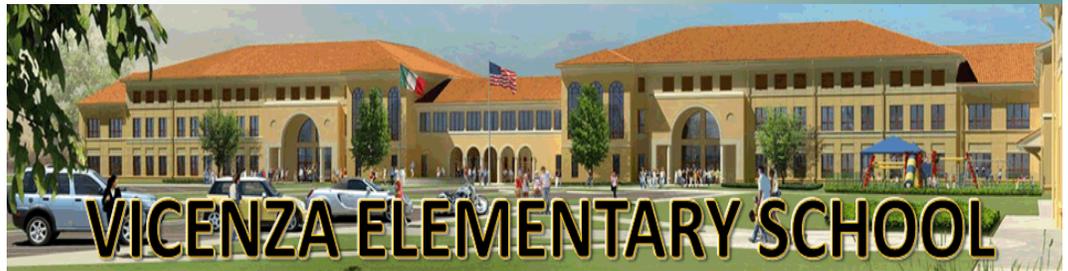


## "Home of the Cougar Cubs"

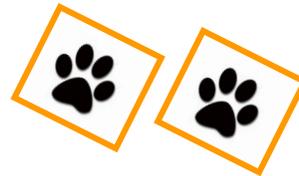
October, 2012

Issue 11

## Cub's Corner



## Principal's Paws



**Mr. Chris Beane,  
Principal**

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Dear Parents /Sponsors,  
It's that time of year again – time for Parent-Teacher Conferences at Vicenza Elementary School, on November 8 and 9.

These meetings between teachers and parents are an opportunity to build trust and understanding between the home and school environments. Parent involvement is critical to students and their educational experience.

Commanders are working with the school to ensure that their personnel have flexibility in their schedules to allow parents to attend conferences during the duty day.

Conference appointments will be sent home via students' Wednesday folders. Please be sure to return your appointment slip to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

If you have a scheduling conflict, please note that on the appointment slip and teachers will do everything possible to accommodate those who need to make alternate

arrangements.

If you have any questions about upcoming Parent - Teacher conferences, please contact school office at 634-7710.

### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

**Nov 1 - End of 1st Quarter  
Early Release 11:05**

**Nov 2 - No School for Students**

**Nov 5 - Begin 2nd Quarter**

**Nov 8-9 Parent/Teacher Conferences—No school for students**

**Nov 12 Veterans Day - Fed Holiday—No school for students**

**Nov 22 Thanksgiving - Fed Holiday—No school for students**

**Nov 23 Thanksgiving - Recess—No school for students**

### **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.



**Dr. Lorena Reinhardt,**  
Assistant Principal

## DODEA Attendance Policy

A review by Dr. Lorena M. Reinhardt

In order to receive the best education, students need to **Be Here!** On September 1, 2011, DoDEA implemented a system-wide attendance policy for students in DoDEA schools throughout the world that is consistent with the policy found in many public schools across the United States. School attendance correlates directly with success in academic work, social interactions, development of responsibility, determination, respect for rules of society, and preparation for career and life success. VES has many programs to teach, assist and guide students for success in these areas.

The following are highlights of the policy:

- All students are required to attend school for 180 instructional days per school year.
- Academic penalties will **not** be imposed for excused absences.
- Whenever a student needs to be out for more than five days, the teacher will provide a Student Educational Monitoring Plan.
- Excused absences can include:
  - Personal illness
  - Medical, dental, or mental health appointment
  - Serious illness in the student's immediate family
  - Death in the student's immediate family, or of a relative
  - Religious holiday
  - Emergency conditions such as fire, flood, or storm
  - Unique family circumstances warranting absence, and coordinated with the school administration
  - College visits that cannot be scheduled on non-school days
  - Reasonable amounts of time surrounding deployments and reintegration, providing missed schoolwork is obtained in advance and completed upon return.

A balance is needed between time for military families to be together following deployment, and the time students need to be in school for successful performance. While families may underestimate the importance of regular school attendance for children as young as 5 or 6 years of age, missing even 5% of kindergarten (9 days) can be an indicator that a child will fall behind in later elementary grades. Parents convey to their children the importance of school attendance.

Students who have 5 days of absences will be referred to the Student Support Team, and students who have 7 days of absences will be referred to the local Command for appropriate intervention and support.

You can read the original article on attendance at <http://www.dodea.edu/attendance/index.cfm> . You can also read about 21<sup>st</sup> Century Education in DoDEA at <http://www.dodea.edu/Back-to-School/21sCentury Schools.cfm> . Have your child **BE HERE** for a quality education!



## Parents' Corner

The Vicenza Elementary School administrators invite 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.dodea.edu](mailto:vicenzaes.principal@eu.dodea.edu)



### Help Wanted

**Substitute teachers:** if you are interested in substitute teaching at VES, please apply in

USAJOBS at: <http://www.usajobs.gov/>

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.

### PTSA news:

NOV 7 General membership meeting at 5:30 PM in the MPR.

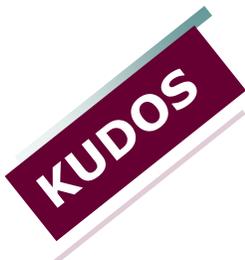
NOV 8 & 9 Scholastic book fair in the lobby, during parent-teacher conference.

NOV 8 & 9 Free movies at Caserma Ederle Theater! 11 AM "Madagascar" and "Ice Age".



Thanks to all the parents who participated in the Second Grade Hispanic Heritage Month Fiesta!

Second Grade Teachers



I wanted to send getting ready for out a BIG "Thank You" to J. B. who the new school has been working hard cleaning up the book room. X. W.

J. G.

KUDOS to our Volunteers J., L. and S. for all their help and time with assisting the office

Thanks for the Hispanic dance lessons from special guest, Sig. C., who shared her Hispanic Heritage with us, and then taught our class some wonderful traditional and modern Hispanic dances. Grazie ancora Sig. C.!!

M. G.



# Vicenza Elementary School

## M T 's visit



M T , acclaimed author of the Black Lagoon book series, recently spent two days at Vicenza Elementary School. The PTSA sponsored the visit by the author and his wife, P T . Students participated in readings of the author's black lagoon series in the IC, learned about the author's style and techniques for writing, and enjoyed classroom visits.





The two day event culminated with a PTSA sponsored PASTA NIGHT where families were able to meet the author, purchase his books and have their book selections signed.



If you don't know who M T is here is a link for you to follow:  
<http://www.m t .com/biography.htm>





## *Reading Parties in Mrs. T's Third Grade class*



Students in Mrs. T's third grade celebrate with monthly "Reading Parties". Our first celebration began when Mrs. S came to school to read an autumn story. Students listened attentively, earned a leaf patch for their reading hats, and enjoyed a health snack. What a great way to get the children enthusiastic about reading, build comprehension skills, and have fun!





**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 that .....October is:*

- National Hispanic Heritage Month
- National Pizza Month
- National Dyslexia Awareness month
- National Arts and Humanities

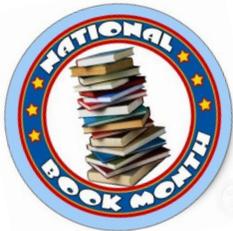


- **October is** named after the Latin word "octo", meaning eight?

- First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt was born on October 11th

- National Book Month

- October marks the conclusion of the grape harvests





## 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, 2012	January 28, 2013
October 29, 2012	February 4, 2013
November 5, 2012	February 11, 2013
November 19, 2012	February 25, 2013
November 26, 2012	March 4, 2013
December 3, 2012	March 11, 2013
December 10, 2012	March 25, 2013
January 7, 2013	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 20<sup>th</sup> 2013

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



# 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!*



# Second Grade Fiesta



**In celebration of the National Hispanic Heritage Month the second grade classes have been studying various Spanish-Speaking Countries. They have learned about a Country's flag, its history, customs, money and many Spanish words.**

**As a culminating activity, the Second Grade Students recently enjoyed a group "Fiesta", which included foods from many Hispanic Countries. "Muchas gracias" to all who helped make the Fiesta possible.**





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.eu.dodea.edu/home/weather.php> 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/>**