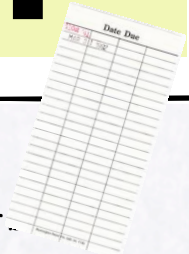


CHECK IT OUT

FERNWAY PARK ELEMENTARY/FEBRUARY 2012/ISSUE NO. 6



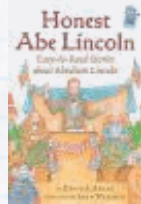
Happy Valentine's Day!

The 3rd quarter has officially begun and the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students have already started taking quizzes for their new reading goals. They did an awesome job for the 2nd quarter by accumulating over 3,000 points!! This means some teachers will be on scooters for a lap around the school. I'm sure the students can't wait to see this. As for the 3rd quarter, if the students accumulate 3,500 Accelerated Reading points, Mrs. Novak will wear a **White Sox Jersey**! This is a BIG Deal!! Anyone that knows Mrs. Novak will be surprised at this because she is a HUGE Cubs Fan. I personally, am a SOX fan so I can't wait to see this! Let's keep reading!!!! Let's go SOX!

Just a reminder to the 4th and 5th Grade students, make sure to read three Bluestem books by February 15th so you can vote for the 2012 Bluestem winner! Voting will take place in the Learning Center.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns, dbik@ksd140.org or call (708)349-3810.

Bik's Picks



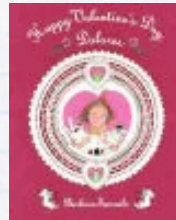
HONEST ABE LINCOLN: EASY TO READY ABOUT ABRAHAM LINCOLN by David Adler

Easy to follow text describes the life and accomplishments of Abraham Lincoln, as an adult and child and how he got the nickname "Honest" Abe.



FREEDOM SUMMER by Debbie Wiles

In 1964, a boy named Joe is pleased when a new law is passed that allows his best friend, John Henry, who is African American, share the pool and other public places. It doesn't take long before Joe realizes that prejudice still exists.



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY, DOLORES by Barbara Samuels

Dolores has a problem "borrowing" things from her sister's dresser and has agreed to stop until she discovers a special Valentine's Day necklace there. Does she borrow it?



PRESIDENT'S DAY by David F. Marx

Did you ever wonder about President's Day? This book discusses the holiday and the achievements of those president's that are honored, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.



APPEALING APPS

Here is an app available for \$.99. through iTunes. Math Bingo combines math skills will the old fashioned game of Bingo. You begin by choosing the math skill you want to focus on and the level of difficulty. Just like the Bingo game, you are given a card and when you answer a problem correctly, you are given a mark on your board. When you get five in a row, BINGO!! Have fun!

OUT OF SITE

For the month of February, I'm going with the Math theme because of Math Night (February 8th) and because of the Superbowl, I found a site to combine the two of them.

<http://www.funbrain.com/football/>

Simply choose what facts you want to learn: multiplication, division, addition, or subtraction, and the difficulty level.

Then begin answering the math problems. You will see the ball gradually soar toward the goal posts. Good Luck!

DID YOU KNOW???

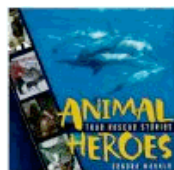
Did you know that February is Black History Month? It was originally chosen as the second week in February because it marked the birthdays of two Americans who greatly influenced the lives and social conditions of African Americans, former President Abraham Lincoln and former slave Frederick Douglass. It was later celebrated as Black History Month.

Did you know that February is also Library Lovers' Month? Here is an excerpt of a poem with a powerful message from Varda One titled My Library, "It's only a room with shelves and books, but it's far more magical than it looks."

Bik's Picks for February

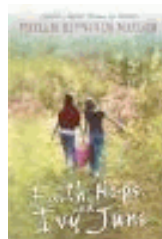
2012 Bluestem Nominees

(Here are remainder of the Bluestem nominees)



ANIMAL HEROES: TRUE RESCUE STORIES by Sandra Markle

This book contains true accounts of animals that have rescued their owners in real life dangerous situations.



FAITH, HOPE AND IVY JUNE

by Phyllis Naylor

During an exchange student program, Ivy June and Catherine share many things and discover they have a lot in common.



PASSAGE TO FREEDOM: THE

SUGIHARA STORY by Ken Mochizuki

The true story of Chiune Sugihara, who risked the safety of his own family members by issuing as many as 10,000 visas to Jews who were facing death at the hands of the Nazis.



SIDEWAYS STORIES FROM WAYSIDE

SCHOOL by Louis Sachar

Humorous episodes from the classroom on the 13th floor of Wayside School which was accidentally built sideways.



RULES by Cynthia Lord

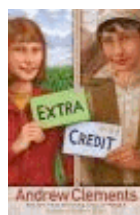
Catherine is frustrated and wants a normal life but her life is anything but normal. She has a brother who is autistic and feels not everyone understands him.



SISTERS GRIMM: THE FAIRY TALE

DETECTIVES by Michael Buckley

Two orphans, Sabrina and Daphne Grimm are sent to live with a grandmother that they believed to be dead.



EXTRA CREDIT by Andrew Clements

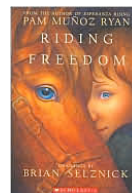
Abby is a student who isn't doing so well in school but is given a second chance with an extra credit project. She is asked to be a pen pal and write to a boy in Afghanistan. Read to find out the similarities they discover about their communities.



KNUCKLEHEAD: tall tales & mostly true

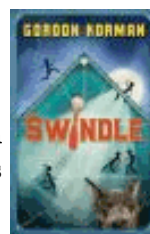
storeies about growing up Scieszka by Jon Scieszka

Jon Scieszka recounts his memories growing up in the 1950's. If you have brothers this is a story you might be able to relate to.



RIDING FREEDOM by Pam Munoz Ryan

The story of a girl named Charlotte, who ran away from an orphanage, poses as a boy, and moves to California and fools everyone by her appearance.



SWINDLE by Gordon Korman

After getting conned out of a valuable baseball card, Griffin recruits misfits to steal the card back so he can finance his father's failing invention.



THE WORLD ACCORDING TO HUMPHREY

by Betty G. Birney

This is the story of a class pet hamster named Humphrey who gets to sleep over every weekend with a different student. While he is at it, he learns to read, write, and a few other skills.



SECRET SCIENCE ALLIANCE AND THE

COPYCAT CROOK by Eleanor Davis

Julian thought that when he changed schools he would be able to leave his "nerdy" persona behind. Instead, he develops alliances with fellow inventors.