



# Mitchell Mustang

January/February 2011

## Principal's News

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! -- 2011 is in full swing here at Mitchell and we have a lot of fun and exciting events during the next five months. Please make sure you watch the newsletter for important events. You can also check the Mitchell website -- [www.aps.edu/aps/mitchell/index.html](http://www.aps.edu/aps/mitchell/index.html) or the PTO website -- [www.mitchellpto.org](http://www.mitchellpto.org).

I would like to say thank you for all of the love and support that was shown for our staff during the month of December. Our wonderful parents stepped in during a difficult time and covered the school like pros. The PTO potato bar lunch for staff appreciation was wonderful, not to mention the individual cards and gifts during the holiday season. It's great to be a Mustang!

We had hoped that January would mark the beginning of the remodeling of our kitchen and cafeteria. However, at a meeting just before the break, it appears that the project was once again put on hold. I will keep you posted as I get new information about the project.

We are finishing up the second trimester on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please start thinking now about questions you might have during conferences. Looking ahead to the Parent Teacher Conferences on March 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> – you need to know that these conferences will be student led. There is no school on these two days, but you will need to plan ahead in order to make sure your student attends the conference with you. During the conference, you will go on a “guided tour” of your child's second trimester here at Mitchell.

Families who are seeking to have their child attend an APS school outside of their designated attendance area can apply for a transfer beginning February 1, 2011 at [www.aps.edu/schools/transfers](http://www.aps.edu/schools/transfers).

Transfers will be granted on a space-available basis and in compliance with State and Federal requirements. As per legislation, we will be using a random lottery system in granting transfer approvals, following the prescribed priority system.

Students who currently have an approved transfer do not need to re-apply unless they are changing schools. They will be considered a “rollover” transfer if they remain at that school site. “Rollover” transfers do not apply from one school to its feeder school. Feel free to contact the Student Service Center at 855-9050 or 855-9040 for more information on the student transfer process.

[www.mitchellpto.org](http://www.mitchellpto.org)

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### Important Dates

**Jan. 17:** Martin Luther King Day, No School

**Jan. 19:** Mitchell Family Night @ California Pizza Kitchen

**Jan. 25:** 100 Day of School Celebration & Concert, 6:30-7:30 pm

**Jan. 28:** Class Picture Day, Chocolate Bar Sales begin

**Feb. 1:** PTO Meeting, 6pm

**Feb. 7-11:** Clothing Drive

**Feb. 8-17:** Jump Rope for Heart

**Feb. 11:** PTO Parent Appreciation Dinner

**Feb 21:** Presidents' Day, No School

**Feb. 23:** Roller Skate City Night, 6-8 pm

**End Feb-early March:** Book Fair

**March 10/11:** Parent/Teacher Conferences, No School



## Principal's News, cont.

Don't forget that during the winter months, if it snows, you can check all local TV and radio stations or check the APS website -- [www.aps.edu](http://www.aps.edu) -- to find out if we are on a 2-hour delay or if school has been cancelled. In the case of an early dismissal, the directions you provided when you filled out the "Emergency Dismissal" form at Registration will guide staff. Please make sure that your contact information, list of people who are allowed to pick up your child, day care provider, and early dismissal plan are all up-to-date. Also, please discuss your plan with your student!

Keep warm and I look forward to seeing all of you at upcoming school activities.

Sincerely,

*Debbie Garrison*  
Principal



### Mitchell Family Night at Roller Skate City

Join us at Roller Skate City on Wednesday, February 23rd and help Mitchell win an extra \$1000! At the end of the year, Roller Skate City pays \$500 to the school with the most skaters on all the Skate Nights throughout the school year. The school with the highest percentage of their enrollment attending the Skate Nights also receives \$500. So far, Mitchell has had great participation and we are in third place for the school with the highest percentage of kids attending! We are also in third place for the highest number of kids skating. So come and join us on February 23rd and let's boost our numbers even higher!



### *February is Heart Health Month!*

The month of February is National Heart Health Month, so what better time to begin living a heart healthy lifestyle! Did you know that studies show adults may gain as many as two hours of life expectancy for every one hour of vigorous exercise? We also know that physical inactivity leads to a greater risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, and stroke. With just these facts in mind, Health and Wellness Classes during February will be discussing all aspects of how to live a heart healthy life, including the importance of eating healthy foods and getting plenty of exercise.

Once again, we will also be participating in the **Jump for Heart** Program sponsored by the American Heart Association. It will run from **February 8-February 17th**. Through Jump Rope for Heart, children learn not only different jump rope skills, they also learn how a heart functions and have the opportunity to raise money to help kids with special hearts. Please support your student and a great cause by collecting money for this program. More information will be coming home soon.

Learning how to take care of your heart, jumping  
rope and helping kids with special hearts.



### Mitchell Craft Fair Update

A HUGE Thank You!!!! To all who participated in the Mitchell PTO Craft Fair! We had 21 crafters and raised \$433 for Mitchell! Mitchell PTO sold donuts, hot chocolate and wrapping paper this year and crafters paid a fee for their booth. Who knew Mitchell had so many friends with such great talents??? The crafts were gorgeous and many completed their Christmas shopping! Again, thank you to all crafters and shoppers. Next year's Craft Fair promises to be bigger and better. Hope to see you there!

### PTO Treasurer's Report January 2011

Our Ginger Bread Shop was a great success!!! We made \$1950, just \$50 short of our \$2000 goal! Way to go everyone who shopped at our store for their Christmas presents. Our Craft Fair also did very well, raising \$433 for school activities (see article on this page). We are excited about our next fundraiser, World's Finest Chocolate Bars. We will start at the end of January and go through the first week of February. Again, we want to thank all the parents who continue to volunteer throughout Mitchell. We are planning our Thank you Dinner February 11<sup>th</sup>; keep a look out for our reservation card in your child's backpack.

Kim Cordova  
Treasurer

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### From the PTO President

Hello Mitchell Families!

Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were wonderful and filled with family and fun! We are already half way through the school year! Can you believe that? I am amazed at how quickly the year is flying by.

The end of January is shaping up to be quite busy. January 19<sup>th</sup> is Mitchell Night at California Pizza Kitchen. Come out and eat some delicious food while supporting your school! Class pictures were scheduled for January 20<sup>th</sup>, however due to training, several of our teachers will be gone, so we have rescheduled picture day for January 28<sup>th</sup>. There will also be a 100's Day Celebration from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on January 25<sup>th</sup>. This is an opportunity to come together as families and enjoy each other's company. Fliers have gone out about this evening of family fun. Last but not least, we will be kicking off our Chocolate Bar fundraiser on January 28th. This is a good money maker every year for us, so we are really looking forward to it, as are the kids. They LOVE this one and who doesn't love chocolate?

February will be busy too! The PTO will be sponsoring a FLASH Clothing Drive from February 7-11. We are hoping to collect as much clothing as possible in a FLASH! These items will be donated to the APS Clothing Bank along with a check for \$500 (see article on Page 4). On February 11<sup>th</sup>, the PTO will be hosting a "Thank You" dinner for all of you wonderful Mitchell families! We want to be sure you know how much we appreciate your involvement and all of your help this year! You are all fabulous and we couldn't do it without you! Look for ticket and R.S.V.P. information to come in the next couple of weeks. Also, Ms. Debbie is working on our Spring Book fair! The dates will be set very soon and we will send all the information out as it comes to us.

I am looking forward to all of our upcoming activities and events! There is more fun in store for this second half of the year. I hope to see as many of you as possible at each event.

As a reminder, the PTO Meeting for February is scheduled for February 1<sup>st</sup> at 6pm in the administration building. Bring a friend who hasn't been to a PTO meeting. We would love to have as many members attend as possible.

Have a fantastic January and February!  
Andrea Babineaux

## Mitchell's Clothing Drive

The BCCPTA (Bernalillo County Councils of PTA's) Clothing Bank needs our help!! The Clothing Bank is a non-profit organization whose primary objective is to provide clothing to any student K-12 who is in need. BCCPTA is not an APS program and they do not receive funding from APS or the government. It is 100% supported by schools, individuals, and a few businesses.

The Clothing Drive will run from **Feb.7th—Feb.11th**. We will be sending home brown bags to fill up with clean, useable children's clothing, jackets, new packages of socks and underwear, and new shoes. If you need to bring in your donation sooner, just drop it by the office. Donations are greatly appreciated and accepted throughout the school year! Thank you for your help!



You are cordially  
invited to  
join us in celebrating our  
100th Day of School on  
January 25th  
from 6:30-7:30pm.  
Come listen to  
**WAGOGO BAND**, enjoy cake,  
and our Mitchell Community.  
We hope  
to see you there!



**Announcing...**

**"Your Ticket to Read" Book  
Fair is coming to the Mitchell  
library the end of February-  
the beginning of March! Look  
for fliers coming home !**

### **Mitchell Giving Corral**

A special thank you to everyone who  
brought in items for the Mitchell  
Holiday Giving Corral! Your  
generosity is much appreciated!

## **Roller Skate City's Hockey League Starts Up**

Roller Skate City's Hockey league will be beginning January 26th. Remember, our school receives \$5 in return for any sign-up. Flyers will be sent home this week.

Their Learn to Skate and Play program consists of three practices, ten games, and an end of the year party. All first time players are given a FREE pair of inline hockey skates that retail for \$99 and a team shirt. Roller Skate City provides use of gloves, shin guards, and helmets for each player.