



Tecler Elementary Arts in Education Magnet School

Pre-Kindergarten Ms. Fura

May 2009

The Pre-K class will have a busy month of May! We are excited to have the Scotia-Glenville Museum return to teach us about Honey Bees. During the program the students will learn about the body parts of a honey bee, how they communicate, and their shared responsibilities in the hive. They will also make a worker bee and even taste honey!

Last September the class watched the incredible lifecycle of the Monarch Butterfly. We enjoyed it so much that we decided to welcome another batch into our classroom this month. This time we will observe the lifecycle of the Painted Lady Butterflies. We expect the change from caterpillar to butterfly to take approximately 3 weeks. Once we observe the butterflies for a few days we will release them into their natural environment. We know that this is important so they can continue their normal life cycle to breed and lay the eggs that will become caterpillars.

The students will finish learning the letters of the alphabet this month. Once we introduce the letters Yy and Qq we will know all the letters! The class will then review all the letter names and sounds. We will also continue to work with words that rhyme. In math, we will work on writing and identifying numbers to 20, as well as simple addition and subtraction with objects. During science the children will learn about plants and what they need to grow. Each child will plant their own seeds and care for them.

Reminders:

- ☺ May 11: Field Day
- ☺ May 15: Staff Development Day—11:35 Dismissal
- ☺ May 22: No School
- ☺ May 25: No School

Read for the Ranch:

Once again the Tecler families have shown their true generosity for others. I have finished totaling the results from the Read for the Ranch fundraiser and am pleased to inform you that we raised over \$500 again this year, for the Double H Ranch. Because of your hard work and generosity, we can be proud to say that we have raised money for special children to attend the camp this Summer. I want to thank all of you who participated, including those who were unable to attend the event, but acquired donations anyway. We are looking forward to doing this again next year, and are hoping for more participation, both with the fundraising as well as attending the event. Everyone has a great time, and it makes reading a lot of fun. Thank you again for your generosity.

Mrs. Nora Bartman





Kindergarten

Baker, Lis, Ogborn

April Showers brought us growing kindergarten flowers! We have been very busy this past month working in school. We learned about ways to keep our Earth clean and how important it is to recycle, reduce and reuse. We learned about Earth Day by writing about the Earth. We learned letters H,L,G,and E. It is very exciting to have the children read their decodable readers in class. We will continue working in Unit 5 in our reading series. Please continue working at home on all skills. We will be welcoming the month of May with writing about how special our mother/Aunt/Grandmother is to us. Now that the nice weather is here, we will be going outside. Please make sure your child is dressed according to the school dress code policy. It is very important to follow this policy to teach the children how important it is to follow rules. Please also continue reading with your child and practice their sight words daily. In May, we will be taking a walk down to the first grade rooms to explore for next year. Have a wonderful new month!

First Grade

Cappuccio, Malpass, Russell, Spagnola

The first graders have been working hard this year as they prepare for second grade. The end of the school year is coming fast and there is still so much to learn! In our math series there are two chapters left. For the month of May the children will be working through Chapter 11, "Addition and Subtraction Facts to 18," and Chapter 12, "Two Digit Addition and Subtraction." This would be a great time to get those flash cards out and practice with your child at least 5-10 minutes per evening.

In our reading series we are still working through the theme of "Treasures." The big idea for the next three chapters will be "Treasures to Share." The stories that the children will read will be "The Lady in the Moon," "Peter's Chair," and "Henry and Mudge and Mrs. Hopper's House." It is always great practice for your child to re-read their take home decodable readers each night for extra practice with the new skills and for fluency.

We will be having one field trip for the month of May. The first grade will be going to Proctor's Theatre to see "The Dirty Socks Funtime Band." This trip goes along with our magnet theme as a carryover from our music semester. Other upcoming fieldtrips for the first grade are the Amsterdam Free Library and Shuttleworth Park.

Second Grade

Lockhart, Martuscello, Twardy

Second graders have been busy learning about chickens life cycle. They have been turning the eggs and learning how eggs develop into chicks. The students have been waiting patiently for the chicks to hatch.

Earth Day was celebrated by learning about reducing, reusing, and recycling. Many students participated in the liter less lunch day. They also performed a poem at the Earth Day Celebration.

The students have been reading many stories that teach about different responsibilities. they have learned about the responsibilities that community helpers have and even how to be a responsible pet owner.

Third Grade

DeGroff, Schilling, Zanella

In Reading we will be finishing up unit 5 on cultures. Our last unit focuses on freedom, and what it means. First we will be discussing the Statue of Liberty and what it means to Americans.

In Math we are working in Chapter 8 Geometry and Measurement. Relating shapes and solids, line segments, angles, polygons and volume. Chapter 9 we will be starting fractions and measurements.

Health we are finishing up Nutrition. Tests will be given the last week in April. The next unit will be summer safety.

In Social Studies we will be finishing up our rainforest unit after Spring break. Then we will be looking at deserts and preparing ourselves for our end of the year test.

The new Science unit is all about our earth inside and out. Talk about the 3 layers inside the earth, the features on the surface, erosion and the water cycle.

Please keep in mind Earth Day, practice clean up and RESPECT everyday.

Fourth Grade

Farrington, Polikowski, Slusarz

YAY!!!! 4th grade has completed all of its state tests for this year!!!! The Science test is over. We will be moving onto environmental issues. Please be on the lookout from now until the end of the year for any papers your child brings home. We have many activities coming up including Field Day and field trips. Thank You!!!!

Mrs. Donnan's Class

In Social Studies we finished our state reports and continued to practice the song "Nifty, Fifty United States". The students were able to name all fifty states from memory! Some students have received information from the tourism offices of their chosen states. We are still hoping the rest will also receive mailings. We had three guest science lessons from the Cornell Cooperative Extension. Mrs. Dygert did two lessons, "Turtle Sprouts" and "A Bug's Life". Mr. Clark came to teach about energy and energy conservation. Finally, we joined the third grade classes on a field trip to Proctors Theater. We saw the performance of "Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters".



Fifth Grade Blanchard & LaPlante

Ten fifth graders took part in the Be Kind to Animals Week poster and essay contest sponsored by the Animal Protective Foundation in Glenville. Julieonna Haley is a winner in the poster category. She will receive her award at a program at Proctor's Theater in Schenectady on May 4th. Congratulations, Julieonna! On April 30th, the fifth graders visited Lynch Middle School to meet some of the faculty and staff and get some information about 6th grade. They also had a tour of the building.

The 5th grade Science classes have been learning about the environment. For the annual Earth Day Celebration, they wrote essays and designed posters. Brooke Dado and Michael O'Neil read their winning essays at the Earth Day assembly. Poster winners were Aliyyah Thomas, Monty Carmona, Ben Rhodes, and Paige Miller.

Six fifth graders competed in the annual Litter King/Queen contest. Andy Madej was chosen King along with his court of Cheyenne Burda, Monty Carmona, Grace Montenaro, Luis Caraballo, and Malina Rivera. They were all judged on the creativity of their costumes and their responses to an environmental question.

Parent Partnership Team

I would like to thank the parents that returned the workshop survey, I do understand how busy you are and you need to know the workshops are to help you and your child. When parents are involved in school activities, their child will do better in school.

A Parent Partnership meeting will be Wednesday, May 6th. We will discuss workshops for the next year on strategies parents feel they could use.

SCIENCE FUN NIGHT



Thank you to everyone that helped out at the Science Fun Night. Without your help, we wouldn't have had such a great night!! Your help allowed us to create a fantastic night of exploring.

Thanks Again,
Mrs. Schilling, Ms. Slusarz, Mrs. Creedon

Magnet News

Nancy Rad

So many wonderful things have been happening at Tecler through the Arts in Education Magnet Program. We have had several Artists in Residence in to work with the classes and beginning on Tuesday, May 19 our last Artist in Residence will be with us. Homespun Community Dance will be here to spend five days working with our students. On Tuesday, May 26 at 6 pm we will be holding a special family night. This is a free event for all Tecler Families. Homespun will be teaching and entertaining everyone. Come wearing comfortable shoes! I am also looking for some parent volunteers who can assist us during the residency. The dates for the residency are May 19, May 20, May 21, May 26 and May 27. Please email me (nrad@gasd.org) or send in a note with your child to let me know if you are available to assist for any part of this time. Thank you in advance for your support of this program.

Our third graders had the opportunity to attend a show at Proctors of Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters. Prior to attending, some children worked with Mrs. Beedon to develop a story on tape complete with sound effects of Mufaro's beautiful Daughters. This taping occurred after the third graders had learned some dramatic skills working with Mr. John McGuire our last Artist in Residence who represented New York State Theater Institute. First Graders are attending a performance at Proctors with the Dirty Sock Fun Time Band! This show reinforces the dance and music appreciation that they have developed throughout the year. Fifth graders are working on making large Paper Mache sculptures of Art in Education symbols to be on display in downtown. Mrs. Erdmann and Mrs. Rad are working with these students during their Art Classes to create these three dimensional pieces.

Save the date for Homespun, Tuesday, May 26, 2009 from 6 to 7:30 in the Gym at Tecler School! If you can assist during the residency, please let me know!

REMINDER: Please remember to watch your speed and use caution in both parking lots. With the warmer weather, more activities are taking place outside. Thank you.



FLAG DAY

We will have our annual All-School Flag Day Program on Friday, June 12th at 9:30 am. The program will be held in the gymnasium. The event will include a presentation of songs and essays by the students, a gun salute, musical selections, and a color guard. Everyone is invited to attend...bring a veteran.

Parent Requests

Planning for our 2009-2010 school year is a very ambitious and time consuming task. Our faculty will work hard during these next months to prepare for the fall 2008 opening.

I always have numerous requests and inquiries from parents concerning their child's placement for next year. I believe that your child's successes academically as well as emotionally can be best determined by our experienced, professional staff. They will explore individual student learning styles, academic styles, academic progress, and an equitable distribution of boys and girls in an attempt to provide a "balanced" class for next year's teacher.

Specific requests for a certain teacher will not be honored, as it becomes too difficult to accommodate everyone's request and keep individual classes balanced. Every attempt will be made to include all factors in the placement decision.

As always, we will continue to work hard to make Tecler Elementary the best learning environment for your children.

Most sincerely,

Ms. Terry Dewey

Principal

From the School Nurse...

When a child is sent home for Head Lice, they must be brought to school by an adult and be cleared by the school nurse before being allowed to return to class—They are not to ride the bus until cleared.

Dress Code Reminder

Please be sure your child comes to school appropriately dressed. This is an air-conditioned building. Therefore, the following items of clothing are NOT appropriate for school.

Cut-Off Tee Shirts

Tank Tops (NO Spaghetti Straps)

Midriff Tops

Short Skirts

Meshed Tops

Flip-Flops

Short Shorts

If you have any questions, please call Ms. Dewey about the proper dress for school.

Earth Day

On April 29th, the WB Tecler Arts in Education Magnet School celebrated Earth Day led by the Litter King Andy Madej and his court Grace Montenegro, Malina Rivera, Luis Caraballo, Cheyenne Burda, and Monty Carmona. Kaitlyn Devine was Master of Ceremonies assisted by Joey Magliocca and Brandon Johnson.

The 2nd grade recited an Earth Day Poem and Mrs. Cappuccio talked about the Earth Day bookmarks the classes made for the Amsterdam Public Library.

The two winners, for the Earth Day essay contest, Michael O'Neil and Brooke Dado read their essays to everyone.

The 5th grade poster winners were announced by Mrs. Blanchard. They were Aliyyah Thomas, Monty Carmona, Ben Rhodes, and Paige Miller.

Mrs. Brickner spoke about the 450 paper bags that were decorated and presented to Price Chopper to hand out on Earth Day, April 22, to their customers.

Songs were sung by the first and fifth grades and everyone joined in with singing their favorites the Habitat and the Big Beautiful Planet songs.

Ms. Lockhart spoke about the litterless lunch that was held recently and Ms. Dewey ended the celebration with an Earth Day message.

