



25th HOME/SCHOOL CONNECTION

THURSDAY, APRIL 11TH, 2013

- ARTS EQUINOX: We are in the midst of our "Out of the Box" Arts Equinox! We had opening ceremonies where you saw a chorus, orchestra and drumming, a BHS boys acapella group and the Driscoll staff did a dance flashmob. On Thursday, you're doing art and box designs. On Friday, you'll see improv, a "Kids for kids Concert" and you'll make paper mache bowls and skate board designs. What are some highlights for you? What do you think about having so much time devoted to the arts?

- ANGLES AND QUADRILATERALS: We've continued our work with angles and have now begun to review the *attributes* for different types of *quadrilaterals*. Can you describe the attributes for a trapezoid, rhombus, square, parallelogram, rectangle or kite? All of those, except for two, are parallelograms. Which ones are and are not parallelograms?
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- ASTRONOMY: We have been reviewing different scientific topics that 5th graders will probably be tested on for the state MCAS test. For example, we did some astronomy as we looked at the relationship between the moon, earth and sun. Using 3D objects, try to explain what orbits what. For more information go to our webpage or look at <http://library.thinkquest.org/29033/begin/earthsunmoon.htm>

- EARTH SCIENCE: We also did some earth science and discussed different properties of rocks and minerals. Just as quadrilaterals have attributes, so do minerals. We focused a lot on Frederick Moh and his scale of hardness. While doing that, you had a chance to examine the minerals talc, galena and pyrite. Discuss their hardness. You learned a bit why graphite is used instead of real lead in pencils and how lead is heavy (dense). See if you can describe other ways of identifying minerals based on properties like color, shape (halite and pyrite are cubed), density, magnification, hardness, luster, and streak.



BRADLEY/NELSON PROJECT: Explain who Bradley and Nelson are. You have had so many great ideas about how to help others know about what is happening to elephants for their ivory tusks. Your Tuesday Newsday homework clearly showed you spent time reading one or more articles on our webpage. The class brainstormed making and distributing posters, writing letters and articles, creating a webpage, or doing a walk for the elephants. We also talked about setting up a booth at the spring fair to raise awareness. How might you design a poster to catch people's attention? What might you write in a letter or article? Who would you send it to? How can you be most persuasive?

ANYTHING ELSE:

- "Wanting" Poems and what you might write your own wanting poem about
- Animal book progress
- Our poor tadpoles
- Observing the 8th grade solar system movies
- Read Aloud-My Brother Sam Is Dead
- 3D Geometry Assessment and finding the volume of a box in your house....
- Other? _____

What did you choose to talk about? _____

SPECIALS: What's going on in Library, Art, Music, P.E., C.O.B., and Chinese (What did you talk about? _____)

Due: MONDAY (but try to get it done by Friday –before vacation)

Parent Signature: _____ Parent Comments:

Student Rating: 1-5. Please say why.