



# Quail Summit Classroom News

## Kindergarten News



Wow! It is hard to believe that the school year is already half through. However, in Kindergarten it doesn't appear that we will be slowing down anytime in the near future. February brought 100 Days of School, Valentine's Day, Chinese New Year, and President's Day. Mathematics will present us with the challenge of two digit numbers and addition, while in science we will learn about our community and the helpers within it. We are looking forward to our field trip to Pretend City Childrens' Museum in Irvine. The students will have a great time spending the day in a pretend city made to be just their size.

## First Grade News



"Time flies when you're having fun!" First grade this past month has been extremely busy and full of fun learning! We began the month celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School! We have mastered counting by two's, five's, and ten's. We also celebrated Valentine's Day, Chinese New Year, and President's Day this month. In reading, we started our Walk to Read program. The students are rotating to a different teacher for their reading group according to his or her reading level. We are excited to be able to provide instruction at the level that best meets each child's reading needs. Another exciting event that took place was our first field trip to the Santa Ana Zoo. First graders had fun understanding that different animals inhabit different kinds of environments and have external features that help them survive and thrive in different places. Finally, the children were so excited to learn about taking care of their teeth. We learned about the different kinds of teeth and their jobs. For example, we learned that our first four front teeth are called incisors and they help us bite and work like scissors. We also used the scientific method to do an experiment to show how important it is to take care of our teeth. To top off the fun, we counted our teeth and made a model of our teeth. Thank you to all the wonderful first grade parents for your support and preparation in making our learning this month exciting.

## Second Grade News



Second graders have had a very busy month! We are working very hard in math, mastering the skill of regrouping. Please continue to support your child at home with practice as we work with numbers into the 100's. It would be helpful to quiz math facts as well to continue to build speed and accuracy. In Social Studies we are studying "People Who Make a Difference." Each student will be completing a report on a famous American to present in class. Students will complete the project at home and share their learning with classmates. Here are other ways to support your child's learning at home. Encourage lots of reading. We are setting AR goals in class to accelerate our reading! And don't forget about Skills Tutor which is a great way to practice a variety of curriculum standards. As always, we appreciate your continued support.

## Third Grade News



February has been very exciting for the third graders! All the third grader classrooms had parties this month and celebrated Valentine's Day by passing out Valentines and Heart Grams to their friends. Soon after, we celebrated Chinese New Year by learning about the Year of the Tiger. This year's third graders were born in the Year of the Dragon and the Year of the Snake. Each student learned about the qualities of a snake or a dragon and then wrote a paragraph describing how they resemble the traits of that animal. Third graders have also moved on to memorizing their division facts and are working on double digit multiplication. They are also very busy preparing for our Native American Craft Day on March 18. If you are willing to volunteer to help the third graders on this day, please let your child's teacher know. We would love the extra help, and this day promises to be a lot of fun! The third graders are also busily preparing for testing which will take place in April. Finally, the third graders have been finishing up their art projects inspired by Ringgold who they learned about at the last Meet the Master's assembly. March will soon be here and

we look forward to all the activities we have planned.

## Fourth Grade News



Fourth grade students are focused on their writing skills! They have written narratives, summaries, and responses to literature while incorporating grammar skills learned in their weekly editing and grammar lessons. Also, an informational report was written. The students used note-taking along with technology for research. The conclusion to these reports was an individual presentation to the class. In math, they have worked hard on measurement (customary and metric), negative numbers, and coordinate grids. Next month will be exciting with our field trip to Dana Point culminating in what fourth graders have learned about the difficult journey to California by sea in the 1830's. Thank you for supporting our community club's fund raisers to make this wonderful trip possible.

## Fifth Grade News



My name is Jin-uk Kim and I am a fifth grader. In 5th grade, we were assigned to write business letters. Here are some examples from students who received a response. Daniel Valezquez wrote a letter to Olive Garden. He thought that the children's menu ages ten to twelve was too small, so he suggested that they create a new menu just for Tweens. He got a great response from Olive Garden, and they thanked him with a gift card. Madison Landi wrote a letter to Bel Chiasso Entertainment Inc. She wanted to praise Pat Benatar and tell Pat about her own band, The Jet Propulsion. She was requesting an autograph from Pat Benatar, but the singer was much too busy but she did send a picture. Sebastian Moling wrote a letter to Jack Vanimpe Ministries. He wanted to praise their show. He got a magazine from them as a thank you. I, Jin-uk, wrote a letter to Chili's. I got a Chili's coupon, and they put my letter on a frame for everyone to read at the restaurant in Diamond Bar and in the San Diego headquarter's lobby. The Chili's manager came to our school as a surprise to honor my work. I felt proud of myself for inspiring the employees of the restaurant.

# Principal News...

Dear Quail Summit Families,

Phew! We had quite an exciting February. Between trying to break world records for jumping rope, our visiting author, Valentine's Day and the holidays, we are full steam ahead! Thanks to your enthusiastic support, we were able to better enjoy these events that build a strong school community.

What is reading comprehension? Perhaps sometimes it is assumed we all understand what comprehension actually is, and how it works when we read a book. Comprehension is the capacity of the mind to perceive and understand (Webster's Dictionary). That's quite a juggling act when we read! Active use of comprehension requires the reader to be actively engaged in constructing meaning. Comprehension always attends to what is written in the text, but it also depends upon the reader's background experiences, purposes, feelings, and needs of the moment. That's why we can read the same book or story twice and it will have very different meanings for us. There are six reading comprehension strategies our curriculum uses to teach students how to build meaning from text - specific, learned procedures that foster active, competent, self-regulated and intentional reading. Here are some questions to help promote comprehension when you read with your child.

## **Predict/Infer**

- How does the title and cover give clues about the main idea of the story?
- What will the story be about? What do you think will happen at the end of the story?
- What will you learn in this story? What characters might appear in the story next?
- How do you think \_\_\_ will feel after \_\_\_ happens? Think about what you already know about the subject.
- Think about the title, illustrations and what you have read so far.
- Tell what you think will happen next or what you will learn.
- Use what you have read to determine what the author is trying to say.
- Try to figure out things that the author does not say directly.

## **Monitor/Clarify**

- Does what you are reading make sense? □ Have you learned what you needed to learn?
- If you don't understand, can you reread/look at the pictures/read ahead?
- Would it help me to read ahead? □ Is there a word you don't understand?
- Have you used the illustrations to help me understand the story?
- If you don't understand, at what point did you stop understanding?
- Can you ask questions about what you still do not understand?

## **Summarize**

- Describe the characters. What details in the story support your description?
- Describe the setting. When? Where? Tell, in your own words, what happened so far in the story.
- What events lead up to the solution of the problem? What is the problem in the story?
- What happened in the beginning, middle and end? Retell the story in your own words.

## **Evaluate**

- Is what I am reading informative, entertaining or useful to me?
- How does the author bring the characters alive? Do I know how the character is feeling?
- Is the author's purpose for this story to entertain or inform? How well did you understand the selection?
- Did I like the story? Why or why not? How well was the story written?
- Did you enjoy reading the story? What was your reaction to the story?

## **Phonics/Decoding**

- Look carefully at the word. Blend the sounds to read the words. What is the first, next and last sound?
- Look at the word parts you know and think about the sounds for the letters.
- Is this a word I know? Does this word make sense to what I am reading?
- Ask yourself: What else can I try? Is there a part of the word you recognize?
- Look at the whole word. Say the first sound. Read the sentence again.
- Look at the sound/spelling card with this spelling. What sound does that spelling make?

## **Question**

- Ask questions about the important ideas in the story: Who? What? When? Why? How?
- Can you answer your questions?

I hope these questions help to clarify the complex process of reading comprehension! Best of luck on your journey.

Fondly,

Ms. Alysia Hobbs



## Meet the Masters and Original Works

In February your child created a beautiful piece of art work based on the famous artist Faith Ringgold. The results were amazing! Once again we have decided to team up again with Original Works to provide you with the option to purchase one of several beautiful products featuring your child's artwork. We are excited to participate in this unique and innovative fundraiser. If you were here the last couple years you know how truly special these products can be. It's a wonderful way to turn your child art work in Mother's Day gift or gift for any occasion. Your child's art work will be turned into a magnet that will be available for purchase. You will also have the option to purchase many other beautiful items created using your child's art work. Product and pricing information will be coming soon. Additional information, including customer testimonials, can be found at [www.originalworks.com](http://www.originalworks.com). If you have any questions, please contact Gena Edie, Shannon Thayer, or Anne Wong.

# Student of the Month

## **Kindergarten:**

**Aicard**  
Catherine Tao  
Jeremy Liu  
Asha Longsworth

## **Chang/Yates**

Asla Moore  
Samuel Gonzalez

## **Chung**

Nicole Tong  
Sammi Wong

## **Giang**

Taylor Wile  
Alokuo-ulu Pulu Suliafu  
Alan Lu

## **First Grade:**

**Morales**  
Priyanka Gotra  
Devon Winston  
Joshua Reyes

## **Penticoff**

Katie Fan  
Joshua Guillen

## **Kim**

Darren Wong  
David Norton  
Michelle Wang

## **Yim**

Angel Lee  
Cristian Vargas  
Madeline Hernandez

## **Second Grade:**

**McCabe**  
Cindy Weng  
Ariana Ruiz  
Sirina Walia

## **Ruhl**

Christophr Chala  
Amanda Vasquez  
Daniel Lee

## **Clayton**

Andrew Chang  
Johnny Wang  
Victoria Condon

## **Legind**

Michael Esquire  
Caroline Chang  
Jordan Tsai

## **McLean**

Sarah Hijleh

## **Third Grade:**

**McLean**  
Max Gu  
Ariel Lin

## **Bishop**

Jason Xie  
Shereen Wu  
Tyler Kim

## **Heusner**

Elisa Kolel  
Ian Khoo  
Brenden Tsao

## **Renner**

Ethan Chu  
Eric Quach  
Bernard Wong

## **Snider**

Manmeet Singh  
Ellie Delano

## **Fourth Grade:**

**Sugita**  
Krystal Mach

## **Grimes**

Natalie Swartout

## **Moore**

Joanna Tien

## **Fifth Grade:**

**Burke**  
Elise Lin

## **Leslie**

Lauren Wong

## **Hayes**

Rachel Jones

## Community Club News...

Hello March 2010 and Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!

Thank you so much to all the parents, students, teachers who participated in our IT fundraiser. And a huge thank you to the coordinators and teachers who helped with this event. We raised a wonderful \$6,272.57 that will be used specifically for technology purchases at our school. The kids had a wonderful time at the DJ party. They danced, threw beach balls, hula hooped, blew bubbles with bubble gum, and had snacks.

"Jumping Over the Record Down Under" was a lot of fun. Thank you to all of our observers. The information has been submitted to Guinness and hopefully we will know soon if California holds the new world record! Visiting author's day was truly a joy. Barbara Odanaka shared some wonderful stories and hopefully inspired the writer in all of us!

March is another wonderful month here at Quail Summit. This month we have a few fundraisers. We know the economy has affected many of our families. If you are able to help support any of our fundraisers we would really appreciate your support. Even a small purchase can help raise money for our school. The first week of March we will kick off a See's Candy fundraiser. Please take a look at the brochure sent home with your child. The See's Candy orders will arrive before we leave for Spring Break.

March 22nd will be our Family Night at the Whole Enchilada. Besides not having to cook, this is a great family event. The children really enjoy seeing classmates at the restaurant and talking to friends! We also have paired up with Original Works again this year to offer various products you can purchase to display your child's artwork. Many of the products make wonderful Mother's Day gifts and we have timed our order to arrive prior to Mother's Day. Original Works packets and magnets will be sent home on or about March 24th. On the horizon, we have a jog-a-thon planned. Please watch the website for more information regarding this fundraiser.

Lisa Vasquez, our QSCC parliamentarian, is busy looking to fill position for next year's committees. If you currently chair a position and you want to continue, please let her know. If you are interested in becoming more involved and would like to see what positions are open, Lisa can provide you with more information.

We know that times are tough with the economy. Our ability to come together to support our teachers and our school is what make Quail Summit such a wonderful school. Thank you so much for your support.

Sincerely,

Susan Swartout and Shannon Thayer  
Community Club Co-Presidents



Copy Editor- Ruth Kim  
Proofreader- Delia Bortis  
Published by Quail Summit Community Club