

What's going on in 4th grade?

Jackson Elementary

April 2008

Dates to Remember...

4/8	No tutoring
4/22	Last day of tutoring
4/29	Math TAKS
4/30	Reading TAKS
5/2	Early release at 12:00
5/9	Field Day
5/26	No school
6/4	Early release at 12:00 Last day of school

*If at all possible, we are requesting that there be no lunch visitations on April 29th and 30th (TAKS days). Children at lunch time will be closely monitored in order to be respectful of test takers in the building, and we are really trying to limit the number of disruptions in the building on those days to ensure a smooth testing day for all of us! Thank you for your understanding!

TIPS for TAKS Day

- *Get plenty of rest the night before the test.
- *Eat a hearty breakfast, even if it means getting up a little earlier! Nothing is more distracting to a student during test day than hunger!
- *Keep their diet as normal as possible around test time. We don't want any tummy aches because of food they are not accustomed to!
- *Try to keep the morning as calm and routine as possible.
- *Instill a positive attitude so they will walk in to school feeling self-confident and ready to take on the test!

Coming up in our curriculum....

Math



We are revisiting perimeter, area, fractions, decimals and measurement this month. Measurement is typically a difficult concept for students to grasp, as it is for many adults as well! Cooking at home with your child, and having him/her measure the ingredients can help make measurement more concrete. Also, pick items around the house and have your child estimate how much something might weigh. And don't forget, grocery shopping offers a perfect opportunity to practice making change or adding and subtracting decimals.

Integrated



We will continue with our theme of "Mankind and Nature in Harmony." Students will learn about natural, exhaustible and inexhaustible resources of our environment. Through learning about ecosystems and the different species that live in particular ones, we hope to develop a better understanding of the environment. Actively taking responsibility for our environment is an important lesson we hope to instill in our students.

Reading/ Language Arts



This is a critical time for our readers. We will be focusing a lot on reading both fiction stories and nonfiction texts like *Teammates*, *Malachite Palace*, *The Toothpaste Millionaire*, and *Whales*. Our reading strategies this month will primarily be on identifying cause and effect, and problem and solution. After your child reads for 20 minutes at home, please take the time to discuss the reading. Asking questions about character, story plot, and encouraging them to prove answers using the text can greatly improve comprehension.