



The Trailblazer Times



January 2010

Hope Academy

Volume 10

Issue 5

Preschool News

K-3

Ms Shay and
Ms. Cindy



Dear Parents and K-3 Bears!

I am thrilled to start the New Year as your new K3 teacher! I know Miss Sue will be missed by many! I have pretty big shoes to fill, but I am excited to have the opportunity to become a part of the Hope Academy family!

December was a busy month! We learned about the letters J and K, and the

numbers 10 and 11. We also learned the color red and the circle shape. We have been reading *The Mitten* and learning lessons about sneezing and how we cover our mouths when we sneeze. The children love when the bear sneezes really loud and they got a chance to climb into the big mitten and reenact the entire scene in the story.



Thanks to all the parents for helping with our Christmas Program, Christmas Party

and Miss Sue's birthday celebration. We had lots of fun!

We look forward to seeing you in January. We hope each of you had a wonderful holiday filled with joy and love! And a Happy New Year!

Ms Shay and Ms Cindy

ion for 2010-11 begins in
Do you know someone
it benefit from Hope
?

K-3/K-4

Ms. Brenda and
Ms. Elizabeth



Welcome back to school!! We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and break from school. We missed everyone very much.

In January, we will learn all about Wintertime and Food Around the World. Our letters for the month are H, T, I, and Q. Our numbers are 4, 5, 6, and 7. We will spend three weeks on Wintertime, and one week on Food Around the World. In Art, we will do snowman mosaics, glittery snowflakes, and snowflake snow drawings to name a few.



In science, we will do a water experiment and make frost. In Social Studies, we will do a Winter Round Robin, Wintertime Glyph, and sort by season.

Thank you!

Ms. Brenda and Ms. Elizabeth

K-4

Ms. Karen and
Ms. Lani



We have continued with our Read-It-Once-Again book *The Gingerbread Man*. In December, we painted the wolf, and worked with manipulatives and worksheets. We decorated a gingerbread house and made gingerbread cookies.



We have also finished our study of the five senses. We talked about the sense of smell with scented markers and the sense of sight.

Our letters for this month have been O, Q, G, S, and A. We made an octopus for O, a crown for Q, a gingerbread house and people for G, a Santa for S, and an angel for A.

We have also enjoyed learning about and celebrating Christmas. Thank you to all our parents for our wonderful Christmas party and for all the great snacks every day.

In January, our Read-It-Once-Again book is *The Napping House*. We will also talk about weather and the seasons. We will finish learning to make our uppercase letters, learning to make I, T, and J.

We hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season, and a good New Year.

Preschool News (Continued) page 2

K-4

Ms. Kay and
Ms. Bernadette



The Starfish hope that all are having a great holiday season. We have been very busy getting ready for our Christmas program as well as exploring lots of information on the winter celebrations. The students have done numerous art projects, and we have read many holiday books.

Molly's mom brought in delicious gingerbread men for us to decorate. Some of the artwork was quite creative. We completed our study of The Gingerbread Man, and the books and materials were sent home. This is the third book our students have been given this year. We hope they will continue to read these

often.

In January, we will continue to work on the sounds and correct forms for our letters and numbers. Some of the topics we will explore are: winter, weather, and 2010.



We hope everyone enjoyed our Christmas program. Thanks to Josie's dad for writing a special song for us to sing in addition to creating the play. We'd also like to thank Molly's mom for organizing our pizza party and all who contributed to our special time.

May you have a safe, healthy, and very Happy New Year!



Help prevent the
of the flu. Please
er to cover your cough



Happy
New
Year!

Academy News

Academy 1

Ms. Christine and
Ms. Kim

Our class had a wonderful December filled with lots of fun, seasonal activities, and culminating with an awesome Christmas program. Ms. Kim and I are so proud of our class's performance. The children worked so hard to prepare for the program, and we feel it really showed in their performance!

Language Arts/Phonics:

We will start off the month of January with a short review of our letter sounds and will be learning to identify short and long vowel sounds. We will increase the frequency of our journal writing. Also, we will divide into guided reading groups and begin having reading books assigned as part of homework.



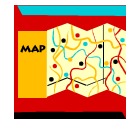
Math:

Last month, we began working with a number line to aid in completing addition and subtraction problems. The children are doing a fabulous job with this skill! This month, we will begin a new circle time activity: each student will begin keeping their own circle time folder. The folders will contain a calendar that they must fill in, a tally mark page to count the number of school days in the month, and a weather graph page. Each morning we will fill out each page and analyze our data.



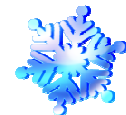
Social Studies:

We will begin learning map skills this month by creating our own maps of the classroom and the playground. We will also map out our route from the class to the playground.



Science:

In a combined art and science project, we will make crystal snowflakes using borax soap. We will also conduct a melting experiment and discuss the different states of matter.



Art:

This month, we will learn about the art of Henri Matisse and Helen Frankenthaler. The children will also have the opportunity to create their own versions of these famous artists' work. This process will give the children the opportunity to explore new art techniques.

Finally, we hope everyone had a fun and restful break. Happy 2010!!!

Academy News (Continued) page 3

Academy 2 Ms. Constance and Ms. Julie

Happy New Year!! We hope everyone has rested from all of the festivities. Thank you to the moms who drove for our Post Office/Library field trip. Ms. Julie and I appreciate the time you gave during that busy week.



We have another field trip scheduled for January 13th. On January 13th, our class will be touring St. Francis Hospital. This will be a very fun field trip! If you would like to accompany your child, we would love for you to join us.



Our 2nd quarter is almost over, and the children have learned many things about communities. We have guest speakers

scheduled this month and hope to add a few more to the list.

We visited the Hope website to view the student photos from our Community research project presentations and our “community quilt.” Our new website will also include upcoming events, job duties, schedules, and quarterly curriculum information. We hope you get a chance to log on!

www.projecthopesc.org

Academy 3 Ms. Marydell and Ms. Maryanne

Thank you to all of the Academy 3 parents for your cooperation with our Christmas program. It was such a success! We are excited about returning to school and beginning 2010.

Math:

Our students are working very hard in Saxon’s Math. They are showing great ability with measurements, geometry, and problem-solving.



Language Arts:

Our students will be introduced to the parts of speech and editing marks. Creating narratives and various styles of poetry will be the highlights in writing.

Science:

We are going to enjoy learning about animal habitats. We can hardly wait to see all of the wonderful projects that will be done during this unit of study.



Social Studies:

In South Carolina History we will discuss the exploration and settlement of our state. Also, we will study the role our state took in the American Revolution.



Academy 4 Ms. Claire and Ms. Bettye

Please take the time to enjoy two essays created by two of the Academy 4 students.

My 3 Favorite Games

By

Mary Katherine Sizemore

Do you like playing board games or card games? I have three favorite games to play with Cole at school on rainy days. One of my favorite games is “Guess Who Extra.” My second favorite game is “Candy Land.” “Uno Spin” is a favorite game too.

I love to play “Guess Who Extra” because when you press yes it makes a noise. I play with Cole a lot on “Guess Who.” When you are playing “Guess Who”, you try to guess a person or animal. It’s a fun game to play!

My favorite second game is “Candy Land” because it has candy in blocks. Four people can play that game. It is fun to play with my friends. When you get to the end there is a man with candy clothes! The object of “Candy Land” is to move around the board and you draw color cards that lead you to your next block. The winner gets to the man with the candy first!

Also, my favorite game is “Uno Spin.” This is my favorite version of Uno because there is a wheel to spin. When playing, the player chooses a 1, 2, or 3 before he lays all the cards down. The game begins with the 7 cards per player and in order to win, the player is left with one card.

These are my three favorite games to play! I like playing games with my friends. I hope you like playing “Guess Who.” “Candy Land,” and “Uno Spin.”

An Essay

By

Cameron Bennett

Do you like Star Wars? I have many different favorite characters. The Trade Federation is a part of the Senate and also the Sith. General Grievous is my favorite Sith. Battle Droids are robots and sometimes act stupid because they have no brain.

The Trade Federation is a small group of characters that talk funny and own the battle droids. Whenever they talk normally, their voices are high. When they yell, their voices get much deeper. They yell at the droids in Episode 3.

General Grievous is a cyborg, which means that he is more robot than creature. If he wants, he can transform his arms into 2 arms and his wrists can rotate completely. Grievous is a very dangerous

Academy News (Continued) page 4

Sith because he can spin his light saber very fast with those wrists.

Droid is another word for robot in Star Wars. That's why they call them battle droids instead of battle robots. I like the droids because they look cool. They are made to look like a skeleton.

General Grievous, the Battle Droids, and the Trade Federation are cool characters. I like to watch Star Wars movies and play video games. If you haven't seen the Star Wars saga, you should watch Episodes 4, 5, and 6 because they are less violent. I would wait until kids are teens to watch Episode 3.

4th Grade Social Studies:

Our Fourth grade social studies class has completed our study of the Europeans as they begin to settle North America. The French, Dutch, and English settled in our country with the English colonies growing more rapidly. They wanted to establish new homes and new lives.

As the Pilgrims came to Plymouth, we learned that they became friends with the Native Americans, the Wampanoag. They were the reason the Pilgrims survived their first winter in North America. Our Hope Academy feast was our celebration remembering the Pilgrim's first Thanksgiving. This was a special way to wrap up our unit.

We have begun the unit where the thirteen English Colonies begin to be settled. The Puritans arrive at Massachusetts Bay and as this area grew, the area became the New England Colonies. We look forward, as we continue our study in 2010, to the colonists settling the areas where the middle and southern colonies were. It will be exciting to study and learn about our country as it grows. As it grows, we will be completing our map folder which shows the colonies, 13 of them.



Happy New Year!!!

Academy 5

**Mr. Phil and
Ms. Bettye**

Language Arts:



In Language Arts, A-5 finished their poems and bound them together to give to their parents as Christmas presents. We are also working on a clause packet. The clause packet focuses on independent clauses and subordinate clauses, and we are now writing our sci-fi story. Our class has also finished our second book report last week, and we are getting our next book report ideas established. We still have three journals with the requirement that one of the three has to be about a current event in the world.

By; Sydney Rector

Science:



In science, we recently studied weathering and erosion. Erosion is when natural Earth sources get transferred by natural Earth movements. Weathering is when rock breaks by natural Earth causes.

Our next science unit is to be on geology. This unit has to do with Earth's geographical figures. We're going to do a lot of projects on it. Science is going well!

7th Grade Social Studies:



In Social Studies, we are learning about the Industrial Revolution. Jackie Perez and I made a chart of the people who made inventions during that time. Also, we are doing a report on one of the guys. Jackie

is doing a report on Alexander Graham Bell, and I am doing a report on Marconi.

After we get done with this unit, we will go on to the French Revolution. Happy Holidays!!

By: Kimberly Sizemore and
Jackie Perez

8th Grade Social Studies:



Our examination of the Antebellum Period of South Carolina has included a realistic look at the plantation systems of South Carolina. We have read and studied the autobiographical narrative of Solomon Northup, a slave of this historical period. This interesting account was really cool because it gave a realistic, real-life view of slave life. We are all excited about our next unit: "South Carolina in the Civil War."

The Hope Invitational Golf Tournament will be held April 19th at Holly Tree and Fox Run. All interested volunteers and golf committee members please plan to attend an organizational meeting Tuesday, January 12th at 8:15 a.m. in Hope Academy room 11(the K-3 classroom). If you have questions about the tournament contact: Kelly Judy 325-7125.

I would like to thank everyone for the hard work that you put into the play this year. I am very proud of the students for what they accomplished. I measure success, not in the ability to put on a good show but in the way the students were stretched WAY outside of their comfort zones and rose to the occasion. Facing new challenges and obstacles and learning how to conquer them is what education is all about. For in this process they not only learn new skills but they learn more about themselves.

Johnny Larrabee

Start Your Day with Hope!!!!

Project HOPE Foundation is partnering with Liquid Highway to provide private-label coffee blends that feature artwork by the students of Hope Academy. Half of the proceeds from the sale of these blends will go to Project HOPE Foundation, helping us to better serve the children and families of Hope Academy and Hope Reach.

Bags are available in 12 oz. (beans or ground) for \$10 and 2 oz. (single-brew) sizes for \$3.

Contact Susan Sachs @ 676-0028 to learn more about this.

Please subscribe to our blog. Go to www.projecthopesc.org/storiesofhopefromthefrontlinesofautism . Click on the orange square icon to view the stories.

facebook

Join us on Facebook and become a "Friend" of Project Hope Foundation!

Add **Scrip** to your New Year's Resolutions!

Sign up! It's easy!

1. Hope Academy enrollment code: LA69272418253
2. Go to www.ShopWithScrip.com, and click on "**Create Account.**"
3. Follow the four simple steps and click "I Accept."
4. Enter your enrollment code and click "Join."

By adding scrip to your new year's resolutions you can be taking care of several other items that may be on your list of resolutions. Scrip can help you maintain your grocery budget by using Bi-Lo and or Publix cards each month. Scrip can help you in your charitable giving: simply purchase Scrip cards and you are making a donation to Project Hope on a regular basis.

Important Dates for January

January 1	Winter Break
January 4	Return to school
January 15	End of 2 nd Quarter Deadline for Box Tops
January 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday (no school)
January 19	Teacher Work Day (no school)
January 21	2 nd Report Card

Box Tops

Now is the time to turn in your Box Tops if you have been saving them at home. Our current contest ends January 15th. If you have questions, call Jill Venant 843 902-1694 or cadysmom03@yahoo.com.