

**H L Brackett Elementary  
School Board Communications  
February 2014**



Parent & Community Involvement at the School:

Every Friday - Popcorn Friday!

Thank you to our parent volunteers who help each week with *Popcorn Friday*. This month Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will enjoy their treat.

February 5 & 6 – Vision Testing

Thank you to Dr. Kelby Trusty and his team from *Total Eyecare Eyewear* in Denton for providing vision testing to all of our kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students.

February 6 & 7 – Dog Tag Mania

We will be hosting our *Semester and 2<sup>nd</sup> 9-Week Dog Tag* awards. Parents and family members are invited to join in our celebration.

February 14 – PTO Teacher Appreciation Lunch

Thank you to our wonderful PTO for providing our teachers and staff with a delicious meal on Valentine's Day!

February 21 – Dental Awareness

Thank you to Dr. Joe Smith from Crossroads Dentistry for visiting with our students about dental health.

### February 25 & 27 – Science & Math Night

This year we have invited the team from *Mad Science of Fort Worth* to come and present their *Fire & Ice* assembly to our students and their families. We are separating the event into two nights to accommodate all of our students.

### February 25 & 27 – STAAR Academy for Parents

Parents have the opportunity to attend an informational session during our open house to obtain information about the STAAR test. This session will be presented by Mrs. Milacek and Mrs. Lott.

### February 24 – 28 – Book Fair

The BES Library will be holding their spring book fair.

### February 26, 27 & 28 – Student Spring Pictures

Monte B will be returning to take fun spring pictures of our students.

**LET'S CELEBRATE!**

### Other Student Events:

February 12 – 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School!

February 18 & 21 – UIL Competition

Good luck to all of the students who are participating in UIL events this year.

February 20 – Principal Award Lunch

Mrs. Lott will be dining with our students who earned the Principal's Award during the 2<sup>nd</sup> 9-week grading cycle. She will be treating them to a special lunch at Pizza Hut.



Classroom:



Kindergarten

February is a busy month for kindergarten. In social studies alone we are celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> day of school, groundhog activities, celebrating President's Day, and preparing for our Valentine parties and our kinder field trip on March 7<sup>th</sup>. In science, we will finish up our space unit and also begin to learn about living and non-living things. In math, we will spiral back around and retouch on addition and subtraction. Along with that, we are further investigating numbers above 20 and working on counting to 100. In language arts, we will continue our 5 word spelling tests each Friday. Kindergarten is rocking those tests. In addition, we are working on word families, reading in small groups to increase our fluency and comprehension; we continue to focus on those ending sounds, writing independently 1-2 sentences, poetry, compound words, and story elements. Tutoring has begun and we are already seeing progress in our sweet kindergarteners. We will get them where they are needed by the end of the year or sooner! First grade here we come!



1<sup>st</sup> Grade:

In reading/phonics, students will be learning about other vowel sounds such as oo, ow, and ou. We will also be learning about sequencing stories as well as retelling and inferencing, and compound words. We will continue guided reading groups, literacy workstations, and responding to literature in Reading Response Journals. In math, we will celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school and we will be working on identifying and counting numbers to 100 as well as 2-D and 3-D figures. In science, we will be learning about dental health and living and nonliving things. In social studies, we will be reviewing customs such as Valentine's Day, Groundhog Day, and human and physical characteristics of the earth with maps and models.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:

February is sure to be a busy month for second grade. In writing, we are working on letter writing and parts of a friendly letter. In reading, we are working on our CHAPS strategies. Math brings us reviewing money and working on word problems. In science, we are discussing the water cycle. In social studies, we will continue discussing our local, state and federal government.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:

Third grade at Brockett is excited about learning!

In math for this month of February, we are learning about measurement. We will be doing a lot of hands on activities. Third graders will also be working on word problems and showing strategies. We continue to review all math objectives taught up to this point. Students are also using their math journal for vocabulary.

We are continuing to teach and practice good reader strategies. This month students will use text structure and features to understand the procedure in a procedural text. Students will ask questions, determine main idea, draw conclusions, and consider cause and effect relationships. In writing, we are focusing on sentence structure and parts of speech. We will continue modeling passion while reading and encourage each child to fall in love with reading. We continue to teach and review Writer's Workshop each day!

In science, we have been busy learning about the solar system! Third graders are excited about their solar system projects for Science Night at Brockett. After the solar system, third graders will move on to learning about the characteristics of living things. Students continue to use their science journal for science vocabulary.

In social studies, third graders continue to learn about leaders in our community and world and how they have affected change. In a few weeks, we will begin learning about goods and services in everyday life. We will continue to strive for excellence in character and education! 😊



4<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Fourth grade is working hard to make progress and meet individual goals to earn pickle points and STAAR Bucks! The students are actively using strategies and doing careful work as they continue to meet objectives. They are so excited because they realize they will be fifth graders very soon!!

Black History has many important lessons to be shared with others. We will be learning about African Americans who fought for civil rights. Measuring will be the objective we focus on for the next few weeks in math. We are continuing to compose, revise, and edit narrative and expository papers as we prepare for the upcoming state test. We will be preparing for Open House by studying the scientific method and participating in different experiments.



5<sup>th</sup> Grade:

In class, we are currently doing a novel study on *Esperanza Rising*. We are preparing for an exam next week over comparing different genres of literary text.