

Alexander Elementary



Parents Make A Difference

Vol. 17 No. 3 November 2015

A note from:

Mr. Wade

Elementary Principal

Here we are...November already! Let me go ahead and be one of the first to wish you a "Merry Christmas!" It too will be here before we know it. Between now and the celebrated birthday of Christ, we have some upcoming important events we want everyone to know about.

Our Veteran's Day assembly will be held on Wednesday, November 11, starting at 1:30PM in the gym. This event gives us perfect opportunity to let those that are currently serving and those that served in the past know how much we appreciate them. It helps us find a way to pay respect as well as give honor to the men and women that have sacrificed for our great country. It reminds us just how fortunate we are to call America home.

Then soon comes Turkey Day! It is nice that not long after Veterans Day follows Thanksgiving. These two events seem to make a natural pairing. Enjoying our hard-earned freedom is one of many reasons we have to be thankful.

Here are two quotes about being thankful I want to share:

"Never let the things you want make you forget the things you have."

"What if you woke up today with only the things that you thanked God for yesterday?"

May your November be filled with many blessings and may we all find time to give thanks!



November



Red Wheel Cash Machine Assembly- Tuesday, November 3 at 2:15PM in the gym.

Second Grade Field Trip to Harbor Village- Friday, November 6.

Rise and Shine Assembly- Monday, November 9.

Veterans Day Assembly- Wednesday, November 11 starting at 1:30PM in the gym.

Fifth Grade Field Trip to GEO Science Museum- Tulsa, Thursday, November 12.

Picture Retakes- Tuesday, November 17.

Progress Reports- Thursday, November 19.

Gifted and Talented Field Trip- Monday, November 23, to Tulsa Air and Space Museum.

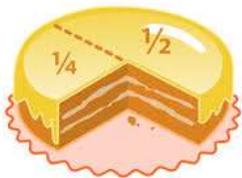
PK Thanksgiving Feast- Tuesday, Nov. 24 at 1:00PM in the gym.

Thanksgiving Break- November 25-27.

Trash to Treasure Event- Friday, December 4.

Christmas Concert- Thursday, December 10.
NEO Fine Arts,
PK, 1st and 2nd Begin at 6:30PM.
3rd, 4th and 5th Begin at 7:30PM

Christmas Break- Begins Monday, December 21. Our first day back from break will be Tuesday, January 5.



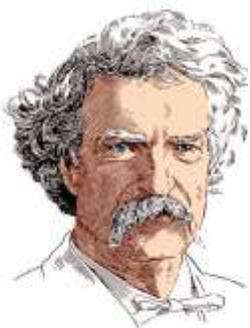
Fraction of Fun

Understanding fractions is much easier when your child can visualize them. Here are ideas to help her see--and use--fractions.

Keep a diary- Show her that fractions are a part of everyday life. For a week, have her record and illustrate each one she notices. For instance, she might write, "We have a $\frac{1}{4}$ of a tank of gas left in dad's truck", or "Mom asked for 1 $\frac{1}{3}$ pounds of turkey at the store." How many examples can she find and draw?

Play a game- Have each player cut a sheet of construction paper into six horizontal strips. She should leave the first one whole and then cut the second one in half (fold it and cut along the fold), and the other into thirds, fourths, sixths, and eighths. With bits of masking tape, label a die: $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{6}$, $\frac{1}{8}$, and "wild." To play, roll the die, and lay the matching piece of paper on your whole strip (for "wild," choose any piece). The goal is to be the first one to fill your strip without overlapping any pieces (example: $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = 1$ whole strip).

Put in order- Together, make a set of fraction cards, with one fraction per index card ($\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, 1, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 $\frac{3}{4}$, 2). Shuffle the cards, and see how quickly your youngster can put them in order. Then, while she closes her eyes, lay the cards in order but leave out a few. Give her the missing cards, and have her put them where they go.



"The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up!"

-Mark Twain

Just For Fun



Q: What has three feet but no legs or arms?

A: A Yard.



Think Logically

Mathematical thinking comes into play anytime we organize things. Help your child stretch his logical thinking by asking him to sort something, such as the spice jars in the cupboard. He might arrange them alphabetically, by color, or another way. Point out that sorting makes it easier to find items later.

Shorter days- How does a scientist say it's the first day of fall? She says it's the autumnal equinox. After the equinox, the days (or daylight hours) get shorter than the nights. This year the equinox was on September 23. Have your youngster start recording what time the sun rises and sets each day for a week. How do the minutes of daylight change?

Book Picks

The Man Who Counted: A Collection of Mathematical Adventures by Malba Tahan. This books combines an adventure story with interesting math puzzles.

Extreme Laboratories by Ann Squire. This True Book series highlights some of the incredible ways scientist search for answers to our biggest questions. Readers will discover how scientist conduct experiments in extreme situations, how some of the world's advanced laboratories have benefitted scientists and much, much more.