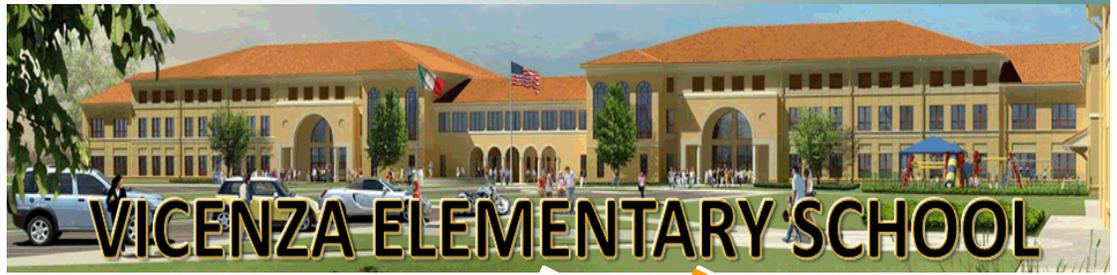


December, 2012

Cub's Corner



"Home of the Cougar Cubs"



Principal's Paws



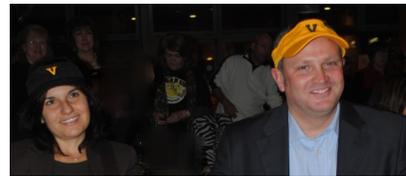
Mr. Chris Beane,
Principal

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Mr. Beane and his children, S & D



Mr. & Mrs. Beane at Farewell



IMPORTANT DAYS

January

- 1 New Year's Day-Federal Holiday
- 7 Instruction Resumes
- 21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Federal Holiday
- 24 End of 2nd Quarter and 1st SEM (45 days of classroom instruction)
- 1/2 Day of School - Students released at 11:05 am
- 25 No School for Students - Teacher Work Day
- 28 Begin 3rd QTR and 2nd Semester

- Half Day of School - no lunch
- Students released at 11:05 am
- Thursday, January 24, 2013
- Thursday April 4, 2013
- Last Day for Students
- Wednesday, June 12, 2013

DoDEA MISSION STATEMENT:

To provide an exemplary education that inspires and prepares all DoDEA students for success in a dynamic, global environment.

Vision Statement for Vicenza Elementary:

Vicenza Elementary School will provide a learning environment for our students which is nurturing, safe and supported by the community. This atmosphere of success will enable each child to reach his or her potential in a global society. We will respect the diversity of our children, accommodate differences in learning styles, and assure quality and equity for all.

Vision Statement—According to Students:

Our school is a safe place to learn and the school officials care about kids. Our School encourages kids to reach our goals. Our School respects the differences in kids, accepts different learning styles, and provides equal chances for all to do our best in our world.

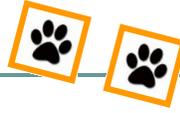
School Improvement Goals:

SMART Goal 1:

All students, by June 2017, will improve understanding of number sense, as measured by the selected system-wide and school based assessments.

SMART Goal 2:

All students, by June 2017, will improve reading comprehension in all curricular areas, as measured by the selected system-wide and school based assessments.



by Dr. Lorena M. Reinhardt ,
Assistant Principal

HOW SCHOOLS USE ASSESSMENTS

Curriculum is the path children and teachers take toward desired goals. Assessment guides teachers' planning and children's progress toward those goals by monitoring children's development and learning; guiding curriculum planning and decision making; identifying children who may benefit from special services or supports; and providing communication with families and others.

Assessment in elementary school (preschool, kindergarten, grades 1-5) provides information regarding children's social, emotional and cognitive development in language and literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, health, and creative arts. In the grades 1-5 there is an increasing focus on the academic areas.

Formative assessment is the process of gathering information to inform instructional decisions. It guides what comes next in learning for struggling students as well as advanced students, and it motivates students by helping them track their own progress.

Summative assessment verifies what learning has occurred and may be used for grading purposes.

Assessments provide information for three different levels: the classroom level, program level, and institutional level.

- *At the classroom level*, students and teachers need information regarding what comes next in the learning process. Examples include ongoing Math and Reading inventories used by teachers to plan instruction.
- *At the school level*, teacher teams and leaders, principals and curriculum personnel need periodic information on whether students are mastering standards. Examples are interim assessments to identify components of an instructional program that are working effectively and those that need improvement.
- *At the institutional level*, superintendents, school boards, and legislators need annual summaries of whether students are meeting required standards. Examples are the Terra Nova, a standardized test that DoDDS gives in March; and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) the federal testing program given in 4th grade.

At Vicenza Elementary School teachers give formative assessments to inform their instructional planning and to differentiate curriculum for students based on their individual needs. Results of the Terra Nova standardized test are used for school-wide program improvement.

References:

- Rothman, R. (2012). *Laying a Common Foundation for Success*. Phi Delta Kappan. V94 N3. 57-61
- Bredenkamp, S., & Copple, C. 2009. *Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs*, Third Edition, Washington, DC: NAEYC.
- Phi Delta Kappan (2009). *Maximizing the Power of Formative Assessment*, p640-644



Parents' Corner

The Vicenza Elementary School administrator invites you to respond by email to the following statements. Your comments and the responses will be placed in the next newsletter.

1. Something I like about Vicenza Elementary School.
2. Something I would like to know.
3. Something I would like to suggest.

Please send your responses to the following email address:

vicenzaes.principal@eu.dodeca.edu



Help Wanted

Substitute teachers: if you are interested in substitute teaching at VES, please apply in USAJOBS at:
Please stop by the VES office if you need more information.

Volunteer

If you would like to Volunteer as a chaperone, aide for special events or in the classrooms; please stop by the office to get an application packet to become a VES registered Volunteer.

A Big Thank-you to all the 1st and 2nd grade teachers for all that you did to help the children. You were all the BIGGEST part of the Musical Theater Team and the time you gave is so greatly appreciated to help make this a special memory for so many military families this Christmas.

Most of all a BIG THANKS TO THE CHILDREN and VOLUNTEERS!

And hurray for MJ! Congrats M on your first Vicenza Elementary School. Performance! WAY TO GO.

A H,



First and Second Grade Christmas Show!!

Fantastic work and serious KUDOS go out to A and M!!!

Wonderful job team! Did you see ALL of those parents!!! It was great! They loved it!

J

A very big thank you to the students, parents, staff that participated with their tremendous generosity for the Canile Comunale di Vicenza Dog Food and Blanket drive.

Their contributions were very well received and appreciated.

Grazie!

Vicenza Shelter's Animals, K & G



I would like to thank you for all the kind words. This staff rocks, it took me a long time to get here but it was worth the wait.

M J



The first 2nd grade Student of the Quarter Assembly



Ms. D's Class

ES
KS
IM
LM



Ms. H's Class

VK
AC
MD
AQ



Ms. W's Class with Ms. M 1st Q long-term Sub

HE
WB
IG
MF
SS Jr.



Mr. S's Class

KB
MS
AC
MB



Ms. G's Class

DH
BA
JC
TS
AE
NB

Ms. H's Class with Ms. P 1st Q long-term Sub

ME
NB
IG
SP

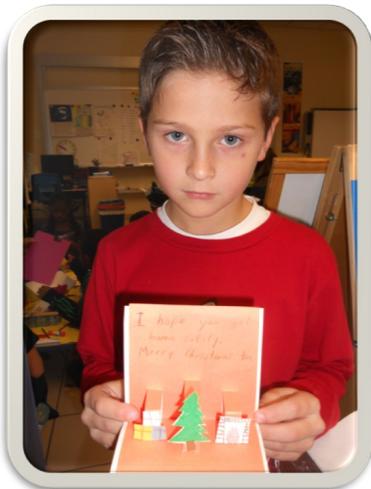




Happy Holidays Troops!

by G S

The children in Mrs. W's third grade class made pop-up cards for all of the troops fighting for our freedom. We appreciate all of the things that they are doing for us. We hope that everyone there is safe. We also hope that they are coming home soon.





Counseling Corner

The Little Red Hen and her friends

La Gallinella Rossa con i suoi Amici

by E P, summary of the play

1. The little red hen, a dog, a cat, and a mouse lived in a very old house together.
2. The dog, the cat, and the mouse were very lazy, so Little Red Hen had to do all the work.
3. One day she found some wheat kernels in the soil.
4. And so she asked the dog, the cat, and the mouse if they would help her plant them, but the dog said "Not I", and the cat said "Don't look at me", and the mouse said "Not today - I'm busy."
5. So she said "Then I'll do it myself!"
6. And so she did.





Counseling Corner, continued

ANTI-BULLYING PROGRAM

Vicenza Elementary School has been collaborating with ACS on anti-bullying efforts. Starting February 5th, ACS will hold a monthly bullying support group for parents. It will be the first Tuesday of every month at ACS at 0900 hours. The goal is to give parents a place to go to talk about bullying and to get the correct information about how our community works and the best ways/techniques to stop bullying.

A school representative will attend these meetings. You may contact C K or D V for further information from the school at 634-5701. For information regarding the program, please contact S S, Family Advocacy Program Parent-Child Educator Army Community Service at 634-6202.





VES Retirement Announcement



Marcia "Sita" Scheppele

M "S" started her DoDDS career in Babenhausen, Germany in 1999, where she taught Reading Recovery and Compensatory Education in the Hessen district. In 2001, S returned to Iowa to teach, retiring from Waterloo Community School District in 2003.

S returned to DoDDS to teach overseas, and was hired as a Reading Recovery/Compensatory Education teacher in Vicenza, Italy for the fall of 2003. During her ten years in Vicenza, she provided reading and math support to students and teachers. She took an active leadership role as "School Improvement Chair" for several years, as well as staying quite active in OFT as treasurer for the local Vicenza complex.

Her time in retirement will probably be spent visiting family and friends around the world. She plans to make Bonita Springs, Florida her permanent residence.

Please join us in wishing Ms. M "S" the best as she prepares for her retirement in Florida!

"Best Wishes—You Will Truly Be Missed!"
VES Faculty & Staff



ACTIVE CHILDREN ON THE PLAYGROUND

On the playground when young children are running, jumping, swinging, sliding, racing, climbing, throwing balls, playing games, and actively interacting with each other and equipment in numerous ways, it is possible for an accident to happen. In the case of an accident, children are sent to the nurse who contacts the parents. If the incident appears to be more than an accident, the nurse will refer the situation to a school administrator. In the case of an injury to a child or to the child's property (glasses, coat, arm, etc.) that includes another student, parents of both students will be called. Either parent's request for assistance to contact the other parent may be made through a school administrator.

We hope you will feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. We are here to serve you and your children.

Dr. Reinhardt
 Assistant Principal



A BUGZ CHRISTMAS Performance by 1st and 2nd Grade Students





Italian Fridays



How good is your Italian? Come practice with us the last Friday of each month!

On the last Friday of each month, immersion teachers will speak only in Italian to students, who will be encouraged to reply in Italian. However, they may respond in English when necessary. All who can speak Italian (faculty members, staff, cafeteria crews, cleaning people...) will speak to children in Italian.

Please join us and challenge your Italian skills!



GET a JUMP on Development!

You can have your infant, toddler or preschooler screened by a member of the Early Intervention Team or the Developmental Preschool Team.

These teams offer a free developmental screening for your infant, toddler or preschooler -- birth through five years of age.

To schedule an appointment for your baby from birth - 35 months of age call EDIS at 636 9230 (0444 61 9230) to schedule an appointment.

Did you know thatDecember is:

Read a New Book Month



Universal - Human Rights Month

Dec 5th - Walter Elias (Walt) Disney's Birthday

Dec 7th - Pearl Harbor Day

Dec 15th - Bill of Rights Day





VES 2nd Grade Deployment Club

The 2nd grade deployment groups at Vicenza Elementary School have been meeting weekly to support the 2nd graders who have a deployed parent. The students have been working hard on many projects to send off to their deployed Dad or Mom. They are very excited about their handmade holiday cards filled with their different art projects.





CLUB INFORMATION



Marco Polo Club – Mondays from 2:40 until 4:00 P.M. in room # 1066. We will read, gather information, research, and have lots of fun as we **explore** and work with crafts, art activities, technology, and lots more to find out all the answers. **This club is opened for third and fourth graders only with a capacity of 24. POC: Ms. T**



Homework Club - Wednesdays from 2:50 until 4:00 P.M. in room # 1249.

DATES: Nov: 7, 14, 28, Dec: 5, 12, 19 Jan: 9, 16, 23, 30 Feb: 6, 13, 20, 27, March: 6, 20, 27 April: 3, 17, 24, May: 1, TBD. **This club is opened to third, fourth and fifth graders. POC: Mr. M**



**MATH
OLYMPIAD**

will meet in my room # 1247 from 2:45-4:00 on Mondays.

The dates are:

October 22 & 29; November 5, 19, 26; December 3, & 10, 2012

January 7 & 28; February 4, 11 & 25; March 4, 11 & 25; April 1, 2013

This club is opened to fourth and fifth graders with a capacity of 25 students. POC: Ms. B.



Student Council Will meet every Monday from 2:40-4:00 in room # 1221.

The dates are as follows: Oct 29, Nov 5, Nov 19, Nov 26, Dec 3, Dec 10, Dec 17, Jan 7, Jan 14, Feb 4, Feb 11, Feb 25, Mar 4, Mar 11, Mar 18, Mar 25, Apr 1, Apr 15, Apr 22, Apr 29, May 6, May 13, and May 20.

The LAST MEETING WILL BE HELD MAY 20th 2013

This club is opened to third, fourth and fifth graders. POC Ms. L

2nd grade Deployment Friendship Club: Mondays from 2:40 until 4:00 P.M. in room # 0309, from

19 November -17 December. **This club is opened for second graders with a deployed family member. POC: Ms.**

Pi and Ms. Lc



Library Explorers Club for Grades 4 and 5 before school. Club will run from 11 Dec-4 April on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Mornings 7:30-8:00AM. **We will use this time for individual research, book exploration, library helper training and computer usage for individual school assignments. POC: Ms. M**



Unit 31401, Box 11
APO, AE 09630

Phone: 0444-71-7710
DSN: 634-7710
Fax: 0444-71-6743
DSN Fax: 634-6743

In case of inclement weather or emergency situations, please visit this website: http://www.imcom-europe.army.mil/webs/sites/staff_org/safety/road_conditions/index.asp The community commander may determine that it is necessary to close school, delay the opening of school, (usually a two hour delay), or release students early. The decision to close or delay the opening of school cannot be made by school officials. On mornings with heavy snow, ice, or fog, students and their sponsors should listen to AFN radio for announcements about school closure or delays. Consult your school's "Student Handbook" for guidance specific to your location.

Find us in the web:

<http://www.vice-es.eu.dodea.edu/>