

Mrs. Johnson's Newsletter

February 18, 2011

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, February 21st - WE HAVE SCHOOL!!!!!!!

Tuesday, February 22, 2011 - Book Order Due

Wednesday, February 23rd - Early Release
& Conferences

Thursday, February 24th - Conferences

Friday, February 25 - Pizza Party

Information Sent Home

-Money Games

-Coin Book Homework

-Accessories Sale Flier

-Conference Confirmation Slips

Academic Highlights

- Goods, Services, Consumer, Producer
- Counting Coins
- -all chunk
- Meaty Middles: 5 Senses
- Questioning
- Counting money game in the Lab

Pennies For The Playground

Did you hear the news..... **WE**

WON!!! What's even better is that we raised \$235.00. **The entire school raised \$1, 167.00** So, thank you grown-ups for all your help. The coolest part of this party is that we invited Mrs. Maybank's class to join us in our celebration since they were the 2nd highest contributor to our fundraiser. We were trailing a bit behind them until Friday when we filled almost 4 bottles full of coins. Our plan is to have pizza, juice, and fruit for lunch on Friday. Therefore, "cold lunchers"

do not need to pack lunch for Friday. We'll be dining on pizza. YUM!

New Student

Welcome, Logan Cole to our classroom!!! We are excited to make you feel like one of our fellow teammates. We now have 23 students.

Mr. Royston

You may have heard your youngster share with you that for an hour each Thursday, Mr. Royston comes to our classroom to observe Mrs. Johnson teaching. He is going to school to become a teacher and has to complete some observation hours. He observes half an hour of Word Work and half of writing time.

Box Tops For Education

Wow, I have never seen so many Box Tops sent in so quickly! Thank you! A parent had asked if we only collect them at certain times and the answer is no; we collect them all year long.

Valentine's Party

I always think the highlight of the Valentine's Party is handing out the Valentines. We were pretty jazzed about the sundaes, too. I tried to give back the syrups and toppings to as many families as possible. The counter quickly filled up on Friday with your generosity. So, thank you for making the sundaes a hit!!!

Classroom Celebrities

Did you read "The Link"? Story Grandma was Volunteer of the Month. We are so happy to see her recognized for all the time she donates to Lakeview Elementary. Also, our very own Kelsey Cooper was in the Lakeview Enterprise. In just a few weeks, our classroom will have an article in the Enterprise in the weekly installment of Classroom Happenings.

Math

Thanks to you and the Coin Book, almost all students can identify their coins and values. Yeah! Half the battle is already won!! Now, we move on to counting money. Thus far, we have practiced counting these coins the following ways:

- Pennies only
- Nickels only
- Dimes only
- Dimes and pennies together
- Dimes and nickels together*
- Next will be nickels and pennies
- Then dimes, nickels and pennies
- Last will be quarters with the other coins

The majority of students are doing awesome at counting like coins together. Counting dimes and pennies together has also gone very well. Now, we are on the tricky stuff. (Nickels can be harder to do because they look like quarters. Also, once students get on that skip counting by 5 train, it is hard for them to stop even when the coins are gone.) I will have some tips for you at conferences as well as a few games to do at home.

Attached to this newsletter is a take and make game. Your child has played this many times at school and can walk you through how to play this game. I strongly

urge you to get a bag full of coins at home and practice, practice, practice.

Social Studies

We continue to learn about goods and services. Our latest concept centered on scarcity of goods. When the good is low or unavailable, families/consumers have to make choices. They adjust their want, pay a higher price for the good, get creative with problem solving, or go without. Once this unit is over we will begin our science study on Magnets.

Writing

In writing, we have focused on learning how to be descriptive with the 5 senses. This is a skill students will work on for years. Our main focus has been on how to focus on one or two key senses that fit your story.

Questioning as a Reader

Can you remember when your youngster would dominate your conversation with questions? You would barely get one answered before the next one was fired at you. Well, I'm happy to share with you all that curiosity is going to shine during this next comprehension study on Questioning As A Reader.

During the entire month of February we are studying how to use our questions to further our understanding of a topic and text. These past two weeks we have developed questions to clear up misconceptions on a topic, further understand new information, and drive our reading to learn, not just decode words. We have discussed Spiders and Penguins.