Brockett Elementary Board Communications May 2011



Around the School:

May 2 – 6 Teacher Appreciation Week

Thank you Brockett PTO, Dr. Monaco, AISD School Board, parents and students for the delicious meals, treats and trinkets you spoiled us with all week long.

May 3 1st Grade Musical

1st Grade students presented the musical "How Does Your Garden Groove" for friends and family. Thank you Mrs. Cummings for all of your hard work.

May 5 5th Grade student middle school orientation

5th Grade students attended orientation and tour at Aubrey Middle School.

May 6 3rd Grade field trip

3rd Grade students visited UNT's Environmental Science Building to participate in a variety of hands-on activities.

May 10 Kindergarten Round-up

Once again it is time to register new Kindergarten students.

May 12 S.W.A.T. Performance

Students will delight parents with a "Night of Percussion". Thank you Mr. & Mrs. Cummings for all of your hard work.

May 13 Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade Field Day

May 13 3rd, 4th & 5th AR "Survivor" Day

Students will be participating in educational games with a survival theme.

May 17 & 18 TAKS retakes for 5th Grade Math and Reading

May 19 3rd Grade "Pig Out" Party

3rd Grade students will once again celebrate their completion of *Charlotte's Web* with a special party. Students get to make, present, and enjoy their favorite dish.

May 20 3rd, 4th & 5th Grade Field Day with Monaco Elementary

May 20 1st & 2nd Grade AR Day

Students will be participating in educational games with a survival theme.

May 23 Career Day

Thank you to all of the parents and community members for sharing your time and careers with the students of Brockett Elementary.

May 24 & 25 TAKS Bucks Days

3rd, 4th and 5th Grade students earned "TAKS Bucks" as they prepared for the TAKS tests. Now they get to spend their "bucks".

May 25 – 27 End-of-Year Graduations and Awards Congratulations students on all of your accomplishments this year.

May 27 Last day of school Have a safe and wonderful summer!





In the Classrooms:



Kindergarten has flown by! What progress we've made! We just finished our TPRI testing and showed improvement from last year. We will be testing for reading levels with the DRA starting next week! We cannot wait to see the progress that our students have made! To end the year we are studying animals and their habitats (rainforest, forest, pond), summer safety, summer holidays and US symbols. In math, we will be reviewing all concepts including addition, subtraction, graphing, patterns, counting to 100 and more.



Reading – Our reading goals for the coming weeks are retelling stories in sequence order, reading with fluency, and knowing the purposes for reading.

Writing – We are continuing to write personal narratives in our journals, and also write to a picture prompt. We have been working on adding sequence words to our stories to make them flow smoother from one idea to the next. We are also learning about labeling pictures, especially for non-fiction purposes.

Language Arts – We are reviewing all our letter/sound correspondence with clusters, blends, silent letters, etc.

Math – We are reviewing all our math concepts, plus beginning to learn how to solve double digit addition problems.

Science – We will be observing and learning about the life cycle of butterflies. We will also complete a research project about different animals and make a Powerpoint presentation .

Social Studies – We will be learning about the world of work, needs and wants, and jobs and careers.



Second Grade

Second Grade is very busy in this last month of school. We are reviewing for our TRA tests, preparing them for successful test scores. We will be doing Reader's Theater to strengthen their fluency scores. We are finishing a unit on plants in science and exploring our outdoor classroom while journaling about our plants.



It is hard to believe the 2010-2011 school year is coming to a close! Third grade is looking forward to a "packed full of fun learning" month in May. We will once again study the classic, *Charlotte's Web*. This is an Aubrey 3rd grade tradition culminating with a huge Pig Out and viewing of the movie! During this final month of the year, we will challenge all our students to learn all of their multiplication facts. In science and social studies, we will study weathering and current events. Language arts will keep us busy writing and editing for grammar mistakes as well as becoming Aubrey spelling wizards!



What an exciting year fourth grade has had!! It is hard to believe that our fourth graders will soon be fifth graders! We will be doing an end of the year review in math, reading a story about an ostrich race in Texas, doing some cool experiments with magnets and learning about electricity in science, and discussing current events in social studies. We will be completing our poetry unit and publishing our poems in a book. We have enjoyed working with these students this year and watching them grow! We know many great things lie ahead for them.



The 5^{th} graders have completed the TAKS reading test. We are tutoring the ones that need extra help. The skills we will be working on are sensory language and imagery, how-to, following directions, graphs and charts, phenomena, myths, effect of historical events, and poetry. These skills will be taught using poetry books and reading <u>Maniac Magee</u>, by Jerry Spinelli.

Fifth grade science will complete the year by doing a variety of activities. We will focus a microscope and make slides. Other activities will have to do with electricity and magnetism.

In Social Studies, we are studying the make up of our government system. We have won our independence from Britain and established our own system of governing the people and passing laws. Also, we are expanding westward and getting larger and more diverse in our population.

The 5th grade language arts class is working on writing the "Class Book for 2011". Each 5th grade student will submit a mystery story based upon one of the Harris Burdick pictures. I have been really impressed with the students' imagination and creative writing skills so far, and I cannot wait to get the book completed. I had the students keep their first paper they wrote for me on the second day of school this year, and they compared it to this last piece of writing. Most were very surprised at how much they have grown as a writer during their fifth grade year. It has been a fantastic year, and I will miss this group with all of their wit and charm. Passing them on is very bittersweet.