

The Jarrett Report

February 13th, 2017

Volume 3, Issue 4

Ecology Scientist Visit

We are currently beginning a STEM project dealing with water quality and algae growth. We had Algal Ecologist, Elizabeth Fensin, from NC Department of Environmental Quality, Water Division, help kick our project with an introduction to organisms that are healthy and not healthy to our drinking water ecosystems in North Carolina. She was very impressed with our class and said that she had never spoken to a class so focused and interested!



Skills/EOG Review Sessions

First week attendance was good. There may be one day that I will have to cancel this coming week dealing with a mandatory meeting. I will let you know if this happens. I know it won't be Monday so you won't have to worry about that. These will begin at 7:00 am and go until 8:00 giving the children that attend an additional hour of practice with EOG type problems and test taking skills. I will be concentrating specifically on the following topics:

Mondays = Reading

Tuesdays = Math

Wednesdays = Science

These sessions will continue through June 8th.

Your child is welcome to come to 1 or all of these. I am providing them in an effort to help with the excessive amount of material that the children need to know this year. I also feel a great deal of practice is needed in test taking strategies - they will be different than anything they have ever done in the past.

I hope this will be beneficial to my students. I am looking forward to their participation.

To inspire individuals to reach their full potential and prepare them to succeed in the global community in the 21st century.

Durant Elementary Mission Statement

Nursing Home Field Trip

We will be walking to the nursing home on **TUESDAY**. If you would like to walk over with us just let me know.

On Valentine's Day we will be walking to the Nursing Home located across the street from DRMS. Students will be delivering Valentine's cards and performing for them. After the performances are complete, students will interview the residents to get ideas for their next invention. Students will be allowed to work in pairs if they choose, to create the Nursing Home Invention. We will then return to the Nursing home on March 14th to present the Inventions and get feedback from the residents.

Fort Caswell Field Trip

I have sent individual payment status forms last week. It will let you know what the school records indicate. It is time to finish paying for the Fort Caswell Trip that we will be taking at the end of this quarter. Payments can be made on line or checks sent to school. If sending a check please make it out to DRES. Thank you very much. This will be a great adventure for all of the children and I am looking forward to the new experience with all of you.

Payments are due February 15th.

Special Delivery Invention

The Special Delivery Inventions were awesome!



There were several awesome ones that were video taped from home. We had a couple of dogs and even a guinea pig deliver messages!

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Weather Reports

So far the weather reports have been awesome! I have been very impressed by the student meteorologists! Students signed up for one day this quarter to give a weather report. They are allowed to give weather from anywhere in the world. They can video tape their weather forecast and send to me to show the class or they can do it live. This is an awesome way to show creativity!



Pringle's Book Report

The Pringle's Book reports were awesome. I left my camera at school, but I will include photos next week.



Science

This week we will concentrate on Convection, Conduction and Radiation. It is a particularly difficult unit and the children should become familiar with the Study Jam videos and particularly understand weather fronts and air pressure. These are difficult concepts but if they can get these down they should do awesome.

3.01 The learner will conduct investigations and use appropriate technology to build an understanding of weather and climate.

Children's Book

The children have been given at least 180 minutes a week to work on this project in class. Most of them are composing on Google Docs so that they can share and peer edit prior to sharing with me. Feel free to check on your child's progress. Some children are writing on paper first and that is okay as well. I have been telling them not to worry about formatting or illustrations, but to write a good story and then I will help them format to the correct pages. If you notice your child working on illustrations please remind them of this. The sooner the story is written the sooner they can begin to illustrate. These will be written and illustrated by the children and published in a nice hard bound edition. When the books are returned from the publisher they will be sent out to be judged in a variety of areas. The awards will then be presented at the Author's Tea later this year.

Math

We will continue to work on fractions. This week we will be looking at area models to solve problems. This quarter there is an emphasis on FRACTIONS. The EOG is $\frac{1}{2}$ fractions and the children really need to know and understand the processes in adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing as well as reducing fractions and mixed numbers. If we have weather events that take us out of school I will be sending email and video lessons to help keep us up to date. IXL is a great place to work as well. I will be giving specific assignments on fractions, but lessons above and below level are easy to access on IXL to help with remediation or enrichment/acceleration.

Up Coming Events

- February 14th Nursing Home Visit
- February 17th - Typed Summary Book Report (Level 4 Opportunity)
- February 17th - Newton's Lab - In-School Field Trip
- February 21st - Full Body & Class Picture Day
- February 24th - Weather Portfolio Due
- March 3rd - Body Works - In-School Field Trip
- March 3rd - Newbery Book Report
- March 10th - Town Meeting Project 9:30 -12:00
- March 14th - Nursing Home Invention - Presented at Nursing Home
- March 17th - Children's Books Due

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- March 21st - Storm Chasers - In-School Field Trip
 - March 22nd- 23rd - Fort Caswell Field Trip
 - March 24th - Early Release/Track Out Day
- *Working on a Field Trip to the Water Treatment Plant- Need Approval.
- **Working on Date for Student Led Conferences- Gathering Data in preparation.

Wanted/Needed

- Volunteers to work with student editing on children's books (A bit later in quarter)

