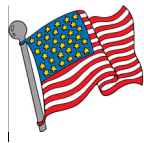


November and December 2011
Board Communications
H. L. Brockett Elementary



Around the School:



Operation Care

We are thankful for the men and women who serve in the armed forces. We have collected items for our soldier boxes to be mailed soon. Letters were written to soldiers this week to be shipped with the care boxes. We have a very generous student body. Thank you for all your donations and support.



November 1 3rd Grade Field Trip to UNT

Students visited the UNT Environmental Science Building. They learned about constellations in the planetarium, dug for fossils, and looked for life in the stream bed.



November 3 & 4 Parent Conferences

Teachers met with parents on an individual basis to discuss each student's grades and progress in the classroom.



November 7 – 18 Canned Food Drive

Student Council hosted their annual canned food drive to help share the festive feeling of the holiday season. Thank you to everyone who donated to our community food bank.



November 10 & 11 Dog Tag Mania

Mrs. Lott hosted her 2nd Dog Tag Mania event. Students received dog tag awards for perfect attendance, grades, etc.



November 11 Library Puppet Show

The librarians performed “Farm Flu”. At the end of the show, they used glow lights and special “germ” lotion to simulate how germs are passed from one person to another.



November 17 Principal’s Luncheon

Mrs. Lott hosted her 2nd luncheon of the school year. One boy and one girl from each class received the special privilege of eating lunch with Mrs. Lott. Great job students!



November 18 Firefighter Visit (rescheduled)

Students received a visit from the Aubrey Fire Department.



November 18 Thanksgiving Feasts (K-4)

Students in kindergarten through 4th grade enjoyed their annual Thanksgiving feasts.



November 21 – 25 Thanksgiving Break

Happy Thanksgiving!

December 1



Aubrey Tree Lighting

The Brockett Elementary Choir performed a variety of seasonal favorites again this year for the Aubrey community.

December 2

Extreme Science



Extreme Science is a 45-minute show that uses comedy and amazing science demonstrations to attract students to science.

December 2



AR Ends

Students who meet their individual AR goal for the semester will be attending a special event with Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Beauchamp.

December 3

Santa Breakfast



BES and MES Student Council welcomed in the Holiday Season with festive music, twinkling lights, laughter, all-you-care-to-eat pancakes, and a visit from the “Jolly Elf” himself - Santa Claus!

December 8



Celebrations Around the World

Each grade level will be studying a different country and will have activities for student and parent participation. The events will be spread out throughout Brockett Elementary with a variety of family fun. Come and enjoy this time as we celebrate together!

December 8

Choir and S.W.A.T. Performance



Choir and S.W.A.T. students will be presenting a Christmas concert for friends and family to enjoy.



December 9 2nd Grade Field Trip

We will be attending the Museum of Science and Natural History and watching The Polar Express at the Omni Theater.



December 12 & 13 District U.I.L. Meet

Students from Aubrey will compete in U.I.L. events such as: Art Smart, Spelling, Listening, Number Sense, Chess Puzzle, Music Memory, Social Studies, Storytelling, Oral Reading, Dictionary, Ready Writing, Creative Writing and Maps, Graphs and Charts.



December 14 Choir Field Trip

Choir and SWAT will be going on their annual caroling field trip to Stonebriar Mall in Frisco and Countryside Nursing Home in Pilot Point.



December 17 – January 2 Christmas Break

Happy Holidays from the teachers and staff of Brockett Elementary.



In the Classrooms:



Kindergarten

November and December are such exciting months for us in Kindergarten!

In social studies, we studied the lives of the Pilgrims and Native Americans in order to understand the tradition of Thanksgiving. As the winter holidays approach, we will begin learning about different celebrations around the world such as Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Christmas. We are also beginning to investigate the Christmas traditions of Mexico as we prepare for *Celebrations Around the World*.

In language arts, we used our writing skills to write letters to our adopted soldiers in Afghanistan, as well as journal writing. We are beginning to make words using the letter sounds we know. Guided reading has begun and there is great excitement when a new book is introduced.

In math, we are practicing counting to 100, writing and recognizing numbers 1-20, making patterns and sorting shapes. The concepts of addition and subtraction will be introduced before we leave for Christmas. In science, we are learning about water and soil and why they are important.

As you can tell we are keeping very busy in Kindergarten!

1st Grade



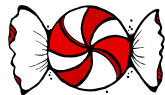
In math, students are learning about U.S. coins, and recognizing and comparing numbers to 80. In language arts, students are learning the long vowel sounds with silent e and how to look at parts of words to read. In writing, students are learning to write simple poems and fantasy stories to a prompt. In science, students are learning about different types of soil and sources of water. In social studies, we will be “traveling” to England for *Celebrations Around the World* and learning about other holiday customs.

2nd Grade



Second Grade is very busy during November and December. In math, we are working on counting money and reviewing time. In social studies, we will be studying Japan for *Celebrations Around the World*. In writing, we are writing narratives using three well written paragraphs. We will be enjoying learning about Native Americans and the first Thanksgiving by celebrating a feast. We will also enjoy a Christmas breakfast before our Christmas vacation and a book exchange as a class. In science, we are finishing up our unit on heat and energy.

3rd Grade



Wow, it is already the third six weeks! Third graders are moving along nicely and blooming with new knowledge! In math this third six weeks, we are focusing on place value, whole numbers, estimating, rounding, and adding compatible numbers. In ELAR (English, language arts, and reading), students are learning the difference between fiction and non-fiction text by focusing on expository text. They are also learning how to write a good body paragraph and recognizing figurative language in text. We are also reviewing consonants and vowels and the role they play in a word.

We started social studies this year by learning about communities and now third graders are learning about important people in our history and the role that they played in making our country what it is today. For *Celebrations Around the World*, they are studying Switzerland. Many of the classes have already had class time in the outdoor classroom! In science we will be learning the rock cycle and physical landforms.

We are excited about the upcoming year and look forward to being with the students each day, teaching them and influencing their lives 😊

4th Grade

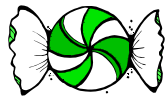


Fourth graders that know their multiplication facts are so cool! They were rewarded with a special treat if they showed mastery of their facts.

Germany will be represented by fourth grade at *Celebrations Around the World* celebration. We hope to see all of you there. It is magical! Research will be done by students for this event. We will also continue learning how Texas became a state. “Remember the Alamo!” a famous cry heard throughout Texas. Famous people of the Alamo are being researched in class so that we can create books about them to share with others.

In science, we will be learning about how the earth changes through erosion, weathering, rocks and minerals.

5th Grade



The 5th graders have completed one CSCOPE test. Some of them did well. However, we have started tutoring groups for the ones that need extra help. This was a learning experience for all of us.

In social studies, the 5th grade students are learning how people in Spain celebrate the upcoming holiday season. In reading, they are working on compare and contrast, genre, theme, cause & effect of historical events, and

point of view. We are beginning to read Esperanza Rising, and tying it into a family traditions paper that will be written in language arts.

In science, we are studying fossils and the clues they give us to earth's mysterious past. Then we are expanding our scope to our celestial neighborhood and compare the characteristics of the moon, the sun, and our home planet.

In fifth grade math, we are working with factors and fractions. The students are identifying factors of a whole number and common factors of a set of numbers. After Thanksgiving break, we will begin studying fractions. We will be comparing, finding equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting fractions. The students are working very hard and are doing a great job. We continue to see students becoming more confident and successful in their math skills.

In writing, the fifth graders are currently working on persuasive writing. They have prepared an opinion essay concerning the current school dress code. Hopefully, there will be a few really good ones that will be shared with the school board members during the December meeting. The students have worked hard on these papers. Please take a few minutes read them with an open mind, and take them for what they are (opinion of a 10 year old). I have been trying to instill in the students that even children's opinions matter, though they are rarely asked to express their opinions. If they do not get involved they will never make a difference. If you have time, could you send us a letter back to acknowledge the efforts of the students; they would feel like they did their part and their opinions were heard.