

H L Brockett Elementary Board Communications November & December 2010



Around the School:

November 1st, U.I.L. Campus Meet

Students competed at the campus level in various U.I.L. events.

November 4th and 5th, Parent – Teacher conferences

Teachers meet with parents on an individual basis to discuss each student's grades and progress in the classroom.

November 11th, Veteran's Day

Thank you for serving our country!

November 16th, Aubrey U.I.L. Meet

Students from Monaco and Brockett competed in U.I.L. events such as: Art Smart, Spelling, Listening, Number Sense and Creative Writing.

November 18th and 19th, Dog Tag Mania

Mrs. Lott is hosting her 2nd Dog Tag Mania event. Students will be receiving dog tag awards for perfect attendance, grades, etc. Parents are welcome to join us for the ceremony.

November 19th, Thanksgiving Feasts

Students in kindergarten through 4th grade will be having their annual Thanksgiving feast.

December 2nd, Aubrey Tree Lighting

The Brockett Elementary Choir will be performing a variety of seasonal favorites again this year.

December 3rd, AR Ends

Students who meet their individual AR goal for the semester will be attending a special event with Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Gochis. Rumor has it they will be going to the Dallas Symphony to see “Christmas Celebration”. Parents and family will also be able to purchase tickets and attend.

December 9th, Choir and SWAT Concert

Choir and SWAT will be presenting a Christmas concert for friends and family to enjoy.

December 10th, Teacher Appreciation Lunch

Thank you in advance PTO for another wonderful meal and for all that you do for Brockett Elementary!

December 13th, Choir/SWAT Field Trip

Choir and SWAT will be going on their annual caroling field trip to Stonebriar Mall in Frisco and Countryside Nursing Home in Pilot Point.

December 14th and 15th, District U.I.L. Meet

Students from Aubrey will compete in U.I.L. events such as: Art Smart, Spelling, Listening, Number Sense and Creative Writing.

In the Classrooms:



Kindergarten During November, students will be learning about Native Americans, Pilgrims, turkeys and Thanksgiving. We will end our unit with a traditional Thanksgiving Feast with our families on November 19th. During December, Kindergarten will be learning about Gingerbread, Multicultural Holidays, Christmas, and Winter Celebrations.

We are continuing to learn more about Daily 5 and we will be starting small guided reading groups. We are learning our numbers 1-20 and enjoying learning our color words by singing songs to teach us how to spell them. Our letter identification is soaring thanks to the use of our new alphabet arcs! In writing we have started our journals and we are learning how to match our words with our pictures.



First Grade

In reading, we are continuing to learn new reading strategies. We are learning more about letters and word chunks, blends, and clusters. We are also learning the difference of various genres of books, as well as story structure concepts like main idea, characters, and story sequence. Students are continuing guided reading groups and are learning to be better readers and writers in our Daily 5 Activities.

In writing, we are enjoying writing personal narratives. Students are learning how to self-edit their stories. We will be writing narratives about a turkey and Santa Claus as we integrate our social studies and science with writing!

In math, we are learning how addition and subtraction are related with fact families. We will also be learning about 3-dimensional shapes, skip counting, and odd/even numbers, and our problem solving strategy UPS Check.

In science, we will be learning about matter and how it changes. We will also be exploring with magnets and learning about real turkeys.

In social studies, students will learn about the first Thanksgiving and compare and contrast it to the way we celebrate this special holiday today. We will also be learning how other countries around the world celebrate the holiday season.



Second Grade We are enjoying many different activities in November and December.

We have been working on our Daily 5 and Reading Strategies. In math, we finished up addition with regrouping. In social studies, we are learning about Native Americans and their contributions and Christmas around the world. In science, we discussed opaque, transparent and translucent, and observed many experiments relating to light. In writing, we are working on writing a complete narrative. We are also working on “what is a verb?”

We look forward to the joy of the holidays!!



Third Grade We are excited about the upcoming events and the change of season! We are so blessed to have such a great bunch of students. We are now well into the routines of school and are excited about all the learning that is happening in our classrooms. The month of November will find us teaching and learning the following...

In reading, we are continuing to practice our CHAPS reading strategies. Students will be working on their comprehension of stories by applying what they know about story problems, solutions and details, facts, opinions, sequence of events, main idea, and understanding the meaning of a word by using context clues. In math, students will continue learning about area and perimeter. We will also begin a unit on geometric shapes.

In language arts, we have already been learning about prefixes and suffixes. Then we will begin working on a narrative in writing. In science, we will continue studying food chains. We will also be studying producers and consumers and the role they play in our environment. We will end this month by discussing and studying the properties of matter. In social studies, we will move on to a unit on government focusing on the election process. We will also be celebrating Thanksgiving with our yearly Thanksgiving feast. We are excited about all that lies ahead for us this year as we set our sights on striving for and reaching our high expectations and goals.



Fourth Grade Wow! The old saying “Time flies when you’re having fun” applies this year! There are many exciting things happening in our classrooms now.

In writing, we are working on “How to” papers. We will also be working on a Native American Project where students will be asked to research different tribes. In groups of five, they will become experts and teach the class about their tribe. We will be making books to share with our classes, as well as with you. Please put November 19, 2010 on your calendar and come spend the afternoon with us.

In reading, students are creating “Can of Characters” about the story Thunder Foot by Bill Wallace. We will also be looking at “Authors Purpose” and asking, “Why in the world did they write that”? In math, the race is over and the march is on as we go 2 by 2 through the world of multiplication. In science, we will be

doing some crazy things as we look into microscopes. We will be getting up close and personal with plants. We will also be learning about adaptations and how sometimes we are just born to do things.



Fifth Grade

In reading, 5th graders have completed one CCAP test and one benchmark test. Most of them did well. We have started tutoring groups for the ones that need extra help. Skills we are working on include: compare and contrast, genre, theme, cause & effect of historical events, and point of view.

In math over the last couple of weeks, we have been working on our division unit. The students have been working really hard and using our "UPS Check" to help them solve real world problem that involve division. They are continuing to practice the strategy and draw a picture to help them understand problem solving. We are now working on factors and prime and composite numbers. The students are working really hard and having great success.

In science, we are focusing on life science, particularly interactions within ecosystems. The students have been presenting their Power Point biome projects. In language arts, we have started a "Writer's Workshop"! Students are sitting in table groups where they can bounce ideas off of each other, peer edit, group publish, etc.. It is very exciting and the students are getting much accomplished. In this manner, I hope to raise each student up by AT LEAST one writing level by year's end. We have written suspense stories ("Just Deserts"), business letters to a department store requesting a refund or exchange, and a personal letter to Mom and Dad requesting permission to plan a big Spring Break party. We are SMILING THROUGH WRITER'S CRAMPS!