

**Brockett Elementary
School Board Communications
December 2015**



Around the School:



December 1 to 14 – Toys for Tots Toy Drive

Brockett Elementary participated in the AISD Toys for Tots toy drive again this year. Students brought in over 50 new toys for the campaign. Thank you Jeff Perry, former U. S. Marine, for providing AISD the opportunity to help this year.

December 3 – Picture Retakes

Monte Borders was on campus to take pictures for some of our students for the memory book.



December 3 – Aubrey Tree Lighting

The BES All Star Choir performed several Christmas tunes for the Aubrey community.

December 4 – District UIL Meet

Students from Monaco and Brockett competed in various UIL events to represent AISD at the UIL meet in Argyle. The Aubrey team placed 3rd overall at the meet. Great job students and coaches!



Breakfast With Santa

December 5 – Santa Breakfast

The BES Student Council hosted their annual Santa Breakfast. Santa visited with students, stayed for pictures and listened to Christmas wishes.



December 8 – Christmas Open House “Santa’s Workshop, A Night of Service”

This year Brockett Elementary put on Santa’s Workshop. The children became Santa’s elves and made gifts for those in need. We began the night with our All Star Choir and S.W.A.T. Team performing Christmas songs for all to enjoy. Then the students went to the classrooms where they created gifts for people in the community. Santa even made an appearance for pictures with the children.

Kindergarten – Decorated water bottles for the Fire and Police Departments

1st Grade - Made scarves for the Denton Homeless Shelter

2nd Grade – Made pillows for the Denton State School

3rd & 4th Grade – Made lap blankets for local nursing homes and hospitals



December 10 – Choir Field Trip

Our talented All Star Choir students performed for residents of Countryside Nursing Home in Pilot Point and at Stonebriar Mall in Frisco.

December 11 – AMS Band Performance

The AMS band performed a variety of Christmas songs for the students of Brockett Elementary to enjoy.

December 11 – PTO Luncheon

Thank you to all of the PTO parents who donated food to this month’s Teacher Luncheon. The soups were delicious!

December 16 – ESL Family Night

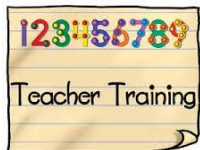
Ms. Molinar hosted an evening of fun for our ESL students and their families. They made Christmas crafts and enjoyed a meal.

Popcorn Parties

This month 1st grade, 2nd grade, 3rd grade & 4th grade enjoyed their treat.



Brockett Elementary would like to thank the AISD Administration and School Board for our new stage curtains, the new cabinetry and water heater in the teacher's lounge, and our new front office reception desk that will be installed soon.



Professional Development

Our teachers are enjoying “Teach Me Tuesdays” professional development. Teachers stay after school and enjoy different topics to enhance their teaching.

Topics for December included:

- Anchor Charts – How to make and use them in the classroom





For Guidance Lessons, the counselor presented the book “It’s OK to be Different” by Todd Parr and talked about being accepting of other’s differences, and did a short lesson on “Poisons” as part of our Drug Awareness Program. We sang a song with the ukulele called “It’s OK to be Different” (to the tune of “The Wheels on the Bus”) with the students making up lyrics about differences. Some of the verses the students came up with were about wearing glasses, having different skin color, and wearing different clothes.

We also talked about the character trait “Service” in morning assembly. As a way of teaching our students about the trait of service we came up with our Christmas activity, “Santa’s Workshop, A Night of Service” where each grade level is making a different product to donate to people in the community. For example, fourth grade is making lap blankets from fleece for the Nursing Home, and the second grade students are making small pillows for the residents of the State School in Denton.

We just finished our application submission for the “National School of Character” and feel that we have put our best application out for the character.org judges! It is our hope that by March of 2016 we will know whether or not we have made the National School of Character list!



Library:

Buddy, the elf, has returned to Brockett. He flies around the school, so each morning the students are all so eager to be the first to spot him. He has watched the students in the hall from the window in the library and has also had a snowball fight with Gerald, the elephant. We can't wait to see where he will be next!





Gifted & Talented:

The 4th grade GT students finished up their Ancient Greece unit by creating movie posters to represent what they learned about their topic. The 3rd graders created power points about the history of a board game they learned about. Then they presented it to the class. During the month of December they will enjoy the challenges of building or creating with objects that the teacher gives them. One challenge was with gumdrops and toothpicks. They had to problem solve how to create a certain shape that would hold a heavy book. Then they talked about the problem solving, their team work and laughed a lot.

GT testing continues for 29 BES elementary students and results will be sent home at Christmas Break



Student Council:

This month student council has turned their attention to helping kids in the community with Toys for Tots. This community project went until December 14. They also hosted their Pancakes with Santa Breakfast and raised about seven hundred dollars. This money will be used in areas to thank our teachers and staff, help around the school, and provide supplies that are needed. We want to thank all the parents and students for help with these events.



Technology:

We officially started 'STUDY ISLAND Season' this month at Brockett Elementary. Just for fun, Mr. Cox ran a report to see how we were doing... WOW! The students at Brockett have already answered 45,367 TEKs based, test-prep questions this year. A majority of these questions were answered outside of their classroom environment, either at home or during their technology class.



UIL:

On December 5, 2015 both elementary schools competed in Argyle for our district UIL meet. Overall, we placed 3rd in district. Students and coaches have been working very hard for the past two months helping these kids get prepared for this competition. Below you will find a list of events and how our students placed. I want to thank all the coaches, parents and students for a great meet.

Dana Fikes, Elementary UIL Coordinator

Elementary UIL Results:

3rd Grade Ready Writing: Molly Reid 5th place

4th Grade Ready Writing: Allison Reed 3rd place

5th Grade Number Sense: Megan Szostek: 6th place, Quinn Bradshaw, Kia Bagley,
Damon Polk

Team: 3rd place

4th Grade Number Sense: Camden Stephenson 2nd place, Katie Shields 3rd place,
Brody Burton 4th place

Team: 1st place

5th Grade Art Smart: Xander Rouk 2nd place, Regan Essary, Elissa Housewright,
Natalie Tucker

Team: 2nd place

4th Grade Art: Johnathan Callison 2nd place, Maya Lizardo 6th place, Katherine Sondata,
Bijou Duff

Team: 2nd place

5th Grade Oral Reading: Madison Harris 2nd place, Addie Thompson 4th place

2nd Grade Music Memory: Emma Howell 1st place, Keslyn Kampschroeder 1st place
Team: 2nd place

3rd Music Memory: Emma Gillum 1st place, Rory Duncan, Houston Harris,
Breanna James, Gracie Michael

Team: 3rd place

4th grade Music Memory: Caleb McWhorter 1st place, Carsen Arrington,
Colton Klingsporn, Landon Martino, Cadence McLean

Team: 2nd place

2nd grade Chess: Eddie Sondata 1st place, Ayden Bass 6th place (tied),
Eli Daniels 6th place (tied), PJ Roden

Team: 1st place

5th Grade Dictionary Skills: Abby Hammett 6th place, Drew Drees, Laynie Norton,
Samantha Ormsby

Team: 2nd place

2nd Grade Storytelling: Lyla Plum 5th place
3rd Grade Storytelling: Jayce Hawkins 1st place, Alyssa King 3rd place,
Cole Govea 6th place
3rd Grade Spelling: Lauren Drinnon, Rory Duncan, Brinly Johnson, Shiloh Winkler
Team: 3rd place
4th Grade Spelling: Lylah Gordon 3rd place, Bijou Duff, Carlee Eischens,
Madison Kohnle
Team: 3rd place
5th Grade Spelling: Hunter Whitley 2nd place
Maps, Graphs and Charts: Chris Golson 3rd place, Ethan Morgan, Trenton Pentecost
Team: 4th place
5th Grade Listening: Kinley Vanhook 3rd place, Peyton Stanley 6th place,
Samantha Ormsby
Team: 3rd place



In the Classroom:



Kindergarten:

This December in language arts, we will continue to learn the sight words: said, was, had, play, for, they and have. We have now mastered all of our letters and we are beginning to blend them and use them in our journals to make words and complete sentences. Comprehension and reading groups have begun with book readers sent home daily, and writing independently will become a huge part of each day! We will continue to build on what a verb is and a noun and begin learning what the vowel letters are. In math, we are graphing and learning our teen numbers. We are using our 10 frames to count and show teen numbers, comparing numbers, and writing them.

December is so much fun for our sweet kindergarteners. It's a time for giving, good character, and making memories. We are collecting toys for our toy drive and working on our character goals every day. At our winter open house each grade level made items for those less fortunate. Our kindergarteners will learn and appreciate the value of Christmas by giving to others in need.

Our TEKS for social studies will have us learning about the different ways people celebrate Christmas around the world, and the festivities and traditions that go along with this winter holiday. Science will go hand in hand with Christmas as we discuss and learn about winter in December!



1st Grade:

Run, run! As fast as you can! You can't catch me - I'm the gingerbread man!! For the month of December, first grade learning at Brockett is all about the gingerbread man. We will be summarizing and retelling different versions of "The Gingerbread Man." In writing workshop, students will be writing their own version of the story. They will take their learning to a higher level with the prompt: "What would you do if you were the gingerbread man?" The first grade doors are decorated as gingerbread houses for our December open house. Brockett is connecting character education to the math TEKS for our open house. Students and parents will be measuring and making scarves for a local homeless shelter in Denton.



2nd Grade:

Second grade is finishing out the calendar year strong. We are learning to write letters, including one to Santa. In math, we are studying money and its value. In reading, we are studying idioms and prefixes and suffixes. We are discussing natural resources and life in the colonies in social studies. We will be making pillows on our Christmas celebration night to take to the State School. We have a Christmas breakfast planned as well.



3rd Grade:

A lot is happening in third grade at Brockett! In math, our students are learning how to create & use representations of fractions to organize, record and communicate ideas. We continue to use our interactive math manipulative notebook each week. These notebooks provide the student with manipulatives and definitions. The student then creates examples of their own for their

notebook. Students and teachers are excited to be a part of creating lap blankets for the elderly for Christmas. Students used measurement and fractions, and other math concepts to get the materials ready for the lap blankets to be assembled.

In ELAR, students are learning about Expository Text. They are studying different types of expository text and text features. Students are in the process of writing their own expository text based on an experience they had on their field trip to the Perot Museum. Third graders are becoming better writers and readers by studying words and their meanings. Right now in language arts, students are learning that some words have more than one meaning and how to use context clues for word meaning.

In social studies, we are studying the connection of human capital/labor, income, spending and saving. This unit will involve studying and making budgets for needs and wants.

In science, students are learning about landforms and the physical changes that can take place in our environment. We continue to use our science journals to observe and track data.



4th Grade:

Fourth grade hall has been busy! We conquered 2x2 digit multiplication and 3 digit x 1 digit multiplication. Students are now learning about fractions and then all operations. Students continue to learn how to analyze math and relate it to their world. Students will be learning about communities and giving back to their communities. They will be making lap blankets for area nursing homes. The students had a successful canned food and toy drive. They were proud to be giving back to their community. We will be learning about non-fiction in reading and working on different skills in our reading groups. Students enjoyed the guest author and illustrator that came to our school. He spoke of overcoming challenges in life and working hard to pursue your goals and dreams. In science, we will learn about earth's natural resources and how we can help take care of it.

Merry
Christmas