



Bobcat Country News

Principal Paws

Dear Parents,

This is parent teacher conference week and we hope that each parent takes the time to meet with their child's teacher to review their school progress. This week is set aside specifically so that parents can communicate directly with the teachers. During the conference please ask questions that deal with what the child is learning and to what degree. For example, if you child receives a satisfactory or A or B in Math, you want to ask the question; what instructional areas does this grade reflect? What concepts did this grade cover? How did my child do in each of the concepts? Have the teacher help you become educational detectives. If there is an indication of poor performance in a particiular area, try to discern if there is a lack of skill in that area or is it because of motivation, lack of effort or a combination of these items.

First quarter report cards need to be viewed as a start-point not a final grade summary. Don't compare last years report card to this years report. This would be two totally different grade levels. My recommendation is that the first quarter report be viewed as a work-in-progress. The information from this report should help create a work plan for the next quarter.

Sincerely,

Bob Gibson

Principal

Upcoming Events

October 26-29, 2009
Parent Teacher Conference
Week

Tuesday the 27th
Late Night

October 28th & 29th, 2009
NOON Dismissal

October 30, 2009
NO SCHOOL - K-8

November 3, 2009
Mollen Flu Clinic

November 4
Student Council Meeting
8:00 am

Picture Retake Day &
Activity Pictures
PTO Frozen Food
Fundraiser Starts

November 10
Noon Dismissal
Teacher In-service

November 11
Veteran's Day Recess
NO SCHOOL K-12

November 13
PTO Ident-a-Kid



Paradise Valley
Unified School District
"Where individual excellence is our goal"

 THE READING CORNER

Did you know that reading equals math? Here is the way it goes. On reading tests:

Students who scored at the 90th percentile, read 20 minutes a day and processed about 1.8 million words in a year

Students who scored at the 50th percentile, read 4.6 minutes a day and processed 282,00 words in a year

Students who scored below the 10th percentile, read 1 minute a day and processed 8000 words in a year (from "Overcoming Dyslexia" by S. Shaywitz, M.D.).

Here is another way that reading equals math. If students read 25 minutes a day at a rate of 200 words a minute (that is an intermediate student's level) for 200 days, they will encounter a million words. 15,000 to 30,000 of these words will be unfamiliar. If students learn the meaning of just one word in twenty from the context of their reading (the meaning of the sentences), they will learn 750 to 1500 new words.

That is impressive vocabulary development! If you adjust the numbers for younger students and add the remaining days of the year, you can see that the math is still amazing. You can clearly see that reading every day makes a huge difference in reading performance. There is no vocabulary development program anywhere that exposes students to more words in a year.

Be dedicated to a schedule that includes reading every day. This is a great habit that leads to success.

 CHARACTER COUNTS

The following students received the Character Counts Award for Citizenship for the Month of September:

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Zach Claycamp | Ainsley Slawson | Hailey Wolf | Kimmie Brown |
| Mackenzie Pabst | Kenneth Cain | Joseph Habra | Trevor Frerichs |
| Chase Conlon | Ethan Yurkiewicz | Reagen Hubler | Preston Gillespie |
| Jack Bayless | Madison Riggs | Calvin Kingsley | Kierlyn Casmirri |
| Natalie Riach | Tristen Winters | Kassidy Warnol | Josh Stepp |
| Kailey Pabst | Nick Aleman | Nicole Schwartz | Jordan Karfeld |
| David Cerna | Zachariah Badham-Kerns | | |

COMPLIMENT CARD WINNERS Compliment Cards are given to students by any staff member who catches a student doing something good. The following students were drawn to be our Compliment Card winners during our weekly drawing.



Week of September 25 - Tatianna Bartee, Samantha Barrett, Austin Best, Bailey Forcier, Sami Gordon, Nathan Homer, Aadison Lujan, Matt Miner, Natalie Riach, Dylan Tatum,

Week of October 2 - Kaida delaFuente, Samantha Dirks, Annabelle Fisher, Sam Hansen, Shaye Hayden, Brie Meyer, Trey Olshan, Danielle Pais, Josh Stepp, Mike Teagarden

Week of October 9 - Ashlei Addington, Breanna Briles, Hannah Carlisle, Angela Coburn, Izabella Fimbrez, Mackenna Forte, Jack Laney, Alex SantaMaria, Skylar Simko, Ari Williams

Week of October 16 - Jax Almodovar, Yumin Han, Isaac Hatcher, Edward Hweimel, Carsen Jones, Thomas Katzaroff, Kevin Messner, Catherine Moore, Catie Morenzoni, Brianna Sankar