

Eye of the Dragon



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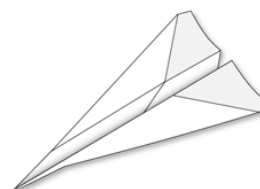
Family Contacts

On Thursday, September 29th the school closed due to dangerously high winds. Reports from the Hong Kong Observatory put winds at over 80 km per hour, creating critical conditions in which to be outside. The event was also a good test of our cell phone contact service as each parent in our database was sent a text message just after 6:00 a.m. A follow up email provided more information. Parents who did not receive the message should phone the school to give our receptionist your proper phone number and email address.



Activities

Mr. Smith loves Tuesday and Thursday activities because he gets another chance to be a kid. His class designs and makes airplanes and, best of all, goes out into the Atrium to fly them. Tuesday's class had some impressive hang time with planes that dipped, dived and rose in impressive spirals that kept the planes aloft for several seconds. Mr. Page joined the class and helped time some flights.



What is the DRA?

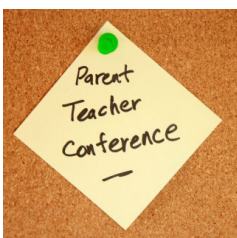
Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA) is a classroom reading assessment designed to help teachers; 1) identify students' reading skills in order to plan instruction in reading engagement, oral fluency and comprehension, 2) monitor growth in a variety of necessary reading strategies and skills, and 3) identify students independent reading level.



The DRA has 3 components, a student reading survey, a one-on-one reading conference, and comprehension questions and prompts. Responses on the reading survey provide evidence of students' level of reading engagement, how often do they read, what they know about books and what goals they have for themselves as readers. During the one-on-one conferences, students read aloud. The teacher is listening for accurate, smooth, and expressive reading. The number of words read per minute, errors and self-corrections are noted, as well as the strategies used to decode the text. After reading the remaining pages of the book to themselves, the students answer questions or respond to prompts about the book. Their responses are evidence of how they construct meaning before, during, and after reading.

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

After returning from break, we will only have a few days left before our fall conferences. These days, scheduled October 19 and 20, are set aside for parents and teachers to discuss student performance and study habits. Parents of 9-11 year old students should phone 755-2667-6031 to schedule conferences. Parents of 12 and 13 year old students may simply drop in on teachers as they will all be set up in the gym with files and sample student work.



Calendar

October

- 3-7—Fall Break (no school)
- 19-20—Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences.
- 21—No School.
- 21—End of First Quintile
- 29—Autumn Fair.

November

- 14-15—Professional Teacher Days
- No School