

Library Services Newsletter

February 2019

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CPSB LIBRARIANS OF THE YEAR!

Kristi Fontenot, Cypress Cove Elementary -- Elementary Co-Librarian of the Year

Ms. Fontenot has the best attitude and is so excited about each day in her library. Teachers who work with her says that she is relentless on coming up with new and exciting things for the students to learn in the library. I have observed her lessons, and it is very evident that she cares so much about each student and wants them to have the best learning experience they can have. This preparation, enthusiasm, and compassion for students is what makes her perfect for this recognition.

Jeni Anderson, Frasch Elementary ---Elementary Co-Librarian of the Year

Ms. Anderson has served as a school librarian for many years and has done so with meticulous attention to detail and whole-hearted passion for making sure that students receive a top-notch experience in her library. She is active in professional organizations and continually searching for and implementing exciting lessons into her students' library class experiences. She is also the first one to offer help to other new librarians, whether they are brand new and need assistance or those who want fresh ideas for their library. Her experience, willingness to collaborate, and innovative spirit puts her in perfect position to be named Librarian of the Year.

Hope Myers, Maplewood Middle School ---Middle School Librarian of the year AND District LOY

Ms. Myers is simply amazing. If anyone ever stops by her library and has the privilege of witnessing her teach an amazing lesson, you will be enthused and uplifted for what's happening in education. She puts so much heart into everything that she does in the library and you will feel it when you walk in. She has spent many years in the library in the Calcasieu school system and she is willing to share her ideas and vivaciousness with students, teachers, and colleagues. Her bubbly personality, technology-rich lessons, involvement in her school and community, and expertise in her field make her the best choice for Middle School and District Librarian of the Year.

Kayla Little, Barbe High School --- High School Librarian of the Year

Ms. Little is the epitome of what a high school librarian should be. She spends countless hours learning what her school's needs are and then implementing an answer for these needs. She is called on by her school for wear a variety of hats and fulfill a plethora of roles and she does so always with grace and a smile on her face. She goes way above and beyond anything that is asked of her and always considers the needs of the students, faculty, and staff above herself. Her co-worker said this about her "BHS teachers line up to book the library at the beginning of the year. This is due to Ms. Little's marketing strategies, communication/collaboration with faculty, quality research lesson plan development and instruction." She is called on often to present at our librarian in-services because she is highly respected among her peers. These attributes make her the best choice for High School Librarian of the Year.

Beth Ferguson—Consultant

Middle of the school year, middle of the winter, middle of the muddle thoughts...

You already know how much I love coming to visit each and every one of you. It's definitely the highlight of my day and I look forward to each visit. While visiting some of the greatest librarians in our district this month I have encountered something that hurts my heart. Several have commented about how they don't feel like they are doing enough or that they are falling behind on their expectations they had for this year. I reassured them that they are exceeding any expectations that I or their administrators had for them because I know they are going way above and beyond their job description and as long as they are meeting their students' needs then they were doing a fabulous job. I got back to my office and began to read an article that I feel like even the most experienced librarian could benefit from even though it was written by a new librarian. Here is the link from School Library Journal <https://www.slj.com/?detailStory=first-day-ready-for-librarians-starting-at-a-new-school-tips-from-the-trenches>

One of the suggestions for librarians in the article is to stay connected with Library forums on social media. Because you are often alone in your school, this can be a great way to get ideas and support from others. However, I caution you to not compare yourself constantly to others because each one of you has a unique job. This one quote in the article really caught my eye:

"to choose just one goal for each school year. Celebrate the cool things you are doing rather than beating yourself up over the things you aren't." While staying connected is vital, it can also make librarians feel that they're not doing enough, Robertson notes. "As long as students are your main focus, you're moving in the right direction."

"I love you just the way you are" Fred Rogers always said, and I want you all to know that this is how I feel about you. Keep up the great work. I am so proud to work with all of you.

Student Surveys begin February 4th, see below for when your grade level will be participating!

2/4-2/15: 2nd grade (primary schools only)

2/11-2/22: 4th grade (elementary schools)

2/18-3/1: 7th grade (middle schools)

2/25-3/15: 11th grade (high schools)

Links will be emailed by 8 am on the day they open.

Please have as many students participate as possible in order to get adequate feedback!

February Events & Deadlines:

****February is African-American History Month****

2/4: online library surveys begin

2/14: Valentine's day

2/28: Read across America day, Teen Tech Week & Women's History month plans due



IOWA HIGH—JAMIE MCCAULEY

On Jan. 9, the Iowa High School English 101/Dual Enrollment students along with Mrs. Vaughan and Mrs. McCauley, spent the morning at McNeese State University touring their campus and library. Public Services Librarian, Walt Fontaine and Instructional Librarian, Shandi Thibodeaux hosted the library tour. It was an opportunity for the students to experience the college library setting and all of its features. Included was a database demonstration which the students will have the option to use for their upcoming research project.



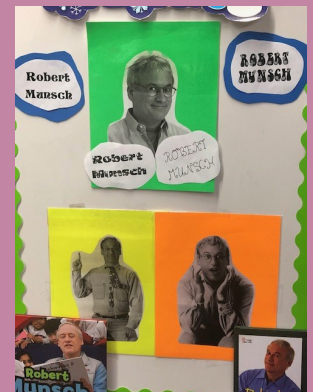
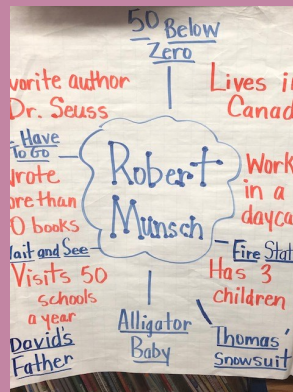
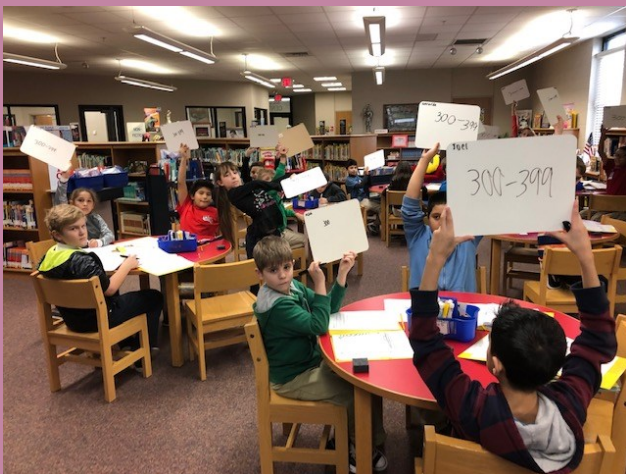
WESTWOOD ELEMENTARY—KAREN ASHWORTH

My second grade RTI students completed the novel *Chocolate Fever*. There were so many activities that they enjoyed with each chapter. However, their favorite was making no bake cookies after the book was read. Westwood Elementary hosted the Scholastic Book Fair Jan. 28-31. A family shopping event took place on Monday, January 28 from 3:00-5:00. Families were able to register for door prizes. One hundred fourteen students in 1st and 2nd grades met their AR goals for the second nine weeks. These students received a treat during their library visit.



MAPLEWOOD ELEMENTARY—MELISSA TARASIEWICZ

Maplewood Elementary students have had a "great New Year" starting with an author study of Robert Munsch. We explored his biography and website. We read as many books as we can and complete a thinking map. Maplewood students concluded their dewey decimal unit by playing a dewey decimal game using white erase boards.



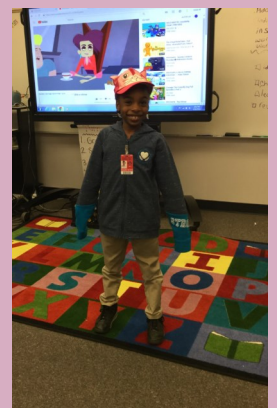
JI WATSON ELEMENTARY—AMBER SMITH

This year JI Watson Elementary held its first Camp Read-A-Lot event. Our gym was transformed into a campground. Students and parents were encouraged to bring their chairs, blankets, and library books to come read around the campfire. Tents were also provided for those students needing a little quiet space and a cart of leveled library books were available for students who may have forgotten theirs. After reading the books, students could make their way over to “Make-Some-Points Mountain” to take AR tests. Students also visited the “Mess Hall” for a s’mores treat and made a bookmark at “Craft Canyon”. Students, parents, and staff all had a great time. We hope to continue hosting this event next year.



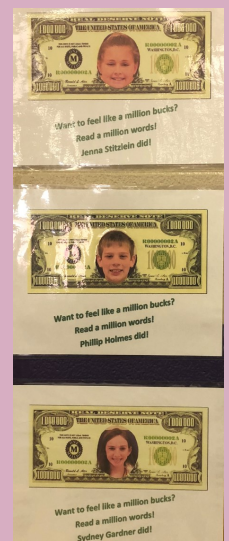
JJ JOHNSON—ROXANNE RAVEY

J.J. Johnson celebrated its A/R STARS with a pizza party. Keira W. won her second MAD HATTER accelerated reader award for most points in the school.



MOSS BLUFF ELEMENTARY—JESSICA DWIGHT & MARGARET PARIS

We are happy to announce that we have members enrolled in our Million Words Club! At this point, we have 3 students who have reached the Million Word goal and are eligible to receive a special t-shirt & treats, and be able to participate in events for the club. The students who achieved this special status are all 5th Grade students: Jenna S., Sydney G., and Phillip H. We have a few others who are **very** close to reaching a million words and look forward to having many more members by the end of this year!

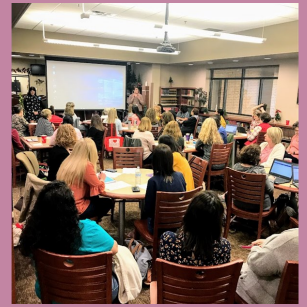


SAM HOUSTON HIGH—SARA JOLIE & VICKIE BARTO

Our January 7th Inservice was as informative as it was fun to catch up with library friends. We look forward to the possibility of playing host to all of you in the future and we hope that you enjoyed your time spent in the Bronco Library.



Library Leadership students and retired librarian turned Bronco Library substitute/volunteer, Ms. Karen Peet, have been steadily labeling our collection with genre stickers. Many of our patrons have expressed how much the new labels have helped them quickly locate books that most interest them. It's a work in progress!



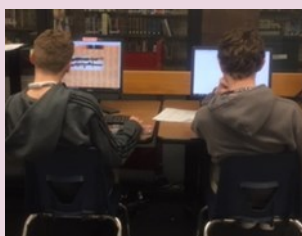
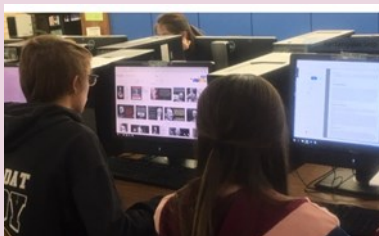
RESEARCH, RESEARCH, RESEARCH! One of our FAVORITE words to hear spoken on our campus! Mrs. Bridge's Senior English classes are nearing completion of their British Literature research project. With tremendous focus, access to valuable resources, and LOTS of perseverance, these students will have accomplished work to be proud of! One of our wishes, in a "perfect school library world", is that EACH student on EVERY high school campus were provided this most valuable research experience inside the walls of a school library.



Happy New Year from the Bronco Librarians! May your 2019 be filled with increased book circulations, strong wi-fi, and joyous reading!

BARBE HIGH—KIM CHOLLEY & KAYLA LITTLE

We welcome Ms. Hooper's U.S. History students to our library as they research topics in U.S. History. Students are focusing on the Gale – U.S. History in Context link. This database offers a variety of contextual information on significant people, events and topics in U.S. History. Students are also utilizing Microsoft Office 365.



Barbe students learned about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life, contributions, and accomplishments. Through research projects, video streaming, books, and various activities, BHS students discovered King's impact on the Civil Rights Movement and American culture.



PRIEN LAKE—SARA WALTERS

New Books! The Prien Lake library has been swimming in new books. The kids are enjoying our new books from Mackin and we just received boxes and boxes of new books that were bought with our Scholastic book fair profits. We've been busy processing them and getting them out to the kids as soon as we can.



Kindergarten has started taking AR tests. We are practicing in our library classes and they have been doing a great job. Fourth grade enjoyed learning about the books of Beverly Cleary, and fifth grade loved hearing about Roald Dahl and his book Matilda. All of the grades are learning about Groundhog Day this week and we even watched a short video clip about real groundhogs.

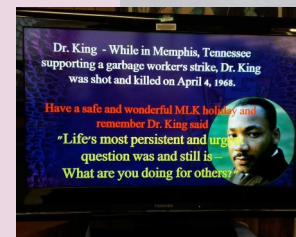
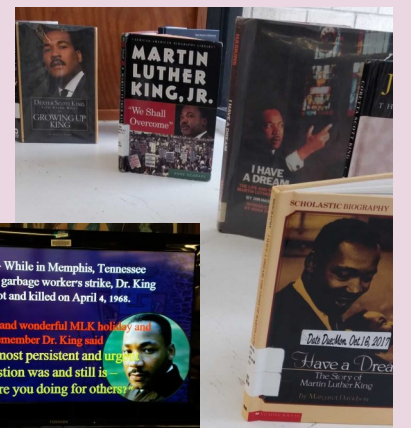
TS COOLEY—MARY LANIER

Fourth and fifth grade students had the opportunity to choose their favorite Louisiana Young Reader's Choice book by voting on voting machines in the Cooley library on Wednesday, January 23. The students were very excited to voice their opinion through this unique experience. The final vote for the school will be sent to the Louisiana State Public Library on March 1 so students can still vote by paper ballot at the end of February and make their voices heard!



LAGRANGE HIGH—DONNA FRANKLIN & REKHA SHARMA

LaGrange High School celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day with displays of Dr. King books. These were books written by him and books written about him. These displays were on the school's monitor, which is displayed throughout the school, and in the library. Also congratulations goes out to LaGrange student Jakylyn B. for winning the 2019 MLK essay contest high school division. Remember Dr. King said - Life's most persistent and urgent question is, "What are you doing for others?"



CYPRESS COVE—KRISTI FONTENOT

199 students met all of their AR goals for the 2nd nine weeks. Students who met all of their AR goals enjoyed a special AR celebration during their lunch time and students who were top reader in their grade level and top reader in the school got to choose a cool prize!

All of these students were treated to pizza, soda, and a sweet treat. Each homeroom class with the top AR comprehension for the 2nd 9 weeks will be treated to their own candy bar for all of their hard earned work. Library Club members were very excited to wear their club shirts for the first time!



TH WATKINS—CAROLYN RIGMAIDEN

All classes are busy reading and trying to reach their AR goals. There will be a Winter Wonderland party for the students who meet their goal.

Second grade students are learning how to use the dictionary. They are very excited and having lots of fun.

Grades 3-5 are researching a historical figure. We are having lots of fun learning about someone from the past.

MAPLEWOOD MIDDLE—HOPE MYERS

Maplewood Middle School students who met their AR goal were invited to a pizza party held in the mini gym. Students enjoyed the pizza while listening to music and hanging out with their friends.



Maplewood Middle School Library goes digital! Students now sign in using Forms on Microsoft 365. No more need for the paper binders and copies! Students are required to sign in anytime they visit the library individually or in small groups.

Maplewood Middle School students used World Book Online to discover information surrounding the works of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Students were asked a question and given two minutes to locate the answer. Groups that



were able to answer the question correctly pulled one tile. Groups that answered the question incorrectly pulled two tiles. Groups that successfully kept their towers standing received a prize.

6th grade students in Ms. Nichols' science class "Broke Out" of the library by completing tasks related to light and sound waves. They worked in collaborative groups and solved problems to acquire the correct codes to unlock the box and break out. Students who successfully broke out were given a prize.

DOLBY ELEMENTARY—CAROL WOMACK

“Oh how I love thee, let me count the ways”. February is my favorite month of the year. It is cool outside, the students are back in the groove of school, and chocolate treats are coming!

We are trying out a new incentive for meeting AR goals. Check out this sweet McNeese jersey and basketball signed by the players. All students who make their goal will have their names in a drawing to win one of these fabulous prizes. These are in addition to the usual, individual awards. It has really created some excitement and I am seeing some students that never try, now making an effort. We are feeling the love around here. It must be the season.



HENRY HEIGHTS—JENNIFER FONTENOT

January was a very busy month at Henry Heights! We had our second AR party. Students were able to have extra recess, free dress, chips, and a drink.



First graders have been enjoying our new computers! They are learning first hand about the digital media resources that Calcasieu Parish School Board as to offer.



BARBE ELEMENTARY—CHRISTINE NICHOLSON

Our library has been open and a happy place during January. Hannah Beard, a McNeese Senior, joined us to complete her practicum here at Barbe Elementary. She is an added joy! Classes are enjoying the books read to them by one of our volunteers. Students come in eager to learn which book is on each day's agenda. Students enjoyed learning more about Martin Luther King Jr. around the time of his birthday more than at any time I can remember! A huge number of Guidebook materials have been brought in for cataloging. These are being made ready in record time thanks to our volunteers. So, since I mentioned volunteers several times, I must say that our volunteers have made it possible to complete many tasks in record time! One staff member remarked that the librarian speaks and it is done! It isn't quite that fast or effortless, but many hands make short work! February is on the horizon. We are looking forward to new learning!

COLLEGE OAKS ELEMENTARY—BRANDI PICKETT

Congratulations to the winners of the A.R. drawing at College Oaks. Students in kindergarten through 5th grade who met their A.R. goal for the 2nd 9 week period were entered into the drawing for a new bicycle. A winner was chosen from each grade level.



COMBRE-FONDEL—CHRISTY MCCANN

Our 2nd 9 weeks AR party participants celebrated with Ice Cream Sundaes!!



Joeshawn , a 4th grade student, has been our 1st student to meet his AR goal in the WHOLE school for the 2nd 9 weeks, AND he met it for the 3rd 9 weeks in the 2nd week! He is ROCKIN' it!!



We had our Second Annual Combre-Fondel Spelling Bee. It was definitely a success!



SULPHUR HIGH—SUSAN GARDEBLED & KRISTI TYREE

The Sulphur High Library had a busy January. Mrs. Billings brought her World Geography classes to the library to study problems of modern Europe. We also sent books to her classroom so that World History could do a project on Victorian inventions. Mrs. Benglis brought her seniors to do intensive research on British topics. We also celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. with a bulletin board highlighting important events in his life, and we e-mailed a handout to teachers featuring MLK resources available on Discovery Education.

