

SCHOOL'S

IN

SESSION!



The Fantastic Four Newsletter

K. Denison, N. Russell, P. Kimball, A. Gray
Class News

Brooks Elementary
A Title One School

September 11, 2017

Last week we began our reading clinics. Your child may tell you that s/he went to another teacher for reading. The thought behind this method is that students of all levels will receive reading instruction within their DRA (reading level). This type of grouping will focus on the needs of children in that group. Our goal is to match the needs of the reader so that we can help the reader move to the next reading level.

Second graders who are reading below grade level (less than a level 18) will need to make accelerated gains to be on grade level by the end of the year. Extra reading at home will only help them.

This week students will soon complete MAP testing (Measures of Academic Progress). We will use these scores to establish our baseline. These scores will be one way we will measure your child's progress in the areas of reading and math.

Reading MAP- Tue. Denison, Wed. Russell, Thur. Kimball

Math MAP-Fri. Denison, Russell, Kimball

In math we are continuing our make a ten strategy to solve addition and subtraction. In reading we are working on discovering how asking questions can help us understand main ideas of a reading passage. We are studying plants and animals and how they work together in eco-systems.

Word Work for the Week

Due to Labor Day and Teacher Planning Day we were not able to finish our unit three word work. We will continue our study this week. The students will still have the same high frequency words as last week: because, done, know, once, together.

We will work with open and closed syllables.

We will study pronouns this week.

**Grandparent's Day
for second grade is
September 19, 2017**

See handout for more information.

Math Methods

Help them master the basic facts.

Mastery of a basic fact means that children can give an answer in less than three seconds. Considerable drill is required for children to give quick responses. Use flash cards to help your children learn the basic facts. When they don't know an answer, have them lay out objects to solve the problem.

Read more on Family Education:

<http://school.familyeducation.com/math/pa-renting/38812.html#ixzz267CVqRxH>

How to Help with Reading

Sounding out is a perfectly good strategy, and one we all use, but when sounding out is the major strategy a reader uses, it begins to take so much time that the reader has forgotten the meaning of what came before the unknown word. Comprehension as well as fluency is affected.

A better way is to point out different aspects of the text like: see how the pictures help tell the story; did you hear all those rhyming words; what do you think will happen next; look at all the lines that repeat, see how long that words; did you notice all the words that started with Z and we already know a lot about this story because of something else we've read or heard about, etc.

We are so happy to tell you how hard the students are working. Most students are coming in every day with all homework completed. We are also noticing that the kiddos are putting much effort in their class assignments. In addition, the second graders are following the BEST guidelines and going home with lots of Dojo points! So....we would like to remind you of the reward for their achievements. These students get to attend our **GRAND SLAM ALL STAR JAM**. The jam is each Friday afternoon for about 20 minutes. Invited students will participate in an extra recess. To be invited all that is required is to follow the BEST guidelines, work hard and have your homework turned in on time, students can only lose 7 Dojo points during the week. Students that are not invited to the jam will simply continue on with the school day. We hope that you are as excited as we are to reward these wonderful behaviors!



Remembrance of Sept. 11, 2001

Today our classes went to the gymnasium, Mrs. Boyle spoke to us about the events of Sept. 11, 2001. She shared her personal experience and we watched a short video. We had conversations in our classrooms about this tragic day in our history. Many of our students made connections because they too have lost loved ones or they have family serving in the military or as police officers, or firefighters. Several students shared that their parents or grandparents have memories of this day.

Funny Bone

Q. What did the porcupine say to the cactus?

A. "Is that you mommy?"

Q. What did the water say to the boat?

A. Nothing, it just waved.



Sept. 11, 2017
Special Area Red Week
Art/Music Mrs. Denison
Library Mrs. Kimball
P. E. Mrs. Russell

Sept. 18, 2017
Special Area Green Week
Art/Music Mrs. Russell
Science Mrs. Kimball
P. E. Mrs. Denison

