

**Brockett Elementary
Board Communications
April 2012**



Around the School:

April 2 & 3 4th Grade Field Trip

Students stepped back 100 years in time while visiting the Bloomfield one-room schoolhouse in Pilot Point.

April 5 1st Grade Musical

**Our 1st graders performed their musical, "Going to the Jungle".
Thank you, Mr. Pierce for all of your hard work.**

April 10 Kindergarten Round-up

Kindergarten teachers and staff helped parents of our upcoming kindergarten students learn about what to expect in their child's first year of school. Approximately 50 families were in attendance.

April 13 K - 2 Battle of the Books (Local Competition)

This year there are 4 teams from Brockett and 5 teams from Monaco competing for the chance to advance to the district competition in Pilot Point.

April 17 Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

Teachers and staff are hosting our annual breakfast for our volunteers. Thank you to everyone who volunteers their time and talents for Brockett Elementary.

April 24 & 25 STAAR Testing

Students in 3rd and 4th grades will take the STAAR Math and Reading tests.

April 26

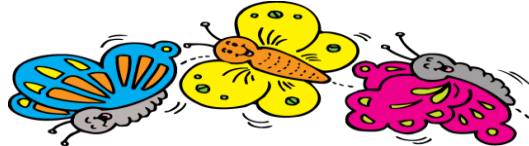
STAAR Testing

Students in 5th grade will take the STAAR Science test.

April 30 & May 1

Dog Tag Mania

Mrs. Lott will host her 5th six-weeks “Dog Tag Mania”. Dog tags are given for attendance, behavior, grades, etc. Congratulations to all of the recipients.



In the Classrooms:



Kindergarten

This month in language arts, kindergarten is continuing to improve on our reading skills. We have begun to master our district spelling words by taking weekly practice tests. In math, we will be learning about ways to measure length, volume and area using different methods. In science, we are learning about plants and plant parts.

It is a busy time for us in Kindergarten as we prepare for 1st grade. We will be discussing 1st grade behavior and preparing our brains for the next year!



First Grade

In Math, we have been learning about how to solve multi-step word problems and measurement. In writing, we are continuing to write narratives using our own ideas. We also have been writing stories based on picture prompts. We are also adding details to our stories by using sequence words. In reading, we are working on reading decodable words in isolation as well as sight words to build our reading fluency. We are also working on comprehension with reading passages and leveled books. In social studies, we are learning about inventors and their inventions. In science, we are studying life cycles. We have compared and contrasted the life cycles of amphibians, birds, mammals, and insects. We are very excited

to be getting some painted lady caterpillars to observe as they grow and change through the various stages of their life cycle!



Second Grade

In reading, we are continuing our work with CHAPS strategies and passages. We are also identifying types of genres. In math, we have been focusing on measurements and will advance to work on word problems, putting emphasis on time, money and fractions. Then we will start reviewing for end of year testing. In science, we have been discussing habitats and camouflage animals.

We have a very exciting activity planned in social studies. We are having a “Great Mail Race” with other 2nd graders around the country. We will be sending and receiving letters from them. We are learning about other parts of our country, as we ask thought provoking questions about their community, state and school. We are doing a writing practice test per week, as we continue working on some really great narrative writing.



Third Grade

Spring is in the air!! 3rd graders at Brockett Elementary are excited about the weather changing and observing butterfly larva in the outdoor classroom as we anticipate watching the life cycle of butterflies first hand. In ELAR and math this final six weeks of the school year, we are focusing the first half on heavy review of all TEKS taught this year. 3rd graders are ready to shine on the STAAR test. Following the STAAR test, we will begin a new novel in reading, Charlotte’s Web. We are continuing a word study in language arts. In math, the last three weeks we will be focusing on multiplication and measuring, making sure that all students are ready for the 4th grade.

We have been studying myths and legends in social studies and are looking forward to studying and teaching third graders character traits the remainder of the year. Science is in the air and all around us. Students are enjoying witnessing new lives of spring that are popping up around us and will be researching life cycles in the outdoor classroom! In addition to life

cycles, we will be studying ecosystems. We are looking forward to the remainder of the year and continue to strive for excellence in our students.



Fourth Grade

Wow time flies when you have fun! The end of the year is approaching fast for our 4th graders. In science, we are looking into the formation of clouds and how they can help us predict the weather. Math is all about Geometry! We are taking a close look at 2D and 3D shapes. We will be looking at their angles and the difference between all the shapes.

In reading, we are reading the novel, *Frindle*, and taking a close look at how one little made up word can change things for a boy. As we read we will be focusing on main idea, summary, inference, and multi-meaning words. In writing, we will be focusing on writing persuasive letters and papers. This will tie into the novel that we are reading.

Social studies is coming to a close as we fast approach the current times. We will be taking a look into the sections of government and how they work together. Students will learn how each branch of the government works.



Fifth Grade

The 5th grade writing class is studying the impact of media on our society. We have studied the effect of advertising and wrote and performed our own commercials. Our next step is preparing collages of some of our favorite things, activities, etc. and then discussing why we like them. This is another form of studying how the media impacts what we do, spend our money on, and like.

In math, we have the new STAAR test behind us and are taking this opportunity to go deeper in our study of Geometry and Measurement. We are discovering angles. The students are learning how to use protractors to measure angles; and how to find the missing degree in a set of supplementary and complementary angles

The 5th graders have completed the STAAR reading test. We are now reading *Maniac Magee*, by Jerry Spineeli, and reviewing reading skills. We

are making connections to what we are reading. The students seem to love the book. After we finish the book we will be working on media impact and plays.

The 5th grade scientists are wrapping up topics in life science such as instincts, learned behaviors, competition and camouflage. We are also reviewing for the STAAR test. The scientific method will be the place of our demarcation.