

Brockett Elementary School Board Communications



Around the School:

February 29 Perfect Attendance Campaign Begins

We kicked off our “Nifty Fifty Attendance Challenge” with students. We challenged them to achieve 50 days of perfect attendance. If they meet the challenge, they will be treated to a special field trip with Mrs. Lott, Mrs. Abrams and Mrs. Milacek in May.

March 1, 2 & 3 Individual Student Spring Pictures & Class Pictures

Monte B took spring pictures of our students. Proofs will be sent home after spring break for parents to preview. He also took class photos.

March 3 & 4 Attendance Meetings

Mrs. Abrams visited with select parents about their child’s attendance. These meetings have shown positive results in several cases.

March 4 Kindergarten Field Trip

Kindergarten students visited the Dallas World Aquarium to learn about amazing creatures and their habitats. They will also learn about the rain forest and ocean animals.



March 7 1st Grade Field Trip

Students in 1st grade visited UNT's Elm Fork to learn about aquatic life in nature. When they return to Brockett, they will be compare it to the aquatic life in B.E.L.L.A.



March 8 2nd Grade Musical

Brockett music has a special presentation on Tuesday, March 8. The 2nd grade students will perform their musical, *Awesome Animals*. The songs include "We Love Our Pets", "Whale Song", "In the Wild" and "Our Animal Friends". Students will dress as their favorite animal and demonstrate all their hard work!



March 10 AEF Red & White Gala

Thank you to all of the members of the AEF Board who serve the students and staff of AISD. Your hard work is greatly appreciated. All of the teachers and students have been busy helping prepare items for the auction. Here are a few of the items for the auction.



March 11 Character Education Presentation

Ronald McDonald stopped by Brockett to visit with our students in kindergarten, 1st grade and 2nd grade about the importance of having good character.



March 21 – 28 Ace’s Breakfast Club Promotion

The cafeteria will be hosting a “Morning Snack Pack Promotion” to increase participation in our breakfast program and create loyal breakfast participants. Students who purchase breakfast on these days will be given a hand stamp. If they return to purchase lunch on the same day, they will receive a special prize. The prizes include milk erasers, activity sheets, pencils, sticker sheets and growth charts.

Every Friday Popcorn Friday!

This month kindergarten, 3rd grade, & 4th grade enjoyed their treat. Thank you to the volunteers who help us each week.



February 25 Spring Open House - Recap

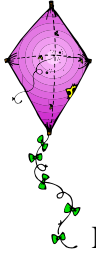
This year Professor Brainius entertained us with a variety of science experiments. <http://www.professorbrainius.com/index.htm> Students in kindergarten, 1st grade and 2nd grade prepared art exhibits. 3rd grade and 4th grade did a wax museum for all to enjoy. The computer lab was open for visitors to learn about iStation, Study Island and to participate in our annual parent survey. The Book Fair was also be open to visitors. Here is a link some of the pictures from the evening.

<https://goo.gl/photos/aMYBaXCVf8qbuMd29>



Testing:

March 8 TELPAS – Grade 2
March 10 TELPAS – Grade 3 & 4
March 29 STAAR – Grade 4 Writing



Library:

Our Reading CHAPS program is coming to an end. Students who participated will celebrate with Mrs. Hazen and Mrs. Delafield at the end of the month. Thank you also to everyone who stopped by our Spring Book Fair.



This month we will be studying the character trait of Cooperation. The Counselor will be presenting lessons about cooperation using the game of volleyball on the Promethean Board for grades 2-4 and reading and interacting with a book about cooperation to Kindergarten and First Grades. We will also cover the District Drug initiative by talking about the dangers of drug use and identifying who can and cannot administer medication to the students.

Ronald McDonald is coming to Brockett! He won't be talking about hamburgers and French fries, though! He will be presenting a character lesson to our Kindergarten through Second Graders. We are excited to have this celebrity coming to our campus!

We haven't heard whether we are a National School of Character yet! But, we are waiting with great anticipation to find out if we have been chosen. While we have been waiting, the counselor applied to receive a "Promising Practice" award for our "Night of Giving" that we had at Christmas. The "Promising Practice" award would allow our idea of making items for others in need in our community to be spread to other schools in America! We just know we have amazing ideas at Brockett and we love to share them!



Tech Talk:

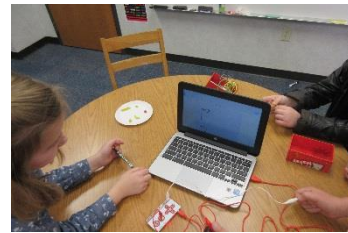
The last month has been exciting at Brockett Elementary. Third grade has been researching famous scientists and the fourth grade has been researching famous Texans. We have been searching the internet to learn about the lives of these remarkable people. We recorded our findings in our Google drives using either Google Docs or Google Slides. This proved to be very productive for us. By working and storing our work in 'the cloud', we have been able to seamlessly work on our projects in a variety of settings. We started our work in the computer lab, then continued our work in class on the Chromebooks. Additional work was done in the open access lab and even at home. Utilizing Google for Education products has dramatically changed

the way we work. Students can now access their work from anywhere with internet access and teachers are no longer confined to a single location when they are working on creative projects with their class.



Gifted & Talented:

The GT students “wowed” the Open House crowd with their *Makey Makey* projects. The students created different projects using their *Makey Makey* kits. Critical thinking and problem solving were used to create an operation game, game controllers and musical flowers. Parents and students enjoyed playing the games and creating music during Open House.



In the Classrooms:



Kindergarten:

Spring is right around the corner and so is Spring Break. Hard to believe it is approaching so quickly. During March, kindergarten will be learning about spring and insects. We will discuss how to identify an insect and discuss how some insects go through the stages of metamorphosis. We will also learn how to determine if something is living or non-living. In social studies, we have talked about Texas and identified many of the traits that make us who we are. We will continue March with learning about technology, jobs, and the differences between then and now. Language arts has made a huge jump in writing, spelling, and reading. We are getting ready for our end of year assessments and really pushing our kindergarteners to know how to spell all of their sight words during our weekly spelling test and also write three sentences independently on

a daily basis. We continue to work on blending, rhyming, comprehension, compound words, reading groups and so much more! We are meeting our I-station minutes per week so that we can enjoy our “Minute to Win It” party in May. In math, we are learning equal parts, addition, subtraction, calendar elements and days of the week. Ronald McDonald will be visiting our school on March 11th for character education and the students are so very excited! We are working hard to be prepared for first grade and it shows more each day!



1st Grade:

This month, first grade attended their field trip to the Elm Fork Science Center at UNT in Denton. They will take part in a variety of science activities based on the first grade TEKS. In Reading/Language Arts, students will be studying diphthong vowel patterns such as ou, ow, oi, and oy. We will also be continuing guided reading groups and literacy workstations. In writer’s workshop, we will be writing, revising and editing personal narratives. In math, we will be studying fractions and begin our unit on measurement. In science we will be studying the water cycle and weather. In social studies, we will be studying U.S. symbols and traditions such as St. Patrick’s Day.



2nd Grade:

March has come in like a lion and we are busy, busy, busy in second grade. In writing, students are writing about “How to Catch a Leprechaun”. In math, we are studying fractions. Reading is super fun as we continue our CHAPS strategies and learning how to make inferences. In social studies and science, we are learning about the moon and star, famous inventors and scientists.



3rd Grade:

As we anxiously move into spring and away from winter, third graders at Brockett are busy learning and reviewing! In math this month, we will be focusing on measurement. We will also be learning about probability and statistics. In reading and language arts, students will reexamine the literary genres of poetry, literary non-fiction, fictional texts, and traditional literature including myths and folktales. Students will make connections between various texts including comparing and contrasting two different versions of the same myth or folktale. Using the writing process, students begin to draft a persuasive text based on personal ideas and opinions. In science this month, third graders will be learning how to classify living things. We will also be spending a lot of time in the outdoor classroom observing and labeling the life cycle

of living things. Third graders in social studies are enjoying learning about needs and wants. We will continue learning about how we spend, save, and earn money in the real world.



4th Grade:

Fourth grade is working hard to be able to attend the “Nifty Fifty” party for attendance. Students are trying to have perfect attendance so that they might attend. We were so pleased with the success of our spring open house. The students worked hard on their research of a Texas hero. They made presentation boards that were set up during open house. They dressed up as wax figures and became a living wax museum for our visitors to learn about Texas heroes. We will continue to learn about Texas independence and the colonization of Texas over the next few weeks. We will be doing hands on labs for our science unit over mixtures and solutions. We will connect this unit to our previous unit on matter. We will also be using hands on manipulatives for our math unit on personal financial literacy. Students will be fine tuning expository compositions and editing and revising skills. Students will continue to work on connections across literary texts.