



Brainy BUNCH NEWS



Volume 4

January 15, 2009

Our library day has been switched to Fridays beginning this week!

Dates to Remember...

Jan. 16 We're half way through 2nd Grade!

Jan. 19 No School

Jan. 23 Mackenzie's birthday

Feb. 5 100th Day of School

Feb. 13 Valentine's Day party

Feb. 16 conference day

A note about scheduling spring semester conferences will be sent home in early Feb. I prefer not to have all the conferences on this day.

Feb. 22 Michael's birthday

I will be absent several days in the next couple of months for math and technology training. Miss Frisk will be the sub so our classroom routine will not be disrupted.

Have You Heard About...

This is a partial list of all the things that have been keeping The Brainy Bunch busy. (books we've read, games or activities, topics we've studied, etc.) Please ask your child about them if you haven't already heard about them!

The Tale of Despereaux

I Spy series by Jean Marzollo

The King's Commissioners

The Gingerbread Man

The Jalapeño Man

Isaac Newton

A Picture Book of Martin Luther King

A Picture Book of Thomas Jefferson

reader's theatre

zone reading

biographies

writing and reading poetry

Be a Mind Reader (spelling game)

measuring time with stopwatches

counting money

addition & subtraction of 2 digit numbers

Roll a Square

Pennies or Nickels

Get to 100

Special Days in February – Help Needed

Plans are under way for second graders to celebrate the 100th Day of School and Valentine's Day. Activities planned for the 100th Day of School are intended to increase understanding of math concepts with a focus on place value. All students will make an "I Spy" style collage using 100 small objects. The collages will be used to make an interactive game using PowerPoint. You can see a similar project on our old web page at: <http://www.austinschools.org/campus/gullett/classes/hardin/images/ispy0607.htm> We have been collecting small objects all year – but still need many more for the project to be successful. Examples of items we can use are: mini erasers, tiny craft items, old keys, buttons, gumball machine type toys, bottle caps, fridge magnets, etc. This would be a great time to have your child clean out their room and bring all those little things you want them to get rid of to school! Students also enjoy making a "100 Snack." We need volunteers to send cereal and other food items needed for the snack. Please send me an email if you would like to provide one of the items for the "100 Snack." Valentine's Day will be celebrated with a special breakfast and exchange of Valentine cards. Other activities throughout the day will have a Valentine theme.

Star Students

Every full week of school someone in The Brainy Bunch gets their time to shine! On Monday they share a poster all about them. (It will be sent home a week or two early in order to give the student time to fill it in and color it.) Later in the week they recite a favorite poem, share a current event that interests them, tell a joke and tell us about one of their favorite books.

Upcoming Star Students:

January 26 – 30	Alyssa
February 2 – 6	Michael
February 23 – 27	Chloe
March 2 – 6	Lael
March 9 – 13	Emily
March 23 – 27	Wes