

PICKETT POST

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FRANCES BRANDON PICKETT ELEMENTARY

Principal's Post

Dear Pickett Families,

It's hard to believe we are already finishing up with the 3rd quarter. Students and teachers are gearing up for spring break. We held Kindergarten Countdown on January 20 and had over 60 families register their children for the upcoming school year. If you missed the event, don't worry as you still have plenty of time to register. Registration packets can be picked up and completed Monday thru Friday from 7:45am – 4:00pm. In addition, if you are currently living outside of our boundaries or have plans to move and would like to continue at FBPE make sure you complete a new application for the upcoming year.

FBPE will be participating in the "Bench the Bag" program coordinated by the Town of Queen Creek again this year. Elementary schools across Queen Creek will compete to collect the most plastic bags (grocery bags, dry cleaning bags, department store bags, and shrink wrap). The school that collects the most bags will receive a bench donated by Trex. The collection drive will run February 1 through March 4, so start saving those bags!

PTO has a few of fundraising events that are happening or will begin happening soon. They include:

Tuft & Needle Online Mattress Sales:

Did you know that Tuft & Needle is giving FBPE a percentage of each mattress sold online through the end of the school year? If you have family or friends (even out of state) who are in the market for a mattress, please direct them to this link to place an order at www.tn.com/givesback. The company offers a 100 day sleep guarantee. If for any reason you're dissatisfied with your purchase (within that 100 day window) the company will give you a full refund and arrange for a local charity to pick up the mattress from your home.

Textile Drive: Starting this month the PTO will be holding a textile drive, so start saving all old clothes, shoes, stuffed animals, towels, rugs, bedding, pillows, etc. There will be an incentive for the class/grade with the most weight in bags.

Harkins Cups and T-Shirt Vouchers:

Vouchers are available to purchase from the front office. Cups are \$5.00 each and T-Shirts are \$25.00.

We would like to encourage our parents to donate to FBPE through the Arizona Tax Credit Program. Funds from the program are used for extracurricular activities, such as field trips/stay trips, clubs, music, art,

author's visits, and character education to name a few. If you are interested in learning more about the program visit this our webpage to view a short video about the benefit to you and the school.

As always, your support and feedback are appreciated. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact the office at 480-987-7420.

Sincerely,

Sherry Towns
Principal
Frances Brandon-Pickett Elementary

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Kindergarten Scoop

Mrs. Adolph, Mrs. Litle, Mrs. Morgan & Ms. Romero

The Kindergarten classes are working on naming coins, the value of coins, and singing about them. They are counting and writing to 75, and ordering numbers. Wow! They are getting better every day with our addition and subtraction skills too. They love to learn about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln-- and how they lived long ago and special facts about them being on money and the special things they did to help people.

Mrs. Litle, Ms. Romero, Mrs. Morgan, and Mrs. Adolph

Fun Websites to Check Out!

www.pbskids.org

www.starfall.com

www.abcya.com

www.scholastic.com/parents/play/games

www.si.edu/Kids

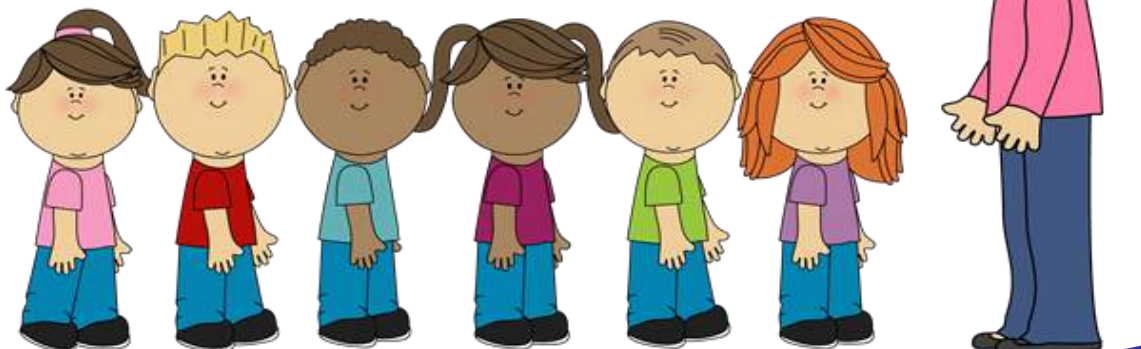
www.brainpopjr.com

THANK YOU!

First Grade News

Mrs. Caspersen, Mrs. Cope, Mrs. Gettens & Mrs. Schiermyer

First grade continues to work on new sounds and making words with those sounds. (-nk, and -ng) The students have been applying their skills to describe characters, retell stories, and identify the main ideas and details. The students have been working on solving equations, telling time, and practicing their number sense by identifying 1 more, 1 less, 10 more, and 10 less.



Super 2nd Graders

Ms. Denault, Mrs. Mesman, Mrs. Newberry & Mrs. Sommer

3rd Quarter has definitely flown by as we can hardly believe that Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences are just around the corner! Be sure to be looking for information regarding conferences provided by your child's teacher.

2nd Grade kiddos have been working hard this quarter on many different reading and math skills. Your child has learned how to tell time to the nearest 5 minutes, how to measure in both Customary and Metric, how to retell fables and identify their central moral, on top of comparing and contrasting various fairytales from different cultures and/or authors! Take advantage of www.TurtleDiary.com for additional practice with numerous reading and math concepts learned in class. The video lessons and practice games are engaging, interactive, and educational; a win-win!

We would also like to take the time to give a friendly reminder about the Raz Kids 3rd Quarter reading goals. Please make sure your child is utilizing this wonderful reading supplement program at home as much as possible! There are 15 books selected for your child in their Reading Assignment portal. They are to listen, read, then take e-quizzes for these books before the end of the quarter.

From the 2nd Grade Team, we thank you for all of your support and encouragement; inside and outside the classroom!

Terrific 3rd Graders

Ms. Campbell, Mrs. Hudson, Mr. Taylor & Mrs. Waddington

We are working hard heading into the end of our third quarter together. All classes are preparing for our benchmark testing coming up at the end of February. Please be sure to have your child at school on time if possible. Your child's teacher will let you know the specific days your child will be testing.

Some third grade classes have enjoyed learning about different types of rocks and fossils. At the end of the quarter they will have an in class field trip where they will get to touch, hold, and explore all of the different types of rocks, minerals, and fossils they just learned about. At the end of the presentation

each student will be given their own shark tooth fossil!

All third graders learned about author's point of view

and purpose for writing. The students discovered author's purpose through reading all different types of passages. Some students were able to illustrate what author's purpose is and the characteristics of each type of writing presented.

The entire third grade team is excited going forward into the fourth quarter. Your student has worked very hard and has grown so much since July. We hope everyone has a safe and wonderful spring break!

Ms. Campbell, Mrs. Hudson, Mr. Taylor, and Mrs. Waddington



Fabulous 4th Grade

Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Orlowski & Mrs. Skon

4th grade is cruising through the 3rd quarter! With only a few weeks left before Spring Break, we are very busy mastering the remaining math standards, such as finding area and perimeter, converting both Metric and Standard measurements, solving measurement word problems, and multi-step word problems, just to name a few. We are doing very well with the schoolwide Accelerated Math competition! According to the last update, 4th grade is at 1,651 points, with an 85% + average.

In Language Arts, we are doing multiple activities across the grade level, from whole class literature studies, small group book studies and book reports, to individual skill builders with Scholastic News Magazines.

In Social Studies, we are learning all about the government: why it was created and how it is run. In science, we have been learning all about environmental changes, such as slow and quick changes to earth, like erosion vs. an earthquake, how to conserve resources, and the scientific process. We have also been working very hard on our typing skills in the computer lab! It is very important that we know how to type with two hands effectively, highlight information on the computer, copy and paste, and properly search the internet for academic information.

We are looking forward to a great rest of the third quarter!

Fantastic 5th Grade

Mrs. Allison, Mrs. Miller & Ms. Smith

Fifth graders have been hard at work in math third quarter. They have covered 2D attributes, 2D hierarchy, area with fractional sides, order of operations, and graphing ordered pairs on a coordinate plane. We continue to work on text evidence to support author's opinions, analyzing multiple sources of the same event, and cause and effect relationships within reading passages. We'll be gearing up to take the 3rd quarter benchmarks for math and ELA before spring break.

Battle of the Books took

place on January 28th and we had another great battle! The winning group for this battle was from Mrs. Allison's class and included Eric, Carson, and Will...congratulations on your win. It was especially impressive because the boys didn't miss a single question for the whole battle! Way to go, boys!

Mrs. Allison, Mrs. Miller, Ms. Smith



The Den**Mrs. Fullard- Pierce**

Greetings from The "DEN"

Fourth graders are off and racing, proving by leaps and bounds that fifth graders must step up to read more during the week if they plan on catching fourth grade.

Encourage students to look at measuring utensils around the home for better understanding. Also have your fifth grader tell you about PEMDAS.

Thank you.

**Coach's Corner
Coach Webster**

In PE we will be finishing the quarter outside with Soccer and Frisbee over the next couple weeks. Intramural Running Club is halfway over and the Meet is coming up fast: **Wednesday February 24th 4pm @Queen Creek Middle School.** There is no transportation provided to the event. Hope to see some great support for FBPE!

Thank you,

**Music Notes****Mrs. Edwards**

All the 1st grade students have been getting started on music for our performance on February 25. They are all very excited to be on the stage. The students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade have been reading music and playing recorders. Everyone is doing great.

Don't forget we will be having our Daddy Daughter Dance in February. Proceeds help purchase resources and instruments that are used during music class. There is still time for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade to sign up for after school Orff (percussion) Ensemble and Choir. You can find the information for those at <https://qcusd.ce.feepay.com>. For registration question email Lauren Tauscher at ltauscher@qcusd.org.

As always thank you for supporting the arts.

Musically, Mrs. Edwards



February 24:
March 3 & 4:
March 3 & 4:
March 4:
March 4:
March 7-18:
March 21:
March 25:

Early Release
Parent Teacher Conferences
Early Release Days
End of Quarter Assembly
Bench the Bag Contest Ends
Spring Break
School Resumes
No School

Find us on 

Nurse's Updates– Dana Sandlin

Arizona is reporting regional flu activity which is increasing with 247 confirmed cases in the last week. Flu shots are still available so check with your health care provider about getting your child a flu shot. It is especially important if your child has asthma or other chronic health problems. It takes about 2 weeks for the shot to be effective. To help prevent the spreading of flu and respiratory illnesses wash your hands often with soap and water, avoid touching your face with unwashed hands, cover your cough and sneezes, clean and disinfect surfaces, and stay home if your sick. Anyone who has flu-like symptoms such as fever, chills, cough, runny nose, sore throat, headache, or diarrhea or vomiting should stay home from school. If your child does get the flu please keep them home until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication and have not vomited or had diarrhea for 24 hours.

If your child has new health problems or changes in their health please notify the nurse. Also please let the registrar, Mary Plunk know if there are any changes in phone numbers or contact information.

I am continuing hearing and vision screening in first grade and kindergarten. If your child does receive a referral, please have it completed by the health care provider and returned to the health office. Please call the health office at [480-987-7424](tel:480-987-7424) if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you.