

The Camper Times

Volume 1, Issue 3

January 2010
Happy New Year!

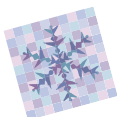
Ms. Coleman's 4th grade class

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Special Points of Interest:

- * **January 11**—PTA Meeting (7pm)
- * **January 12**—SIT Meeting (6:30pm)
- * **January 15**—End of 2nd quarter
- * **January 15**—MLK Assembly (9am)
- * **January 19**—Teacher Workday
- * **January 28**—Delayed Opening



Before we left for winter break, all the 4th graders went on a spectacular field trip to Raleigh. We toured the legislative building, the capital building, and the Museum of Natural Science.

One of our favorite parts was getting to see all the different animals that live in North Carolina at the museum.

At the legislative building we got to see where the North Carolina House of Representatives meets and learned about new laws that were just passed. One law will fine drivers who text and the other law will add security cameras at school bus stops.

At the capital build-

ing, we got to see the historic chambers of the house and the senate.

Here are some of our other favorite memories:

~ I liked looking at the statue of George Washington at the capital...but he really looked like a Roman General! (Susannah)

~ I learned that people say a ghost lives in the capital building...and my mom used to work there! (Jack)

~ I learned that 3 presidents were born/raised in North Carolina. (C.C.)

~ The doors of the House of

Representatives are made out of gold! (Jagpar)

~ When the bell rings at the capital building, that's when a new law is passed. (JaBria)

~ My favorite part was seeing the whale bones at the museum! (Ruben)

~ At the museum we saw snakes, lizard, frogs, turtles,

butterflies, and the best—a huge spider! (Demetrius)

~ At the legislative building, the representatives have to hit a button for permission to talk. (Nicolle)

We would like to thank our great chaperones who joined us on this fun trip!



Holiday Hope Chests

We had such a fun time making the Hope Chests for the Women and Children's shelter before the winter break.



We want to thank everyone for donating such wonderful supplies,

toys, and much-needed items, which filled the chests to the brim! We successfully delivered 25 hope chests, for children as young as 5 months though 17 years old. We also filled many boxes for the adult women. Who knew it could be so fun to give gifts to people we don't even know? This was a great experience and taught us a lot about giving back to the community!



Time for Learning in 2010!

MATH

We're finishing up a unit on long division and are beginning a unit solving problems using models, diagrams, and reasoning about fractions and relationships among fractions. Using differentiated, flexible grouping and the integration of technology helps to insure that all learning modalities are being met. Following our unit on fractions, students will learn about the relationship between fractions and decimals.



READING

Students have learned about various text structures in both non-fiction and fiction texts, including cause-effect, compare/contrast, problem-solution, and chronological sequence. With the start of a

new year, many guided reading groups have begun a new novel study as well. In the month of February we will focus on the biography/autobiography genre.

WRITING

Prior to the break, many students were writing the final draft of a personal narrative about a time they were proud. Lessons focused on strong word choice, as well as "showing, not telling" actions and emotions, in order to create a stronger story. We are going to now take a look at the imaginative narrative genre and will soon be writing our own creative stories.

SCIENCE

Our current science unit covers topics in health and nutrition and includes a number of hands on (sometimes messy) labs,



where students investigate the fat and sugar content in various food products. The unit also examines the food pyramid and how to make healthy choices.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Our downtown field trip tied in nicely with our study of N.C. government. Students have been comparing and contrasting the 3 branches of government and the general gov't. framework at state, local and national levels. The field trip helped to reinforce the concepts we've been discussing in a very practical way. Students will begin a unit on Native Americans, followed by a study of 18th century colonial life in North Carolina.



Exciting Grant News!

The fourth grade team recently received an \$800 Target Field Trip grant, which will help fund the field trip to the North Carolina mountains this spring. This exciting trip will include a visit to Grandfather Mountain and Linville Caverns, among other stops on our day long adventure! We will provide you with much more information in the upcoming weeks!! Thanks to all of you who have donated so far!



Star Campers

CONGRATS TO OUR MOST RECENT STAR CAMPERS!!!!

	Demetrius—Nov. 9-13	
	Randolph—Nov. 23-27	
	Jack—Dec. 14-18	
		Naima—Dec. 6-10

Wish List

Thanks to everyone who continues to help maintain our supplies this year! Here are a couple things we could use in 2010:

- Clorox disinfectant wipes
- Dry erase markers (thin tip)
- Snacks
- Post it Notes
- Pencils

Volunteer Opportunities

If anyone is interested in helping out in the classroom over the next few weeks, please let me know because we can always use some extra hands! Here are some of the ways you can help out if you are interested:

- **Clerical work** (anytime/can be periodic) —filing, sorting, helping organize (this can often be the most helpful!)
- **Writing** (M-Th, 1:40-2:20) - Conferencing with students about their writing one on one & small groups

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

(Belated)

November 19—**Juan**

December 7—**Nicolle**

December 13—**Diallo**

~

January 5—**Savannah**