

PICKETT POST

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2nd Quarter, 2016

FRANCES BRANDON PICKETT ELEMENTARY

Principal's Post

October 26, 2016

Dear Pickett Families,

I hope everyone had a wonderful fall break and is excited to be back at school. The teachers have a busy nine weeks planned for the students and didn't miss a beat getting started up again.

Starting this quarter, we will be holding after school tutoring. Students were recommended by teachers and permission slips and tutoring agreements were sent home before break. Tutoring will start this week and run through the week of December 12. In addition, we have a couple different after-school activities opened to our FBP Mustangs. Community Education is offering soccer & basketball; Coach Webster is offering an Intramural Fitness Training for 4th & 5th Grades; and Mrs. Edwards is offering choir and hand bells for our 2nd-5th graders. Information for all activities was sent out in previous notifications/flyers and can be found online.

FBPE is participating in the Box Tops for Education program again this year; this program allows us to earn 10 cents for each box top we submit. Some of the companies that partici-

pate in the program are General Mills, Green Giant, Totino's, Pillsbury, Old El Paso, Ziploc, Hefty, Betty Crocker, and Juicy Juice. Grab your scissors and keep an eye out for the Box Top for Education logo on the products you use every day. Send the clipped Box Tops to school with your child and we will submit them and redeem them for cash that we can spend on materials and resources for the classrooms.

October is Anti-Bullying month. Last quarter Mrs. Eadelman, Pickett's counselor, spent time in the classrooms discussing bullying and what students can do if they or someone they know is being bullied. A bully is someone who is tries to have power over another person. Bullying is a repetitive, unwanted aggressive attack on another person – it is not a one-time incident. Throughout the month of October students will be reminded of the strategies they learned earlier this year and of the importance of standing up for one another.

FBPE is proud to honor our Veterans on Thursday, November 10th. All veterans and their families are invited to join us for a short **Veterans' Day assembly** beginning at 8:30 am on the back playground. We hope to see you there!

Social media is a great way to connect with the school and PTO! **Find us**

on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

Out of town family can follow us too to keep up with what's happening at FBPE. All our new followers will be put into a drawing for a free yearbook!!

Help your child show his or her school spirit! School spirit day is every Friday and students are encouraged to wear our school colors (blue and green) or a school t-shirt. The class with the highest participation gets bragging rights and is recognized on the announcements each week. School shirts are available in the office for \$12; if you are interested in purchasing a shirt see Ms. Connie, Ms. Mary, or Ms. Lupe.

It's not too late to participate in the Arizona tax credit program. Arizona tax credit is a dollar-to-dollar reduction, which allows you to reduce the amount you owe in state taxes (or if you are getting a refund would increase the amount you receive). Tax credit monies are used for extracurricular activities, which include field trips, clubs, music and art programs, tutoring, character education, and even kindergarten tuition. If you are interested in making a contribution to the tax credit program please see Ms. Jane in the office.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Sherry Towns
Principal
Frances Brandon-Pickett Elementary

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Kindergarten Scoop

Mrs. Adolph, Mrs. Blueeyes, Mrs. Little, Ms. Romero, Mrs. Schiermyer

We are learning the letters y, and x. Then, qu, and z. Then, we will be finishing off Unit 1 and moving into Unit 2 the following week before Thanksgiving break. Unit 2 covers all capital letters within 4 weeks. We will still be sky-writing, letter finding (magnetic boards), writing them in our notebooks & on dry erase boards and reviewing the letter-keyword-sound and getting into blending c-v-c words (tapping).

Along with identifying the letters, on Thursdays, we discuss sentence structure –capital letter at the beginning of the sentence, changing words to build a complete sentence and always ending with a period or question mark. Fridays, Momma Echo tells stories which leads us into sequencing beginning, middle and end and discussing with pictures, parts of the reading. Not only does Momma Echo tell stories, Foundations has given us other books to read that reflects other areas of phoneme segmentation – Rhyming and syllable practice. -We also align our stories with thinking maps and write about it.

Keep doing your homework and being great writers!



First Grade News

Mrs. Caspersen, Mrs. Cope, Mrs. Gettens, Mrs. McLean & Mrs. Paul

The first grade had a very busy two weeks since fall break. When they got from break, they got to see the Queen Creek Firemen. The fire department brought a large truck and the kids learned about fire safety. The kids also go to climb up and have a look inside. It was really fun. The students also had a visit from the Arizona Farm Bureau. They participated in a lesson all about the pumpkin life cycle. The classrooms even got a book about pumpkins to add to their library. The first graders participated in Red Ribbon Spirit week, and they learned about what it means to be kind, not to bully, and to find healthy activities that will help them stay drug free. Finally, the classes all learned about the voting process to help prepare them for the mock election. It was a really busy two weeks



Super 2nd Graders**Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Lemons, Mrs. Mesman & Mrs. Sommer**

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a wonderful fall break!

Thank you for helping make Parent-Teacher conferences a success! We enjoyed meeting with all of you and getting to know your families a little more.

Students have all adjusted well in their first quarter of 2nd grade! Our first quarter benchmark scores showed that they are working hard and mastering the second grade standards.

This quarter, students will be learning about subtraction with regrouping, counting coins and bills up to \$100, solving word problems including money, comparing numbers, fractions, and polygons. In language arts, we will be learning about poetry, expository text, prefixes and suffixes, and finding key details in a text.

Be on the lookout in November for a family project to "Disguise a Turkey". We are looking for creative, fun turkeys that students can use to assist with a writing assignment. We hope this is enjoyable for you and your child to complete together!

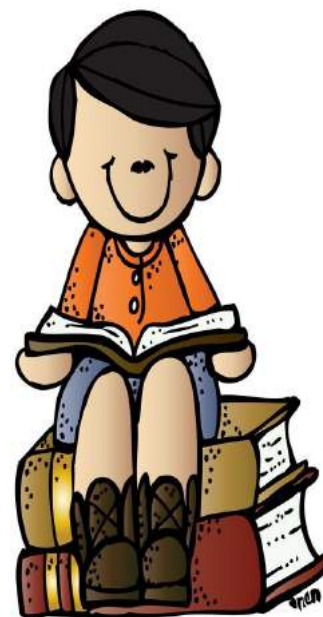
Terrific 3rd Graders**Ms. Campbell, Mrs. Hudson, Mrs. Sanchez & Mrs. Skon**

As we work through the second quarter, we will continue to work on the previous learned information and expand on it. In the second quarter, students will focus on fractions, fractions, fractions! The students will use fractions expressing the area, word problems, number lines and apply them to real world situations. In reading, students will use their knowledge and deepen their understanding of the main idea and details. Students will focus on comparing and contrast, sequence of events and identifying parts of a story.

Thank you to those parents who have paid the \$5 subscription fee to Scholastic News! This is a great resource to support our

curriculum in Science and Social Studies! If you have not done so already, please be sure to submit the \$5 Scholastic News Subscription to your student's teacher! We also look forward to seeing families at our Spirit Night at Chipotle this Wednesday from 4pm to 8pm.

The 3rd grade team appreciates your support with signing agendas, communicating through the week at a glance, and ensuring student's homework is turned in! It is important that your child start practicing their math facts nightly as this mastery will greatly help them in all areas of math! As always, please be sure to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions. We look forward to another fantastic quarter!



Fabulous 4th Grade**Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Taylor & Mrs. Waddington**

We have started off the second quarter with a bang in 4th grade! We are learning all about fractions in math. We have worked on making equivalent fraction, ordering and comparing fractions. In social studies/reading and writing we have begun a literature study on Lou Gehrig and the history of baseball. We are learning all about baseball prior to our field trip to Chase Field in early December.

We hope you all had a restful fall break and are ready to dive back in to our rigorous work in 4th grade this quarter!

**Fantastic 5th Grade****Mr. Clark, Mrs. McGarry, Mrs. Miller & Ms. Smith**

To start second quarter the fifth graders will be learning how to add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators and multiply/divide fractions. In reading they will be learning about figurative language, reading genres, and identifying text structures. Some students will also be gearing up for the first round of Battle of the Books, set to take place on November 8 at 12:30 in the library.

November 2 from 8:30-11:30 the fifth grade classes will be attending a presentation from SRP titled "Powering Our Future". Fifth graders will also be singing several songs to salute veterans at FBPE assembly out on the back lawn on November 10th at 8:30 am. All are welcome to attend. Remember, there will not be school on Veteran's Day, November 11th.

Second quarter the fifth graders will be studying their JA lessons preparing them for their Biztown field trip set to take place on December 8th. We are in need of 20 parent volunteers for the field trip to Biztown. If you are interested in attending, please let your child's homeroom teacher know.

Coach's Corner

Coach Webster

Welcome back from Fall Break. We are "jumping" right in to jump rope in PE and will be doing a variety of games and activities this quarter including football and basketball. 4th and 5th Grade students can sign up for after school Fitness Training which starts on Thursday November 3rd. Please look for paperwork being sent home this week.



Music Notes

Mrs. Edwards

Music is off to a busy start for 2nd Quarter. Everyone is working hard for our November Veterans Day Celebration. First grade is practicing and memorizing for The Tale of the Gingerbread Man December 1. After school hand bells and choir are meeting every Tuesday and Thursday getting ready for a concert on December 8. We hope to see you coming out to support your students. As always thank you for supporting FBPE music.





November 7-10: Patriotic Spirit Week
November 8: 5th Grade Battle of the Books
November 9: Spirit Night- Café Rio
November 10: Veterans' Day Assembly, 8:30 am
November 11: Veterans' Day- No School
November 21: See's Candies fundraiser begins
November 22: School Spelling Bee, 1:00 pm
November 22: 2nd Grade Field Trip
November 23: Early Release Day
November 24-25: Thanksgiving Break, No School
December 1: First Grade Music Program
December 5: Band/Orchestra Concert, 6pm- Performing Arts Center
December 7: Early Release Day
December 22: Early Release Day
December 22: End of Quarter Assembly (8:30am- K-2; 9:25 am-3-5)
December 23- January 6: Winter Break

Find us on 

Nurse's Updates– Dana Sandlin

Flu shots are now available in Arizona. Check with your health care provider about getting your child a flu shot this year. It is especially important to get the shot early before the flu season starts because it takes about two weeks for it to be effective. Flu season usually starts in October and peaks in January and February.

Cold and flu season usually start in the fall. Please keep your child home for a fever of 100 or higher, chest congestion and frequent coughing with or without a fever, sore throat, rash, or vomiting and diarrhea. A child should be fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication before returning to school. Also they should not have vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school.

I will be continuing hearing and vision screening for all K – 2 grade student's and new students. If your child doesn't pass a second screening you will be sent a referral. Please let me know the outcome of the referral and return the paper completed by the medical provider.

We need gently used clothes for both boys and girls in sizes 5 to 12 . Any donations are appreciated. If your child has borrowed any clothes for the health office please return them .

If you have any questions or concerns please call the health office at 480 987-7424 . Have a safe and fun fall break!