



November 2008

Stories Creek Elementary School

Gator Gazette

From the Principal's Pen

Mrs. Veronica Clay

Reading for Meaning

Who? What?

Where? When? Why?

Experienced readers ask themselves these questions as they read. Finding the answers helps them understand the story.

To boost your child's comprehension, ask a few simple questions before and after reading.

What do you know?

Together, look at the cover of the book before you begin reading. Read the title and talk about the cover's picture. For example, a book

called "Polar Bears of the Cold" may have a picture of a mother polar bear with her baby. Ask your child, "What do you already know about polar bears?" She may say: "They are white. They eat fish." This gets your child thinking about polar bears before she starts to read the story.

What do you want to know?

Have your youngster think of questions she has about the story. She might ask: "How much do polar bears weigh?" "How

do they keep warm in icy water?" "Do they teach their babies to fish?" By deciding what she wants to know, she has set a goal to reach by reading.

What did you learn?

Ask your child questions about the story after you've finished reading it together. For example, "Did you find out what you wanted to know about polar bears?" "Did you learn some new things? What were they?" This will reinforce what he/she has learned.

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Congratulations October Essay Winners!

The following students' essays were chosen by Mrs. Clay as the winners of the October Writing Rocks contest.

Congratulations for all your hard work and wonderful writing!



Winners

- K – Brianna Ramsey
- 1 – Kyleigh Burton
- 2 – Avery Bowman
- 3 – Zachary Olson
- 4 – Meghan McCowan
- 5 – Olivia Knott

Honorable Mention

- K – Teleyah Heath
- K - Kristian Jones
- 1 – Grant Stone

- 1 – Nadia Cammon
- 1- Matt McCowan
- 2- Edwin Bustamante
- 2- Anna Carol Masten
- 2 – Felix Alley
- 3- Carlee Hawkins
- 3- Meghana Patel
- 4- Noemi Bustamante
- 4- Nick Parsons
- 5-Kourtney Ellis
- 5-Adam Ramsey

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.

PTSO News

Join the PTSO

PTSO membership only costs you \$5, but it provides a lot to the students and the school. Your \$5 helps purchase AR books and tests, playground equipment, teacher supplies, and much more!

If you are interested in joining, please fill out the form that was sent home and return it with your \$5 to the school.

The PTSO has many great things planned for the 2008-2009 school year! Thank you for taking an active role in your child's education by joining the PTSO.

Save Those Labels!!!

Look for these labels on your groceries, clip, and send them into school! Tyson prefers us to send in the entire label as seen here (1,2,3 / Support Your School) and not just the little black Project A+ box. Tyson pays us 24 cents per label!



Clip Box Tops from your favorite products

Look for the 10¢ Box Tops coupon on hundreds of your favorite products. Look over that box or bag before throwing it away! You can find Box Tops on brands such as **Cheerios®**, **Betty Crocker®**, **Pillsbury®**, **Ziploc®**, **Kleenex®**, **Hefty®** and more!!!

Shop at your favorite online stores

At the Box Tops Marketplace, you can shop at over 60 online stores including **Barnes & Noble**, **Lillian Vernon**, **Gap**, & **Office Depot**. A portion of every qualifying purchase is donated to your school - all at no additional cost to you! Go to <http://www.boxtops4education.com/AboutBoxTops/> and click on the "Marketplace" tab at the top!

Stories Creek Elementary School

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Vision Statement: Stories Creek Elementary School is committed to developing a learning environment in which all students succeed and are performing on or above grade level.

Using our knowledge about learning processes, child development and best teaching practices, our environment will be safe and orderly, rigorous and relevant, hands-on, and responsive to the needs of diverse learners.

Mission Statement: The guiding mission of Stories Creek Elementary is to promote a cooperative partnership among students, parents, community and staff. Our goal is to provide a learning environment conducive to academic achievement that will prepare our students for life in the 21st Century.

Belief Statement: Public education is imperative to the preparation of globally competitive students. To this end, we at Stories Creek believe:

All of our students can and must learn a rigorous and relevant core curriculum. Our school must meet the unique learning needs of each of our students. Our homes, school and community must serve and support one another. There must be a consistently, safe and orderly environment for teaching and learning to occur. Appropriate resources and services are essential for effective instruction. All stakeholders must continue to learn, and our school must continue to improve.

Counselor's Corner

This month in Guidance our character trait was responsibility. The students have learned all about what responsibility is and how they can show that they are responsible.

The Kindergarten, First and Second graders read *The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush*, the third graders learned about a character named Lazy Larry and the fourth and fifth graders read about Booker T. Washington. The kids also learned about safety. Next month the children will learn about caring and feelings.



Music Notes



The Gold Medal Musicians for the first nine weeks were the following students:

Kindergarten - Alivia Davis
First Grade - Aniya Fuller
Second Grade - Jayce McIver
Third Grade - Meghana Patel
Fourth Grade - Ian Parsons
Fifth Grade - Blake Jones



These students were always putting forth their best effort, listening, and following directions to the best of their ability. These awards will be given out each nine weeks. Congratulations to these fine musicians!

The K-2 Winter Music Program will be presented on Thursday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m. We hope you will join us as we celebrate the holiday season through music.

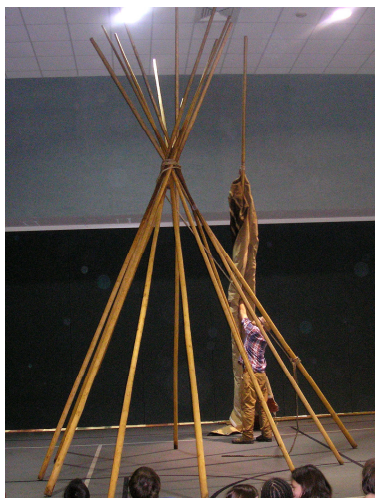
An Exciting Presentation by the Tipi Man

On Friday, November 14th, Mr. Brett Butler from Boone, NC was invited to come to Stories Creek and set-up an authentic Native American tipi for our second grade classes. Brett has lived in a tipi full-time for the past two years. He set up his full-size, painted tipi in the gymnasium. Brett's exciting presentation allowed students to watch the entire process of building a tipi, from the initial placement of the poles to the canvas-covered finished structure. Students also took a tour of the inside before re-

turning to class. Throughout the presentation, he entertained questions regarding everyday tipi life and how he lives in communion with nature such as by building fires to stay warm in the winter and finding adequate food through hunting and gathering.

Brett brought in many unique Native American crafts, beadwork, and tools to

share with the students. He also demonstrated primitive fire-making with the use of a bowdrill. This was a unique opportunity for the students and it was a real pleasure to have him come and share with our school.

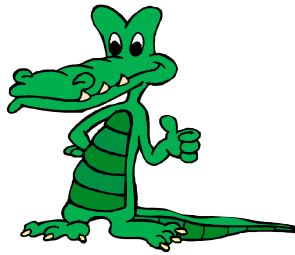


First Nine Weeks Honor Roll

Congratulations to the students who made the A or A/B Honor Roll for the first nine weeks!

A reception was held on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 for the students and their parents. Mrs. Clay presented each students with a certificate, pencil, and announcement that could be used at their church or in the newspaper. Afterward students enjoyed refreshments with their parents.

Congratulations again for all your hard work!



A Honor Roll

Third Grade

Carlee Hawkins
Meghana Patel

Fourth Grade

Noah Carver
Virginia Harris
Preston Mayberry
Meghan McCowan
Catie Mooney
Miracle Page

Fifth Grade

Blair Bradsher
Trey Golden
Mary Louise Kafer
Olivia Knott
Adam Ramsey
Jordan Scoville
Rachel Shotwell

A/B Honor Roll

Third Grade

Camryn Black
Bryson Mooney
Zachary Olson
Bradley Shores
Alexis Starvaggi
Carrie Suttle
Alexis Thompson
Noah Wallace

Fifth Grade

Zachary Carver
Tori Clayton
Austin Currier
Justice Gattis
Hannah Hutchinson
Blake Jones
Katie Ann Oakley
Hunter Phelps
Jordan Ramsey
Keraan Shaw

Fourth Grade

Dalton Blume
Luke Burton
Noemi Bustamante
Shynecia Cameron
Makayla Carr
Kelli Carver
Jacob Coleman
Cameron Crowder
Marsall Duncan
Maggie Gentry
Henry Lewis
Izik Martinez
Logan Martinez
Lindsay Nemeth
Brooke Peed
Sarah Sumner
Bobby Lee Vaughan
Cody Walker

First Nine Week AR Party

Friday, November 7, 2008 second through fifth grade students who met their AR goal with an 80% accuracy or above attended an AR Carnival. Students had the opportunity to have their face painted, do modern line dancing, paint a pumpkin, and have a snack. Everyone had a lot of fun!



A Special THANK YOU to Brown Farms and Wade Farms for each donating over 40 pumpkins!!!



AIG Math Matters

Graphing and Data Analysis:

The AIG students have created graphs on cancer statistics, the 2008 Presidential candidates' tax proposals, cigarette use by different demographic groups, and tuition at NC universities. After creating the graphs, students analyzed the data by finding the range, median, mode, and mean.

Voki:

The AIG students are creating a math terminology Voki. A Voki is a talking character that you can customize to look like you or take on the identity of lots of other types of characters. Students can use their own voice or a computer generated voice for their Voki. Each student will publish their Voki on a special AIG wiki.

**Congratulations to
Shawndale Sanford for
being the winner of the
October "Caught Being
Good" Award!**

A special THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the Book Fair and to anyone who came and supported our fair. We made over \$1,000, which will go toward books and supplies for the library. Thanks Again!

Kindergarten Field Trip

In October, the Kindergarten classes went on a field trip to Brown's Farm. Students went in the corn maze, were able to pet the animals, and take home their own pumpkin. It was a beautiful day outside and the students really enjoyed themselves.



Media Center News

Have you heard the news? AR has been upgraded! We moved to a web-based version of AR which gives our students access to ALL the AR tests the company has ever made, and ever will make!

To access the new version visit the Stories Creek website at: <http://person.k12.nc.us/storiescreek>. Then click on the link for the Media Center. About half way down the page you will see a blue box with all the new links.

AR Enterprise is the version students use at school to take quizzes. *AR Book Finder* is what you use to look up if a book is AR or not. Also, Parents can now access their child's quiz results, points, and accuracy by visiting *Home Connect*. A letter will be sent home soon with more information about Home Connect.

AR All Stars!

2nd	4th
Bowman - 98 pts	Carver - 68 pts
Burton - 48 pts	Montgomery - 88 pts
Sherron - 40 pts	Osman - 37 pts
3rd	5th
Dallas - 109 pts	Blain - 167 pts
Hodges - 74 pts	Briggs - 210 pts
Woodham - 49 pts	Dietz - 109 pts

The Reading Race

Kindergarten:	First Grade:
Long - 126 books	Oakley - 359 books
Hungate - 191 books	Chandler - 341 books
McAneny - 305 books	Ragains - 129 books

