



Sevilla EMS

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

January 2012



"I have a dream..."



“When people said ‘separate’, what did Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. preach?”, MSgt R asked Mr. B second/third class at the Moron Base community Dr. Martin Luther King Remembrance March. “Together!”, Mr. B’s class responded. On Friday, January 13, 2012, Sevilla Elementary/Middle School students joined our base community to remember Dr. King and his message. Students waved pennants, carried banners and chatted with their family members about the importance of fighting injustice with love. Chaplain K gave the students some background on the Birmingham Freedom March, and how to “march” is to move forward with love and understanding. Students took Dr. King’s message to heart and walked around the base with pride.

Geography Bee Breakdown



“Barrier islands help shelter a nature reserve on Apalachicola Bay, an arm of what large gulf?” asked Mr. B. Both J and R bent to write their answers on the sheet of paper provided. On Mr. B’s signal, they each raised their paper to show their answer, and in turn, to recite it. J confidently said, “The Gulf of Mexico,” and only his answer was correct. In a best of three series of championship round questions, it proved to be the winning answer, so J became this year’s Sevilla Elementary Middle School Geography Bee Champion.

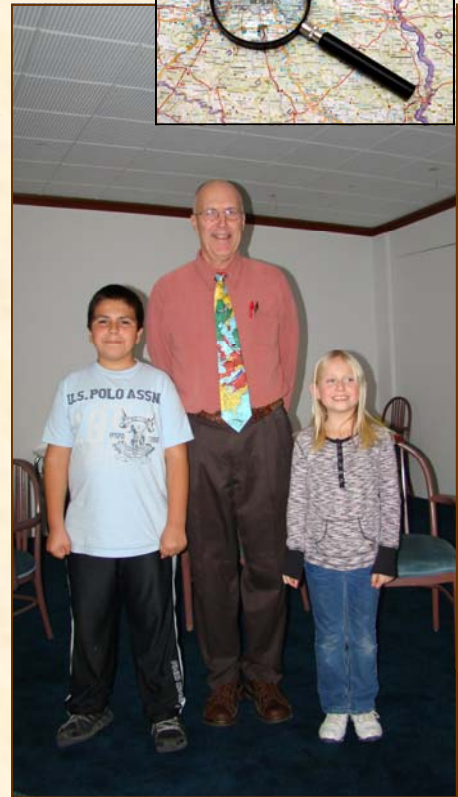
The School Finals of the Bee were held on Thursday, January 12, 2012, in the Sevilla EMS Media Center at 1530 hours, and by 1620 hours, J had survived through the Finals and the Championship rounds to become this year’s champion. Fourth graders L, S, R, and Z, and J, a fifth grader, had made it to the school finals before J and R survived to square off in the Championship Round.

There were questions about cities, countries, US states and continents. There were questions from maps. There were questions about cultural, as well as physical, geography. There were multiple choice questions, odd-item out questions, and completion questions. Finally, only R and J remained, and only the “Gulf of Mexico” separated the two finalists.

Now, J is one step closer to the \$25,000 scholarship that will be won by the national champion on May 24, 2012. On Tuesday, January 17, 2012, J completed the qualifying test, a written test given to all school champions to determine whether they will qualify for the state bees on March 10, 2012. Up to 100 of the top scorers in each state will qualify for that state’s bee.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for the state champions and their teacher-escorts to participate in the bee national championship rounds May 22-24, 2012. The first place national winner will receive not only the \$25,000 college scholarship, but also a lifetime membership in the Society, and a trip to the Galapagos Islands.

“Jeopardy!” host Alex Trebek will moderate the national finals on May 24, 2012, and it will air on television. For more information about the bee, and about all that the Society offers to the public about geography knowledge in order to inspire people to care more about the planet, visit www.nationalgeographic.com.



Geography Rocks!

Enjoy a cup 'o Joe with Mr. B's Class



“Welcome to our bookstore,” the host said. “Would you like to browse, or do you need a table in our coffee shop? Or, you may choose to simply find a comfortable to sit or lie down to read.”

Some of Sevilla Elementary Middle School teacher Mr. B’s 12 second and third grade students took a seat at a table (a student desk). But most simply took their pillow and blanket and found a comfy place in a corner or under a desk on the floor to read.

It was “Coffee Break” in Mr. B’s classroom. Once a year, Mr. B turns his room into a bookstore coffee shop, and then invites his students to come in and have a hot chocolate, eat some cookies, and make themselves comfortable while they read their favorite books.

Mr. B centers his classroom management system around the Sevilla EMS STAR (Safely Trying my best to Act responsibly while Respecting myself and others) model for behavior, and has been using the system for years. “Coffee Break” is all part of that. It is just one of many weekly privileges that Mr. B has used in his classroom to reward students who have met the STAR behavioral standards with an activity that is both educational and fun.

These activities are wide ranging, and include special lunches with the teacher, or a picnic in the park, a lesson in how to spin a top (Mr. B is an expert), a special story (sometimes told or read by special guests), or an academic event like the “Academic Super Bowl” (coming up on February 3) or the “Academic Derby,” which is held on the Friday before the first Saturday in May.

The STAR system doubles as a communication tool for parents, as once each week Mr. B sends home a STAR report to parents which reports how the children are behaving in a wide range of areas, including neatness, organization, promptness, safety, manners, self-discipline, and accountability. Each week “privilege” is reached by those students who are able to earn a high enough STAR rating.

This year’s “Coffee Break” also celebrated the birth of the United Desks of Queen Elizabeth (in honor of the ghost of Queen Elizabeth whom Mr. B claims has followed him throughout his teaching career), this year’s name of the “imaginary” country that Mr. B’s class annually creates. Each student represents a state or province, which the students chose to call “desks” instead, and not only serves as its leader, but also has one vote in the UDQ’s legislative body, which the students chose this year to call the Knesset.

The students have used their map skills to make maps of their imaginary “desks”(states), and will use math skills to create a money system later in the school. Laws will be proposed, voted on, and documented. National leaders will campaign for office, create and deliver speeches, and be elected into office. And each week parents will get STAR reports to see just how their children are “stacking” up in this newly created world.

Perhaps next year you will be available for “Coffee Break.” How about some marshmallows in your cocoa?



Meet the Teacher

Kindergarten and first grade parents gathered on Thursday, January 19th to meet with our new K/1 teacher, Mrs. C. Already a familiar face as our former School Liaison Officer, Mrs. C discussed her expectations and teaching style, and answered parents' questions. Welcome to the Sevilla EMS family, Mrs. C!



Sports Club Roundup for January 19, 2012

J and I were neck and neck streaking toward the finish line in the speed dribbling race, but at the finish, it was Ian who inched his way ahead.

Sports Club was full of basketball activity on Thursday, January 19, 2012, from speed dribbling, to full court partner passing. There were layin contests. J won one of those, as did X. Everybody, including D, E, J, and S dribbled two balls at one time, practiced crossover, and swing dribbling. They twirled and dribbled the ball around their heads, their bodies, and their legs. They even did some trick ball handling. At first no one thought they could do them, but most of them were successful at least once.

Afterwards, everyone was tired, and sweaty, but ready to go home, rest up, and be ready for next Thursday.

There are three more weeks of our traditional Sevilla EMS Sports Club, then starting on February 16, Mr. B will sponsor a new club which will still feature some outdoor and indoor team and sports recreation, but will also include indoor table games such as chess and checkers, and some creative/crafting activities. Those in Sports Club now will not need to renew their membership in the new club, but anyone not in Sports Club will need a permission slip completed and turned in to Mr. B before attending. Mr. B will publish these slips soon, so be watching for them.

What's happening in the Middle School?



Middle School Science Activities

A Whole Lot of Learning!

Sports Club Roundup for January 26, 2012

Ever heard of Newcomb? It is a great lead-in activity to prepare kids to play volleyball, and even second and third graders can play it.

Play it is what those second and third graders, as well as all the others in Sports Club, did on Thursday, January 26, 2012, and they played it well.

The object of the game is basically the same as volleyball. Each team tries to get the ball over the net and in bounds without the ball hitting the floor. A team does not actually win points as much as it loses points, because you only score points when the opponent fails to get the serve over the net or when the opponent does not keep the ball in bounds. You also lose a point when you let the ball hit the floor in bounds.

But the rules of the game are quite different than volleyball, depending on the game director, which for the Sports Club happens to be Mr. B. In Newcomb, players can catch and throw the ball, both over the net, and to their teammates, and everyone has to catch the ball at least once on your side before someone throws it back over the net.

Although this version of the game was quite easy for the older children, like S, J, and J, they did a great job of involving and encouraging their younger teammates like S, B, E, C, C, and X.

There are two weeks left of Sports Club before the new club, "Games and Recreation," also under the direction of Mr. B, and also on Thursdays, will begin on February 16. The new club will run slightly longer each week, until 1630 hours. Until then, it will be Sports Club as usual, with floor hockey next Thursday, and Team handball or indoor kick-ball on the last meeting day, Thursday, February 9, 2012.



Can liquids be layered in a test tube? The 4th and 5th graders demonstrated their understanding of scientific inquiry by trying to answer this very question. They worked in teams forming a hypothesis, testing and observing the results, analyzing their data and then making a new hypothesis if necessary. The tension built as teams were able to layer more and more of the liquids until failure struck. C and J used their power of observation and a further hint given as to the density of each liquid to be the first team to achieve success. They learned that the answer is yes if you start with the densest and end with the lightest liquid in weight. The biggest surprise to most students came when they realized that water is heavier than vegetable oil, alcohol, and milk.

Sevilla Elementary/Middle School
Student Council
2011-2012

President	Vice - President	Secretary	Treasurer	Representative	Representative
Carlos Perez	Lorenzo Valadez	Zoe Garcia	Graycee Russell	Emily Daughtrey	Carmen Perez

Meet your 2011-2012
Student Council
Members!

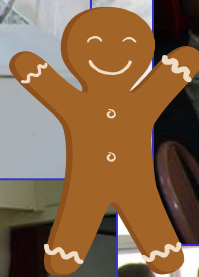


Shakin', bakin' and celebratin' with Ms. M's Class

Working with measurements can be fun, but also a bit frustrating trying to remember how many how many $\frac{1}{4}$ cups to a cup, cups to pints, etc. To help sweeten the lessons before they even began, the 4th and 5th graders had some hand on experience through cooking. Ms. F was kind enough to share her mom's recipe for peanut butter balls and we watched as she measured everything out very carefully. Next the class made wreath cookies and quiche which gave them additional opportunities to see the importance of understanding measurement. All of the goodies were then served at the holiday luncheon that the class gave for their parents. As they work through the lessons now, hopefully they can recall the rewards to be gained through proper measurement of ingredients!



**It was
awesome!**



Sevilla EMS

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<http://www.sevi.es.eu.dodea.edu>

Our Mission

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

Dates To

Remember:

February 3rd:

Parent-Teacher Conferences-No School

February 10th:

Teacher In-Service-

No School

February 20th:

President's Day-No School



Guess Who???

Every month, we will submit a staff member's answers to these questions. We will reveal this month's mystery person in next month's newsletter. See if you can guess who this month's staff member is!

Hometown: The South

Favorite Place to Visit: Brugge

Hobbies: Traveling and reading

Which cartoon character best describes you: Peter Pan

Favorite words to live by: Try not to judge, and be open-minded.

Last month's mystery staff member: J

Our School Vision

Sevilla EMS is a community of students, parents and teachers who work together developing personal skills. Teachers facilitate an inclusive and diverse education that leads to academic and social success through a rigorous and differentiated curriculum. The students actively engage as productive and responsible life-long learners in preparation for their lives as global citizens.