

H. L. Brockett Elementary
School Board Communications
October 2013



Parent Involvement at the School:

October 15 - GT Parent Information Night:

Parents were invited to come and learn more about the Gifted & Talented program.

October 18 - 2nd Grade Field Trip:

Students will be visiting the Sci-Tech Discovery Center in Frisco. It is a hands-on learning environment that inspires discovery and innovation through the exploration of science, math and technology.

October 21 - Pumpkin Decorating Contest

This year will have asked families to creatively decorate pumpkins (instead of scarecrows) to celebrate the fall season. We have asked that the pumpkins be decorated like a character from a book. We have invited two of local businesses to help judge the contest.

October 24 - 1st Grade Musical:

Our 1st grade girls and boys learned 7 songs based on Mother Goose rhymes, but with a modern twist. Thank you Mrs. Cummings for all of your hard work on the musical.

October 25 - PTO Teacher Luncheon:

Thank you PTO for hosting another of your wonderful Teacher Luncheons. I am sure it will be as delicious as usual.

October 28 - November 1

Parent Conference Week:

Parents are encouraged to visit with their child's teacher and learn how their child is progressing in the classroom this year.

Book Fair:

Parents are invited to shop at the Library's Fall Book Fair.

October 31 - Character Parade:

Parents are invited to watch our annual Character Parade. Each class will be dressed up like characters from their chosen book.

Other Student Events:

October 7 - October 11 - Student Council Elections:

It is once again time to elect our Student Council members. Election Day will be on Friday, October 11th. Good luck to all of our candidates!

October 9, 10 & 11 - Student Picture Days:

Students will have their picture taken by Monte B Photography. The pictures will be used in our memory book this year.

October 24 - Cool Shade for 3rd Grade:

The Denton County Master Gardeners will be visiting our campus again this year. They teach our students about the importance of trees to our ecosystem and give each 3rd grader a free seedling to take home.

October 28 - November 1 - Red Ribbon Week:

Students will celebrate being “Drug Free!” Mrs. Milacek has a variety of fun activities planned for the students.



The month of October is a busy month for the Brockett Counselor and students.

* It is Fire Prevention month, and we will receive visits from the Aubrey Fire Department to familiarize the students with what to do in case of a fire.

* Red Ribbon Week is the last week in October and the students will celebrate staying drug free with activities such as wearing sunglasses for a bright drug free future, wearing pajamas to remember that big dreams start by being drug free, and wearing a crazy hat or hair to say “Hair’s to a drug free future.” We will culminate Red Ribbon Week with our character parade, where each class chooses a book to represent in the parade.

* Our Watch DOGS (Dads of Great Students) have started and are making their wonderful presence known in the classrooms and halls of Brockett!

* We will have a work day soon to build “Kaylee’s Corner” a butterfly garden in memory of our precious student that passed away this summer.

October Happenings

In the Classrooms:



Kindergarten

Hard to believe that Halloween is upon us and that parent teacher conferences are about to begin. During this fun and festive time of year kindergarten will be learning about pumpkins, bats, sources of light, and magnets in science. In social studies we have learned about families and diversity this month. Along with that we are teaching the students about neighborhoods and fire safety. In language arts we will continue to learn the letters H, E, B, L, U, K, D and R. We are almost done with our alphabet! To add to our list of sight words we are learning the words it, you, up, do, is, he, and she this month. In math, we have mastered recognizing and writing our numbers 1-10, and we will be discussing positional words. These little brains can retain so much information in such a short amount of time. Way to go Kindergarten!!! Kiss that brain!



1st Grade

In reading/language arts, students will be continuing decoding words with short vowels. We will also be learning about story structure such as characters, main idea, problem and solution. Students will also be introduced to the non-fiction genre of expository pieces. We will continue guided reading groups, literacy workstations, and responding to literature in our *Reading Response Journals*. In writing, we will continue *Morning Message*, and *Writer's Workshop*. Students will be writing narratives about themselves and their experiences. In math, we will be working on patterns and addition facts to 12. In science, we will be learning about the different states of matter and how heat can change the properties of matter. We will also investigate how pumpkins grow by observing and charting growth of our pumpkin in the outdoor classroom. In social studies, we will be learning about groups we belong to, good citizenship, and customs such as Halloween.



2nd Grade

Second grade is off and running through the first nine weeks. In writing, we are learning to write awesome narratives! Math brings us place value, getting ready for double digit addition and subtraction. In reading, we just finished learning about myths, legends and fables and will soon begin making inferences. We are working on -r controlled vowels this next three weeks. Social studies was fun, as we enjoyed learning about a legend in Johnny Appleseed and enjoyed homemade applesauce. We are building bridges in science...what an adventure!



3rd Grade

Third grade at Brockett is off to a good start!

In math, we are continuing place value. We will be doing a lot of hands on activities. Then we will move on to rounding to the nearest tens and hundreds. Towards the end of the nine week period we will be teaching problem solving using graphs and perimeter. Students are also using their math journals for vocabulary.

In ELAR (English, language arts, and reading), third graders are excited about reading! In the next weeks, third graders will be comparing different types of texts. They will be reading fables and myths. Third graders will soon move into learning about expository texts and text features. One of our main goals is to help each child fall in love with reading. We will be focusing on the writing process and all the steps that are involved in writing a personal narrative. Third graders are publishing their first personal narrative this week!

In science, we have learned so much already! Students are learning the difference between a mixture and a solution. For the next two weeks they will be learning about the water cycle and how to measure temperature.

In social studies, third graders are continuing to learn about community and what it means to be a good citizen. Third graders are also learning about maps. We will continue to strive for excellence in character and education!



4th Grade

Different forms of energy will be explored in science. Students will enjoy making connections while doing hands-on labs. Biographies will be our main focus in reading and writing. We will also study prefixes, suffixes, singular and plural nouns, verbs and adverbs. Students will do various activities to help them better understand the United States Constitution and its importance. They will look at how the government is set up and how decisions are made. Multiplication facts will be memorized as fourth graders do daily drills, play games, sing songs, and study, study, study!!



5th Grade ELAR

We just got back camp. It all went well, and the students had a great time. There are pictures on the web page.

In ELAR this month we plan on working on story elements, summary, and character analyses, and vocabulary. We are also talking about fiction and nonfiction and the difference between the two. We are reading the play “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.” This will be used to promote fluency, vocabulary and story elements. We plan to review reading skills with them using pumpkin stories. We are also starting persuasive and nonfiction writing.