

The Trailblazer Times

Volume 9

November 2008

Issue 3

Preschool News

K-3

Ms. Sue

Ms. Cindy

Our 3K classes have had another great month of learning fun! We have learned about the letters D, E, and F, numbers 4, 5, and 6, the color orange, and star shape. We have also done some fun science experiments. One day, we dug up dirt and sorted it into different parts: grass, rocks, sand, etc. We then mixed it all up in a jar of water and watched it settle into different parts. We also dissected a pumpkin, though very few of us wanted to stick our fingers into the ooey, gooey guts! Stewart Farms pumpkin patch was another great day, where we rode a tractor-trailer, learned the bee dance, and picked out our own pumpkin to take home. Our second field trip this month was *Max & Ruby* at the Peace Center. When I asked the kids what their favorite part was, the most common answers were, "When Max tried to get the cookies" and "When Max got scared of the tarantula." We are almost done with our unit on The Three Bears and will finish our lessons with a walk in the "woods" and a bowl of porridge. Thank you to Dixie Puleo and Shannon Medlin for being October parents of the month! The Bears, Cindy, and I are excited about fall and learning about the changing leaves, scarecrows, turkeys, and Thanksgiving in the month of November.

K-3/K-4



This month we will learn about community helpers, emotions, being thankful, Thanksgiving, and the alphabet. Our letters for this month are L, F, E, and H. We will also work on 1, 2, 3, and 4. Our skills for November are positional words, big vs. little, cutting, sequencing words, present vs. past, beginning sounds, graphics homophones, plant or animal, and shapes. We have **No School** on November 4th due to Election Day and Thanksgiving holidays are November 26th – 28th. Happy Thanksgiving everyone! A great big thank you to all moms who drove and participated in our October field trips to the Peace Center and the Apple Orchard.

Happy Birthday:

Garrett Mosely – November 19th

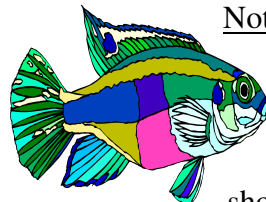
Mathew Plott – November 26th

K-4

Ms. Karen

Ms. Lani

This month our book has been The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything.



We have enjoyed painting shoes, pants, a shirt, gloves, hat, and a pumpkin

head, and then putting them together to make a scarecrow. We also stuffed real clothes to make our own scarecrow. We worked with manipulatives and worksheets from the book. As we painted the parts of our scarecrow, we talked about colors.

We learned about apples by making apple prints and applesauce.

Our letters this month were N, M, H, K, L, U, and V. We painted with nuts for N, made marshmallow moons and ate marshmallows for M, made newspaper hats for H, lemon and lime prints and lemonade for L, and vegetable prints and vegetable soup for V. The Rainbow Fish enjoyed a trip to the pumpkin patch at Stewart Farm to get pumpkins and learn how to grow them. We will learn more about pumpkins in November. We also enjoyed going through the mini maze.

We celebrated Halloween by making pumpkins, skeletons, ghosts, and black cats. We carved a pumpkin and had a Halloween party.

Next month our book will be The Gingerbread Man. We will learn about our five senses, learn about and celebrate Thanksgiving, and have a Thanksgiving Feast. The letters to be learned will be W, X, Y, and Z.

Ms. Kay
Ms. Bernadette



The Starfish
have had a
busy autumn.

Everyone really liked our sponge-painted fall trees that we hung in our room. We did several art projects to decorate our room for Hopefest including orange painted paper bag pumpkins. We hope all of you came and enjoyed our fall festival. It's always fun to see everyone dressed in his or her "Halloween best"!

Exploring and reading The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything has been fun. If you are not familiar with this story, it would be a great one to get and share for Halloween. Our next book is The Gingerbread Man. Since November and December are busy times, we will work on this book during both months. In November, we will also explore Native Americans and Pilgrims as we prepare for Thanksgiving. Our students are looking forward to our first trip to the Peace Center. We will go on November 7th to see *Imani Winds*. These musicians will present classic children's songs and interactive sing-alongs. Ms. Lisa has been teaching about the different instruments and their families in music class to help our students understand and enjoy this performance.



Academy News

Academy 1 Ms. Christine
Ms. Kim

In anticipation of the upcoming holiday season we have been discussing what it means to be thankful. Our class has a lot to be thankful for, so we thought we would ask everyone in class to list some things they are grateful to have in their lives. As you can see, the answers were precious.

Alex – I'm thankful for my Mom and Dad and for Nana and Poppa.

Brennah – I am thankful for Mommy.

Calib – To get to go to the playground and to have lunch and for being weather person, line leader before, and having books.

Davis – I'm thankful for my friends.

Elli – I am glad for my teachers, my Dad and Mom and for Smokey and Katie.

Jack – I am thankful for my family and centers.

Jake – I am thankful for my family.

Lilly – I'm glad I have Ginger and Tom.

Matthew – I'm thankful for everything that I have.

Rachel – I'm glad that we have Hopefest, my teachers and Cottontail (my cat).

Robert – I am thankful for my friends, my mom and recess.

Taleen – I'm thankful for my friends.

Tessa – I am glad to have homework, and for the tooth fairy.

Ms. Christine – For a God who loves me just as I am and for my family and the friends in class.

Ms. Kim – I am thankful to God for my family and friends and this great class.

Ms. Andrea – I am thankful for Brennah and Jake and the lessons they teach me.

Ms. Katie – I am thankful for my friends and family and for competing my education at Wofford.

Academy 2 Ms. Constance
Ms. Julie

Academy 2 has officially completed the "Ocean" theme study and we are now learning about the Solar System.

Ms. Julie and I are very excited about this theme study.

The students will be studying each planet including its moons. They will also learn the orbit patterns, constellations, and history of space travel.



In academics this quarter we will be covering the following concepts:

Language Arts

- Parts of Speech (nouns, verbs, etc.)
- Use of graphic organizers (more complex)
- Compound words
- Alphabetical order (first & second letters)
- Suffixes and prefixes

Math

- Basic subtraction
- 2-digit subtraction
- 2-digit subtraction with regrouping

- 3-digit addition with regrouping
- Story problems
- Telling Time (hour, ½ hour, quarter hour, and to the minute)
- Identifying fractions
- Writing fractions
- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Tally mark concept
- Graphing

Upcoming field trips are to the Peace Center on November 7th and Roper Mountain Science Center on November 12th. If you would like to drive for either or both, please let us know.

A special thanks to Shannon Johnson for hosting our autumn classroom celebration.

Academy 3 Ms. Marydell Ms. Marianne

October is in full swing. It is hard to believe the first quarter is almost over. The distribution of report cards will be on October 30th. I have enjoyed meeting A3 parents during our conferences this month.

Our fourth grade math students have already completed their matrices for the first quarter. They are a very energized and focused group. Congratulations to Chase, Chelsea, Patrick, Jake, Catherine, Luke, Zackery & Caroline. Our third grade math students continue to show great progress in their Saxon math lessons. They have been drawing congruent line segments, solving word problems, and working diligently on number patterns. They are moving right along.

We have a spectacular class of readers. The students really enjoy our Self Selected Reading (SSR) time. Some of our students are enjoying mysteries. We have read Meg Mackintosh and the Case of the Curious Whale Watch, Julian, Secret Agent, and Encyclopedia Brown and the Case of the Disgusting Sneakers. We became detectives ourselves by making copies of our fingerprints and identifying them.

In Social Studies, we are having lots of fun with different kinds of maps, grids, and our cardinal directions. In South Carolina History, we are beginning to study South Carolina 's environment. We have learned that South Carolina is divided into three Regions: the Low Country, Midlands and the Up Country. In U.S. History, our students have really enjoyed gaining new information about map skills. Ask a fourth grader to explain longitude and latitude or the difference between the Equator and the Prime Meridian!

In Science Mr. Jimmy continues to amaze us with his knowledge of living things. We enjoy taking turns watering the plants and reporting to the class on their progress.

Art class has been a delight. Mrs. Michelle prepared our students well for their exhibits at the Art Show. Academy 3 has artists in the making! Mrs. Lisa has introduced our students to many instruments. They have been excited about music.

A3 students would like to give a big shout out to our Mauldin High School helpers. Mr. Miles and

Mr. Trent help us with P.E. and Ms. Laura and Ms. Cassie help us with our morning work. YAHOO!!!!

Thanks to all our parents for sending in box tops. WOW! We had a tremendous amount turned in. We also want to thank Mrs. Judy and Mrs. Van Hook for helping us with recess duty. We appreciate everything our parents do for our class family.

Academy 4 & 5 Ms. Claire Mr. Phil, Ms. Bettye, Mr. David

Math by Kevin Sitton

Fifth Grade math is pretty easy. We do lots of lessons. We are in the Saxon 65 math book. All the 5th graders are near each other. Our tests are fun. We do math minutes and math maintenance. We are getting our lessons done everyday except Wednesday. We learn a lot. Most of the lessons we learned last year.

Math by Ms. Bettye

In all math levels, Saxon 54, 65, 87, and Algebra ½, we strive to learn our new skills and practice these skills. After we complete 5 lessons with a minimum of 80% accuracy, we are tested before we begin our new set of 5 lessons.

6th Grade Social Studies by Kimberly Sizemore

The 6th grade has been learning about Egypt and Mapping & Atlas skills. We have learned about all the Great Pyramids and hieroglyphics. Also we have been learning about treasures, gods,

and mummies. We have finished some oral presentations on Egypt. We have also learned about Mapping and Atlas skills. Then we learned about the things a map needs. Also we have done a map of an imaginary place and made questions for the map. Now we are going on to learn about Greek and Roman Civilizations!

6th Grade Social Studies by Kensley Lollis

In Social Studies we have done so much. The first unit we did and completed



was about Egypt. We presented our chosen topic. We have also been working on Mapping and Atlas skills. Mr. David has given us worksheets for a little extra practice. Our next unit that we have yet to start will be about Greek civilization. We are enjoying Social Studies.

5th Grade Science by Jay Biediger

In science we have been studying weathering. Weathering is the wearing away of rocks. We have played fun learning games, like tic-tac dragon. We are making cookie cutters, which are the things that you choose a color, then a number, and another number, that help us learn about the changing surfaces of the Earth. We are doing science crossword puzzles, which help us remember our vocabulary words. I'm having a lot of fun in science.

6th Grade Science by Kimberly Sizemore

In the 6th grade science class, we have been learning about the atmosphere. Our study has included the five layers of the atmosphere, the ozone layer, global warming, and greenhouse effects. Next we are learning about primary and secondary pollution. Some examples are smog and vehicle exhaust. Now we're moving on to weather and climate! Our plan is to use the newspaper weather page and to learn what is shown on our U.S. weather map.

7th & 8th Grade by Morgan Stallard

Science has been...interesting, as of late. We've finished our unit on evolution, which spawned some extremely spirited discussions.

We're currently studying Geology, and we've got a new science teacher. Mr. David was already teaching us math, so it's not a big deal, but it shook things up.

The class is watching a lot of videos, and other multimedia stuff, which is kind of fun. But of course, it can't last, and soon we'll be stranded in the land of bookwork, once again.

Language Arts 6th Grade by Audrey Doohen and Kensley Lollis

We are continuing our novel Summer of the Monkeys. We are all so anxious to find our what's

going to happen next. Will the main character capture those crazy monkeys? The 5th grade boys just finished reading Where the Red Fern Grows. In replacement of our DOL we are doing "Every Day Edits." We have specific topics that happened in history on each day we do them. In our pink grammar books we are accomplishing lesson after lesson each week. We have also done our writing assignments. In our fall writing, we each write about things we enjoy in the Fall season. We shared them for an oral presentation. We are continuing our journal writings and are beginning our essential facts for Language Arts. It is a great way to test our knowledge. This past week we started a new schedule. We began learning quotes and from these quotes we compose paragraph responses. These will be used to publish a class book.

7th & 8th Grade Language Arts by Joseph Bettano and Chris Puleo

We have started a new unit in Language Arts. We are writing an essay on "**It's not the size of the dog in the fight, it's the size of the fight in the dog.**" We also are doing some grammar sheets.



We are completing a list of assignments called a matrix. To get an "A", we have to complete 90% or more of the assignments. If we want a "B" we need to complete 80% - 89% of the assignments. If we complete 79% or below of the assignments, we

get an "F". That's a grade we don't want. This quarter, I completed all my assignments. Some of the assignments I completed were required assignments. Those assignments were: grammar sheets, a book report, three essays, journals, R&R book, crossword puzzle, and DOL. I already got an A. I'm glad.

Physical Education by Christian Baliker and Sydney Rector

In P.E. we combined Academy 4 and 5. We did many things starting with kickball. After that we played a tiny bit of soccer. For about three weeks, we played volleyball. We have also been working with medicine balls. Soon we will be playing soccer. P.E. is so fun this year. I love it! I want to scream my head off!

Guitar

By Randy Massengale

In guitar class we are learning two songs. They are *Carol of the Bells* and *Rock' in Around the Christmas Tree*. Jonathan Plott has the lead role and I have the accompany chords. In *The Carol of the Bells*, we all have our little part. Mr. Johnny, our guitar teacher, is also teaching us the Blues riff.

HOPE Academy News

Fall into Fashion

Attention ladies, you will not want to miss this exciting event! "Fall into Fashion" will take place on Saturday, November 8th at 2:00 pm at Thornblade Club to benefit Hope Academy.

This afternoon tea and fashion show will feature fashions from Mariani's Boutique modeled by Hope Academy's very own parents! Local vendors will provide shopping opportunities. There will be food, an assortment of gourmet teas, and door prizes! Come enjoy an afternoon out with the ladies! Everyone is welcome, so bring your friends. Tickets are on sale for \$20 per person. Please see Sandy in the office or call Lori Schur at 458-8030 for tickets.

TEAM HOPE News

Join us on November 10th for Family Night Fun at JUMP!ZONE from 5 - 8p.m. The cost is \$7.00 per person. There's going to be a whole lot of jumping going on.

Chick-fil-A Calendars

All calendars and money are due November 7th. Please turn into Dixie or Sandy by that time.

Chick-fil-A Biscuits

The next biscuit sale is November 20th at the circle drive. Be sure to order ahead of time!



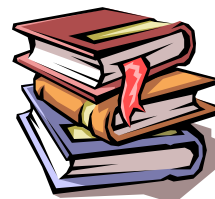
Box Tops for Education

We have had a great start this school year with Box Tops. I am happy to announce the winners of our first Box Tops contest of the year. The winner of the Webkinz

drawing is **Haeleigh Lollis!** She received her Webkinz on Friday, Oct. 24th with her whole class clapping and cheering her on. The class winner was **Academy 3** and they will have a Popsicle party next week to celebrate. Academy 3 brought in \$63 in Box Tops! Way to go!! The total for our school is **\$210.30!!** We are doing great! Thank you for everyone's participation.

Our current contest will end February 20. Same rules as before – Popsicle party for top class and Webkinz drawing. Continue shopping at the Marketplace through the website www.boxtops4education.com. A percentage of your online shopping will be donated to Hope Academy at no extra charge to you. You can shop at over 60 online stores; save yourself some time and gas by shopping online. Please contact me with any questions: Elaine Avila elaine@ehosted.com 963-1848.

Barnes & Noble Bookfair



Hope Academy will be hosting a bookfair at Barnes and Noble (Shops at Greenridge) December 3-6, 2008. This is a great way to support Hope Academy and get a head start on your holiday shopping.

Hope Academy earns a percentage of the net proceeds from your purchases on these days. All you have to do is present a voucher upon checkout. The more we and our supporters

shop, the more Hope Academy earns. Vouchers and more information will be forthcoming. Please contact Dana Nemr dnemr@charter.net with any questions.

HOLIDAY LUMINARIES

There is still time to sign your neighborhood up to be part of this beautiful, community-inspiring event. Luminaries are little

candle lanterns made from small paper bags that line a walkway or driveway. Hope Academy sells kits to make 10 luminaries for \$10. We will help you create a neighborhood Luminary Night or you may wish to purchase luminary kits for your holiday parties or for your church's holiday services. We will be passing out flyers starting in October, so if you wanted to be included, let us know ASAP. We also need volunteers to distribute flyers and also to deliver luminary

kits in December. Please contact Elaine Avila elaine@ehosted.com 963-1848 or Shannon Young sny@yahoo.com 561-4260 if you would like your neighborhood to be included or you would like to be a VERY appreciated volunteer.

COMING UP NEXT

No School - November 4th
Be sure to take the time to vote!

Fall Into Fashion
November 8th
Thornblade Clubhouse
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome!
JUMP!ZONE Fun Night
6:00-8:00pm November 10th
\$5.00 per child

Roper Mountain Field Trip
Wednesday, November 12, 2008
Academy 2

Special Note:

The following are some names of businesses and people who are supporting Hope Academy's Golf Tournament. Please make an effort to thank them:

BMW Manufacturing
Jeff Lynch Appliance & TV Center
Fatz Café
Bridgestone Golf, Inc.

Universal Purchasing Association
St. Francis Health System
PPS International
Hydromissions International