

Library Services Newsletter

December 2017

Holiday Celebrations

Christmas is both a sacred religious holiday and a worldwide cultural and commercial phenomenon. For two millennia, people around the world have been observing it with traditions and practices that are both religious and secular in nature. Christians celebrate Christmas Day as the anniversary of the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, a spiritual leader whose teachings form the basis of their religion. Popular customs include exchanging gifts, decorating Christmas trees, attending church, sharing meals with family and friends and, of course, waiting for Santa Claus to arrive. December 25—Christmas Day—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1870. via <http://www.history.com/topics/christmas/history-of-christmas>



The eight-day Jewish celebration known as **Hanukkah** or Chanukah commemorates the rededication during the second century B.C. of the Second Temple in Jerusalem, where according to legend Jews had risen up against their Greek-Syrian oppressors in the Maccabean Revolt. Hanukkah, which means “dedication” in Hebrew, begins on the 25th of Kislev on the Hebrew calendar and usually falls in November or December. Often called the Festival of Lights, the holiday is celebrated with the lighting of the menorah, traditional foods, games and gifts. Via <http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/hanukkah>

Dr. Maulana Karenga, professor and chairman of Black Studies at California State University, Long Beach, created **Kwanzaa** in 1966. After the Watts riots in Los Angeles, Dr. Karenga searched for ways to bring African-Americans together as a community. He founded US, a cultural organization, and started to research African “first fruit” (harvest) celebrations. Karenga combined aspects of several different harvest celebrations, such as those of the Ashanti and those of the Zulu, to form the basis of Kwanzaa . Via <http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/kwanzaa-history>



Library Services Staff

Karl Bruchhaus—*Superintendent*

Tommy Campbell—*Chief Academic Officer*

Helen Curol, MLIS—*Library Consultant*

Diane Young—*Library Coordinator*

Valerie Elliott—*Clerk*

Cortney Lyon—*Clerk*

December Events

12/1: Plans for Dewey Celebrations due to Library Services

12/8: Dewey’s Birthday Recognition in school libraries

12/20-1/2: Christmas Break



LIBRARIANS OF THE YEAR 2017-18

Several outstanding applicants were nominated for the honor of CPSB Librarian of the year, so we decided to do things a bit differently this time. A winner was selected from the Elementary, Middle and High School Levels as well as an over all district winner from those three candidates. Everyone who applied was incredibly deserving and our committee had a very difficult time choosing. Congratulations to all!

Elementary School—Beth Ferguson (Dolby)

Middle School—Adrienne Oakley (Iowa MS)

High School—Adri LeBlanc (DeQuincy)

Holidays & Hope—Helen Curol, MLIS—Library Consultant

Most of us recognize the HOPE that Christmas brings for peace, good will, joy, gifts, and other positive benefits. Hope has a role in the celebrations of many holidays, including Kwanzaa, Muhammad's birthday, or Hanukkah! Hope plays a major role among school librarians throughout the year.

They not only hope for better, more fluent, and passionate readers, they spend much time in managing school libraries to promote more those interests among students. Love of reading is at the top of their list. Consequently, school librarians spend time reviewing the research concerning reading motivation. ReadingRockets.org provides a wealth of research articles to assist parents & school librarians in that proves. View them & share them with parents.

While school librarians recognize that nothing surpasses intrinsic motivation in a young student, they also know that there are extrinsic forces that can add to that purpose. For instance, Marinek & Gambrell (2007) found that while 3rd grade boys & girls both are equal in their reading confidence, boys report self-reading less than girls. Could that be because cultures may have already impacted male egos to report scholarly pursuits less than girls? Do girls undergo such cultural influences later in their development? Since social experiences play a huge role in student's self-efficacy, how can teacher/librarians teach students to add conversations about readings to social experiences in which they take part? Other parts of the country as well as higher socio-economic levels often have discussions about books, newspapers, magazines, and even Internet articles as part of social experiences (whether work parties, social gatherings, or funerals occasionally).

Teacher/Librarians know from experience that students prefer to choose their own readings, rather than have choices prescribed. Therefore, they are happy to learn that researchers Guthrie & Wigfield (2000) report that "providing genuine student choices increases effort and commitment to reading." It's time-consuming to be so knowledgeable about a library collection to be able to recommend (based on knowledge of student) titles that may stimulate student appetite, but school librarians exist for that bottom-line purpose! It's also appropriate to promote newspapers, magazines, even authentic Internet sites to students who may get "hooked" on them prior to printed books.

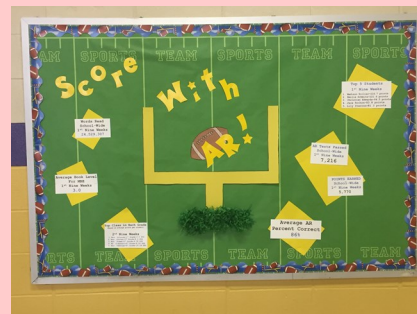
Educators generally view reading-aloud & promoting book discussions as distinctly elementary school practices, but school librarians have learned that upper grades as well enjoy such inspirational practices. McGee & Richgels (2003) found that teacher read-alouds can be used to promote deeper understanding and interpretation of text; allow students to take an active role in understanding text; and prompt them to begin using mental activities that will become automatic as they read independently. When is the last time you (as a school librarian) engaged in such intellectually-building tasks?

School Media Specialists know that balanced (fiction & nonfiction/informational texts) book collections are vital to meet student demands in **all** grades. Pappas (1993) found that children as young as kindergarten showed a preference for informational text and Mohr (2006) noted that nonfiction books were the overwhelming choice of first grade students.



Moss Bluff Elementary—Jessica Dwight & Margaret Paris

Students at MBE are scoring lots of points & reaching AR goals to improve achievement! We displayed data from the first nine weeks AR reports on a football themed bulletin board for all to see.



Our Wild Wild West book fair was a great success! Every class got to visit the book fair for library day, and we had two grandparent days as well as two evening events. During the book fair, we participated in the All for Books charity campaign to raise money for the Hull-Daisetta school in Hull, TX. This school was impacted by recent flooding and lost their library inventory. We raised \$850 that Scholastic will match for the school to buy new books and try to rebuild.

J.J. Johnson Primary—Leslie Brinkley

Pre-K Students at J.J. Johnson enjoyed story time with Mrs. Shone Guillory-Jones from the Calcasieu Parish Library!



Thanks to the Lake Charles City Police and Corporal Kirk Dugas and Officer D. Baccigalopi

Prien Lake Elementary—Sara Walters

It's almost book fair time for us. We have been making preparations and promoting the book fair to the kids. It will be held December 4-8th in the library. Our first round of new library books came in, and we were able to get them ready to show the classes. They have been checking out the books and enjoying them. Our second round will be ready to circulate the week after Thanksgiving. This month we are celebrating dinosaurs with a DINO-VEMBER display that changes weekly.



Our school had a surprise visit from Louisiana's First Lady, Donna Edwards, and State Senator, Ronnie Johns. They visited a first grade class in the library and Mrs. Edwards read the kids a story. She left us an autographed book to put into our collection. It was very exciting!

Oak Park Middle—Melony LeMay

Look who I met at the McNeese Football Game 11-11-17 LSU's Coach O!!!



Sulphur High—Susan Gardebled & Kristi Tyree

During November, Ms. Connie Harper's English classes used some of our latest books purchased with Drew Grant funds to research persuasive topics. The classes also borrowed library iPads and used the iMovie app to create Public Service Announcements about their topics.



The library celebrated Veteran's Day, as well as Thanksgiving with book displays.

LeBleu Settlement Elementary—Renee Leleux

Our LeBleu Settlement students have been very busy and productive. At our recent celebration for students that met their AR goal the 1st 9 weeks, the children had special seating at lunch and received a 'Campfire snack' and a bookmark. We had a great turn-out for our Veteran's Day program. Our students sang songs, read poems, and participated in a skit to honor our Vets. The Library Club members served cake and punch after the ceremony to the Veterans and their families.



W.W. Lewis Middle—Janet Ritchie

The WW Lewis library has added about 300 more new books to the library this month. Students are encouraged to find new books and check their ratings on ARBOOKFIND.COM.

9 students were awarded candy this month simply for taking an AR test.

WW Lewis hosted a huge Veteran's Day program, complete with breakfast and a moving presentation by several members of the student body. Over 360 people were fed and 125 veterans were honored during the event.

Students have been visiting different sites in the Gale database. They have been discovering Biographies in Context, Science in Context, and Opposing Viewpoints in Context. Students have been enjoying debating each other on the topic of Animal Experimentation.

St. John Elementary—Penny Pentecost

St. John Elementary students were so excited to see Ms. Pentecost and Ms. Faulk unpacking our new books! They really enjoy reading! Thanks to Library Services for getting these books to us so quickly!



St. John Elementary students enjoyed a day of "Bedtime Stories that will Keep You Awake!" during our library time! Students read *The Teeny Tiny Woman*, *Where the Wild Things Are*, *There's a Nightmare in My Closet*, and *There was an Old Lady who Swallowed a Bat!*



Washington Marion High—Fressie Bryant

For Veteran's Day, I went to one of our Special Needs classes to discuss Veteran's Day. The students and I created patriotic windsocks to display in the library. Students were very excited when they came to the library at lunch and saw their creations on display.

I created a bulletin board on my circulation desk that honored veterans of WMHS faculty. I had stars printed so that each faculty member could write the name and military service of a family member to be displayed on the board.

I displayed books that were about our services so that students could come in and check them out.



Westlake High—Krystal Fontenot

Westlake High honored local veterans with breakfast and a program. Captain Glenn Duhon was our guest speaker. Captain Duhon did a wonderful job!



Thank you veterans for serving our country and protecting our freedoms.

Fairview Elementary—Laura Manuel

November had some exciting events happen at Fairview. At the beginning of the month, we celebrating reading by hosting our Scholastic Book Fair. We invited the parents to come visit with their students for our Breakfast and Book Fair events. The kids had a great time and our Book Fair was a big success.



We also had an LCPD officer come in to read to our students during our Veterans Day lessons in the library. She read America's White Table to our third grade students. The book is so emotional and empowering that even our reader got choked up.

Finally, we collaborated with our Coach and our Counselor for Red Ribbon week to let the students dress up as their favorite book character so they could show that they "had the character to say no to drugs."



Western Heights—Meg Arrant

During November at Western Heights Elementary we celebrated Veteran's Day by watching videos recorded by Mrs. Arrant's husband who is currently deployed to Kuwait at Camp Arifjahn. The students were able to see what his daily life is like, where he lives, and where he works. They also got to see some of the recreational activities that are provided for the soldiers. We also had a group of 5th grade boys who were able to video chat with him and ask questions. They loved it!



We also finished our Book Fair on November 3rd. It was a great success and the students were able to wear their Halloween costumes to our Family Night.



Westwood Elementary—Karen Ashworth

Westwood Elementary students enjoyed being read to by students from the SP Arnett Library Club on November 13.



Maplewood Elementary & Middle—Melissa Tarasiewicz & Hope Myers

Maplewood Elementary and Middle Schools team up for a successful Book Fair week!

Students from both schools were invited to visit the Fall Book Fair held from November 13-17. The librarians also hosted a Read Night on November 14 for students in Pre K-2nd Grade. Students and parents were treated to a night of reading fun including meeting local author, Stacy Bearden, who highlighted his new book “Boudreaux the Louisiana Mosquiteaux.”

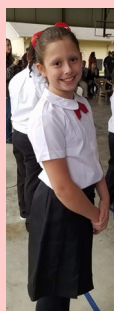


Dolby Elementary—Beth Ferguson

Dolby students have been active at school and out in the area competing at the STEM competition and the Jr. Beta Convention during the month of November. Several of these students competing are also Library Helpers. The STEM team won the People’s Choice Award for their project. The Jr. Beta group won several prizes including:



5th-Advertising Design, 3rd-Living Literature, 2nd Songfest, 1st Banner, placed in the top 5 in Tower of Power in District 4.



Kindergarten through 5th grade library students enjoyed participating in the virtual field trip through Scholastic’s website about Thanksgiving and the Plymouth Plantation. Students have been able to learn about how the Wampanoag people and the English settlers who came to America on the Mayflower lived, interacted, and some of the cultural aspects of the time around 1620. The students were astonished that the pilgrims spent 66 days on board the ship coming to America and didn’t have a bathroom.

The annual Veterans’ Day program honoring all Veterans and their families was held at Dolby on November 9. The Dolby chorus presented the crowd with songs about America and the Dolby Student Leadership Team presented a skit “What is a Veteran?”. TAPS was played to honor the Veterans who have passed away.



Accelerated Reader tests are still a big part of progress monitoring at Dolby as students and teachers realize the importance and benefits. Students have passed 5,770 with 2,318 being passed this nine week period. This 9

week period they are showing an 84% average on tests.

The entire school celebrated the fact that Dolby is a B school according to new state ratings.



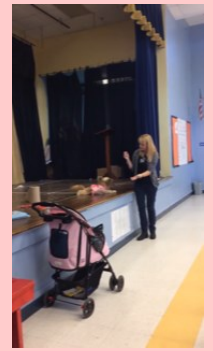
Barbe High—Kayla Little & Kim Cholley

Barbe High School 9th graders have been exploring possible careers they would like to pursue in the future. Students used library resources to identify potential occupations and research high school courses that could help prepare them for that career. The Veteran's Day book display in the Library sparked some students' interest in possible military careers.



Oak Park Elementary—Crystal Vanicor

Oak Park Elementary has had a very busy semester. We have had visits from authors, police officers, and the Junior League. We just completed our very successful Wild West Book Fair where we had a Story Book Dress Up Contest that the students really enjoyed. We had special days and events for our moms, dads, and grandparents and it was great to see all of them come out and support their children and the school!



Sam Houston High—Vickie Barto & Sara Jolie

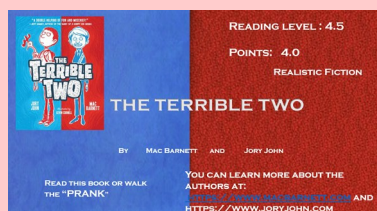
The Bronco Library hosted the SHHS Peer Support Team and Dr. Dogs dog therapy group this month. Students learned about the importance of stress relief and how the group was founded. Interested students were invited to begin training their family pet to become a part of Dr. Dogs. We look forward to hosting Dr. Dogs on regular basis.



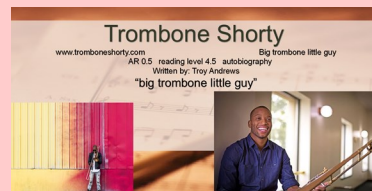
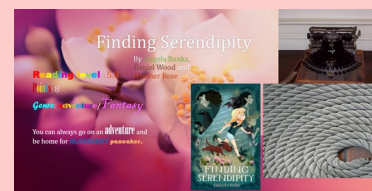
Students who met their Stayin' Alive @ 25 reading goal were treated to a pizza party.

T.S. Cooley—Mary Lanier

The 5th grade students read a book from the 2018 Louisiana Young Reader's Choice Award list (A program sponsored by the Louisiana State Public Library) and created a PowerPoint slideshow which included an advertisement about the book. Mrs. Amanda White from The SWLA Economic Development Alli-



ance shared tips with the students such as color choices, text style, and graphic design to assist them in creating their ads. The O'Carroll Group, a local advertising company, judged the ads according to the specifications of the project and creativity of the students. The 4th and 5th grade students are all reading the 2018 LYRC list of books and will vote for their favorite book at the end of January.



Frasch Elementary—Jeni Anderson

November was a busy month in the library. Our Fall Scholastic Book Fair was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who shopped. A special "Thanks!" goes to all of our volunteers. We couldn't do it without you.

The November holidays provided us with many opportunities for learning. In recognition of Veterans Day, we created a special art project for the hall.



Students in grades two through five read *America's White Table* in order to better understand the displays in our hall and cafeteria. Fourth and fifth graders practiced using various information resources while researching Veterans Day. Second and third grade students learned about Sarah Hale, the woman who saved Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving was also the theme for Kindergarten and first grade. Pilgrims, Native Americans, turkeys, and Thanksgiving booklets entertained everyone.

We are looking forward to an equally exciting December! Some of our Shelf Elves set up a sneak peek of our December theme. Gingerbread, anyone?

Cypress Cove—Kristi Fontenot

The Library Club participated in Operation Christmas Child. Students and teachers filled over 55 boxes this school year.



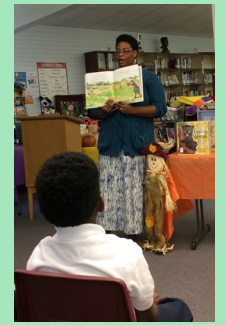
The library has also received new technology this month.

Library Club will be gathering Community Coffee labels and preparing to turn those in for the beginning of next year. Library students are excited for the prize spin wheel to be in the library. Each time a student makes a 100% on an AR test in the library, they will spin the wheel for a prize.

Kennedy Elementary—Matilda Tolbert

Mrs. Lakendra Rouse, an employee from the Calcasieu Parish Library, did book talks to our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students on the latest award winning books. Students had a great time.

Officer Flurry read to our 3rd graders. He also explained to them the responsibilities of being a police officer. He also discussed the different parts of the uniform and how each part is utilized.



Fifth Graders at John F. Kennedy listened to Mrs. Yolanda Jones from the LSU Ag center as she talked to them about healthy eating habits. She presented to the students recipes, measuring utensils and other items so that they will make healthy choices when eating.



Barbe Elementary—Christine Nicholson

In November, the highlight in our library was Lakendra Rouse, Children's Librarian at the Carnegie Library, who came and gave book talks to every class in Grades 3-5. Her focus was the Louisiana Young Readers Choice (LYRC) books. Ever since her talks, these books cannot be found on the shelves because they are in the hands of our students being read and read and read! We hosted a book fair in the library the last week of the month with many students super excited to be able to choose a book to take home and keep! We hope your November was a wonderful culmination to Fall also!



Gov. Edwards, First Lady Announce Elementary Book Challenge

Librarians, I encourage you to share with your teachers, students, and parents. It is a K-12 opportunity that encourages reading. Deadline to register is Dec. 11th.

<http://gov.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/communication/viewcampaign/1194?&uid=g6l%7Bf2jWhD&nowrap=1>

