

# Tiger Cub News

Delano Elementary Family Newsletter

May 2018



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## Dates to remember

### May

- 5.....Tiger Dash, 8 a.m.
- 8.....ES PIE, 7 p.m.
- 10.....Grade 1 program,  
6:30 and 7:30 p.m.
- 11....Grade 1 Grandparent's Day
- 14.....Grade 1 Track and Field  
Day, 9 to 11 a.m.
- 14.....Grade 2 Track and Field  
Day, noon to 2 p.m.
- 14.....District PIE, 7 p.m.
- 15.....Grade 3 Track and Field  
Day, 9 to 11 a.m.
- 15.....Grade 4 Track and Field  
Day, noon to 2 p.m.
- 21.....School picnic
- 23.....Last day of school;  
half day for students

• For more complete  
information about school events,  
see [www.delano.k12.mn.us](http://www.delano.k12.mn.us).



## Imagination day

Over 150 projects were presented at Delano Elementary School's Imagination Fair on Thursday, April 19. The event allowed students to exercise their creativity, with everything from volcanoes to art-creating robots on display. See Page 6 for more photos.

## Exciting events for stretch run

By Darren Schuler  
Principal

It seems like yesterday that we were greeting students and parents at our annual Orientation Day conferences back in September.

As we begin to close out another school year, I want to recognize our third- and fourth-grade students as they transition to the new Delano Intermediate School.

For the first time in history, Delano Elementary will be moving two grades on to a new building. How exciting to be the first classes to enter into



**Darren Schuler**

that beautiful new building!  
We wish you luck, and we will

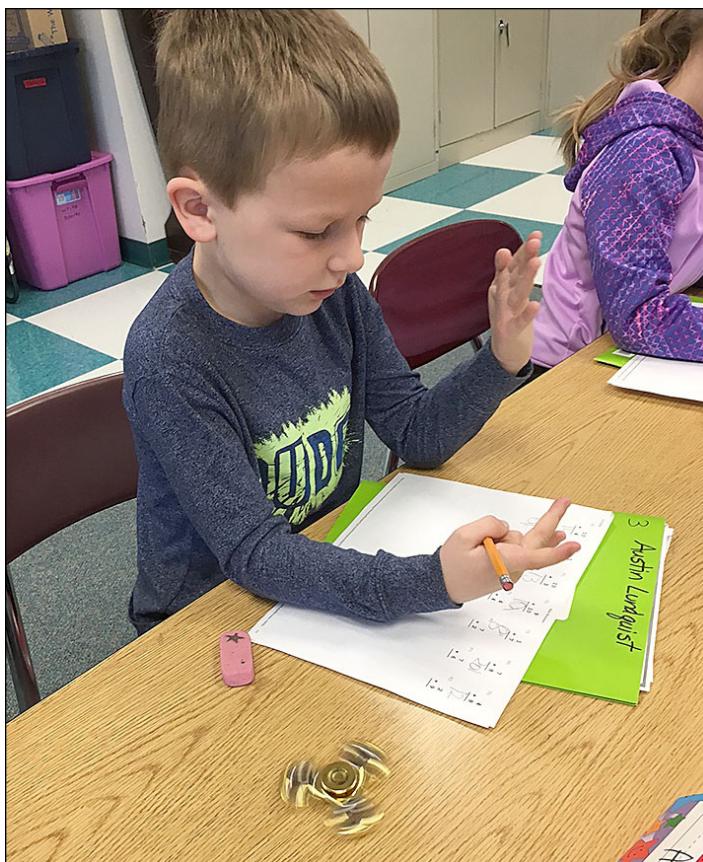
be watching your progress. We are proud of you!

### Upcoming events

I want to call your attention to a few important events occurring in May.

- Please mark your calendars:
- May 5: Tiger Dash 5K/Fun Run
  - May 8: May PIE meeting, final meeting of the year, 7 p.m.
  - May 10: First grade concert at the middle school auditorium
  - May 11: First grade Grandparents Day

**See Schuler**  
Page 3



## Fidgets and figures

Students in the gifted and talented math program at Delano Elementary School worked some fun into their speed drills by using fidget spinners to time themselves on addition problems.

# Grow and learn over summer break

By Greg Hinker  
Assistant Principal

Despite the weather and its lack of cooperation, summer is coming.

Summer is an incredible time for children and their families. It is a time to relax, enjoy activities and explore. As a father and an educator, I look to find a balance between fun and structure.

For this summer break, I encourage your families to take part in embracing the idea of wonder and making it a part of your everyday routine. Here are some ideas to help students continue to grow and learn while on break.

### Explore local parks

Children love to play, but they also love to eat. Encourage your children to create a menu for a picnic lunch, prepare and pack the lunch, and serve it. This fun activity matches well with the various parks that are all within walking and biking distance of our community.



**Greg Hinker**

### Schedule reading time

Reading every day is incredibly beneficial to a child's academic and social-emotional growth. Having a dedicated time each day is important to create a routine that kids can predict and appreciate.

Delano is fortunate to have a wonderful public library and community reading box exchanges to offer options for all reading levels.

### Encourage wonder

I can't tell you how many times my children ask me a question that I don't know the answer to, so of course I just ask Siri.

Summer is a great time for children to be outdoors, explore new activities, and create new projects. A way to encourage the exploration of science is to have your children research their questions and present their findings to family. When a child can teach and report their findings, it is an opportunity for creativity and ownership.

### Workbooks, worksheets

Whether it is a family trip to Barnes and Noble to pick up a grade-level workbook, or a website with worksheets, there are certain skills that summer can drain without practice.

A child should spend time each day participating in enrichment activities to enhance their math skills. I recommend both Summer Brain Quest and

Summer Bridge Activities as resources.

### Minnesota museums

Museums are a great way for children to see history come alive. Our family really loves the Minnesota History Museum. The exhibits and activities are engaging and important for children to understand.

Most museums offer reasonable pricing, but if you are a parent of a home with a limited income, know that there are resources available to support families. Visit the website of the museum you are interested in for more information.

### Enjoy your break

Finally, it is my sincere hope that each DES family is able to find time to have some fun and enjoy the warm weather. I am very grateful to have joined the Delano Elementary community and look forward to seeing your young scholars in the fall.



Writers from third and fourth grade participated in an eight-week workshop to help them develop their skills.

# Workshop helps writers grow

Students in third and fourth grade recently completed an eight-week Writers Workshop unit that helped them develop their abilities in written communication.

During the workshop, students met once a week and were introduced to a new writing idea. Then they had a week to compose their own work in that style. After doing their own writing students were instructed to prepare to share their sample with a small group. The students listened to each other's writing and provided input and suggestions for improvement.

At the end of the workshop the students selected their favorite piece to edit and submit to the group's Writers Workshop anthology. The submitted pieces were reviewed by high school language arts students as well, who also provided feedback.

Each student received a copy of the anthology, which included a sample piece of writing from each student. This year's theme was "I am a writer. What's your superpower?"

Students will also attend the Young Author/Young Artist conference at the College of St. Benedict in May.

At the conference they will be able to hear from professional writers and artists on a variety of topics, including animation, writing for a newspaper, cartooning, creating characters for stories and more. The focus is to promote student enthusiasm and competence in written communication.

Students will be encouraged to have fun and be creative.



Students get autographs from other writers on the final day of the workshop.



Each student received a copy of an anthology with a sample of their work included.

## Schuler

from Page 1

- May 14: First grade Track and Field Day, 9 to 11 a.m.
- May 14: Second grade Track and Field

Day, noon to 2 p.m.

- May 15: Third grade Track and Field Day, 9 to 11 a.m.
- May 15: Fourth grade Track and Field Day, noon to 2 p.m.
- May 21: School picnic (school lunch charges apply)

- May 23: Last day of school - students released at 11:30 a.m.

We wish you a safe and relaxing summer break and look forward to seeing you back on Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 4 and 5, for our Delano Elementary Orientation Days!

# Announcements

## Tiger Dash arrives on May 5

Runners and walkers are invited out for the annual Tiger Dash 5K and 1 Mile Tiger Cub Run at 8 a.m. on Saturday, May 5. The main event is a 3.2-mile trek around Delano, and the 1-mile run for younger participants will be held on the turf soccer field.

A registration table will be available from 3 to 6 p.m. in the elementary school gym on Friday, May 4. That table will also serve as the bag pick-up location for those who have already registered.

## Watch year-end meal balances

Beginning Monday, May 14, and continuing through the end of the year, there will be no charging of any amount to purchase a lunch or breakfast. This helps eliminate negative balances at year end. Any unpaid lunch balances will be placed for collections. Account deposits must be turned in to the office by 10 a.m. each day to be recorded by lunch time.

To check your current account balance, log in to Family Access on the Delano Public Schools website ([www.delano.k12.mn.us](http://www.delano.k12.mn.us)) and click on Food Service. Contact Tracie Erickson with questions at 763.972.3365 ext. 2136 or [tracie.erickson@delanoschools.org](mailto:tracie.erickson@delanoschools.org).

## Time to consider signing up for band

By Mike Dailey  
Band Director

Students interested in joining band in fifth grade should consider the following information.

### May 7-11

All fourth-graders will see a band instrument demonstration during this week. At this demonstration they will see the various musical instruments that are options for them to play next year. After the demonstration, each student will have a sign up sheet to indicate their top two instrument choices. They should keep that form with them.

### Monday, May 14

This is instrument testing day at the elementary multi-purpose room. The students will bring the form they filled out during the demonstration and have the opportunity to test their top two choices of instruments.

Eckroth Music will have professionals there to help the students see where their strengths are and to guide



**Students should consider whether or not they would like to be in band, and take part in preparatory activities during the month of May.**

them to the best instrument choice for them.

### Percussion notes

We start a maximum of six percussion students each year. I will evaluate any student that wants to be in percussion after school on Thursday, May 10, Friday, May 11, or Monday May 14. The evaluations will take 5-10 minutes per student.

I will do the evaluations on a first-come first-serve basis

## Notify school of address changes

Moving? Changing schools? If your family is moving out of the school district and will not be attending Delano Elementary next year, please notify the school office at 763-972-6200. This information is vital for class assignments and staffing needs for the 2018-19 school year.

## Early release on last day

Due to the new school and other construction projects on campus, Delano Public Schools has amended its 2017-18 calendar so that the last day of school on Wednesday, May 23, will be a half day for students. Buses will pick up elementary students for transportation home at 11:30 a.m., and will pick up high school and middle school students at 11:45 a.m. No lunch will be served. The campus will be closed to all students and visitors during the second half of the day.

Dismissing students early will allow teachers to finalize their year in the afternoon, then have a full day to move on Thursday, May 24. Staff for grades 4-6 will move to the new intermediate building, and remaining staff will shift within existing buildings.

### Sign-up night

Wednesday, May 16, is the official sign up night for the fifth-grade band of 2018-19! I will have two informational parent meetings in the high school band room at 4:30 and 6 p.m.

After the meeting you can sign your child up for band and, if needed, rent an instrument and/or buy supplies from Eckroth Music.

Signing up for band is, of course, optional. All students wishing to join the band must have an instrument that works well. To facilitate this, Eckroth Music will be renting instruments and will also have someone at the sign up night that can inspect an instrument you may already have.

### What students need

All students participating in band will need a quality working instrument, lesson book (*Traditions of Excellence Book 1*), oils and/or cleaning supplies and a music stand.

Percussionists will need one additional book: *Alfred Drum Method Book 1*.

# Report to PARENTS

## HELPING CHILDREN Understand Autism

**S**ince one in every 59 children is diagnosed with autism, your child is likely to encounter a number of children with the disorder. How you respond to your child's questions significantly impacts your child's understanding of this complex disorder, as well as his or her acceptance of individuals with different abilities. Here are some suggestions to help your child understand autism.

**Be honest.** If you don't know a lot about autism, tell your child that you don't know but are willing to find out. Take advantage of your child's curiosity and seek resources to help. Many children's books explain autism in a way that young children can understand. Websites contain helpful information for children, parents, and providers.

**Know that every child is different.** Autism is a spectrum disorder, so no two children with autism are alike. A child with autism might have areas of exceptional talent, as well as areas of deficit. Help your child understand that autism presents itself in variable ways.

**Put a positive spin on it.** Be careful not to describe individuals with autism as lacking in some important way. Focus on the positive and describe what your child can do to help. For example, say, "Tony is an excellent artist. You can talk about his drawings with him by asking him specific questions."

When relaying an area of challenge for the child with autism, help your child relate to the experience. You might say, for example: "Remember how it was hard to hear me

at the airport over the background noise? Tony is hearing all of the background noises in the classroom and has difficulty paying attention to just your voice. Why don't you sit down and face him when you talk to him?"

**Talk to the child's parent.** Ask the parent for suggestions about how to help your child to interact in a way that will engage the other child. You can also learn about the child's interests and then share suggestions with your child about conversation starters.

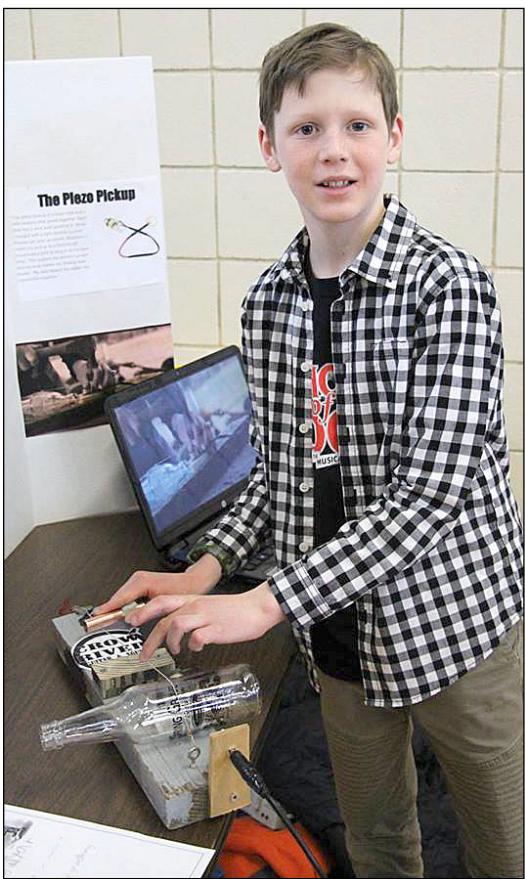
Parents of children with autism seek good peer role models for their children in order to improve their language and social skills. Finding willing peers to interact with their children is challenging, so this could be a good opportunity for your child to be a good influence.

**Encourage interaction.** If the child acts out or must leave a play date early, reassure your child that this does not mean that he or she did anything wrong. Schedule future play dates so that your child can see the positive effects of his or her interactions over time.

This **Report to Parents** was written by Melanie I. Bloom.



# Imagination Fair



## Inventors abound

It was an outstanding night of discovery, questioning, research and design at the DES Imagination Fair, which featured over 150 projects on Thursday, April 19. Here are some scenes from the event.



# Teacher stands out in Boston race

By Paul Downer  
Communications Coordinator

As if running 26.2 miles isn't hard enough, Jackson Lindquist also had to deal with delays caused by a winter storm in Minnesota, then some of the most miserable conditions imaginable to run the Boston Marathon on Monday, April 16.

His ability to handle adversity paid off when the third-grade teacher from Delano Elementary finished 77th out of nearly 30,000 runners from 94 countries. He did so after a sleeping on an airport floor while stranded in Minneapolis, arriving just in time to register the night before the race, then splashing through pouring rain, leaning into stiff headwinds gusting over 30 miles per hour, and trying to stay warm in 35-degree weather for 2 hours and 36 minutes on race day.

"It was terrible," he said with a laugh after returning to the classroom on Wednesday, April 18. "It was really cold, really nasty. It definitely took a toll."

Lindquist, who also coaches cross country and distance runners in track at Delano High School, finished just 21 minutes behind the winning time of 2:15, but felt he could have done better.

"My expectations were pretty high, so when I finished I was more disappointed than satisfied, but I think that's kind of the competitive nature in anyone, especially with runners. You always feel like you can do more," he said.

## Training

The Esko native is in his first year of teaching after graduating from the University of Wisconsin-Superior last spring. He ran his first marathon in Rochester last year to qualify for the Boston Marathon, which he attended along with a friend from his hometown.

Lindquist ran competitive-



Third-grade teacher and high school coach Jackson Lindquist had a standout performance in Boston.

ly at the Division III level in college, but said marathons are a different challenge.

"I'm always running, but I specifically started training in mid-December, and then I really started hitting it hard in January," said Lindquist. "I was probably running 85-90 miles a week for a couple of months."

His teaching job made it difficult to find the time to go on long runs of 20 miles or more, but Lindquist said his classroom remained the priority and training came when he could find the time.

## Race day

Lindquist planned to leave Saturday morning for the Monday race, but ended up grounded by the weekend blizzard. He spent the night on the airport floor and was transferred to nine different flights, all of which were eventually canceled. After 30 hours of waiting, he eventually succeeded in flying out mid-day Sunday.

He arrived Sunday evening, registered for the race, then woke at 6 a.m. to prepare for the 10 a.m. start. It was already raining.

"Trying to stay warm before



was tougher than staying warm during the race," he said. "That wind coming off the ocean was just ridiculously cold."

Even so, Lindquist wore shorts and a sleeveless Esko jersey for the run. His goal had been to finish with a time under 2:30, but he decided to focus on finishing in the top 100 after viewing the conditions. In the early going he stayed behind other runners to avoid the brunt of the wind, and by mile 18 he was on pace to reach his goal time despite sheets of water that were running across the road.

"Then the conditions just kind of caught up with me," he said. "At 18 miles my breathing

was fine, but I started feeling it in my legs."

The Boston Marathon is a notoriously difficult route, particularly between miles 18 and 21, where the only significant uphill stretches occur.

"It's a weird, deceptive course because it's mostly downhill," said Lindquist. "But no one ever trains to run downhill, so how do you prepare for that? It works different muscles in your legs."

Lindquist felt he lost a significant amount of time in that area, which includes the infamous Heartbreak Hill, but he recovered in the last few miles to preserve his time.

"As soon as we finished they were saying, 'Congratulations for finishing the Boston Marathon in potentially the worst conditions we've ever had,'" said Lindquist. "I guess they've had snow. They've had really hot days, but they've never had that type of wind with downpouring rain and that temperature. It was miserable."

## Coach's perspective

Lindquist said he may consider doing more marathons in the years ahead, but for the time being he has plenty to stay busy with at the Delano schools. In the race's aftermath he appreciated the support of staff members and his athletes from DHS.

One message Lindquist has for his runners is that they won't necessarily peak in high school or college and inevitably decline afterward.

"You can get much, much better the harder you work in running. I wasn't as good as I am now just because I didn't work as hard when I was in high school, but this can show them that hard work pays off and shows them a track they can take," said Lindquist. "Maybe this can help them look at their sport in a different way. Maybe this shows them that it's something they can do for the rest of their lives."

# Reading Corps tutors needed

Few skills are more integral to learning than reading, and students who don't learn to read well by the end of third grade typically have a difficult time catching up during the rest of their school years.

In Minnesota, about one in three third-graders struggle with reading, so the extra help provided by Minnesota Reading Corps (MRC) tutors can make a big difference.

Delano Elementary is seeking three full-time MRC tutors to step in for the 2018-19 school year to replace three



outgoing tutors. Full-time tutors earn a stipend of about \$500 every two weeks, and they also earn an education award of just under \$6,000 per year for two years.

Because tutors receive thorough instruction in MRC methods both before and during the school year, they do not need much in the way of prior qualifications beyond a high school diploma.

Tutor hours at Delano Elementary, which has been a Minnesota Reading Corps site for the past 10 years, run from about 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Lisa Downer at [lisa.downer@delanoschools.org](mailto:lisa.downer@delanoschools.org), or go online to [www.minnesotareadingcorps.org](http://www.minnesotareadingcorps.org).

## Who can apply?

People from all backgrounds can apply to be a tutor – from recent high school or college grads to career changers or retirees. Minimum requirements are that tutors be at least 18 years of age, have a high school diploma or GED, and be a citizen or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States.

Tutors will receive comprehensive training before they begin service, so no prior teaching experience is necessary! Applicants must have a desire to help students succeed, be dedicated and flexible, and have strong interpersonal skills.

		MAY 2018							
		Delano Elementary School							
Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
		Chicken Patty Mashed Potatoes / Gravy Steamed Carrots / Roll Lettuce Salad Orange Wedges	1	Chili / Breadstick A)Deli Meat Sandwich Tortilla Chips Carrots / Lettuce Salad Fruit Cocktail	2	Teriyaki Chicken Brown Rice Oriental Vegetables Lettuce / Pineapple Ice Cream / Pineapple	3	Walking Taco Lettuce/Cheese/Salsa Refried Beans Fresh Fruit Teddy Grahams	4
Chicken Drumstick Brown Rice Peas Lettuce Salad Pineapple	7	French Toast Sticks Sausage Links Tritater Steamed Broccoli Orange Wedges/OJ cup	8	Hamburger Sun Chips / Baked Beans Lettuce/Tomatoes/Pickles Baby Carrots Mixed Fruit	9	Chicken Alfredo Penne Pasta / Roll California Blend Vegetables Lettuce Salad Orange Wedges	10	Build Burrito – Chicken Spanish Rice Lettuce/Cheese/Salsa Refried Beans Fresh Fruit	11
Chicken Day	14	Frankfurter Day	15	Sandwich Day	16	Turkey Day	17	Mexican Day	18
Picnic Day Hamburger Chips Lettuce/Tomatoes/Pickles Apple / Cookie	21	Pizza Day	22		23		24		25
	28		29		30		31		



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