

# Dinsmore Newsletter

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## JANUARY 2026

Ms. Skinner:

Happy New Year! Welcome to a brand new year and a fresh new chapter in our school journey. I hope you had a restful and joyful Christmas break, filled with time to relax, recharge and make lasting memories with loved ones. As we step in to January, we're energized and excited for what lies ahead. This is a time for new beginnings, setting goals, and building on the hard work and growth we've already seen this school year. I am so proud of the progress the students have made and look forward to the opportunities this new year brings. As always I thank you for your continued support and partnership-it is what makes our school such a strong and successful community. Here's to a great start to 2026.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



A reminder that senior fees are now due. If you still have a balance, please bring your payment to the office immediately. Thank you for taking care of this important requirement as we prepare for all the upcoming senior events!

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon., Jan 5 Student return  
Wed., Jan 7 Senior Fees Due  
Thurs., Jan 8 Picture Retake Day  
Mon., Jan 19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day/ No School  
Fri., Jan 23 Progress Reports  
Wed., Jan 28 11am Dismissal



Please remember all money is handled by Mrs. Thompson in the front office. This includes all tuition payments, deposits to student accounts, all uniform orders, field trip payments, senior fees and any other payment or fee due the school.

Please make sure you get a receipt at the time of your payment.

As we move through the cooler months, we often see an increase in seasonal illnesses. Please remind your child to help keep our school healthy by washing their hands regularly and avoiding getting too close to others' faces when talking or playing.

If your child becomes sick, they must be fever-free for 24 hours without medication and have clear nasal drainage before returning to school. Keeping sick children home not only helps them recover faster but also protects other students and staff from getting ill..

Please ensure your child's outerwear is labeled with their name. Students should wear school-approved jackets or sweaters in class. Let's help everyone stay warm while keeping our dress code in place!

## OPEN DOOR

We have an "open door" policy. If you would like to have lunch with your student, visit their class or just have a conversation with Ms. Skinner please feel free.

## TROY

This month, we are excited to shine the spotlight on Troy! Troy has been part of the Lighthouse family since he entered 1st grade back in 2014, and we have loved watching him grow into the young man he is today. One of his favorite memories this year was enjoying our field trips—especially roller skating and visiting the bowling alley, where he jokingly says he pulled a "Charlie Brown move" and landed right on his bottom. Troy has a great sense of humor and brings that lighthearted spirit to our school community. Looking ahead, Troy plans to attend FSCJ to pursue a career as an automotive mechanic, a field he's passionate about. His favorite subjects have been History and Fine Arts, both taught by Mr. Jordan. Troy has always looked up to Mr. Jordan as a grandfather figure and describes him as *extraordinary* for the impact he's had on his life. If Troy could share one piece of wisdom with the underclassmen, it would be this: "No matter how much life gets you down, there is always a brighter side." Wise words from a student with a bright future ahead.

## SENIOR FUNDRAISING

Every year we do our best to help our seniors raise their senior fees. We have a few ideas that we would like to try but are certainly happy to listen to any suggestions.

### DRESS DOWN

Students are allowed to dress down every Friday for \$2.00. This means a school/church appropriate shirt instead of their uniform shirt. Solid color pants made of denim, or cotton material either long or short and tennis shoes must still be worn. Pants with any type of print, rips/tears purposeful or decorative, hoodies, basketball shorts, sweat pants or pants made of fleece like material are not allowed.

As we move into the new quarter, please help us stay on track by ensuring all student work is returned by the due date listed on each assignment page. Turning work in on time allows us to keep grades accurate and provide timely feedback.

You may notice that some assignments are marked with an asterisk (\*). This indicates that part of the assignment can be found on Google Classroom. If your student does not have access to Google Classroom—and they should—please let Ms. Skinner know so we can get that resolved quickly.

For your convenience, the student login format is listed on the last page of this newsletter for easy reference. Thank



Before Christmas Break, students participated in our mid-year benchmark assessments. These quick checks help us monitor growth periodically throughout the year and ensure we are meeting each child's academic needs. The best part is that most students didn't even realize they were being evaluated—allowing us to gather the most accurate and authentic results. We look forward to using this data to guide instruction for the second half of the year!

The login information follows the pattern of:

**Student Name:** John Smith DOB: 1/1/2001

**Email:** jsmith@lcsdm.org (not a working email, used for login only)

**Password:** jsmith2001



# HAPPY NEW YEAR



A friendly reminder to please check your child's planner regularly—even in the secondary grades. Planners continue to be an important tool for staying organized, tracking assignments, and keeping communication open between home and school. Teachers use them to note important reminders or messages, and students rely on them to stay on top of their daily responsibilities.

Thank you for partnering with us to help students build strong organizational habits!

## SWEAT EXPECTATIONS

Success

With

Effort

And

Tenacity

- ◆ On task, follows directions, takes an active role
- ◆ Comments are relevant, shows understanding
- ◆ Asks appropriate questions and listens to others
- ◆ Uses appropriate language and body language
- ◆ Uses time wisely and completes assignments on time
- ◆ Handles materials appropriately
- ◆ Puts best effort into completing quality work
- ◆ Comes to class prepared and ready to learn

## Discipline

At our school, maintaining a safe and orderly environment is one of our highest priorities. We kindly remind students and families of the importance of following school rules each day.

These guidelines are in place not only to encourage respect and responsibility, but also to ensure the safety and well-being of every student and staff member.

If there is ever a problem or concern, please bring it to our attention right away so we can address it immediately. If we don't know about an issue, we cannot begin working to resolve it. Your communication helps us keep our campus safe and supportive for all students.