



Pat Henry Paw Prints



IN THE NEWS ...

The news this week features the 5th grade classes.

This week 5th graders in **Mrs. Berry and Mrs. Wrensford's** classes made African masks in Art. Come see the results! They worked hard the past few weeks preparing for the Writing CRT and the Reading and Math benchmark tests. After Spring Break they will begin working hard towards CRT success. The students are also looking forward to Boy Power and Girl Power in April. Many boys from 5th grade played in the championship basketball game on Thursday night. While they didn't come away with a win, they played hard and had a really good season. Congratulations!

Mrs. Harrel's fifth grade class has been learning all sorts of helpful techniques like four square writing, multiplying fractions, reading about the American Revolution, and matter. Mrs. Harrel was gone for the whole month of February, but her class pulled through with an awesome sub named Ms. Franz. Mrs. Walker and Mrs. Bleau baby-sat our class lizard, and boy did he get fat!

Reported by Trystin Jarvis

Mrs. Blanchard's class is studying 8 of the 19 mammal groups. Here is what they have been learning: The monotremes are mammals that lay eggs. The marsupials are mammals with a pouch. Bats are the only flying mammals. Carnivores are land-dwelling meat eaters. Pinnipeds are ocean dwelling meat eaters. Ocean dwelling mammals breathe with lungs. Rodents are the largest animal group (in numbers). Primates are the mammals with the most developed brains. Very interesting!!!

March 13, 2009

Pat Henry Elementary School
Bill Ingram, Principal
Don Albert, Assistant Principal



Words to Live By

Word of the Week:
Dedication

Definition:
Setting aside for a particular purpose or goal

Dates / Events

March 16-20: Spring Break—No school

March 24: Report cards will be sent home

March 26: Title I computer night for KG-2nd grade 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.



Principal's Corner by Mr. Bill Ingram

Reading is the foundation of success in school. **Read aloud to your child.** Research shows this is probably the most important thing you can do to encourage your child's reading success. Here are some tips from Jim Trelease's The Read-Aloud Handbook.

Begin to read to your child as soon as possible – no matter how young or old.

Try to set aside time every day for reading aloud. Start with just 10 minutes a day.

Remember the art of listening is an acquired one. It must be taught and cultivated gradually.

Reading is one of the most inexpensive and readily available forms of education and entertainment. Remember that our library is open every Thursday from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. for parents to come with their child to check out books together. Have a Safe and Fun Spring Break reading March 14 – 22!



Parents as Partners

I Care



Some Good Books for this month's pillar of Achievement:

- *Little Red Hen*
- *The Tub People* by Pam Conrad
- *Freckle Juice* by Judy Blume
- *I Was a Third Grade Science Project* by Mary J. Auch
- *Indian in the Cupboard* by Lynne R. Banks
- *Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo

Volunteers still needed in Room 225!

Great websites for kids

- www.funschool.com (games & color sheets)
- www.ipl.org/youth (Internet public library)
- www.aaamath.com (math by topic and grade level)
- www.teachrkids.com (math by topic and grade level)
- www.starfall.com (alphabet and sounds)
- www.besmart-eatsmart-livesmart.com (nutritional info about school meals)
- www.bookadventure.com (similar to Accelerated Reader)
- www.thinkingblocks.com (math problem solving)
- www.pbs.org (links to stories involving Clifford, the big red dog)
- www.frenchspanishonline.com/beginnerspanish/freespanish.html (learn French or Spanish for free—geared toward kids and beginners)



Math Strategies - 4th grade

Fourth grade students also work with patterns by relating numbers used in tables and graphs, with multiplication and division facts, and with models to show progressive patterns. For example, If 6 people can sit at one table, how many could sit at 2 tables if they were pushed together (10) ; with 3 tables put together (14)? Students also learn some beginning algebra concepts by trying to find a variable such as: $17 + n = 30$. It doesn't matter what the letter used is, the process is to subtract or count up to find the missing amount. Place value up to 6 digits is emphasized in 4th grade. Students should be comfortable reading large numbers using the digits as well as words. They also work on using decimals to the hundredths place (such as in money) and relating that to fractions. Example: .04 is the same as 4/100 or 4 cents. Fractions are also important to learn in 4th grade. Students learn the value of fractions especially with their relationship to 1/2. They would learn that 1/3 is less than 1/2, but 2/3 is more than 1/2. Situations at home such as dividing up food, money, recipes, etc. are important to try to relate real situations to the use of fractions. Estimation is also an important skill to help with mental math. Before adding or measuring something at home, ask your child to estimate the answer. If adding $69 + 98$ they should first think of it as adding $70 + 100$ which can be done without paper & pencil.

Booster Club Yard Sale



If you are looking for something to do over Spring Break, why not clean out some closets or the garage and donate

those items to the **Pat Henry Booster Club**. They are planning a yard sale in early April to raise funds for the End-of-the-Year Sports Banquet. For more information, contact Tina Cox @ 678-2413. THANKS!

Happy Spring Break!



See you back on Monday, March 23rd.

Pat Henry Elementary

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Pat Henry website:

www.lawtonps.org/schools/PatHenry

March's core value is courage. This means being brave enough to do what you should do even when afraid.