

Quarterly News

Fall 2009



Miss Bishopric's Class Second Grade Room 105

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Editorial

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Welcome to my classroom newsletter. I will be creating a new newsletter at the end of each quarter to reflect back on what the class has done throughout that quarter. We have just come to the end of the first quarter and already so much has happened. All of the students have been working hard to make great accomplishments.

In this newsletter I will be sharing with you the students who were the character education student of the week, and what they did to receive that title. I will also be sharing the major classroom activities and the student's accomplishments. Since there is so much to talk about throughout this quarter the information will be organized by month.

A major program through this school is character education. Each week there is a different character education word of the week. Throughout each week I watch my class to see who possesses that trait. Every Friday I hand out a certificate for the student I feel has a good understanding of what the character education word of the week means and have shown they have those qualities. With their certificate the student who possesses that quality also receives an award with their name and word of the week on it. They choose a place on the bulletin board in the hall to show the school their achievement.

There have been several classroom activities throughout this quarter, which I would like to share with you. The students have had a great time with all of them. Students have also made several accomplishments that they and I are very proud of. Students have made considerable growth throughout this quarter I am proud to be sharing it with you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Nicole Bishopric

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September

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Students of the Week

Week 1: Brittany showed caring by waiting for her friend to finish her work before going out for recess.

Week 2: Connor showed honesty by letting one of his classmates know he accidentally spilled her colored pencils on the floor, and then helped pick them up.

Week 3: Robert showed respect by asking his friend if he could borrow his markers rather than just taking them.

Week 4: Helena showed kindness by helping a Kindergarten student find the rest of his class.

Classroom Activities

A student in our school has a relative who recently stationed in Iraq with Troup 155. He and everyone in his Troup have been paired up with a student in the school to be pen pals throughout the year. Everyone in this class has been matched up with their own soldier as a pen pal. Student's recently received letters back from their pen pal. They are really enjoying the chance to communicate with Troups in Iraq. In the initial letters students wrote about what they are learning in school, what their favorite activities are, and other interests they wished to share. Every student was thrilled when they received a letter back from their soldier. In the returned letters the soldiers shared about their families, what their interests were and what their favorite subjects were in school.



Student Accomplishments

As a class we have been learning sign language. Students first learned the alphabet and how to spell their name in sign language. We have recently learned how to say the pledge of allegiance. The class enjoys saying and signing the pledge every morning during morning announcements. They love showing what they learned to their friends in other class.

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Students of the Week

Week 1: Jonathon showed patience by raising his hand in class every time he had a question.

Week 2: Samantha showed friendship by helping one of her classmates when she fell down on the playground.

Week 3: Mariah showed tolerance when she agreed with her group members on a research topic even though she wanted to research a different topic.

Week 4: Cory showed helpfulness by helping his classmates clean up after a craft project.



Classroom Activities

Along with the character education word of the week there is one class that presents that word in the beginning and the end of the week. The character ed. word our class presented on was *tolerance*. We prepared all week for this presentation. We started by reading through the book we wanted to share with the school, called *The Crayon Box that Talked*. We then discussed what we as a whole class could do to show what we learned from the book with the school. Students drew pictures and wrote what they knew about tolerance. Some students had a part to act out in the book, which required them to “dress the part,” which was the color crayon they chose to portray. Others read what they wrote about tolerance to the school. Students worked hard to prepare for this presentation and they seemed happy about how they did. The whole class did an amazing job. I am very proud of them.



Student Accomplishments

We have been learning how to write complete sentences. Every student has been working very hard and has been doing very well. There is a particular structure that composes a sentence. Students have been learning the importance of verbs, nouns, and adjectives. They understand that every sentence needs to have a subject. It is also important that every sentence begin with a capitol letter and ends in the proper punctuation. The class is particularly enjoying writing their own make believe sentences. They are working towards creating a short story. This will require both an understanding in complete sentences and the basic understanding of the structure of a story.



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Students of the Week

Week 1: Kelsey showed generosity by offering part of her afternoon snack to a classmate who forgot theirs.

Week 2: Ryan showed responsibility by completing his morning work every day this week without being asked.

Classroom activities

Thanksgiving is coming up fast. It is important for every student to understand the meaning of Thanksgiving. Together with the other second grade classes we put together a Thanksgiving feast. To prepare for the feast we read several books on Thanksgiving and learned about the Pilgrims and the Native Americans. Each student chose to make either a Pilgrim hat or a Native American hat. Each student also thought about what they were thankful for and we created quite a list. This activity was useful for the students because they were asked to share what they were thankful for during the feast in front of the other classes.



Student Accomplishments

Every day before the math lesson begins each student is given a sheet of math problems. They are given three minutes to complete as many problems as they can. The number of correct answers is added up and that is the score. Since the beginning of the school year each student in the class has made a significant improvement in their scores.

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