

Brockett Elementary
Board Communications
October 2011



Around the School:

October 6 & 7 *Dog Tag Mania*

Students received their first “Dog Tags” of the new school year. They can earn tags for attendance, grades, etc.

October 7 Let’s Make Some Noise – Spirit Night

Students in 3rd, 4th & 5th grade were invited to participate in a special parade before the AHS football game. Thank you Mrs. Cummings and the AHS students who helped make musical instruments for the students.

October 8 *Outdoor Classroom Workday*

Students from Brockett and Monaco Elementary came together to help clean up B.E.L.L.A. for the fall. Thank you to everyone who came out to help.

October 10-18 Fire Prevention Week

Students received a visit from the Aubrey Fire Department and participated in various fire safety activities in their classrooms.

October 12 Cookie Dough Delivery & Money Machine

Students sold about \$7000 in cookie dough during our first fundraiser of the year. 10 students sold over 20 containers each and earned a chance in the money machine.

October 14 Principal's Award Luncheon
Mrs. Lott had her first luncheon of the school year. One boy and one girl from each class were selected to receive the special privilege of eating lunch with Mrs. Lott. Great job students!

October 17 Parade of Scarecrows
Brockett Elementary is having our first "Parade of Scarecrows". Families are asked to create a scarecrow to display in the halls to celebrate the fall season.

October 18 GT Parent Information Night
Mrs. Turner hosted a meeting to inform parents about AISD's Gifted and Talented program.

October 20 Cool Shade for Third Grade
The *Denton County Master Gardeners* representatives visited our third grade students again this year. They gave them a short presentation on the importance of trees to our environment and then presented each student with a seedling to take home.

October 24 – 28 Red Ribbon Week
Brockett Elementary will celebrate being DRUG FREE and have special activities each day. There will be prize drawings for participants. The week will end with the annual Character Parade.

October 24 – 28 Book Fair Week
The Brockett Elementary Library will be having their annual fall book fair.

October 29

PTO Trunk or Treat

The Brockett PTO in conjunction with the Aubrey Fire Department will be hosting a *Trunk or Treat* in the Aubrey High School parking lot. Let's help make a fun and safe Halloween environment for the children in our community.



In the Classrooms:



Kindergarten:

October is a very busy month in Kindergarten. We are very excited about our 1st dog tag awards celebration! This month in language arts, we will continue to work in our Daily 5 rotations (Read to Self, Read to Someone, Work on Writing, Word Work and Listening to Reading), we are also starting to blend words together and learning about words that rhyme. In math, we will be working on patterns and shapes. In science, we are using our senses to learn about sound, light and heat. In social studies, we will be learning about our community and how to keep it safe, we will be focusing on "Fire Prevention". For the Character Parade, each class will be studying a book and we will be creating costumes to dress up as the characters in our books, we are as follows: Sanders - *5 Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed*, Maittre - *The Grouchy Ladybug*, Earwood - *Move Over Rover*, Forester - *Chicka, Chicka, Boom, Boom!* We are very excited to prepare for this fun and special celebration!



First Grade:

In reading, we have begun our guided reading groups. We are also learning about why authors write books (author's purpose) and retelling stories in sequence order. In writing, we are continuing to work on personal narratives and adding detail to our stories. In language arts, we are working on short vowel sounds in words, blends, and then blending those sounds together to read decodable words. We are also learning ten new sight words each week to increase reading fluency.

In math, we are learning to unitize groups of objects by tens, and transfer that to place value of numbers up to 50. We have also enjoyed learning about patterns. In science, we are learning about different kinds of energy, including heat, light, and sound. In social studies, we have studied American Symbols, citizenship, Johnny Appleseed, Eleanor Roosevelt, and are now moving into families.



Second Grade:

In the month of October, second grade will be learning and mastering many exciting concepts. In science, we will be testing properties of different materials. The students will then be challenged to create a bridge with a team of classmates. The bridge must meet several criteria including being strong enough to hold a cup of twenty-five pennies. In math, we are studying about surveys and how to organize the information collected into picture and bar graphs. In social studies, we are talking about neighborhoods and communities. Along with that, we have been discussing cardinal directions and maps. In reading, we will be focusing on cause and effect situations. We are looking forward to October being a great learning month in second grade!!!



Third Grade:

Third graders are moving along nicely and blooming with new knowledge! In math this second six weeks, we are focusing on place value, whole numbers, estimating, rounding, and adding compatible numbers. In ELAR (English, language arts, and reading), third graders are learning the difference between an autobiography and a biography. Third graders are also learning how to write a good introduction paragraph and recognizing compound words and word patterns. We are reviewing consonants and vowels and the role they play in a word.

Third graders started science this year by learning the “Scientific Method” and how to be safe while doing a science experiment. We will spend the next couple of weeks learning about weather and types of clouds. Many of the classes have already had class time in B.E.L.L.A.! We started social studies this year learning about communities and the roles that people play in the community. For the next few weeks we will be learning about explorers, such as Christopher Columbus and Daniel Boone and the role they played in developing communities. Throughout our instruction, students are incorporating words into their vocabulary journal for each subject. We are excited about the upcoming year and look forward to being with the students each day, teaching them and influencing their lives.



Fourth Grade:

In reading, drama is the genre we are exploring this month. We will read the play, *Ranita, The Frog Princess* and discuss theme and elements of dramatic plays. The students will get a chance to

participate in reading different plays in class! We can't wait to see what great talent we have!

In English, "Have you ever been as mad as a hornet?" A personal narrative will be written by the students sharing a personal story about a time when they were very angry. We will also work on writing good sentences! Simple and compound sentences will be our main focus.

In math, "eight times eight fell on the floor picked it up—it was 64!" We have been practicing our multiplication facts every day! We will be extending our multiplication lessons to include word problems, 2 digit by 1 digit, and 2 digit by 2 digit multiplication.

In social studies, students wrote letters to the king or queen of their choice persuading them to be the number one choice to be the next great explorer! We will continue to learn about explorers and their impact on our great state of Texas.

In science, we are moving from matter to magnets and electricity. We will be doing some "MAGNIFICENT" activities in science to learn about different energy sources.

Dog-tag mania was a great success with many awards handed out to awesome students! Thanks for all your hard work.



Fifth Grade:

The fifth grade science class has been doing physical science activities and will continue this push while working on energy and light. The students were filled with science and physical activity after our recent adventure at Camp Goddard.

Leadership has been our current emphasis in social studies, while we study the many aspects of Colonial America.

Students are reading *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen. They are learning about story elements, summary, character analyses, and vocabulary. Students are also researching scientists and will present the information this week. They are learning about the difference between fiction and nonfiction. We will be reading the play *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* to end the month.