

**Brockett Elementary  
School Board Communications  
April 2015**



Parent & Community Involvement at the School.

April 2            2nd Grade Musical

Students sang about building character through the musical, "Let's Pass It On!" Thank you Mrs. Cummings for all of your hard work in preparing our students for this night.

April 2            Camp Meeting at AMS

Parents of our current 4<sup>th</sup> grade students visited AMS to learn more about the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Adventure Camp that their children will be attending in September.

April 3            Honey Dental

A local dentist, Dr. Melissa Santilli with Honey Dental, visited our students to talk about dental health. Thank you for visiting!

April 7            Campus Site Base meeting

Our Site Base Team met to go over the Campus Plan and technology plans for Brockett Elementary. Thank you to everyone that has served this year.

April 9 & 10    Captain's Cruise Celebration

We hosted our Semester and 3<sup>rd</sup> 9-Week Spirit Stick awards. Parents and family members joined in our celebration.

April 10        PTO Teacher Lunch

The PTO treated our teachers and staff to a “springtime” lunch filled with yummy salads and sandwiches. Thank you PTO!

April 11        B.E.L.L.A. work day (outdoor classroom)

Parents and students came out to help make BELLA and Kaylee’s Corner Butterfly Garden a GREAT place for our students to learn. Thank you to everyone that donated plants, mulch, and other supplies.

April 17        Volunteer Appreciation Lunch

Teachers and staff will be treating our volunteers to a delicious baked potato bar lunch as we say thank you to the volunteers who help us each week.

April 24        1st & 2nd grade Earth Day presentation

James Carty, an Environmental Specialist and grandparent to two Brockett Elementary students, will be visiting with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade about the importance of recycling and planting trees to help our planet. Happy Earth Day!

April 28        School of Character presentation

Brockett Elementary will be celebrating our honor of being named one of only eight “Texas School of Character” award winners this school year. Parents and other community members are invited to come and join us for this event.

April 30        Kindergarten Round-up Night

It’s that time of the year again! We will be presenting an informational meeting to our new kindergarten parents about what to expect for their child’s 1<sup>st</sup> year of school. Transportation, Food Services and others will be on hand to answer parent questions. We look forward to meeting our new parents and students.

April 30 & May 1      4th Grade field trip to Bloomfield School House in Pilot Point

Students will once again be headed to the Bloomfield One-room Schoolhouse in Pilot Point. They will learn about what it was like for students over 100 years ago.

Every Friday:              Popcorn Friday!

This month kindergarten, 1st grade, & 4<sup>th</sup> grade enjoyed their treat.



Other Events:

April 3              Teacher Lunch

Mrs. Lott treated all of the teachers and staff to a delicious picnic style lunch.

April 3              Campus Technology Committee Meeting

Mrs. Lott meet with the Campus Technology Committee to plan and discuss future technology needs for our campus.

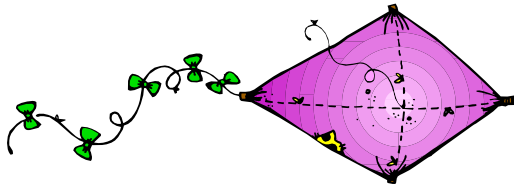
April 16              Texas School of Character Award

Mrs. Lott and Mrs. Milacek went to Irving to accept the “Texas School of Character” award for Brockett Elementary. The program recognizes schools for demonstrating their use of character development to drive a positive impact on academics, student behavior and school climate. The application process is an opportunity to be recognized as an exemplary school and district not only in the state, but in the nation. Brockett Elementary has also received an interview from the national level. This in itself is an honor.



### Testing Days:

April 20: STAAR – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math  
April 21: STAAR – 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Math  
April 22: STAAR – 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science



### In the Classrooms:



Kindergarten.

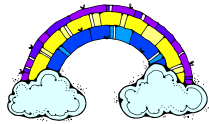
Where has this year gone? We are in April and the pressure is on to get our kindergarten babies where they need to be before moving on to first grade! End of year assessments in TPRI and DRA will begin this April. We have worked hard all year and are anxious to see how much our kindergarteners have learned! We continue to write three or more sentences each day in our journals. We have also incorporated writing boxes for the second year in kinder and the students are doing wonderful with them. We take our practice spelling tests weekly in preparation for our end of year spelling and writing test. It's closer than we think. Great progress is made every day! Science objective for April focuses on plants and the life cycle of insects. This is a fun unit and the students and teachers alike enjoy this topic! Math consists of comparing temperature, weight, capacity, graphs, and comparing area. Addition and subtraction is done daily during calendar to assure that the students are retaining this very important skill. Last but not least in social studies, we will research weather, U.S. symbols, and

heroic figures that have shaped our state and nation. The end of the year is near and it is such a bittersweet moment for all of us!



1<sup>st</sup> Grade:

In ELAR, students will be studying vowel patterns such as aw, au, and ew. We will also be studying open and closed syllables. We will continue guided reading groups and literacy workstations. In writer's workshop we will be writing, revising, and editing personal narratives. In math, we will begin our unit on measurement. This will include measuring time and length. In Science we will be studying characteristics of animals and their life cycles. In social studies, we will be studying economics. This will include needs and wants, goods and services and spending and saving.



2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:

Second Grade is very busy!! In math, we are continuing our study on 3-dimensional shapes. In reading, we are practicing our CHAPS strategies in reading passages. Social studies will be all about our fifty states. In science, we are studying about animal habitats. In writing, we are forming well written narratives, including expository writing.



3<sup>rd</sup> 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 working on representing and solving one and two step multiplication and division problems within 100, using arrays, strip diagrams, and equations. Third graders are learning how to read all graphs. We will also be learning about probability and statistics. It is two weeks before the test so we are into heavy

review mode with the kids in ELAR and math. 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. Third graders are becoming very proficient in writing. In the last two months they have written a persuasion and friendly letter. Presently they are working on a personal narrative about a memory they had in their life where they helped someone. In science, third graders are learning about the life cycle of animals and plants. Third graders in social studies are learning about important events in our history. We continue to encourage, teach, and inspire each day!



4<sup>th</sup> Grade:

Fourth graders just finished taking the *Writing STAAR TEST!!!* We are now reviewing skills that we have learned in reading and math in preparation for our upcoming STAAR tests in those subjects. Science class will be looking at inventions from Texans. Students will even get the chance to come up with their own invention. This will correlate with our social studies as students look at Texans who made their mark by their well-known inventions. We will load up our wagons and head down the road to the Bloomfield School House in Pilot Point for our one room schoolhouse experience. This is in conjunction with our novel study of Little House in the Big Woods by Laura Ingalls Wilder and our unit on pioneer days in Texas.



5<sup>th</sup> Grade:

In math, Brockett 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be very focused during the month of April reviewing all TEKS and tying them all together. We are each committed to finishing strong and preparing to do our absolute best on quickly approaching state testing. Following the week of STAAR, we will begin to finish up the year going a step further with fractions and decimals.

In ELAR, we will be working on “Understanding the Research Process.” The students have started an outline and will be researching information from the internet and library. They will write a nonfiction paper. The skills we will be on in reading are summary, inferences, and making connections between texts with similar ideas. We are continuing to work on context clues, analogies, Greek and Latin affixes, and idioms.

Life cycles and metamorphosis are the current topics in fifth grade science. We will then move to behaviors and adaptations as well working in some cumulative review.

In social studies, we are studying the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. We will then work chronologically through the young republic.