

Fourth Grade:

The fourth graders have spent their week getting ready for a visit to Central. They were assigned groups of four and had to choose a topic to present to a group of first graders. Then they had to work together to decide what and how to present. In addition, they did their reading NWEA testing. Next week is the math portion of that test. Please make sure and return the paper that has all the permission slips on it.

Blanco Elementary Thursday Note: 4/28/2016



UPCOMING EVENTS:
April 29 - Wizard of Oz (BHS)

5th Grade:

April showers have given way to May flowers



. For math, Mr. Tabor's class will be working on properties of solids in 3 and 2 dimensions. Mrs. Chatto's class will be reviewing the division process with decimals, 2 by 3-digit divisors, and fractions. Students will be reading short articles and answering questions involving various reading skills in Mr. Tabor's class. They will also practice spelling with open and closed syllables. Both classes will be doing the "Note to Self" Project on Thursday. Students in Mrs. Chatto's reading class will continue their short novel literature circles while centering in on specific reading skills. The research review will conclude at the end of the week. Although formal assessments continue this month (NWEA and DIBELS), it does not necessarily mean classroom instruction has ended. For this reason, students still need to come to class prepared to learn with school supplies. As of right now, students are running out of pencils and paper. Parents, if you could replenish your student's supplies, it would be helpful and we would be grateful. Our field trip has been approved and we will be sending permission slips home before the weekends. Thank you parents for all that you do.

6th Grade:

Sixth Grade Promotion
Student Votes:

Class Quote:
"Never say goodbye because
goodbye means going away and
going away means forgetting."
— J.M. Barrie, Peter Pan

Class Colors: Gold and Silver

Class Flower: White Rose

Slideshow Song: "Count on Me"
Bruno Mars & "The Nights"
Avicii

Walk-in Song: "Hall of Fame"
The Script

Flower Presentation
Song: "Youth" Troye Sivan

Walk-out Song: "Best Day of
My Life" American Authors

We would like to collect a baby picture from each student. Please mark the reverse side in pencil with the student's name and keep it hush-hush from other students as we want to play a game to see how many of their sixth grade classmates our students can recognize and name correctly just by looking at their baby pics. We'll be posting pictures as they come in (carefully) and assign each picture a number. Students will try to write the name of the sixth grader next to the assigned number and we'll see just how well they "know" each other. We may even scan them for the slideshow. The sixth grade promotion ceremony is set for Monday, May 23 at 6:00 p.m. in the gym with a reception in the cafeteria to follow.

Dear Parents,

As educators we are always researching or reading articles to stay informed of the best practices and how we can best meet the needs of all our students.

Recently I was reading an article that was written by Harvard University's Center on the Developing Child and the title was, "Executive Function"

The center defined Executive Functions as a set of skills that help your child make plans, control behavior, and set goals. They go on to describe a child's brain as a busy airport, and executive function is its air-traffic control system. It allow a child to focus on an activity[, remember details, and manage their time - all critical tasks for success in school.

The seven essential executive function skills children need, according to researcher and author Ellen Galinsk, are:

Focus and self-control;
Perspective taking;
Communicating;
Making connections;
Critical thinking;
taking on challenges; and
Self-directed, engaged learning.

Due to the limited space in the Thursday Note we will address five specific questions parents might have about this article on the following Thursday Note.

Parents - Yearbooks are in and they are \$10 each. You can purchase outright or just pay so much every week, two weeks until the total amount is reached for the purchase. You and your child will truly enjoy the quality and memories captured for you to enjoy as a family, grandparents, Aunts and Uncles, cousin or your friends.

Mr. Gutierrez, thank you for putting together a great memory document for our families.

Sixth grade parents have met three separate times and the list of supplies have been finalized and the logistics is in the final stages for the child's Sixth Grade Promotion. Thank you parents for your involvement.

Mr. Sanchez

For the third year in a row, Blanco Elementary School has qualified for Destination Imagination's Global Finals in Knoxville, Tennessee held at the University of Tennessee campus.

As you know, financial support is extremely important in order for schools to provide educational field trips for our students.

Blanco Elementary is sending a team of 4 sixth graders and three coaches to compete in an arena that served 16,000 competitors from the United States, Canada, Mexico and eight other nations last year. Our team, the "Little Einsteins", consists of Cami Deifenbaugh, Xenia Herrera, Maggie Salazar, and John Tavenner and Coaches, Monica Lujan (Bilingual Spanish Teacher) and Tabitha Salazar and Assistant Coach, Connie Deifenbaugh. This team has worked with problem-solving, play-writing, service-learning, performing, creativity, and teamwork for the last three years and has competed locally 3 times, regionally 3 times, and at the state level 3 times.

They are committed to doing their best by working together to solve problems and address challenges. They are also extremely polite, hardworking, positive, and often humorous. They will be the only team representing New Mexico at the middle school level in fine arts.

This team would appreciate any amount of money you feel you could spare. The two mothers who do have **Facebook** and are featuring the "**Go Fund Me**" campaign are **Tabitha Salazar** and **Connie Deifenbaugh**, so if you can get some others you know to visit their social media pages (Facebook), we can spread the word.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and for giving these phenomenal kids the experience of a lifetime and a trip they will never forget (May 24-29). We are forever grateful.



You can purchase your yearbook for \$10.00 in the office. They should be arriving around May 16th.

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Kindergarten:

Dear Parents and Guardians,
This week in kindergarten we will be discussing what we have learned throughout this school year. In Phonics, we will be learning common ending blends such as -st, -lt, -nt, -ft, -lp, -lf, -nd, and -mp. Our new sight words will be "very" and "because."
Parents please continue to read nightly with your child and review all of the kindergarten sight words from the list. In Math, we will continue to analyze, compare, and compose shapes. Then we will begin learning first grade math skills until the end of the quarter. Please read all notices going home in the month of May to be informed of all upcoming events and activities. If you have any questions please let us know. Thank you,
Mrs. Burgin and Mrs. Storey

First Grade:

Blanco Elementary Thursday Note: 4/28/2016



UPCOMING EVENTS: April 29 - Wizard of Oz (BHS)

2nd Grade:

Hello Parents,
This week is going to be a busy one for 2nd grade. Please make sure your child is getting plenty of rest for they will be assessing NWEA, and it is the last week to meet their AR goal. A Field Trip arrangement has been made to celebrate. (if your child does not make His/her AR goal, they will not be allowed to go on the field trip).
TESTING**Sight Words goal 550
In reading this week the main selection is and students will read, "Super Storm" students will focus on Generating Questions and discuss Problem Solve.
In language Arts/Grammar/Phonics-Daily Practice in Capitalizing the beginning of a sentence, capitalize names, Business Names, States, Cities, Punctuation- place period at the end of a sentence, Parts of Speech- identify verbs, nouns, adjectives, compound words, and pronouns, sentence combining and daily review of spelling word practice and identifying spelling patterns.
This week's Spelling pattern Hard and soft "c" and Hard and Soft "g." Next week's focus for spelling is Consonant -le Endings. (-ble,-tle,-gle,-ple,-fle,-dle,-kle,-zle).

****Please have your child read to you every night, practice fluency, check, and sign reading log. (ask about AR progress "points" and if they are at "85%" comprehension)**

In Math for the Fourth Quarter continued focus on Money, Time, Measurement and reading, recording data and Three – Digit Addition and Subtraction
. *have your child count your coins, have your child measure things around the house and have your child tell time using an analog clock vs. digital clock. (make this a daily practice till the end of year)

Thank You Parents for your continued support.

Thank you, Mrs. Martinez and Mrs. Madrid

3rd Grade:

-April 29th Friday- Field trip to the High School for the play The Wizard of Oz.

May 2nd and 3rd Monday and Tuesday are testing days for NWEA- almost to the end of the year- but instruction happens
-On May 11th Wednesday we will be doing an egg drop contest out in one of the parking lots. The things to drop will be constructed in class on the **9th and 10th of May**. It would be very helpful if we had materials like **cotton balls, plastic grocery bags, shoe boxes, packing popcorn, duct tape, and anything you want to try.**

(The egg in the jar of peanut butter is explosive and the egg breaks.) or anything else that will help construct something that will help an egg survive a drop of about 60 feet. **No glass or steel is allowed and the container will be no bigger than 12"X12".**

-May 20th, Friday third grade will make one more hike up the hill for Mrs. Notah's class to sign the flag.

-May 24th Tuesday- Field Day here at Blanco. Prepay hamburger meal ahead of time so we have enough food ordered.

READING, READING, READING, READING- still, always and FOREVER the focus even if AR is over. AR goals are incentives, not the reason to read. We want the kids to be lifelong learners. The expectation is that students will work to improve daily, not just when there is a reward for their effort. **The reward is knowledge.**