



April 2009

Stories Creek Elementary School

Gator Gazette

From the Principal's Pen

Mrs. Veronica Clay

The time is quickly approaching for our students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades to take the End of Grade Test.

During the final weeks of the school year, your child will take the state-required multiple-choice North Carolina End-of-Grade tests in Reading and Math. Fifth graders will also take a Science EOG test. Scores on the tests are among the many ways to find out how well your child is doing in school. Test scores are considered along with all other available academic information that the school has. Students who score a level 3 or 4 are considered to be on grade level.

Several different forms of the end-of-grade reading and math tests are administered in each classroom. Even though the forms contain different test questions, these forms have been "equated" so that student scores can be compared. One test format is no different than another.

Many parents ask "How can I help my child?" There are a number of ways that you can help. Make sure your child completes their homework assignments nightly. These assignments are a very important part of your child's academic success. Send your child to school every day. It is very difficult to make up everything a child misses when they are out of school. Have your child at school on time and make sure they stay the full day. Every minute of instruction is crucial to your child's success. If your child is involved in a tutoring program, make sure they attend the sessions and encourage them to do their very best. Another way you can help your child is through parental involvement efforts here at school. Attend parent teacher conferences. Ask questions if you do not understand an assignment your child has been given. Ask for additional practice work to complete with your child at home.

Students who do not score a level 3 or 4 will be involved in remediation May 25-29 and will retest June 1-3. Parents of students who need to retest in math and reading will be notified no later than Friday, May 22. Fifth grade students who will need to retest in science will be notified on Monday May 25.



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Parents of Car Riders

Please note: For the safety of all children at Stories Creek, please remain in your car in the afternoon when school dismisses. Monitors will get your child safely to your car. Thank you for your cooperation.

Third Quarter Honor Roll

A Honor Roll

3rd Grade

Meghana Patel
Carlee Hawkins
Meghana Patel

4th Grade

Noemi Bustamante
Noah Carver
Julianna Jones
Meghan McCowan
Catie Mooney

5th Grade

Austin Currier
Trey Golden
Hannah Hutchinson
Blake Jones
Mary Louise Kafer
Olivia Knott
Katie Ann Oakley
Adam Ramsey
Rachel Shotwell



A/B Honor Roll

4th Grade

Erica Bumpass
Luke Burton
Makayla Carr
Marshal Duncan
Virginia Harris
Izik Martinez
Logan Martinez
Preston Mayberry
Miracle Page
Ian Parsons
Nick Parsons
Jynna Perry
Brooke Peed
Brittany Poteat
Sara Sumner
Cody Walker

5th Grade

David Anaya
Blair Bradsher
Zach Carver

Special Olympics

After two rain delays, the day finally arrived for our athletes to compete in the Special Olympic events on Tuesday, April 7, 2009. The events were held at Person High School on the football field.

The participants were eager to compete and did very well. The day was cold, but our athletes braved the cold and did their very best. Stu-

dents competing in the events received bronze, silver, and gold medals in their events. Our students came home with a total of four gold, nine silver, and eight bronze medals as well as a fourth place ribbon.

We are so proud of our students! Way to go Gator Athletes!



Stories Creek Elementary School

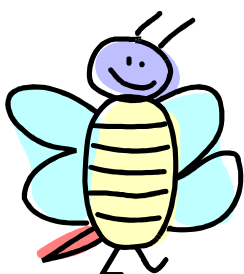
133 Stories Creek School Rd, Roxboro, NC 27573

Phone: 336-503-8071 Fax: 336-503-8083 E-mail: stetsonl@person.k12.nc.us

Website: www.person.k12.nc.us/storiescreek

Brett the Bee Man Comes to Stories Creek

On April 3, 2009, the second grade students at Stories Creek Elementary had the privilege of hosting Mr. Brett Butler, a certified beekeeper from the NC mountains, for an educational presentation on bees.



Students learned about the life cycle of bees from egg to adulthood as well as practiced

their bee identification skills using a live display hive.

Students discovered the complex process of honey production within the hive as well as how it is processed on a commercial scale. The day ended with a sampling from a variety of honey flavors, eaten with a newfound appreciation for the bee and its many contributions to our society.

Much was learned from this up close view of how bees live.



Music Notes 🎵🎵🎵🎵

Gold Medal Musicians for the third nine weeks of school are:

- K- Brianna Ramsey
- 1st- Grey Carver
- 2nd - Kaleb Gentry
- 3rd - Alexis Thompson
- 4th - Aleshia Short
- 5th - Hunter Phelps

Congratulations to these outstanding music students!!

Counselor's Corner

April's character trait was Leadership. Fourth and fifth grade students examined the life of Cesar Chavez looking for examples of leadership. Second and third grade students watched a film that discussed many leaders. Kindergarten and first grade students watched a biography film of either Harriet Tubman or George Washington. Students also explored career options. All students were exposed to careers that they may not have heard of before and they learned more about themselves.

May's character trait will be perseverance.

Fourth Graders Go to Camp!

Stories Creek fourth graders got to enjoy a real camp experience at Camp Chestnut Ridge on April 8th located in Efland, North Carolina. This environmental education center nestled on 362 picturesque wooded acres complete with a lake, retreat center, and a whole host of facilities, made it the perfect location for fourth graders to learn and explore.

The programs complemented science objectives from

the North Carolina Standard Course of Study and were administered by trained professionals. The students had so much fun getting their hands dirty that they did not even realize they were learning! Most would say that their favorite part was collecting and studying aquatic animal life from the shores of the pristine 10 acre lake.

Others might insist that examining an amazing personal

collection of rocks and minerals found on every continent of the planet was their favorite. But almost all would agree that that getting up close and personal with a local food web by examining owl pellets was the absolute BEST!

For more information about Chestnut Ridge Camp and Retreat Center and summer camp opportunities visit www.CampChestnutRidge.org or call (919) 338-2820.

Student Earth Day Essays

Recycling is very important because it helps earth grow and be healthy. Also, recycling can be fun sometimes like you could get 5 bins and put cans in one, plastic in one, mixed paper in one, glass in one, magazines in the other. Recycling means a lot it means Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. I call those the 3 R's.

You can Recycle cans, plastic, glass, cardboard, mixed paper and newspaper. We can all help by cutting the lights off after you're done using a room or don't stay long in the shower. We can all help somehow!

The 3 R's are very fun! You should recycle, reduce and reuse. My favorite thing to do is recycle because when we go to the recycling center I try to throw it in the big metal bins!

By Alexis Starvaggi
Third Grade



Recycling is making old products into new ones. Recycling is very important. It is important to the earth. It makes the earth a better place to live for humans.

I can recycle lots of stuff at home like aluminum, plastic, cans, and bottles to recycle. We can also reuse stuff and reduce things like we can stop using plastic bags and start using plastic containers to reduce. Oh and 2we can reuse Food Lion or Walmart bags. My family can h elp recycle more like once a week instead of once every two months.

I am going to convince everyone to recycle. TO make earth a better place to live and not with trash everywhere. So recycle!

By Bryson Mooney
Third Grade



Recycling is making the world a better place so we can make a difference. It is important because our world is hurting. We need to recycle for our mother earth.

We can recycle paper, plastic and metal at our house. People from over the world recycle things they don't need. Families can help the environment too because they help our world be a better place to live.

Everyone needs to help our world be a better place to live. Our mother earth needs us to make a huge difference so we can be a recycle team.

By Makayla Talley
Third Grade

Media Center News

<http://www.person.k12.nc.us/storiescreek/Media/mediacenter2.htm>

As the year comes to a close there are a few dates the Media Center would like parents keep in mind. The library will be closing for the year on May 28th. All books are due back to the library by the end of that day! Notices will be sent home the week before to let students know what books they have checked out. That day is also the last day for AR and the Waterworks celebration will be on June 5th.

The Reading Race

Kindergarten:	First Grade:
McAneny - 196 books	Oakley - 214 books
Long - 131 books	Chandler - 551 books
Hungate - 70 books	Ragains - 100 books



AR All Stars!

2nd	4th
Bowman - 101 pts	Carver - 96 pts
Burton - 97 pts	Montgomery - 86 pts
Sherron - 91 pts	Osman - 46 pts
3rd	5th
Dallas - 50 pts	Blain - 173 pts
Hodges - 101 pts	Briggs - 178 pts
Woodham - 36 pts	Dietz - 136 pts

Keep up the good reading!!!

KidBiz Corner

Stories Creek Elementary launched a new online reading comprehension program this year from Achieve 3000. Research has shown that KidBiz 3000 helps students improve reading comprehension, fluency, vocabulary, and writing if used properly and on a regular basis.

One of the great things about this program is that it is individualized to match your child's reading level. The initial assessment (called LevelSet) he or she completed when the program began in October determines the level of difficulty of the current events articles sent to him or her via email.

Students utilize a simple five-step process that is precisely matched to their learning abilities. We are very excited about this program and encourage students to complete articles at home too. For more information about KidBiz you may contact your child's teacher or go to www.kidbiz3000.com.

KidBiz Success Stories

Congratulations to the top three classes in the school who had the highest accuracy rate and each child completed at least 2 articles (on average) during the month of April.

Mrs. Briggs	83%	Mrs. Hodges	71%	Mrs. Osman	70%
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Party-in-a-Package Winner Announced

Congratulations to Mr. Blain's class who will be the recipients of the *Party-in-a-Package* for scoring the most points in the Spring into Read-

ing contest. The deadline was April 17th. Students were required to complete at least eight multiple choice activities starting on March 2nd. This was

the final contest for this school year. Mrs. Brigg's class was an earlier winner. Mr. Blain's class should receive their party goods in the mail any day now.

Top KidBiz Readers Across the School

The following students scored at least 80% on KidBiz multiple choice activities. We are so proud of their achievements. Stories Creek students really can succeed with Achieve3000!

Cheyenne Irby	Hunter Phelps	Samantha Smario	Gabe Snow
Felix Alley	Grace Long	Makayla Mayberry	Elijah Rush
Blair Bradsher	Zack Carver	Austin Currier	Trey Golden
Hannah Hutchinson	Olivia Knott	Mary Louise Kafer	Katie Ann Oakley
Adam Ramsey	Rachel Shotwell	Patience Smith	Kaleb Washington
Tim Williams	Avery Bowman	Edwin Bustamante	Summer Woodham
Virginia Harris	David Anaya	Blake Jones	Audrey Shaw
Marcus Silvers	Noemi Bustamante	Jacob Coleman	Lindsey Nemeth
Jacob Newcomb	Jynna Perry	Megan Westbrook	Erica Bumpass
Meghan McCowan	Jonathan Snead	Roshanon Owen	

Volunteers are needed for Field Day and Waterworks!

If you would like to help on Field Day (May 29) please contact Coach Frazier at frazierj@person.k12.nc.us. If you would like to help with Waterworks (June 5) please contact Ms. Stetson at stetsonl@person.k12.nc.us. You can also reach both by calling the school.
Thank you for all you do!

May 2009

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4	5 PTSO Exec Board Mtg. 5:30	6 Early Release 12:00	7	8 Kindergarten Orientation 12:30
11 Teacher Appreciation Week	12	13	14 PTSO General Meeting 7:00	15
18	19 EOG Testing	20 EOG Testing	21 EOG Testing	22 Science EOG Testing
25	26 Senior Reception 6pm	27	28 Last Day for AR All Library Books are Due	29 Field Day
June 1 EOG Retests	2 EOG Retests	3 EOG Retests	4 5th Grade Softball Game	5 AR Waterworks
8 Attendance Luncheons EOG Celebration	9 K-2 Awards Ceremony 9am 5th Grade Graduation 7pm	10 3-5 Awards Ceremony 9am Last Day of School		