

# READING MATTERS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL/SPRING 2010

## Checkin' It Out at the Library

Congratulations to Ms. Mar's second grade class. They received the Checkin' It Out Award for the Fall semester. They celebrated their reading ambitions with a visit to the skating rink. Who will be the ready readers this semester? So far, third grade is ahead by a nose, but fourth grade is not far behind.

### FROM THE CIRCULATION DESK:

Between the months of January 2009 and April 2010, 50,648 books have been checked out! That's over 1 million dollars worth of books! Congratulations to everyone!



## April is a Big Month for Books!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



## CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



During the month of April, First Grade will be discovering the wonderful world of Animals! Check out the awesome display of animal books waiting for you in the library!



Second Grade will be studying Great Inventors this month. Don't forget to stop by the library and vote for your favorite invention of all time!



A garden is blooming in Third Grade as they learn about plants, trees, and all things green! Stop by the library later in the month to see their garden designs!

## MY CHOICE



**Name:** Mrs. Kelper

**Class:** 3C

**Last Read:** The Experiments of Doctor Vermin by Egan

**Next Read:** I am working on the last Harry Potter book right now. After that, I plan on reading Eragon.

**Favorite Book:** Don't let the Pigeon Drive the Bus by Mo Willems

**Why:** I like the way the pigeon is always trying to drive the bus. He is so persistent!

## April 2...Mark it on your calendar!



### THERE ARE PLENTY OF THINGS TO KEEP EVERYONE BUSY IN APRIL AND APRIL 2 IS NO EXCEPTION!

In April the International Board on Books for Young People orchestrates a global celebration of reading. The celebrations will begin on April 2, Hans Christian Andersen's birthday, with the International Children's Book Day.

The celebration will begin on April 1 with each classroom teacher reading a Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale in their class. Each class will choose which fairy tale they like the best and complete a project on that fairy tale exploring the origins of the story. On April 2 all grades will gather together for dramas produced by the fifth grade classes depicting their favorite fairy tale. Students will also visit the Hans Christian Andersen Gallery consisting of all the submissions of students from the previous day.

We hope that parents and families will attend this final event to mark International Children's Book Day.

## Poll Results

**What is your favorite genre?**  
*246 students polled*

Fantasy	48%
Realistic Fiction	20%
Adventure	18%
Mystery	6%
Non Fiction	4%
Other	2%

## NUMBERS

Year Hans Christian Andersen published his Fairy Tales

1835

Hans Christian Andersen's Tales are translated into

150  
languages

Hans Christian Andersen's age when Fairy Tales was published

30



# Poetry Week Comes Alive-April 12-18!



...  
Young People's Poetry Week is getting a boost this year with the appearance of a well-known poet and poetry advocate. This week will be filled with events for students and parents to become closer while exploring poetry.

## THE EVENTS:

On April 12, a general assembly will kick off the festivities with the presentation of our special guest poet, Naomi Shihab Nye. Ms. Nye has been writing poems from the age of 6 and continues to write and collect poems from around the world. She has won numerous prizes and honorable mentions for her work and we are overjoyed to have her visit us during this very special week. Throughout the week, Ms. Nye will be visiting each classroom, reading a few poems, and answering students questions about poetry. Check with your child's classroom teacher for a schedule of her appearances.

A Poetry Writing Workshop will be held on April 14th at 4:00pm. This workshop will be presented by Ms. Nye and our very own 5C teacher, Ms. Knight. The workshop will cover the forms of poetry and examples for inspiration. No one will leave this workshop without having written at least one poem...guaranteed! All students and parents are invited to attend. However, please sign up for this event in advance! To sign up, you may contact Ms. Salinger or fill out and return the sign up forms, which will be sent home with students on April 1st. If space fills up quickly, another session will be planned.

At 5:00pm on April 16th a Poetry Slam will be held in the library. Students and parents will have a chance to read their poems aloud. Drinks and snacks will be provided by the library.

We look forward to seeing you at the events during Poetry Week and hope that you and your children enjoy the events!

## Top 5 Things About Poetry Week 2010...

1. **Awesome Poet**
2. **Poetry Reading!**
3. **Writing Poetry!**
4. **Parents write poetry?**
5. **Talking with Ms. Nye**

### FROM THE EDITOR

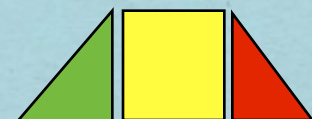
Here in the library, we are all very excited about the visit of Ms. Naomi Shihab Nye. She has been all over the world collecting and sharing poems. We hope to make her stay here a pleasant one. If you would like to assist in welcoming Ms. Nye during her time here, please contact me.

*Susan Salinger*

## MORE CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS:



Fourth Grade will be hitting the books and the Internet to learn more about Global Citizenship. What can you do?



During the month of April, the Fifth Grade will be exploring geometric shapes in art. Don't miss the "Geo-Gallery" opening on April 21st.

## Children's Day- Book Day

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This year Children's Day/Book Day falls on April 30. The library and PTA have planned numerous activities for students, families, and the community throughout the day.

At 10:00 a school-wide assembly will be held to open the festivities. Author Margaret Read MacDonald will be in attendance to begin the event and talk to students about the importance of books. The librarian will then unveil the newest books to be added to the library's collection on that day.

Throughout the day students will be able to attend the Book Exchange set up in the Library Foyer. The Book Exchange will run from 11:00am-4:00pm. Book Exchange donations will begin on April 1st. Students may also check out books during their visit to the Book Exchange.

During the evening, the PTA has organized a celebration for children from 5:00-8:00 on the sports field! Activities for children will include games, food, and Arts and Crafts. A

## INTERVIEW WITH A READER

### WHAT GRADE ARE YOU IN?

2nd Grade, Mrs. Pinkle's class

### DO YOU LIKE TO READ?

Yes, sometimes. I like funny stories and stories about monsters.

### WHAT IS THE LAST BOOK YOU READ?

I read Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day yesterday with my mom. I think Alexander had a very bad day.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BOOK?

I really like Where the Wild Things Are. I like how the monsters play and dance. I think it would be really cool to go there.

talent show organized by Mr. Mackle, the Drama Director, will be presented at 7:00pm on the main stage. The library will set up a booth for an Adult Book Exchange which will begin at 5:00pm and run until 8:00pm.

We are all looking forward to these great events and celebrating the wonders of childhood and the great

joy that books bring to our lives. We sincerely hope that everyone is able to attend. If you would like to help with this event, please contact Susan Salinger at ext. 134 or Mrs. Patty Taylor, the PTA President.

Fact Hunt for April:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Who wrote Sitti's Secrets?
2. Name 3 of Hans Christian Andersen's Fairy Tales.
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
3. Who is the special guest for Children's Day/Book Day?
4. Name 1 book Ms. Salinger has on her desk.

Fill out this Fact Hunt form and turn it into Ms. Salinger by April 15th for a chance to win the Super Fact Finder Prize!



## Don't Forget: Parents Coffee Morning, April 5th

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The regular edition of Parent's Coffee Morning is scheduled for 7:30am in the Library Sitting Room on April 5th. Stop by, have a coffee and doughnut, and chat a bit. This is a wonderful time for parents to get together and discuss current events with other parents. The circulation desk will be open for any parents who wish to check out books for their children. All parents are invited to attend.

## JUST AROUND THE CORNER



\* Stayed tuned for more great events in May!



Cinco de Mayo,  
5th Grade Greats,  
Summer Sizzlers,  
and Turn It In Day

### LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday-Friday:  
7:30am-4:30pm

Saturday:  
2:00pm-4:00pm

Reading Matters invites submissions from everyone, students, teachers, parents, and community members. Our goal is to inspire everyone to continue a life of discovery through reading.

To submit an article to Reading Matters, please write or email Ms. Susan Salinger at the following:

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Houston, TX

[ssalinger@mylibrary.com](mailto:ssalinger@mylibrary.com)

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