



Patriot Post



Notes from the Principal's Desk

Volume 5, Issue 3
Nov. 2012

Gordon gets ready for more classrooms

I am still very excited about Gordon's first Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (S.T.E.A.M) night. Attendance was terrific, and everyone was very engaged with their children. It was so much fun watching families work together and in some cases compete against one another to build a project. My teaching staff did a tremendous job coming up with many options for construction projects that interested every child. A big thank you to the P.T.A. for purchasing prizes and some of our materials for the evening. The evening was a huge success!

Please review the calendar closely as school is not in session several days in November. Please note that parent conferences are scheduled Nov. 7-9 for prekindergarten. Nov. 9 is also designated for K-4 conferences. You will receive a scheduled conference date from the teacher. Our staff looks forward to sharing both successes and areas of improvement with you during conferences. Please write down any questions you have in advance of the conference and bring them with you to ensure all information is covered.

Gordon will be receiving six additional portable classrooms that will be ready for occupancy by Jan. 15, 2013. A construction fence has been installed outside the kindergarten hallway so water, sewer, and electrical work may begin. The portables will be relocated to Gordon in the near future and then refurbished. We look forward to the additional classrooms as Linden Oaks continues to grow.

I mentioned in a OneCall message about the importance of not checking out children after 2 p.m. on

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Also, it is important not to check out students after 1 p.m. on Wednesday. Teachers are reviewing information from the day and preparing students for homework during this time. Once students begin moving to the dismissal area, it is very difficult to locate students. It is also helpful that if any transportation changes need to be made that our office is called before 2 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday or 1 p.m. on Wednesday. Your help in this matter greatly assists in Gordon having a smooth dismissal.

Students who are reading at grade level before the end of fourth grade certainly are more successful in upper grades according to research. Understanding basic math concepts in elementary school helps students have the foundation to complete high level problems in middle and high school grades. Please invest in your children by reading with them nightly and assisting them with their math facts. As students grow confident in reading and math, they will work independently and hopefully develop a love for learning. Our school is here to assist you with ideas for helping your children. Please see your child's teacher or a counselor if you need ideas for working with your children.



Joel Grim

Gordon Elementary School/DoDEA MISSION: Educate, Engage, and Empower Each Student to Succeed in a Dynamic World.

Goal 1: By June 2013, all students will improve their reading comprehension skills by utilizing vocabulary, formulating questions, drawing conclusions, summarizing/retelling, and making predictions. Progress will be measured through the use of system-wide and local assessments.

Goal 2: By June 2013, all students will improve math skills, with an emphasis on Math Communication and Number/Number Relations. Progress will be measured through the use of system-wide and local assessments.

Expect the Extraordinary!

Close contact, sharing clothes raises health concerns



Dear Parents,

At this time of year as cold weather approaches, we find that children share many articles of clothing and have closer contact.

This increases the chances of head lice infestation. We have had a few cases in the school. Each child has been treated and returned to a safe environment. Once a case is diagnosed, each child in the classroom is checked and other possible contacts. Children with head lice will be asked to be treated with special shampoo before returning to school.

We feel that parents should receive basic information concerning head lice in order to be aware of what to look for at home. Head lice can affect people of all social and economic levels. The lice and their nits (eggs) can be spread from one person to another on personal articles, such as combs, hair bows, towels and bedding. Lice are easily treated and the inconvenience of treating is minimal if it is detected early.

We ask the following of you as parents:

- Please provide your child with his/her own comb or brush. This should not be shared with others.
- Please check your child's hair weekly, looking for tiny grayish white eggs attached securely to the hair shaft near the scalp. These nits will not flick off as dandruff, dust, or skin flakes.

If you find anything suspicious, please notify me so I can recheck your child and other contacts. If there are head lice, I will help you obtain the proper treatment and make sure the environment in the classroom is safe.

The potential spread of head lice in the school setting presents a problem that needs our immediate attention. At this point we only have a few cases and with your help, we will not have any more cases. Please feel free to call me with questions or concerns. 907-1313.

Sincerely,

Nurse Theresa
School Nurse

Math Matters to everyone at Gordon Elementary

Math instruction at Gordon is a comprehensive program. It is centered on students' learning and their ability to reason and think mathematically. Curriculum standards, effective instructional strategies, and ongoing assessment of student progress are essential components of the math program. The major goal of the Mathematics program is to offer a balanced curriculum including problem solving, conceptual development and basic skills.

We use enVision Math from

Pearson for grades 3-4 and Everyday Mathematics from McGraw Hill for grades K-2. All third and fourth grade students can view their Mathematics book at www.pearsonsuccessnet.com, which allows them to practice and review lessons. Additionally, on the same website, test scores completed on the computer at school may be viewed.

This year Gordon is offering after-school math activities. First and second graders are involved in Math Club, which meets Thursdays

after school. This session of Math Club will conclude Nov. 16. A new session will begin Nov. 26. Starting Jan. 11, 2013, Math Club will be open to third and fourth grade students.

If you have any questions about the Mathematics programs at Gordon Elementary School, please contact Kristine.A.Morris@am.dodea.edu.

By Kris Morris, Math ISSS

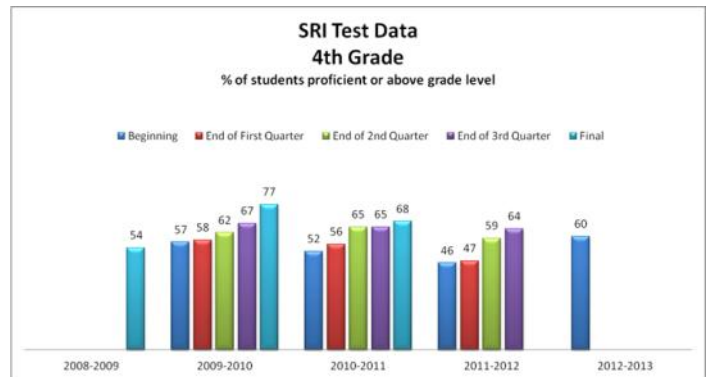
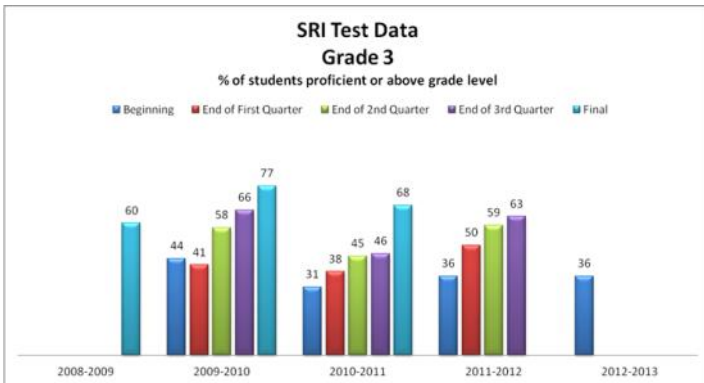
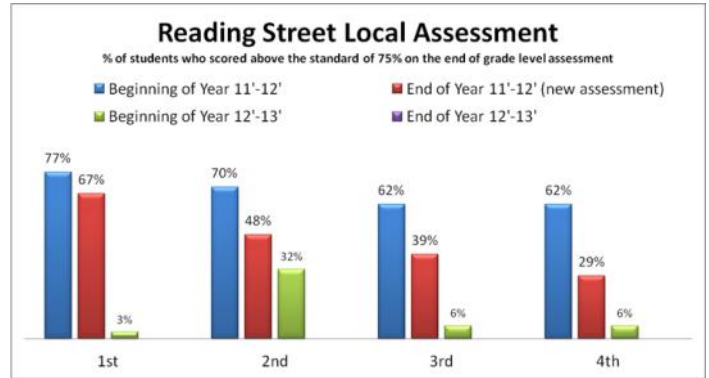
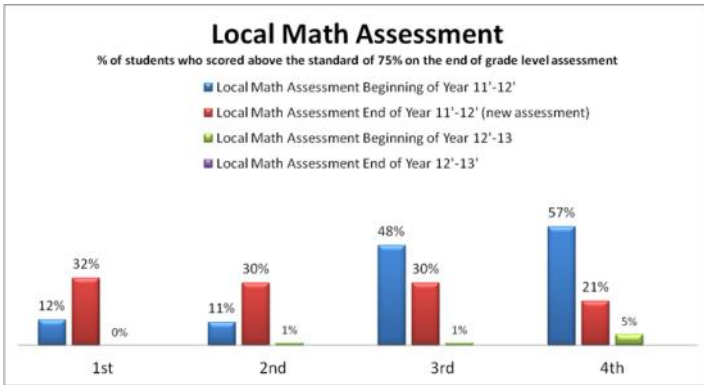
Initial assessment data compares results from year to year

Students completed beginning of the year assessments during September. Below you will find the results for those assessments compared to previous years. Please notice there is a significant decrease in last year's scores. This was due to a new assessment

being given. Also shown below is our beginning of the year Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) scores. The SRI is given to 3rd and 4th grade students quarterly. Second grade students take the SRI three times a year, with a baseline assessment at the

start of the second semester and again at end of each quarter thereafter. If you have any questions or suggestions for our school please feel free to contact Brianne.bruscino@am.dodea.edu.

By Brianne Bruscano, CSI chair



Counselors' Corner: *Safety, Safe Touch, Red Ribbon Week*

A recent study shows that emergency rooms around the country are seeing huge increases in the number of children coming into the emergency room. This alarming trend is being blamed on parents' preoccupation with cell phone texts, calls, sharing data, and general increase in laptop use. Parents need to supervise children without too many distractions. Let's keep our children safe.

Here at Gordon, two safety programs are scheduled each October. One is *Safe Touch*. DDESS provides counselors pre-approved, age-appropriate materials that help children differentiate between good touch, bad touch, and secret touch.

Red Ribbon Week kicked off Oct. 23. Lessons will continue for several weeks with classroom presentations on peer pressure and the dangers of all drugs, including alcohol, cigarettes and prescription drugs. Parents are children's

role models. As always, it is not what we say, but what we do that makes the greatest impression. *Red Ribbon Week* emphasizes the importance of avoiding peer pressure and of making good choices.

Finally, parents please mark your calendars for Mar. 11-15, 2013 for *Terra Nova Week*. Nationwide standardized testing will take place in grades 3 and 4. Please avoid scheduling medical appointments or family vacations during this important week.

Gordon students are an extraordinary population with whom it is our pleasure to work. We appreciate the opportunity to give students the tools they need to be successful in life.

If you have questions, please contact the school counselors.

By Mona Hegarty, School Counselor

Building access procedures

Signing in, out at office helps keep students safe

We have many visitors in and out of the school on a daily basis. For safety and security reasons, parents and all other visitors must sign in at the front office and receive a visitor's badge. No visitors should go to any classroom or building area without first signing in at the office. Please ensure you follow our building access procedures.

Signs are strategically placed at entrances informing visitors to report to the School's Main Administration Office

You must present a current form of identification prior to gaining access into the school; 100 percent ID policy remains in effect.

Once inside the school, IDs will be verified and exchanged for a visitor's badge. IDs will be maintained in a secure area in the office

Visitors are required to wear the badge during the

entire visit above the waist in plain view of other school employees

Visitors are required to sign in indicating date, time and intended visiting locations within the school.

Visitors are required to return the visitor's badge prior to exiting the building; time and date of exit is required and must be annotated on the visitor's log.

When visiting the school, please refrain from parking in the front circle by the school's front entrance. The front circle is for loading and unloading and for emergency vehicle access.

Please note, for fire safety reasons, strollers are not allowed in the building. We have two areas designated for stroller parking located at the main entrance and the gym entrance.

By Cynthia Flagg, Administration Officer

Patriot volunteers make the difference for students, staff at Gordon

"We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give" – Winston Churchill.

We value our parent volunteers and you are always welcome and needed in our school. Volunteers are a vital part of the success of Gordon Elementary School. We expect the extraordinary, and you can help us make it happen. If you would like to become a volunteer, please stop by the front office and pick up a volunteer application packet. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the volunteering experience. Volunteers can help in different ways. Here are some examples:

- Teacher Assistant Volunteer

- Information Center
- Literacy Night
- STEAM Night
- Picture Day
- Book Fair
- Spirit Wear
- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Field Day
- PTA

If there are other areas or ways you would like to help, please let us know. The following documents are required to be completed in order to become a volunteer:

- A Fort Bragg Military Criminal Records Check must be completed by the Provost Marshal Office
- DD Form 2793, Volunteer Agreement Form
- DoDEA Form 47003.3, School Volunteer Application
- Completion of AT Level 1 Aware-

ness Training. (Active duty are exempt). The training link is <https://atlevel1.dtic.mil/at/>.

Those who volunteer as a study trip chaperone must travel in the school bus. Siblings are not allowed to accompany chaperones.

As an approved volunteer, we ask that you follow the below procedures:

- Sign in and wear your volunteer badge at all times.
- Remain in the area which you signed in to serve. If you need to go to a different area, please inform the office.
- Follow the teacher's or PTA representative's instructions regarding interaction with the students and the staff.
- Please let classroom teachers or administrators handle any stu-

Patriot Volunteers continued

dent discipline issues. Notify the teacher discreetly of any inappropriate behavior you may observe.

- Turn off or set your cell phone to vibrate upon entering the building. If you need to use your phone please step outside.

In addition to completing the Volunteer Application, all volunteers must register with the Army's Volunteer Management Information System (VMIS) at

www.MyArmyOneSource.com.

VMIS provides a standardized system for volunteers to document their service history. Gordon's point of contact is Karen Mageo, who can assist with registration, if needed.

How to register with VMIS

Go to www.MyArmyOneSource.com.

Click on the Become a Volunteer tab in the upper right corner.

Click on Online Opportunity Locator.

Use the drop down box and select the Military Community, Fort Bragg (located under Southeast Re-

gion).

Use the drop down box and select the organization in which you would like to volunteer.

Click on Search.

Select the position you are interested in, and click on Apply at the bottom of the page.

Click on the Register for this Site link on the right.

Click here to Register Now, and complete the registration information.

Click continue.

Verify information and click Register at the bottom right hand corner.

Screen will show "Registration Complete" and "Thank You for Registering". You have been pre-approved and logged into the site.

Click continue (returns you to homepage).

An email will go to, Karen Mageo, Gordon's Organizational Point of Contact. Once approved, you may then begin to log your hours.

If the volunteer has previously logged hours -

Log on to

www.MyArmyOneSource.com.

Click on Log In at the top of the page.

Click on My AOS Page (upper right corner)

Scroll down to Volunteer Center and you will see AVC Volunteer.

Click on Service History.

Click on the Hours button (highlighted in blue) to the right of the position you want to log hours for.

To enter for the current month, select Day, and Add for Open Dates.

When you are finished entering hours, be sure to scroll to the bottom and click SAVE!

Volunteer hours must be entered into the system by the 5th of the month for the previous month to ensure certification

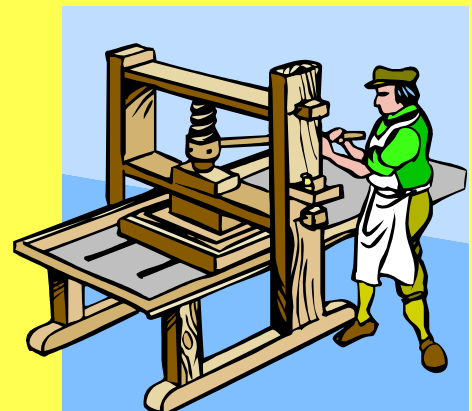
Thank you so much for your continued support and we look forward to working with you in the near future.

By Cynthia Flagg, Administration Officer

Students publish original books

Members of the Authors Club will be publishing their own books using [Studenttreasures](#). Third and fourth grade students are working on their books during October and November. The second grade session will be during February and March. First graders will work on their books during April and May. We look forward to reading and sharing some published work from Gordon Elementary Students. Extra copies of the students' work will be available for purchase.

By Suzanne Merritt & Renate Beken, Authors Club



The road to success is paved with books

Facts About Reading

- Children who grow up in homes where books are plentiful go further in school than those who don't. Children with low-education families can do as well as children with high-education families if they have access to books at home.

Source: www.scholastic.com/readeveryday

- "Reading a lot" is one of the most powerful methods of increasing fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Source: www.scholastic.com/readeveryday

Don't forget! Students need to read or be read to every day at home. Help your children meet their monthly Home Reading goals and receive monthly Home Reading incentives. Students who met their goal in September received a small toy and a coupon for a free kid's meal at Subway.

By Laura Festa, Home Reading Program Coordinator

Congratulations to the following classes for having 100% participation in September:

<u>PreK</u>	<u>Kindergarten</u>
Harrison AM	Grant
Harrison PM	Baker
Jillard AM	Mauil
Jillard PM	Merritt
Melendez AM	Upton

Congratulations to the following classes for having 80% or higher participation in September:

1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade
Clark	Colley Organiscak	DeBruhl Munsell Schmotzer

For more information, speak with your child's teacher or call Laura Festa, Home Reading Program coordinator, at (910) 907-1300.

PTA NOTES

VOLUNTEERS!

Your time is needed to help make our school's PTA functions a success!

***Don't forget to turn in your background check to the Gordon office!**

***Must have background check to participate in any function at the school.**

***It is never too late to purchase Gordon spirit wear!**
*** Long sleeves and sweat-shirts now available.**

DATES TO REMEMBER

***Nov. 1:** Turkey Bingo! Join us for bingo fun and chances to win a turkey!

*** Nov 6:** Monthly PTA meeting in the teaching kitchen @ 1:45 p.m.

*** Nov. 16 & 30:** -Fun Friday! Wear your spirit shirt and support your PTA by purchasing a yummy snack!

Have a great Thanksgiving break!

Your PTA is in need of a secretary and a Fun Friday coordinator please see the Gordon office or any PTA board member for details.

Thank you to all the students, parents and teachers that made McTeacher night, the book fair, and S.T.E.A.M. night such a success!

MFLC Services at Gordon

Gordon's new Military & Family Life Counselor, Angela Green, is here to provide broad-ranging support to military children and youth, and to the family members and other adults who support them. Within the school system, MFLCs provide support in the following ways:

- Engage in activities with children/youth
- Provide direct intervention in classroom, including assisting staff in setting and managing boundaries
- Model behavioral techniques and provide feedback to staff
- Are available to staff to discuss interactions with children and other concerns
- Outreach to parents
- Facilitate psycho-educational groups
- Conduct parent and staff training sessions

Common issues that MFLCs address are:

- School adjustment
- Deployment and separation
- Reunion adjustment
- Sibling and parent-child communication
- Behavioral concerns
- Fear, grief and loss
- Daily life issues

MFLC services are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Call (910) 734-7238 for more information.

By Angela Green, MFLC

School Snapshots



School Snapshots



Families Making the Connection

Be a Healthy Role Model

You are the most important influence on your child. There are many things you can do to build healthy habits for life. Cook, eat and talk together—make mealtime family time!

Show by example. Eat fruits, veggies and whole grains for meals and snacks. Try new foods yourself. Talk with your child about a new food's enjoyable taste, texture and smell.

Shop smart. Let your child make healthy choices when grocery shopping with you. Discuss where fruits, veggies, grains, dairy and protein foods come from. Let your child pick a new veggie or fruit to try at home.

Reward with attention, not food. Show your love with hugs and talks. Offering sweets to reward or comfort your child lets your child think sweets are better than other foods.

Focus on each other at the table. Try to make eating meals a stress-free time. Turn off the TV. Answer phone calls, emails and texts later.

Set screens aside. Allow no more than 2 hours a day of screen time, like TV and computer games. During commercials, move around—climb the stairs or do jumping jacks.

Move more together. Involve your children in planning physical activities for the entire family. Walk, run, bike together—physical activity should be fun for everyone!

November

- American Diabetes Month
- Good Nutrition Month
- Peanut Butter Lovers' Month

Menus for November 2012



Families Eating Smart and Moving More

Research points to seven key behaviors that can help children, youth and adults eat healthier and be more active:

- Prepare and eat more meals at home.
- Tame the tube.
- Choose to move more every day.
- Right-size your portions.
- Re-think your drink.
- Enjoy more fruits and vegetables.
- Breastfeed your baby.

Monday, November 5	Tuesday, November 6	Wednesday, November 7	Thursday, November 8	Friday, November 9
Monday, November 5 Whole Grain Croissant Or Cinnamon Twist Cereal Apple Wedges or Orange Juice Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Chicken Sandwich Or Turkey & Ham Sandwich CHOOSE TWO Steamed Corn Black eyed Peas Romaine Lettuce w/ Pickle Chips Orange Wedges CHOICE OF COLD MILK	Tuesday, November 6 Soremlie Eggs w/ Grits Or Cheerios Cereal Apple Juice or Orange Wedges Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Whole Wheat Spaghetti w/ Sauce and French Bread Or Cheese Burger CHOOSE TWO Garden Peas Green Beans Steamed Carrots Fresh Whole Apple Garden Salad CHOICE OF COLD MILK	Wednesday, November 7 Ham Biscuit w/ Oatmeal Or Toasty O's Cereal Orange Juice or Applesauce Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Pepporoni Pizza Or Sloppy Joe CHOOSE TWO Garden Peas Baked Apples Romaine Lettuce w/ Cherry Tomatoes Fresh Pineapple Wedges CHOICE OF COLD MILK	Thursday, November 8 Breakfast Pizza Or Cinnamon Twist Cereal Grape Juice or Sliced Peaches Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Bar-B-Que Chicken w/ Roll Or Corn dog CHOOSE TWO Sweet Potato Fluff Steamed Collards Pinto Beans Strawberry Cups CHOICE OF COLD MILK	Friday, November 9 Teacher Workday Non-Student Day 
Monday, November 12	Tuesday, November 13	Wednesday, November 14	Thursday, November 15	Friday, November 16
Monday, November 12 Veteran Day  Non-Student Day	Tuesday, November 13 Pancake N' Sausage Or Toasty O's Cereal Applesauce or Orange Juice Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Cheese Pizza Or Sloppy Joe CHOOSE TWO Steamed Corn Garden Peas Garden Salad Orange Wedges CHOICE OF COLD MILK	Wednesday, November 14 Soremlie Eggs w/ Grits Or Cheerios Cereal Apple Juice or Grape Juice Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Chicken Tenders w/ Roll Or Baked Potato w/ Meat & Cheese w/ Roll CHOOSE TWO Steamed Broccoli Pinto Beans Carrot Sticks w/ Dip Apple Wedges CHOICE OF COLD MILK	Thursday, November 15 THANKSGIVING FEAST Breakfast Pizza Or Cinnamon Toasters Cereal Orange Wedges or Apple Juice Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Turkey w/ Dressing, Gravy & Roll Or Corn dog CHOOSE TWO Sweet Potato Fluff Waldorf Salad Green Jell-O w/ Fruit Mix CHOICE OF COLD MILK	Friday, November 16 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Or Toasty O's Cereal Sliced Peaches or Grape Juice Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Fish Sticks w/ Combread Or Ham & Cheese Sandwich CHOOSE TWO Baked Beans Oven Baked Fries Colelaw Orange Wedges CHOICE OF COLD MILK
Monday, November 19	Tuesday, November 20	Wednesday, November 21	Thursday, November 22	Friday, November 23
Monday, November 19 Whole Grain Croissant Or Cinnamon Toasters Cereal Fresh Pineapple or Apple Juice Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Chicken Sandwich Or Sloppy Joe CHOOSE TWO Garden Peas Glazed Carrots Lettuce w/ Pickles Orange Wedges CHOICE OF COLD MILK	Tuesday, November 20 Breakfast Pizza Or Cheerios Cereal Apple Wedges or Orange Juice Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Spagheti w/ Meat Sauce & French Bread Or Cheese Burger CHOOSE TWO Garden Peas Green Beans Garden Salad Apple Wedges Strawberry Cup	Wednesday, November 21 Thanksgiving Break Non-Student Day Non-Teacher Day 	Thursday, November 22 Happy Thanksgiving 	Friday, November 23 Thanksgiving Break Non-Student Day Non-Teacher Day 
Monday, November 26	Tuesday, November 27	Wednesday, November 28	Thursday, November 29	Friday, November 30
Monday, November 26 Pancake N' Sausage Or Toasty O's Cereal Toast w/ (Jelly) Orange Wedges or Apple Juice CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Chicken Tenders w/ Dip Or Baked Potato w/ Meat & Cheese w/ Roll CHOOSE TWO Steamed Broccoli Steamed Corn Orange Wedges Apple Wedges CHOICE OF COLD MILK	Tuesday, November 27 Yogurt w/ Granola Or Cinnamon Toaster Cereal Fresh Pineapple or Orange Juice Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce & French Bread Or Cheeseburger CHOOSE TWO Garden Peas Green Beans Glazed Carrots Garden Salad Sliced Peaches CHOICE OF COLD MILK	Wednesday, November 28 Soremlie Eggs w/ Grits Or Cheerios Cereal Apple Wedges or Grape Juice Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Cheese Pizza Or Sub Sandwich CHOOSE TWO Steamed Corn Garden Peas Spinach w/ Tomatoes Orange Wedges CHOICE OF COLD MILK	Thursday, November 29 Breakfast Pizza Or Toasty O's Cereal Orange Wedges or Apple Juice Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Oven Baked Chicken w/ Roll Or Holdog w/ Chili CHOOSE TWO Creamed Potatoes Pinto Beans Orange Jell-O w/ Pears Apple & Orange Wedges CHOICE OF COLD MILK	Friday, November 30 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Or Cheerios Cereal Grapes or Orange Juice Toast w/ (Jelly) CHOICE OF COLD MILK LUNCH Taco Salad w/ Chips Or Fish Sticks w/ Combread CHOOSE TWO Oven Baked Fries Baked Beans Cherry Tomatoes Sliced Peaches CHOICE OF COLD MILK

Fit Foundations

Super Awesome Chili Wraps

Makes 6 servings
Serving size: 1 wrap

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1/4 pound ground turkey
- 1 cup canned diced tomatoes
- 1 1/2 cups pinto beans
- 1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper
- 2 tablespoons minced onion
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/8 teaspoon ground mustard
- 1 teaspoon ground chili powder
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 teaspoon white vinegar
- 6 (8 inch) whole wheat tortillas
- 1 cup low fat shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 cup shredded lettuce
- 1 cup diced fresh tomatoes

Directions

- Heat oil in large sauté pan over medium high heat. Add the turkey and brown.
- Add canned tomatoes and pinto beans. Bring to a simmer.
- In a separate pan, sauté bell peppers for about 3 minutes. Add onion and garlic. Sauté for about 2 more minutes.
- Add onion mixture to bean mixture.
- Mix in mustard, chili powder, and pepper. Stir in cilantro and vinegar.
- Ladle chili onto each tortilla. Sprinkle with cheese, lettuce and tomatoes. Then, roll up and enjoy!



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