

Absence Notes

Excuses, excuses, excuses... Who ever likes those? Especially haggled, underpaid teachers who have to keep track of 30 little dummies every class, make sure that they don't shoot each other - and become literate in the process. And if the excuses that come from parents are themselves illiterate...

The following are actual excuses written by parents on behalf of their children in the Albuquerque Public Schools system.

Dear School: Please excuse John from being absent on Jan. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and also 33.

Please excuse Diane from being absent yesterday. She was in bed with gramps.

Please excuse Johnie for being . It was his father's fault.

Chris will not be in school because he has an acre in his side.

John has been absent because he had two teeth taken off his face.

Excuse Gloria. She has been under the doctor.

Lillie was absent from school yewaterday because she had a going over.

My son is under the doctor's care and shouldn't be taking fizical ed. Please execute him.

Carlos was absent yesterday because he was playing football. He was hit in the growing part.

My daughter was absent yesterday because she was tired. She spent this weekend with the Marines.

Please excuse Joyce from

Deep Thoughts

From an actual newspaper contest where entrants age 4 to 15 were asked to imitate "DEEP THOUGHTS by JACK HANDEY":

"My young brother asked me what happens after we die. I told him we get buried under a bunch of dirt and worms eat our bodies. I guess I should have told him the truth--that most of us go to Hell and burn eternally--but I didn't want to upset him." -Age 10

"When I go to heaven, I want to see my grandpa again. But he better have lost the nose hair and the old-man smell." -Age 5

"I once heard the voice of God. It said "Vrrrrmmm." Unless it was just a lawn mower." -Age 11

"I don't know about you, but I enjoy watching paint dry. I imagine that the wet paint is a big freshwater lake that is the only source of water for some tiny cities by the lake. As the lake gets drier, the population gets more desperate, and some-

times there are water riots. Once there was a big fire and everyone died."-Age 13

"I like to go down to the dog pound and pretend that I've found my dog. Then I tell them to kill it anyway because I already gave away all of his stuff. Dog people sure don't have a sense of humor." -Age 14

"I believe you should live each day as if it is your last, which is why I don't have any clean laundry because, come on, who wants to wash clothes on the last day of their life?" -Age 15

"It sure would be nice if we got a day off for the president's birthday, like they do for the queen. Of course, then we would have a lot of people voting for a candidate born on July 3 or December 26, just for the long weekends." -Age 8

"As you make your way through this hectic world of ours, set aside a few minutes each day. At the end of the year, you'll have a couple of days saved up. "

-Age 7

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P.E. for a few days. Yesterday she fell off a tree and misplaced her hip.

Please excuse Ray Friday from school. He has very loose vowels.

Maryan was absent Dec. 11-16, because she had a fever, sore throat, headache and upset stomach. Her sister was also sick, fever and sore throat, her brother had a low-grade fever. There must be the flu going around, her father even got hot last night.

Please excuse Blanche from jim today. She is administrating.

George was absent yesterday because he had a stomach.

Ralph was absent yesterday because he had a sore trout.

Please excuse Sara from being absent. She was sick and I had her shot.

Please excuse Lupe. She is having problems with her ovals.

*Please excuse Pedro from being absent yesterday. He had diah diahoah dyah the s**ts.*

RECIPE CORNER

By KIRA

CARIBBEAN CHICKEN

- 4 boneless chicken breasts
- 4 thin slices of smoked ham
- 2 tbsp of honey - (30ml)
- 2 bananas split lengthwise
- 1 tsp of salt - (5ml)
- White pepper to taste
- 3 tbsp of all-purpose flour - (45ml)
- 3 tbsp of shredded unsweetened coconut - (45ml)
- 1/4 cup of bread crumbs - (60ml)
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/8 cup of vegetable oil - (30ml)
- 1/8 cup butter - (30ml)

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F - (175°C)
2. Wrap chicken breasts in plastic wrap and pound them flat. Place a slice of ham on each piece of chicken. Drizzle with some honey and place a large piece of a banana slice over the ham. Roll the chicken breast with the banana at the core and refrigerate to firm, about 1 hour. Season the rolled chicken with salt and white pepper and dredge through the flour. Set aside.
3. Combine the coconut with the bread crumbs in a flat bowl and set aside. Dip the floured chicken rolls in the beaten eggs, and coat them with the coconut-and-bread crumb mixture.
4. In a large skillet, sauté the chicken breasts in pre-warmed vegetable oil over medium heat for about 2 minutes on each side, or until lightly coloured.
5. Place the fried chicken rolls on a buttered cooking sheet and bake in for 35 or 45 minutes, until chicken is cooked through.
6. Serve and enjoy!

Thanks to Carolyn Madge of Oliver, BC Canada. For submitting this favourite recipe!

You can also use mango as a filler- just remember to refrigerate the chicken for at least an hour - as it's a very important step!



The Gringo Times Team - hard at work in the office