

Brockett Elementary
Board Communications
December 2014



Around the School:

December 2 & 3 - Writing Benchmarks

Students in 4th grade took writing benchmarks to see how they are progressing.

December 5 - Regional UIL Competition in Argyle

The Aubrey Elementary UIL teams competed in the district UIL competition in Argyle against 7 other teams. The competition was tough, but the students rose to the occasion, placing 1st overall in Sweeps and bringing the very first **4A Division II - District 9 Championship** home to Aubrey, America! We had 36 students from MES and BES participate at the Regional UIL competition this year. Great job students! You did amazing again this year. Thank you to all of the UIL coaches for all of your long hours preparing our students for competition this year.

December 6 - Santa Breakfast

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

December 11 - Christmas at the Ports of Call

Thank you to everyone who "Sailed the Port of Calls with the S.S. Brockett". On the S.S. Brockett, visitors enjoyed music by S.W.A.T. and the Brockett Honor Choir and also enjoyed a land ride on the Brockett Train. The halls of Brockett Elementary were filled with holiday cheer. Teachers, staff and students decorated the halls like different countries around the world. Students were given a passport to complete as they traveled the halls.

December 12 - S.W.A.T. and Honor Choir Field Trip

Our talented S.W.A.T. and Honor Choir students performed for residents of Countryside Nursing Home in Pilot Point and at Stonebriar Mall in Frisco.

December 15 - PTO Luncheon

Thank you to our fabulous PTO for another delicious meal! This month they served soups to warm us up on these cold winter days. Yum!

December 17 - ESL Family Christmas Craft Night

Ms. Molinar is hosting an evening of fun for our ESL students and their families. They will be making Christmas crafts and enjoying a meal.

*Merry
Christmas*



In the Classrooms:



Kindergarten

This December in language arts we will continue to learn the sight words: said, was, had, play, for, they. 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 again is so much fun for our sweet kindergarteners. We will begin talking about the different ways people celebrate Christmas around the world and the festivities that go along with this winter holiday. Science will go hand in hand with Christmas as we discuss and learn what it means to be winter in December!



1st Grade

In ELAR, students will be learning main idea, details, and author's purpose. We will continue guided reading groups and literacy workstations. We will continue the "silent e" phonics rule. In writer's workshop, students will be writing information texts about holiday traditions around the world. In math, we will continue addition and subtraction strategies with a focus on 3 addends and fact families. In science, we will begin our force and motions unit. In social studies, we will be exploring holiday traditions around the globe.



2nd Grade

Second grade is buzzing with excitement as December arrived!! We are working on articles and pronouns in language arts. In science, we are engaging and exploring the positions of magnets. In social studies, we are reading about our thirteen colonies and our country. Reading is exciting as we are learning to read passages on our own and working on predicting "cause and effect". Writing brings us to

continuing work on narratives and what makes a good story. In math, we are reviewing subtraction and focusing on subtraction with regrouping.



3rd Grade

In math for this month of December, we are continuing problem solving using strip diagrams and arrays. Students are continuing to learn how to do two step problems using pictorial models, arrays, area models, and equal groups. Third graders will also begin a unit on fractions this month.

We are continuing to teach and practice good reader strategies. This month students will use the structures and features of expository text to increase comprehension. Students will ask questions, determine main idea, draw conclusions, and consider cause and effect relationships. In writing, students apply what they learn about expository text to begin writing an expository composition that includes a central idea, supporting details, and a concluding statement. Students continue to study words, word parts, and word patterns in order to support the development of oral and written communication. 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 landforms and the changes in landforms. We are also looking forward to our unit on rocks and minerals. Students continue to use their science journal for science vocabulary.

In social studies, third graders are learning about leaders in our community and world and how they have affected change. We will continue to strive for excellence in character and education!



4th Grade

Now that fourth graders are multiplication masters, they are ready to conquer division. Patterns of earth will be observed and studied in science class. "Remember the Alamo!" Texas is now fighting their independence on our social studies timeline. Students will research key players at the Alamo, and the battles that led up to the Alamo. Students will learn about informational text and its purpose. Writing is part of our daily environment in the classroom. We will continue to fine tune those skills and improve our editing and revising skills.



5th Grade

In ELAR, students are learning about Greek and Latin word roots. In their writings, students are also focusing on how to draw conclusions, how to compare and contrast, and how to write letters

In math this month, you can find 5th graders at Brockett "swimming in fractions". We will start out the three weeks finishing our unit on adding and subtracting fractions after common denominators have been found. We will end the three weeks multiplying and dividing fractions.

In addition to becoming experts with fractions, we will be preparing for our "Holiday Passports to the Ports" in social studies. Our port is Kauai, Hawaii.

The fifth grade scientists are studying the crust of the earth. This means landforms and how they are created and destroyed. Weathering, erosion, and deposition are the important concepts. Please do not visit the fifth grade science class without an appointment because our activities will be an eroded mess.

Colonial life and the great Ben Franklin are the topics for fifth grade social studies. We will also review map skills and create maps.