



Corbitt Connection

May 10, 2010



Reading Celebration Countdown

Less than one month away, on Friday, June 4th we will have our 3rd annual Reading Celebration. This will be when we find out if we, as a school, have met Mrs. Walker's goal and have read 80,000 (or more) books. If we have met the book goal we will see Mrs. Walker get buried in sand at the flag raising. Also, all of the students that have met their individual book goal of 360 (or more) books will participate in the Reading Celebration. The Reading Celebration is going to be a lot of fun! Each week after collecting the students' homework I tally the books that have been read, recorded and returned on the book logs. As of Friday's count only a handful of students will be participating in the reading celebration—they know who they are. If you want to ensure that your child participates in the fun make sure that he/she reads, records and returns the necessary number of books.

"What Can I Do at Home?"

I am continuously impressed with your children. Each and every student has worked hard throughout the year. During reading our Kevin Henkes author study one of the elements of responses and book talks is inferring the "author's message," what it is that you think the author is trying to teach you or tell you in the story. Many of the children were able to pick up on the lessons and back their reasoning up with text support. This week I would like to encourage you to practice this strategy at home. It is these higher level thinking activities and strategies that will continue to deepen your child's reading and understanding of the reading. (As an added bonus—these strategies will help your child in less than two years on the FCAT.)

Writer's Workshop Update

This week there are just a few students that are wrapping up the polishing of their responses. Once everyone has completed this task we will experiment a little with poetry. This is always a fun time in writing especially towards the end of the year.

Reader's Workshop Update

This week I will be reading some poems and poetry books in preparation for our writing next week. We will be talking about the rhythm and phrasing of the poems and other key elements. Our knowledge of syllables will help us when we look at haikus.

Math Investigation Update

This week we will continue to work on our measurement unit, *Bigger Taller, Heavier, Smaller*. We will continue to use nonstandard units of measure. Last week we used pencils, and our hands and feet this week we will be using snap cubes and paperclips.

Skills Block

This week our spelling pattern will be working with a different "bossy r" (or). Last week because of the Book Fair we were not able to go to the library to use the thesauruses to explore synonyms so we will this week.

Important Dates to Remember

May 12	Early Dismissal @ 1:45 p.m.
	Progress Reports Go Home ☺
May 13	Library-Don't forget your book!
June 4	Reading Celebration-Has your child read and recorded 360 books?