

KOREA

Connection



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Reading Thrives in DoDDS Korea Schools!



Osan ES first grade students, I L and A M, share thoughts on their selected books.



Message From the Korea District Superintendent

March was a busy month for DoDDS Korea. Throughout the DoDDS Korea schools, we celebrated Women’s History month, Music in Our Schools month, and Read Across America. Our students were immersed in meaningful educational activities on a daily basis and this month’s Korea Connection is a reflection of just a few of the highlights from this past month.

Music in Our Schools Month (MIOSM) is the time of year when music education becomes the focus of schools across the nation. MIOSM began as a single statewide celebration in 1973, and has grown over the decades to encompass a day, then a week, and then, in 1985, to become a month long celebration of school music. The purpose of MIOSM is to raise awareness of the importance of music education for all children – and to remind citizens that school is where all children should have access to music. MIOSM is an opportunity for music teachers to bring their music programs to the attention of the school and the community and to display the benefits school music brings to students of all ages.

Women’s History Month is a time to reflect and celebrate the accomplishments of women in history. Our schools proudly recognize the many contributions women have made to American history. It is essential for all of us to remember the many contributions of American women.

In closing, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the students, families, educators, partners and community for their support during my transition to Korea.

Best Wishes,

Sam Menniti

DoDDS Korea, Superintendent



Lauren Basham, Kindergarten student at OAES, informs Mr. Menniti on how she created her ABC book using technology.

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2008 DoDDS MATHCOUNTS Competition: Seoul Team Shines

MATHCOUNTS is a national coaching and competition program designed to stimulate 6th through 8th grade students' interest and achievement in mathematics. Teachers and volunteers coach student mathletes beginning each fall and continuing through the year. Participating schools select four students to compete as teams and individuals in a Chapter Competition that was held in February. The top teams and individuals not on the winning team progressed to the State contest. The top four individuals and the coach of the winning team in DoDDS from the State Competition represent DoDDS at the National Finals May 8 – 11th, in Denver, Colorado. Nine schools competed in this year's 2008 DoDDS MATHCOUNTS competition.

Congratulations to the following schools and individuals for top placement:

Teams:

First Place: **Seoul Middle School** (J H, K P, M R and J W, Coaches – K L and C P)

Second Place: **Aviano MS** (S B, R D, M N, and J S, Coach – A S)

Third Place: **SHAPE MS/HS** (A E, M F, C S, and A T Coach – G C)




M R, Seoul American Middle School student, will represent DoDDS in the National MATHCOUNTS Competition in May.

Individuals:

First Place: J L, Alconbury Middle/High School

Second Place: M R, Seoul Middle School

Third Place: C P, Ramstein Middle School

Fourth Place: B M, Ramstein Middle School

Fifth Place: K P, Seoul Middle School

Sixth Place: S Y, Seoul Middle School

Summer Enrichment 2008

Curriculum: Voyager Expanded learning





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A summer enrichment program is available for DoDDS Korea K-8 students from June 23-July 18th. This is a Math and Language Arts enrichment program that runs four weeks. The 1/2 day sessions are available at the below schools:

Seoul Elementary School, Seoul Middle School, Osan Elementary School, Humphreys Elementary School, Daegu American School

Contact your local school office for more information.



Korea Connection

- Sam Menniti Superintendent
- Peter Grenier Assistant Superintendent
- T H Chief of Staff
- K K Editor
- C J District Consultant

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Power of One Technology Time

Osan American High teacher B S makes the time for his students to use laptops for work on their Power of One Projects. The Power of One is a year-long research project which culminates in an extensive MLA research paper. Along the way, there are opportunities for students to demonstrate familiarity with their subject via poems, movies, and other products utilizing a variety of technologies. This project-based unit of study addresses a wide range of real-life skills students need to compete in today's global society.





The School from the Black Lagoon

Contributions by D H



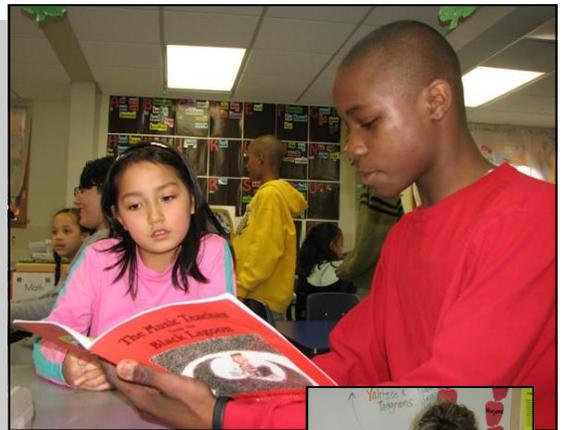
The Author from the Black Lagoon is coming to HAES, and students, staff, and community are excited! Author Mike Thaler says, “The purpose of the visit is to encourage and excite students to read the books of others and to write their own.”



Although he doesn't arrive at HAES until April 1st, Mr. Thaler's purpose is already being fulfilled. Students are engaged in author studies, learning about what authors do, and using his inspiration to spark their own creative writing and art. Mrs. P's fifth grade students are buddy reading Black Lagoon books with Sure Start, Kindergarten, and First Grade students. The Principal from the Black

Lagoon, a.k.a. Dr. Islas, is getting into the act reading her book to students, the infamous Mrs. Beamster has been making appearances in the school library, a Gaggle Blog about Mike Thaler and his stories is in use by intermediate students, and some students are using their Writer's Workshop time to create their own Black Lagoon stories. HAES young readers and writers are making the most of their opportunity to meet a great author!

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Above: Students share one of Mike Thaler's books.

Upper Right: Fifth grader T W reads *The Music Teacher from the Black Lagoon* to first grader J C.

Right: Principal Joan Islas reads *The Principal from the Black Lagoon* to first and second graders.



OSAN Elementary School

Contributions by M H

Celebrating Seuss!

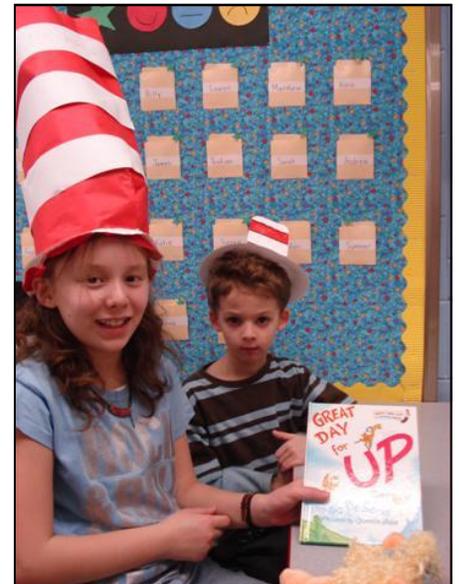
Students at Osan American Elementary kicked off the month of March with a tribute to Dr. Seuss and Read Across America. Over 40 volunteers from the Osan base community were guest readers, and older students also traveled to younger classrooms to share their favorite books.

Also on 31 March, Osan American Elementary is excited to host author Mike Thaler, author of the "Black Lagoon" series. He will go to Humphrey's Elementary on 1 April. Mike will read from his books, help students write their own joke and books, and encourage a love of reading and writing. Stay tuned for pictures from the day!

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Left: Fifth grader I R shares a story with Kindergarten student D S.



Right: Fifth grader E L and Kindergartener A O show their favorite Dr. Seuss book.



Left: Sixth grader J D models the latest in hat styles!



Right: Fifth grader I L reads a book with Kindergartener T K.



Daegu American School

Contributions by CV

DAS Reader's Café

To celebrate Read Across America and Dr. Seuss's birthday, Mrs. S's first and second grade class held their very first Reading Café. The reading cafe was run just like a real café serving books and goldfish crackers. We served over 300 students, parents, and staff some wonderful stories!

About 2 weeks prior to the event, students chose 3-4 books to practice reading fluently. These books were listed on individual menus. On the day of the reading café, students were divided into shifts, working as host and hostesses, chefs, waiters and waitresses, and entertainment staff. The hosts or hostesses checked reservations at the door and showed patrons to their seats. Waiters and waitresses took the customers orders from a menu full of Dr. Seuss classics and other books. Chefs were in the "kitchen" preparing side orders of goldfish crackers and the entrée (books).

Seating was limited, but entertainment staff was ready with coloring sheets, And Dr. Seuss activities that included "Pin the Eyebrows on Mr. Lowe."

Dr. Seuss Night A Huge Success



On March 13, 2008 Daegu American School celebrated Family Literacy Night and Dr. Seuss' birthday. There were a number of different activities; Eric Carle Room, Clifford's Room, Arthur's Room, "Fingerprint drawings" Ed Emberley style, bookmark making, Cat in the Hat hats, Green eggs and Ham tasting, listening to Spanish story reading incorporating FLES, and face painting. Over 200 people attended the birthday party with the Cat in the Hat roaming the halls and greeting families throughout the activities.

The staff at Daegu American School did a wonderful job preparing for the yearly event and worked very hard throughout the year incorporating literature into all subject areas.



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Osan American High School

Contributions by R H



Korea Day 2008

The spirit of the Good Neighbor Program was in high gear at Osan American High School on March 21, 2008. Students, faculty, administrators of Korean and American schools, and USFK / ROK armed forces participated in a full day of academic and social activities designed to enhance cultural awareness, communication and understanding. OAHS Principal Marie Cullen and OAHS teacher T K lead the way in hosting the event with the help of Jinwee High School Principal Hyugoo Kwon, Superintendent Inseo Kim of Peyongtaek City Schools and Lt. Col. H K of ROK Air Force. Korean officials and teachers delivered a number of academic, athletic, and social lessons to American students and staff. Topics of study included Hangeul survival language, Korean history, food, calligraphy, folktales, singing, taekwondo, relationships with North Korea, games and handicrafts. The Osan Parent-Teacher-Student Organization provided breakfast and lunch for the visiting delegation while the Korean Office of Travel and Tourism provided gifts for Osan American High School hosts. The day's activities culminated in a cultural performance of traditional Korean music and dance by the Manmin Joong-ang Church, Seoul under the guidance of Rev. Daehee Jo. Following the activities at the school, Korean participants were given a tour of the Osan Air Base

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A full day of academic and social activities designed to enhance cultural awareness, communication and understanding.





Seoul American Elementary School



Contributions by K Y

Celebrating Reading



Korea district superintendent Mr. Sam Menniti, community guest readers, the Cat in the Hat, green eggs and ham and decorated U.S. state-themed doors highlighted Seoul American Elementary School's celebration of reading on Read Across America Day, March 3.

Traditionally, the birthday of Dr. Seuss has been the focus of SAES' Read Across America Day celebration. However this year, SAES tried something new. Teachers were encouraged to "adopt" a U.S. state and make that state the focus of reading and learning on Read Across America Day.

"We realized that many of our students have never been to the States or they may have only visited the States for a short period of time and have very little knowledge about the U.S.," said Ms. K Y, one of two information specialists at SAES. "We wanted to change the focus to reading *across America* with teachers promoting a U.S. state in their classroom rather than just Dr. Seuss. So, we thought this U.S. state-themed event might help students to learn something about the United States."

The Information Center sponsored a state-themed door decorating contest. About 35 classrooms took part. The winners were Ms. K S's first grade Delaware door, Ms. S's third grade Hawaii door and Mr. B P's fourth grade Arkansas door. Each winning class was awarded a cake courtesy of the PTO.



Above: Second grade teacher Ms. D L and her students pose in front of their New Mexico decorated door on Read Across America Day. Students drew pictures of the New Mexico flag, animals native to New Mexico and created red and green chili pepper restras.

Below: Students in Ms. J R's kindergarten class play *At*-sounding Bingo during Read Across America Day activities. Volunteer Denise O'Steen calls out "rat" to emphasis the "at" sound.



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Seoul American Middle School

Contributions by P K

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MENC: The National Association for Music Education



Students at Seoul American Middle School participated in the Korean American Interscholastic Activities Conference (KAIAC) Chorus Festival that took place at Seoul American High School on Monday, March 5th. Approximately 80 students from nine area schools rehearsed all day under the direction of various teachers from the participating schools, culminating in a public performance. March is Music in Our School's month and the KAIAC chorus festival was a great avenue for students to showcase their musical talents to the community.



During the month of February, a contest was held to inform students about the achievements of African Americans. The questions were devised by Ms. W and Ms. G, the Student Council sponsors. Every seminar, a person from the Student Council read an achievement or invention. Afterwards, students were given 10 minutes to find out which person did the given achievement and bring their answers up to the front office. Students were able to use any resource to find the answer. The seminar classes with the most correct answers received ice cream parties. The students enjoyed the activity and the competition.

T L, Secretary,
Student Council



Seoul American High School

Contributions by LL & P M

Happy Pi Day!

March 14th is the date we celebrate Pi Day. (3.14... get it?) This year with Mr. F's lead, several members of the Math department provided special Pi Day activities for their students. The AP Statistics students provided pies to help Mrs. S celebrate her daughter's, J, first Pie Day. In Mrs. P's class students uses Pi to figure out the volume of a sphere. However the culmination was a lunch time Pi Celebration where students only had to answer one question about Pi to get a piece of pie. Mrs. M provided homemade fruit pies and the Math department purchased pizza pie to reward students for their efforts. Posters, Pi on plates to 30 decimal places, discovering the volume of a sphere, making mobiles and more. Just image what you're day would be like without math? Thank goodness for Pi!

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Seoul American High School

Contributions by L L & P M



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Teen Team on Discipline

12 students from Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, National Honor Society, and Student council met to revise Seoul American High School's discipline Table of Consequences. Students reviewed DoDEA policy and studied various tables from different school in DoDEA, including SAHS's present policies, to help inform their discussions and decisions.



After reviewing the several tables of violations and offenses, students discussed what they felt would be appropriate consequences. Their discussions lead them to rearrange some of the consequences a student at SAHS might face if they were to make the choice to break established school rules.

The new student-created Table of Consequences, along with suggestions from the Parent and Teacher Teams on discipline that met earlier, will be presented to administration for review. The teams' suggestions will help to shape the school discipline Table of Consequences for Seoul American High school for SY 08-09.

Students members of the teen team on discipline included:

Names Withheld on this Web Addition





CT Joy ES/MS
Chinhae, South Korea
 Contributions by G V & R P

CT Joy ES Reads Across America

During the month of March students at CT Joy ES are “Reading across America”. The PTO is sponsoring the program which was created by Ms. J P and Ms. T S. Students get one mile for every page they read. Students in grades K-1 have a goal to travel from San Diego to New York (2700 mi). Students in grades 2-3 are traveling from Seattle to Miami (3300 mi). Students in grades 4-5 from Juneau to Philadelphia (3800 mi), and middle school students circumnavigate the entire United States (7100 mi). The first group that reaches their goal gets a pizza party, and the group with the most miles gets lunch with their teachers at the Turtle Cove. Individual prizes will also be awarded. No wonder everyone at CT Joy ES is reading!



Accelerated Math

This year C T Joy’s Middle School math students are working with a computer based math teaching program from Renaissance Learning called Accelerated Math. Accelerated Math offers the instructor options for remediation, day-to-day teaching and acceleration.

Students begin the program with a placement test to ascertain their current achievement level. The instructor then chooses Math Standards they wish the student to pursue. The Accel Math program generates individualized practice sheets for the student geared to their level of achievement (remedial, on grade level or accelerated). As the student progresses the Accel Math program moves them through the chosen standards; allowing them to progress at their own rate. If a student needs help with a particular standard Accel Math notifies the instructor to “intervene” and offers a practice for instruction in the problem area.

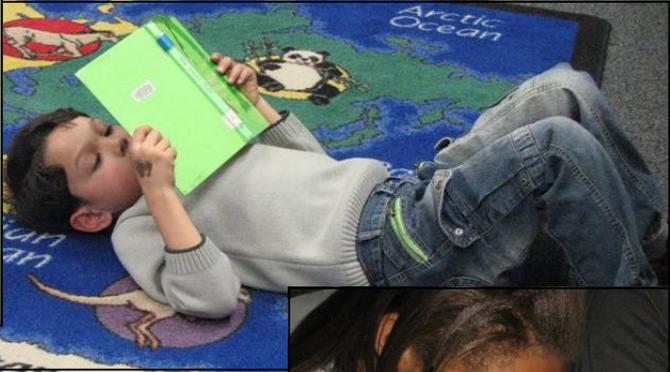
Accel Math also offers Exercise sheets (instructor chosen materials); like the practice sheets, exercise sheets may be used for remediation, day-to-day tasks or acceleration. Exercise sheets are useful for individualizing assignments (exercise sheets can follow the current standard being taught using individualized questions).

The ability to individualize assignments, key the assignments to the Math Standards and the instant feedback and reinforcement offered the student make Accel Math a very useful tool for the math classroom.



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KOREA DISTRICT SNAPSHOTS

