



# Tiger Talk It's About Them. . .



Vol. 1 No. 12 November 11, 2009

## **Help Your Child Succeed in School-Put a Bookshelf in Your Child's Room**

Keep the shelf well stocked. It should include your child's own books, of course, but you can add to the stock and keep it fresh by including:

- Books and magazines borrowed from the public library and your child's school library
- Books you and your child have swapped or borrowed from other families
- Free books and pamphlets from organizations
- Back issues of magazines passed along to you by friends and neighbors
- Bargain books from book clubs and used-book stores

In addition, use the shelf to build a reference library for your child. Start with a dictionary

From *Help Your Child Succeed in School-Simple Strategies for Parents*

## **PreK 3 The Reggio-Emilia Way: PreK3 Does a Train Project:**

As part of the Reggio Emilia approach to education, the children and teachers are co-collaborators in learning. One of the main components of this approach is developing projects that follow the children's interest. The PreK3 class is concluding their train project. The project started about a month ago. After observing the children's play in the block center, the children were approached about doing a train project. The children were interested in discovering more about trains. Train books and train sets were brought into the classroom. The children were invited to bring train items from home. The children decided to paint boxes for train cars. The colors chosen by the children were red, blue, purple and green. Each child decided which train box to help paint. After painting the boxes/cars, they were placed in the classroom for play. The children decided which box/car to ride in to their destinations. Some of the places they traveled to were England, New Mexico, Colorado, college, and a pumpkin patch. The children would take the train books on the train to explore during their trips. You could hear the conductor say, "All aboard" and "choo choo" sounds coming from the passengers. We learned some trains run on steam and others run on coal. Some trains go very fast, and others go slowly. The children created wonderful train tracks, bridges, and tunnels

using the train sets and blocks. They painted with sponges to create a train pattern. They continue to discover new ways to build and use the train sets and cars. The project ends when the children lose interest and are ready to move on.

### **R.E.A.D All About It**

PK4 Classes are progressing quiet nicely through the alphabet. The letters/sounds p and r are the line letters learned this week. Stories for these Spalding sounds/letters are *The Pig and the Picnic* and *Rosie's Radishes*.

Kindergarten classes are reading books and doing much word work with the focus on manipulation of beginning, middle, and ending sounds. Spalding phonograms are reinforced and applied each time groups meet. Students are working with phonograms in isolation and in the context of what they are reading.

### **Third Grade Experiments with Sound:**

The third grade has been exploring sound while learning about the structure and function of the human ear. Students were fortunate to have two labs with Mr. Kremer's seventh and eighth grade elective classes. The third-grade students, with the help of the middle-school students, experimented with sound by creating "rubber band, tennis ball canister guitars". Students made the instruments after exploring the size and width of the rubber bands. Mr. Kremer discussed vibration, pitch, and high and low sounds.

Students recorded the information using components of the scientific method. A third lab on sound involved a small-group activity where each group had one dozen numbered plastic eggs, each containing an object. Students shook each egg and attempted to hypothesize about the object inside. Students wrote up their observations in scientific method format. All participants pronounced the labs as "FABULOUS and COOL). Third grade scientists love experimenting in the science lab.

### **Picture Retakes:**

Individual picture retakes will be made on on Wed. Nov 18th. If your child will be having retakes of his/her individual picture, please notify Ms. Becky or Ms. Margay so that we can compile a list for the photographer. Retakes will be done between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. only.

### **Early Room Relocation:**

Early Room care will be provided in the School gym on Friday, November 13th.

### **Athletic News:**

For the last two weeks physical education classes have had the privilege of having Mrs. Annie Snider teach yoga. Mrs. Snider is a certified Yoga instructor who has brought her knowledge and expertise to our classes. The students have enjoyed learning the tree pose, snail, mouse, mountain, warrior, rainbow, stick, bridge and various other poses. Thank you so much to Mrs. Snider for sharing her time and your talent with the P.E. classes.

## **Announcing Sally Foster Fund-raising!**

St. Luke's Episcopal School Code #56284 On-line Sally Foster sales at [www.sallyfoster.com](http://www.sallyfoster.com) Catalogs coming home in backpacks this week!!

## **Community Service Opportunities**

### **Help is need this weekend at the Tiger Cafe!**

Our 6th grade basketball league kicks off this weekend. We host teams from all over the city Friday evening and Saturday all day. The school is always in need of volunteers. If you are interested in helping 2 or more hours either day please contact Mrs. Clark (Noah's Mom). [scentchips@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scentchips@sbcglobal.net)

When: Friday November 13th 4-9pm & Saturday November 14th 8am-8pm

## **AND Don't forget**

### **SLES Middle School Service Project - Kids walk to cure diabetes!**

NOTE DATE CHANGE - The walk will be Monday, Nov. 16th at 3:30 at Olmos Park instead of Tomorrow, Nov. 12th.

What: Kids Walk to Cure Diabetes

When: Monday, Nov. 16th at 3:30

Where: Olmos Park, across the street from SLES

Details: The SLES Middle School students are raising money for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). Last year the 6th graders alone raised over \$4,100.

Each middle school student received an envelop to collect money. Students should have each donor write their name on a paper tennis shoe. EVERYONE CAN GET involved, we will invite the SLES community to donate and sign a shoe Thursday at carpool.

We would like 100% participation from the middle school students. Younger siblings, students, and teachers are welcome to come walk a mile at Olmos Park on Monday. Middle School students can turn in the money raised on Monday, Nov. 16th. The 1 mile walk will begin at 3:30 pm. Elementary students are welcome to participate but should be accompanied by an adult.

## **Kindergarten Turkey and Dressing**

Kindergarten classes have dressed turkeys in a variety of original garments and are writing narratives about their specially dressed turkeys. Be sure to stop by the preschool hallway to see the turkeys dressed in their finest with accompanying stories.

Kindergarten dads kept the fashion focus going as they joined kindergarten students in beading Indian costumes for the Thanksgiving performance. The kindergarten Native American-costumed students will join the PK3 and PK4 students in St. Luke's traditional

Thanksgiving performance and feast to be held on Friday, November 13 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Parish Hall.

### **Thanksgiving Celebration and Feast**

Our annual Thanksgiving Celebration and Feast will occur this Friday, November 13, 2009!

PK3- Kindergarten students will perform in Parish Hall beginning at 10:00a.m.

The Thanksgiving Feast will take place immediately after the performance.

PK3/PK4 students will have their feast in the hallway outside of the PK3/PK4 classrooms.

Kindergarten students will have their feast in Ms. Macha's classroom.

Come join us as we give thanks for all of our many blessings!

### **From the Library:**

Dear Bluebonnet Readers in Grades 3-6! Did you enjoy the **Camp Bluebonnet** DVD that introduced the 2009-2010 Master List with Chase Huggins and Julia Collins? Would you like to be in this year's video **The Bluebonnet Detective Agency: The Case of the Missing Medallion**? Pick up an application packet from the St. Luke's Library. Submit the application form along with your audition on a DVD, PC Compatible CD, or YouTube URL and bring to or mail to: Felice Feldman, Castle Hills Elementary School, 200 Lemonwood Drive, San Antonio, TX 78213. **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS NOVEMBER 13, 2009.**

For your audition you may do a recitation, talk about a favorite Bluebonnet book of the past, or showcase a talent. Please limit time to only 3 minutes. **BE SURE TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PRESENTATION.**

A committee will review the applications and call back the finalists for an interview and final audition in December.

The video will be filmed **SATURDAY January 9, 2010** and rehearsals will be held **January 4, 5, and 7**. Cast members will receive their script prior to Winter Vacation.

### **Library Check-out Information for Parents**

St. Luke's parents are invited to register for library privileges. Drop by the Newman Library anytime between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to sign up and check out library books. Parents may check out five books for two weeks.

### **Thank You for Book-a-Rama**

A big thank you to all the parents, faculty, staff, and administrators that made our Book-O-Rama such a memorable evening. For those of you who were not there, you missed a fun family event and the beginning of a new St. Luke's tradition. Our second, third, and fourth graders did a wonderful job with their Halloween choral reading as did the St. Luke's Choristers, led by our talented music teacher, Kelly Ritchie.

This year's Fall Book Fair Chair, Julie Lang, was extremely creative in adapting to our new venue at Barnes and Noble. She did a terrific job in organizing the Dad's Costume Contest commercials. Her scripts were hilarious and her traveling trophy (which will soon be on display in the library display case) is an original work of art.

A special thank you to all the Dads who participated in the commercials and/or the costume contest. To the mummy, the frog, the pirates, the tooth fairy, and many, many, more, YOU WERE ALL WONDERFUL!

The library will receive 20% of all Barnes & Noble sales that mentioned St. Luke's during our book fair day. Final sales were \$5770.64 which means the library made approximately \$1154. We will be able to purchase approximately 50 new books. These books will be appreciated and enjoyed by the entire St. Luke's school community.

### **From Donna Hester, Book Room**

Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who purchased books for the Bookroom during the Book Fair. Through your generosity, there will be 56 new titles added for teachers to use to maximize instruction. Each of these titles has six books that will be used for small group instruction in the classroom. They encompass various genres including fiction and nonfiction titles in science, social studies, and math. In addition, Reader's Theater books were purchased that will enable teachers to enrich students at all reading levels. Our Bookroom is growing by leaps and bounds. It will continue to extend and support our students' quest for knowledge from kindergarten through eighth grade.

### **More Library News**

Miss Anastasia and her special friend, Corduroy, will visit the St. Luke's Newman Library on Nov. 19th for two storytelling sessions. The first session will begin at 9:05 for Erfurth, Macha, and Marshall students; the second session will begin at 9:40 for Haden and McGehee students. Parents are invited to attend.

### **"Fritzi Abbott, How to Write" Author Series**

Poet Naomi Shihab Nye visited the St. Luke's Newman Library on Friday, Oct. 30 as part of the "Fritzi Abbott, How to Write" author series. The topic was how to craft a poem.

Prior to the visit, Mrs. Milligan shared Naomi Nye's poetry with the 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students, discussing not only the meaning, but the use of language and rhythm. The result of these discussions was the creation of a list of questions that were asked during her visit.

Mrs. Milligan and Ms. Nye created a lesson for each session that focused on three poems. For 5th & 6th grades, the focus was on three poems from A Maze Me and for 7th & 8th, attention was directed on three poems from 19 Varieties of Gazelle.

The next guest writer in series is Clare Dunkle. Her topic will be How to Write a Novel.

Clare Dunkle's books have sold over 70,000 copies and attracted the attention of critics as well as teens. The Hollow Kingdom won the Mythopoeic Award for Best Children's Fantasy Book and earned a Publishers Weekly starred review and a Publisher's Weekly "Flying Start" among other honors. Close Kin and By These Ten Bones both landed on the New York Public Library "Books for the Teen Age" lists. In the Coils of the Snake earned a starred review from Booklist and a place on the VOYA "Best Books for Fantasy, Science Fiction, and Horror" list. And the two most recent books, The Sky Inside, and its sequel, The Walls Have Eyes have both received outstanding reviews.

Clare Dunkle: How to Write a Novel, Nov. 20, Friday in the Newman Library

5 & 6 grades 11:25 - 12:15

7 & 8 grades 12:15-1:05

Parents are invited to attend.

### **Athletic News**

The SLES Athletic Council meeting, will be held in the Church large conference room on Friday, November 13th at 8 a.m. The Council would like all parents to know that if they are interested in participating in the council, volunteering to help with or coordinate events, have specific sports knowledge that could be valuable to the council, or are just simply interested in SLES sports, all are welcome. It is a great meeting to attend to gain insight into our Schools' sports teams, School coaches and event and game schedules.

### **Admission Open House....Huge Success**

Many thanks to all that helped make our Open House an informative and inspiring program for all who attended. Several prospective parents commented on how enthusiastic and accommodating our St. Luke's parents and students were in orchestrating the campus tours. Cathy Case, Tracee Feik, Jenifer Brown, and Kayde McCormick were our parent tour guides and Steele Sessions, Natalie Ribble, Jacob Medina, and Regan Brunsvold were Middle School guides. One of the many highlights of the morning were Audrey Zgardowski, 3rd grade and Jacob Reinhardt, 6th grade who declaimed for our guests. **Our next Open House will be January 27, 2010.** Please spread the word! Margaret Ann Casseb, Director of Admission

### **Dance Footnotes**

Ms. Gorman, our Dance Director, is planning a dance program field trip in December to attend the North East School of the Arts (NESA) Stepping into the Holidays dance production. This annual NESA dance production is a showcase for some of the most talented high school dance students in San Antonio. It is San Antonio's answer to the Fame movie and a delightful way to get into the Christmas spirit. As a Fine Arts satellite school located on the campus of Lee High School, all of the auditioned

attendees plan to become either professional dancers or pursue dance education careers. **The students who are attending the field trip will meet in the south parking lot on Sunday, December 6 at 1:00 p.m. We will board the bus at 1:15 p.m. All student are to be promptly picked up in the south parking lot at 5:15 p.m. Please be on time.**

The production runs from Friday December 4 through Sunday December 6. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. with 2:30 p.m. matinees on Saturday and Sunday. The SLES dancers will attend the Sunday afternoon performance.

### **Looking Ahead**

Nov. 13th - 6th Grade Celebration Chapel

Nov. 13th PK3-K Thanksgiving Performance/Feast Begins at 10:00 in Parish Hall.

Feast will follow performance. Feast for PK3-PK4 will be in the School gymnasium.

Feast for kindergarten will be in kindergarten classrooms

Nov. 16th - Junior Diabetes Research Foundation - 1 mile walk in Olmos Park @ 3:30 pm

Nov. 19th - Science Fair - Judging in the am - Public viewing Thursday afternoon and Friday morning

Nov. 20th - 4th Grade Outdoor School

## ***Learning the Art of Life***