

# MRS CUBBAGE'S CLASS

## is PLOTTING a PATH to SUCCESS

May 2019 Edition

### A Path Paved with Memories

This year has been filled with amazing accomplishments and milestones. We have worked hard, met new challenges, and have had a lot of fun along the way. Each student's desire to learn was evident each day. Student questioning helped to drive our learning further. I was honored to teach your child this school year, and as the school year ends, I leave you with a variety of photos in memory of all the learning and fun we had. I wish you and your family a happy, and restful summer!

### Summer

On Friday, May 25, a summer packet was sent home with your child. It contained helpful hints to prepare for first grade - first grade sight words, as well as learning mats to support learning throughout the summer.

### Thank You!

I want to thank you for your support this school year. The giving of your time for parties, field trips, school functions, and more are valued more than you know. The giving of snacks, and supplies are always appreciated.

Thank you for the sweet gifts of appreciation during Teacher Appreciation Week. The proud looks upon student faces as they brought in their plants, cards, office supplies, and other treats were treasured as much as the gift itself. My job is not complete without the support of each child's family.

### Last Day of School

Our Kindergarten year will end on Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. Students will release at 12 PM (K - 8). No school lunch will be served, rather we will be having pizza in our room that day.

### STEAM Convention



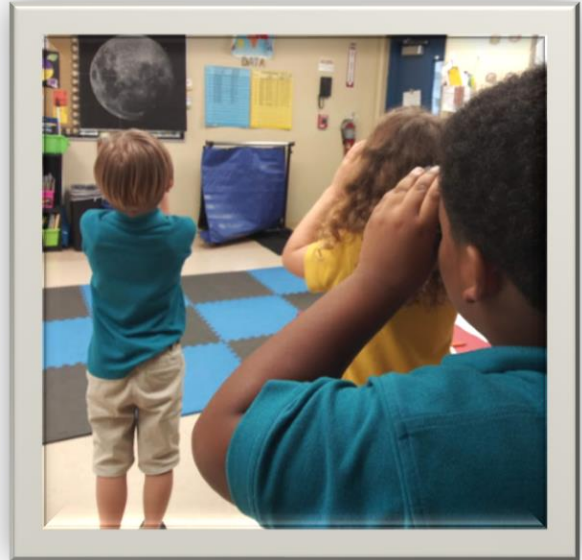
Students worked hard preparing for our STEAM Convention this year. We took swab samples from 10 items around school to determine which sample had the most bacteria. Students predicted, recorded data, and analyzed the results. Their hard work paid off as our class won first place in the Science Experiment category for Kindergarten. Way to go!



## Classroom Snapshots

### Studying the Moon

While studying about the moon this year, we also learned that many cultures tell stories about the moon. Often these stories involve animals. As a result we hung a moon image in our room that had animals hidden on the moon. Students used binoculars to find these hidden animals and record where they saw them. It was a great learning opportunity to explore another tool a scientist might use to do their job.



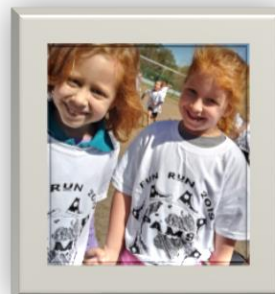
### Reading Buddies

There is nothing more fun than reading with a buddy. The class enjoyed visiting Mrs. Sills's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class to read with a friend.



### Fun Run!

The school year is never complete without our annual Fun Run to raise money for PAMS. This year was no exception - the students had so much fun!

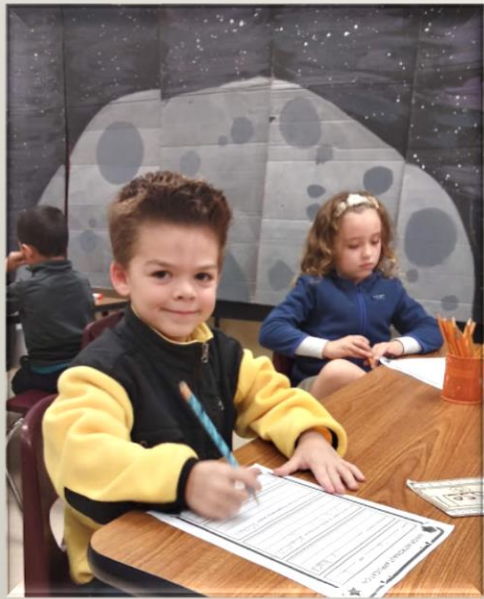




## Field Trip to the Moon

One of our all-time favorite activities each school year is our "Field Trip to the Moon". Prior to lift-off, students completed their astronaut applications and designed their mission patches. Then students donned their "astronaut suits" and we blasted off to the moon to perform various work there.

Completing their applications.



Ready for "blast off"!



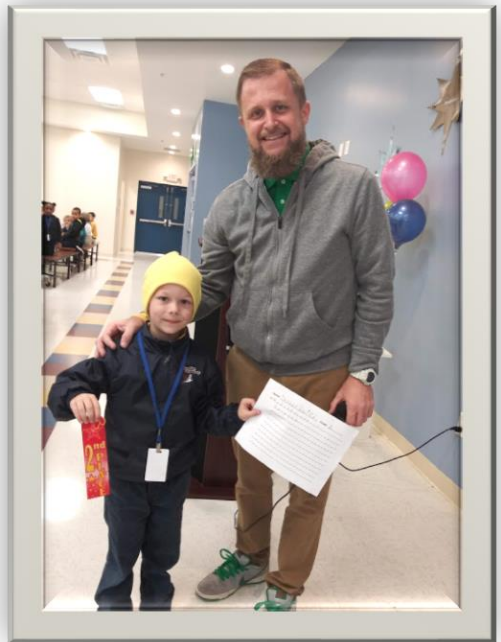
Mission patches are ready.

Our many moon activities included: Oreo cookie moon phases, moon crafts, simulated walking on the moon, coding our rover on the moon, straw rockets, and work boxes with tasks inside.



## Pi Day!

Every year we celebrate Pi Day (3-14). While Spring Break affected celebrating it on the actual day this year, we moved the celebration to the following week. Students were challenged to memorize as many digits of Pi as they could. We then competed as a grade level to see who knew the most digits. Parker Baird did a great job, and received 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Kindergarten! Way to go!



Pi Day is never complete without a piece of pie!



## Growing Beans

With the onset of spring, that means we start learning about plants. This year we used the book *Jack and the Beanstalk* to drive our learning. We experimented with five different bean seeds to see which one Jack might have used. We looked for tallest and fastest growing. Students drew what they observed about the plants, including labels. We then put our measuring and data analyzing skills to the test as we measured each plant, and recorded each height in a spreadsheet.





## Earth Day Robots

In honor of Earth Day, students worked with their families to build robots. Each year they are unique, and bring attention to what we place in our trash, or recycle bin here at school.



## Making Shapes

As we learned about flat (2D) shapes, we took out our GeoBoards, and practiced making the them.



## What's in a Beak?

Following our plant unit, we began learning about animals. Students learned about vertebrates and invertebrates. We dug deeper into vertebrates by learning about the characteristics of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians. While learning about birds, students used stations to help understand that different bird beaks serve different functions.





## Field Trip to the Zoo!

Our field trip to ZooTampa at Lowry Park complemented our animal learning perfectly. Students put their animal classifying to the test, and determined the class of animal that we were looking at as we visited each exhibit.





## Mission to Mars

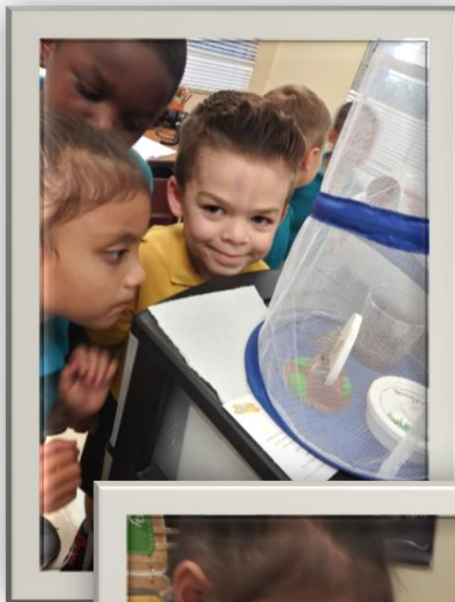
We couldn't end the year without taking one more trip to space. During our last full week of school, we prepared to take our Mission to Mars. We performed a low-orbit docking station activity, and learned about Earth and Mars in order to work in pairs to complete a Venn Diagram about the similarities and differences about Mars on their own. Finally, we blasted off to Mars as planetary scientists. We coded our way around Mars, built pasta rovers, sorted rock samples, and counted and measured craters.





## Butterflies & Worms

We ended our animal learning by talking about invertebrates like bees, butterflies, and worms. We watched as our painted lady caterpillars formed their chrysalises, and then transformed into butterflies. The students were fascinated by the process and checked each day if the butterflies had emerged. Finally, on our last Friday of school, we released our butterflies.



We also brought in live worms to observe after learning many various facts about them.

## End of Year Fun!

As we counted down our last days of school, we had lots of fun along the way - popsicles, sidewalk chalk, bubble, making volcanoes, and a mini-dance party with glow sticks.

