

Around the School:

- *The Entertainment Coupon book fundraiser was a HIT! Students sold over 550 books and raised over \$7000! The money will be used for student recognitions and awards, an awning to cover student bikes, and for our Outdoor Classroom. Thank you to everyone who purchased one of the books!
- *Our PTO coffee FUNdraiser kicked off. Students sold the coffee from October 4th to October 15th. Money raised will be used to purchase new PE equipment.
- *Students had their yearbook pictures taken on October 12^{th} , 13^{th} , and 14^{th} by Monte B Photography again this year. Thank you Monte B!
- *On October 14th, the All Smiles Mobile Dentist visited Brockett Elementary. They shined up teeth on about 40 of our students. Thank you Mrs. Friday and Mrs. Hinsley for setting up this wonderful service for our students.
- *On October 22nd, our fabulous PTO will be hosting another delicious meal for our teachers and staff. They will be serving soups. Thank you PTO for all that you do.
- *October 15th and 18th, had our 1st ever Dog Tag Mania Awards for students. Students received dog tags to celebrate success during the 6-week period.

*Red Ribbon Week is coming the last week of October. Each day students are encouraged to wear something special: Monday - students wear red clothing, Tuesday - students wear crazy socks, Wednesday - students wear a hat or crazy hair, Thursday - students wear a team jersey (over dress code clothing), and Friday - students will participate in the annual Character Parade.

*Also happening the last week of October is our annual Scholastic Book Fair. The theme this year is "Heroes" and on Tuesday students can wear their favorite super hero's cape to school. The Library will be hosting a family night on that day also.

Once again we are teaming up with Scholastic Book Fairs in "\$1 for Books". Scholastic Books will donate books equal in value to all money raised by the students to charities that provide books to underprivileged students across America. It is like getting 2 books for the price of 1! If we reach our goal of \$600, Mrs. Lott has agreed to dress up as Batman and the teacher of the class that raises the most money will dress up as Robin.

Music The Brockett All Star Choir has begun its 12th year with rehearsals to prepare for our annual Caroling Field Trip (Dec. 13) and Christmas Concert (Dec. 9). Our percussion ensemble, the S.W.A.T. team (Students With Amazing Talent), has also begun preparing for our concert. U.I.L. Music Memory students are working hard to get ready for the district meet on December 15, and bring home some medals and ribbons for the Aubrey team.

Kindergarten Kindergarten has been busy studying the season of "Fall" and discussing the changes in weather. We are also learning about our neighborhoods and community as well as fire safety. We are continuing to learn what tools are used by scientists and what jobs a scientist might have. In math, we have learned to recognize and continue a pattern, sort materials and count items to 10 as well as write numbers 0-5. In language arts, we are working daily on letter recognition and phonemic awareness skills. We are getting ready to begin reading groups soon!

1st Grade In math, we have been learning addition and subtraction facts, skip counting, and comparing sets of numbers and objects. In writing, we are continuing to write personal narratives using our own ideas. We are also learning about poetry and are having fun writing our very own poems. In reading, we are enjoying our Daily 5 authentic reading time. We spend quality time reading to ourselves, working with words, working on writing, and listening to books on computer and/or CD. We are learning about the differences between expository, fictional, and poetry writing. In social studies we have been learning about our community, state, and nation, as well as leaders and authority in our community. In science, we have been exploring our world with our five senses and learning about the season of fall and its characteristics.

2nd Grade In math, we are relating addition and subtraction facts. In reading, we are continuing our Reading Strategies and Skills in Daily 5, as well as Guided Reading groups. In social studies, we are studying about Christopher Columbus. In science, we are studying about the 3 types of matter. In language arts, we are working on Long E words and Proper Nouns, as well as learning to write a good, detailed paragraph.

3rd Grade We are now into the swing of things and so blessed to have such a great bunch of kids. We are well into the routines of school and are excited about all the learning that is happening in our classrooms. The month of October 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, and main idea. In math, students will be learning about money, time, temperature, measurement, area and perimeter. In language arts, we have already been learning about singular, plural and possessive nouns and this week we will start learning about adjectives and prepositions. Then we will begin writing on our "how-to"

papers. In science, we will continue to study life cycles by learning about the parts of a plant, and then we will continue on with animal adaptations. We will end the month with the Pumpkin Quest, which is a fun-filled day of hands-on learning. We are continuing to learn about geography in social studies, and then we will move to a unit on economics.

We are excited about all that lies ahead for us this year as we are set our sights on striving for and reaching our high expectations and goals.

4th Grade 2,4,6,8Fourth graders are working on multiplication facts and will be master multipliers soon. We created multiplication monsters and they are on a race to the finish line - the 12s!!

Organization is our main focus in writing. Continuing to hook our readers with fabulous introductions and then make sure the body of our paragraph is organized and wrapped up with a strong conclusion. Friendship is our theme in reading as we dive into our first novel, The Legend of Thunderfoot. It is about the adventures of a roadrunner and tortoise. We are having a hard time putting it down!!

Texas government has different levels. How is it set up? Who makes the laws? We will be learning interesting things about how government is set up and run in Texas.

Are worms vertebrates or invertebrates? Come and ask us! We are learning cool animal traits and how animals are classified. We are also starting our endangered animal research project.

We are gearing up to let everyone know that we are taking a stand against drugs!! What a fun week of activities are planned to celebrate this!

5th Grade I can't believe it is already October! Time is going by so fast; however, we have accomplished many things in our 5th grade math classes. We have finished our Unit of study on Place Value and have moved into multiplication and division. We have also been working on problem solving. We are learning different strategies we can use to help us understand and solve these problems.

Some of the strategies we have used are drawing a picture, making a table/chart and acting it out. It is great to see what the students come up with, especially when you ask them to act out the problem.

In reading, 5th graders have just finished reading <u>Hatchet</u>, by Gary Paulsen. The skills they are working on are story elements, summary, and character analyses, and vocabulary. This week we are working on these skills using pumpkin stories.

In language arts this month, we have been focusing on writing. We have completed a personal narrative about their Camp Goddard experience (which was awesome). The 5th graders also wrote a literary response in the form of a book report upon completion of <u>Hatchet</u> in Mrs. Gaines reading class. Now we are writing mystery stories. Our first story is about a glowing pumpkin!

In history, 5th grade has been studying geography, regions and landforms. The students are enjoying learning how to label and read various types of maps.

In 5th grade science, students are exploring ecosystems and doing a PowerPoint project on biomes. They are also exploring aspects of life science like food webs and food chains.