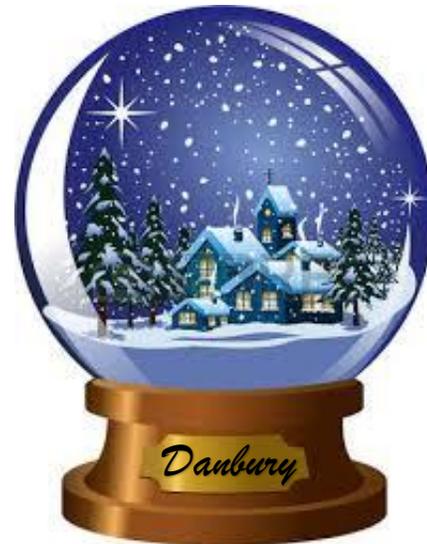
Danbury Elementary Newsletter



December 23, 2016
Volume 12, Issue 17

des.sau4.org
Ann Holloran, Principal

*From all of us at DES,
we hope you have a
wonderful holiday
and a fantastic vacation!*



Fantastic 3rd & 4th Grade!

Wow! I can't believe it's already Christmas! These first few months have flown right by. We've been very busy in 3 & 4 and have worked very hard this month.

In Science, we completed our Water unit and have moved on to Rocks and Minerals. We've been learning about volcanoes and earthquakes as a part of this unit.

In ELA, we are on Unit 3, week 2. In this unit, we'll be focusing on Author's Purpose (PIE), Context Clues, and Fact and Opinion. A fun game at home would be to make statements and then ask if that was fact or opinion. Helping verbs are our focus this week. For example: I am walking to the store. Am is the helping verb. It "helps" the main verb. We have finished our Dot books! They will be on display in the classroom if you'd like to view them.

Our class was so lucky to have 4 exchange students visit from Tajikistan, Hong Kong, Japan and Belgium. It was really neat to learn about their cultures and see pictures from their countries. We even got to see a traditional dance from Tajikistan. It was fantastic! Things we learned include that French fries are actually from Belgium, you can't own guns in Japan, 95% of Tajikistan is mountains, and Pokemon actually means Pocket Monster.

Things to do over the break:

- Practice math Facts
- Get cozy and read
- Make a list of all the wonderful things that happened in 2016.
- Sleep
- Smile

Happy Holidays! See you in 2017!

Lunch Menu January 2-6

Monday
NO SCHOOL

Tuesday
Breaded Chicken Nuggets
Carrots
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Wednesday
Italian Meatball Sub
Broccoli Florets
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Thursday
Breaded Chicken Burger
Sweet Peas
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Friday
Homemade Pizza
Carrot Sticks
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Breakfast \$1.25 (reduced \$.30)
Lunch \$2.75 (reduced \$.40)
Milk \$.35

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ICT@DES

December is [Hour of Code!](#) This is an initiative by computer programmers encouraging students to learn a bit about coding and perhaps even develop an interest in it. Since Hour of Code began several years ago, coding has become increasingly popular. In fact, one of the items on many wish lists this holiday season is STEM (Science Technology Engineering, and Math) coding toys and games.

Coding is a great problem solving activity for all ages, encouraging a growth mindset. Students have been having great fun in ICT with this, while at the same time while developing skills that will be necessary for many of their future jobs.

Take a look at the Coding Tab on Mrs. Plankey's Bookmarked sites! (tizmos.com/pplankey)



Matthew using Block Based Coding to run a program



Peter working on programming on Tynker.com

A few thoughts about coding from the students:

- Devon- It was challenging at first, but now I am learning how to do it.
- Trey- Sometimes I was frustrated, but I would try it over and over, then I got it!
- Acelynn- It is fun when you make your character move.
- Sarah- I feel like I am really learning how to program.
- David- Coding takes a little time and practice, but I am getting better.
- Matthew- It is impressive with all you can do with computer coding, even make a robot!
- Gavin- I want to do more code games!

Coming in January...

- 2 No School
- 3 School Resumes
- 4 Winter Activity Program begins
- 11 Winter Activity Program
- 16 No School
- 18 Winter Activity Program
- 25 Winter Activity Program
- 31 The Bertha Brown Prize Speaking Night 6:30pm



Reminders...

Please make sure you sign and **return** the Progress Report envelopes.

Winter Activity Program begins when we return from break, on Wednesday the 4th. Be prepared!

Our lost & found is overflowing!
Is it yours?