

Mrs. Taylor's 3 - 4

Class Newsletter

December 2011



Stick Decorations on 1st Grade Buddy day. Emily, Nataly, Marquis, Josiah, Ella, Hayden, Eric, Jack, Kamaya



Jack and Josiah enjoying Root Beer Floats at Compliment Party

December Book Report: Each day, a line from a "holiday" or a "non-holiday poem (your choice) are read to the kids. They must choose one and illustrate it.

Battle of the Books: Our two volunteer helpers, Mrs. Lennox and Mrs. Martin are busy meeting with kids and going over the books that they have read in preparation for the spring Battle. Mrs. Martin was a school Librarian and Mrs. Lennox was a long-time primary teacher in the Tigard district. Both are enjoying the opportunity to work with the kids.

Parent – Teacher Conferences: Thanks for coming by for the Conferences. It was a pleasure to talk with you about your child's performance.

Bicycle Safety Class: It was really wonderful to see how the Bike Safety classes were done. Some kids who had never before been on a bike learned to ride and how to do it safely. At the end of the sessions, the group took a "victory ride" around the neighborhood to demonstrate their skills. With the great increase in bicycle use in our area, these kinds of classes are of great benefit to our kids.

Writing Lessons: This month students are working on how to put the "structure" of a poem on a page and then edit it and illustrate the poem.

Social Studies: Third graders are learning about how Portland got its name and fourth graders are learning about the State of Oregon. In January, 3rd graders will participate in a play called *The Naming of Portland*. For this play, please be collecting long-sleeve white shirts, black, brown or dark blue pants, and bow ties. I have top hats for the actors to use. The fourth graders will be researching subjects about Oregon which they can pick from a list of Oregon-specific topics that I will provide for them.



The Portland Play: Joe and Deven rehearse



Halle and Deven



Math: Ever hear of Family Math Night? It is an opportunity to join in with the kids and play math games in the different classrooms. This year it is on December 15th from 6 – 7:30pm.

December 5th through the 9th and the 12th through the 16th will be the OAKS Testing. Third graders will test in Math and Reading. Please, please see that they get a good night's rest and something substantial for breakfast on their testing day. It makes such a difference in their performances.

Cocoa and Cookies Needed! On December 16th we need to ask you for cocoa packets and store-bought cookies for the Poetry Recital in the morning. The kids are memorizing poems to present in front of the class that day. The Sing Along will be held on December 16th as well, in the Cafeteria at 1pm.

Some January News: On January 9th the Oregon Humane Society will give a presentation to the class on How to Care for Pets. The Portland Play takes place in January and we are practicing for it now.

Mrs. Keast will be on vacation in December, but Mr. Keast will continue to help teach math.

Questions or Concerns? Please call me at 503 916-6300.



Kathleen Taylor