



Ashley Chronicle

*Learners Today
Leaders Tomorrow*



Principal's Perspective

Kathy Kazanski-Principal

Ashley Parents:

On March 29th, Ashley Elementary held a Barnes & Nobles evening at Stonebriar Mall where our jumpers, choir, drummers and dramatic group preformed for parents and visitors. Barnes and Nobles returned a portion of all sales to Ashley Elementary. Parent resource books will be purchased with the proceeds. Ashley parents will find the growing parent collection in the Ashley library close to the circulation desk.

If you find yourself in moments of frustration or thoughts of failure in parenting and say, "I can't understand it. It worked for my dad!" Know that it did, but things have changed. The human rights revolution, the communication explosion, the Internet, cell phones, changes in the nuclear family.....these and many other factors have radically changed how our children view life.

Kids are forced to grow up quicker these days, so they need to learn sooner how to cope with the tremendous challenges and pressures of contemporary life. That's where Parenting with Love and Logic come in. Visit our library and see these books along with many other books purchased specifically for the parent resource library. Please come by at your convenience to see our selection!



From the Assistant Principal - Rusty Watson

Reading With Your Children

Research shows that when both parents get involved in their children's reading, achievement is enhanced. So parents (especially dads) here are some suggestions on what shared reading can do for your children.

- Increased enjoyment of reading and better literacy skills
- Better test results
- Better school attendance and behavior
- Higher quality of later relationships
- Better mental health
- Increased self-esteem

Parents spend some quality time with your children and read a good book with them today.

April 2011

Calendar of Activities

- 4/2: Saturday School
9:00-11:00 AM
- 4/05: Fifth Grade Math TAKS
- 4/05: Fifth Grade Reading TAKS and Fourth Grade State Field Test with Writing
- 4/06: Fifth Grade Reading TAKS and Make Ups
- 4/08: Vocabulary Parade with 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade students at 8:15 AM
- 4/09: Saturday School
9:00-11:00 AM
- 4/11 – 4/15: Kindergarten Round Up
(Registration for 2011 -2011 school year)
- 4/12: Late Night Kindergarten
Registration Until 7:00 PM
- 4/16: Lone Star challenge Team competes at Maus Middle School at 8:45 AM
- 4/18 – 4/22: Spring Box Top Collection. Bring in the Box Tops for \$
- 4/18: K.C. Club Meets
3:00-4:00 PM
- 4/21: Chick-fil-A Night
- 4/23: Clean It and Green It Community Day
- 4/26: Third and Fourth Grade Math TAKS
- 4/27: Third and Fourth Grade Reading TAKS
- 4/28: Fifth Grade Science TAKS
- 4/29: Kindergarten & First Grade Reading Camp and Second Grade field trip
- 5/02: No School for Students
- 5/03 – 5/09: Book Fair Days



Special Feature:

Literacy in the Home

By Sylvia Bailey, ARI Teacher

With the summer break only a few weeks away, thoughts of the “summer slowdown” concern both parents and teachers. Naturally, we want our children to have a well-earned break from a busy school schedule; however, a two-month break often presents serious academic issues for many children. As a reading teacher, it is easy to “spot” those students who have had continued literacy practice during the summer break. Returning to school in August doesn’t mean “catching up” for them. They hit the ground running!

There are many ways to keep children engaged in literacy during those long, hot weeks of summer. Diaries and journals at K-5 offer children the means to record their wishes, imaginative thoughts, and concerns. Keeping a diary or journal not encourages writing practice, but also provides an important outlet for their emotions and observations. Next, try the daily newspaper. In one of the earlier editions of Reading Connection, it was suggested that ABC order could be reinforced by you and your child finding the names of 5 – 10 countries, states, and cities in headlines of stories. Let your child copy each one onto an index card and arrange the card in alphabetical order. This will help him/her practice spelling and learn about geography. Above all, let your children see you engaged in reading and reading will become or remain important to them for a lifetime.

At the end of this school year, I will retire after nineteen years in the teaching profession. As this chapter comes to a close and another one is about to begin, I want to thank the Ashley staff and our lovely Ashley families for giving me the wealth of beautiful memories.

I wish you enduring joy, peace, and love.

Sylvia Bailey

ARI teacher

