

Meadow Oaks Academy Private School Newsletter

April/May 2014

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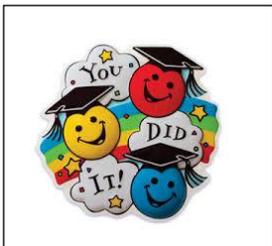
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Science Fair Pics



Testing Begins

Dear Parent,

The Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) will be administered March 31st – April 11th, 2014. All Meadow Oaks Academy students in grades APK, K, 1st-5th will participate in this assessment. Results will be issued to parents in the form of a conference and/or letter sometime late April & May.

Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast. Doing both of these things will ensure that your child is working at full capacity. Meadow Oaks will also provide protein and healthy supplements during testing.

Kindergarten Graduation:

Please mark your calendars for May 18th. Kindergarten Graduation will be at Meadow Oaks Academy Gymnasium at 2:00 PM.

MOA Bulletin Board

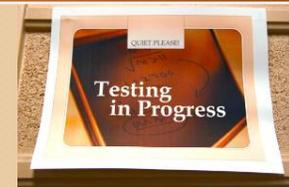
Testing Begins – March 31-Apr 11

Private School Closed – Apr 18th for Good Friday, May 26th Memorial Day

Kindergarten Graduation- May 18th

Last day of School- May 30th

Summer Program: Enrollment Open



Summer Camp Enrollment Open

We are enrolling now for summer camp. Take a break from schoolwork and devote some time to good, kid-centered fun, at Meadow Oaks this summer. The counselors involve campers in physical activities, crafts, games, and projects centered on stimulating summertime themes. Assemblies, talent shows, creative activities, games and sports, water play, indoor swimming, indoor skating, quiet-time choices, and food round out the day. Field trips also are part of the mix, including time at Hawaiian Falls, picnics at Parks and the Dallas Aquarium. There are a number of action-packed enrichment activities taught by experienced educators, including adventures in literature, art, and drama.



5th Grade News – Reading & Writing

Going West has been an interesting unit of study for the fifth graders. They indeed have a better understanding of the various cultural groups who struggle to claim the land of the American West. The final

unit Journeys and Quests explores legends, folktales, and short stories. Students will be introduced to the Antarctic explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton, as well as, the astronauts who made

The selections in this unit will guide fifth graders on a narrative and historical investigation of this universal theme.

the first journey to the moon.

History & Science

History is exciting as the students learn about the rapid rise of industrialism in the United States at the turn of the century, and labor's response to it. Fifth graders will also investigate the wave

of immigration that occurs at the turn of the century. . Students will gain a better understanding of how American becomes a world power as they finish their history units.



Math

Throughout the year students are encouraged to use a variety of strategies when solving a given problem. Some strategies the students can implement include: computation, logical

reasoning, a diagram, data in a table, physical models, write a number model, use a formula or make a graph. Fifth graders will be reviewed and assessed on material covered this year.

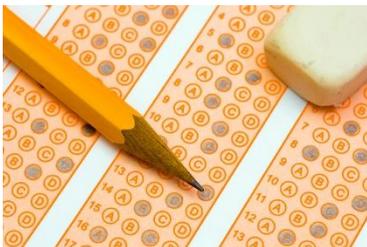
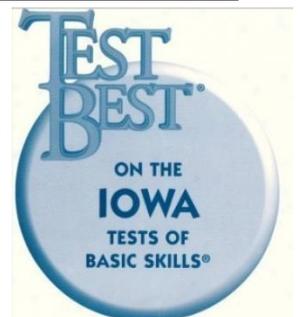


Month	Visits	Orders	Conversion
Jan	2,300	243	11%
Feb	2,654	201	8%
Mar	2,134	195	9%
Apr	2,633	187	7%
May	1,982	212	11%
Jun	1,956	195	10%
Jul	2,344	245	10%
Aug	2,544	232	9%
Sep	2,134	222	10%
Oct	2,644	236	9%
Nov	2,054	207	10%
Dec	1,783	201	11%

TESTING

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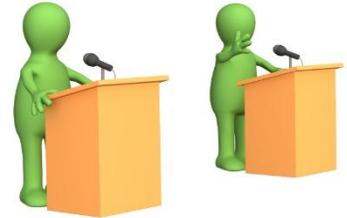
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 Private School closed May 26th for Memorial Day.
 Last day of School May 30th .



4th Grade News – Reading & Writing

The fourth graders will close out the school year with units pertaining to Communication and A Changing America. Throughout the units, students will be taking part in activities that will deepen their knowledge of various aspects of communication and a changing America.

Students will express their understanding through investigating biographies, persuasive texts, panel discussions, debates, writing advice columns, and interviews. Fourth graders are closing out their year with exciting activities.

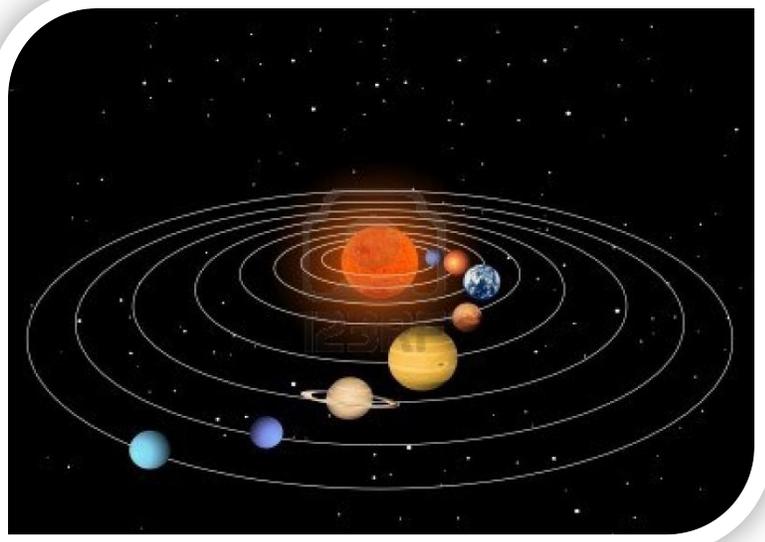


Science & Social Studies

Earth science is the unit of study, as students explore the solar system in fourth grade. As they learn about gravity and the sun, students will describe what makes up the solar system, identify the planets and their distances from the sun, and determine how long it takes for each planet to travel around the sun. Students will explore how the moon affects earth's orbit and recognize that the moon is the earth's natural satellite. This study also includes Space Exploration, Weather, shaping and reshaping the earth and earth's minerals.

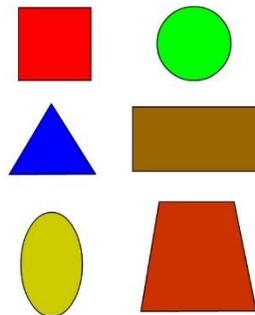
Manifest Destiny and settling the West are studied as the students learn how the United States expanded westward in the 1800's and what effects that expansion had on native people. Students will describe how the United States acquired territory in Louisiana, Florida, Texas, Oregon, and the southwest.

Students close out history with an overview of Industrialization and Modern America.



Math

Fourth grade will review work with percents, dividing whole numbers, dividing decimals, and multiplication. Shapes, weight, volume, capacity and rates will be covered as the students review skills taught this year. Also, a series of assessments will be administered the last nine weeks.



$$22\% = \frac{22}{100} = \frac{22}{100} \div \frac{2}{2} = \frac{11}{50}$$

$$\text{So, } 22\% = \frac{11}{50}$$

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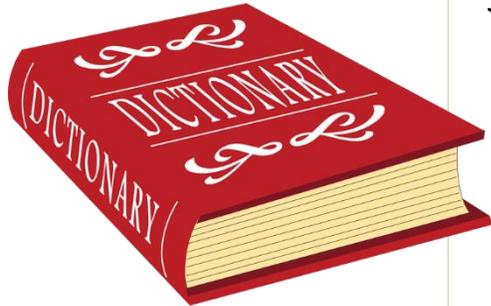
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3rd Grade News – Reading & Writing

As third graders implement the writing process they'll organize facts with a research report by distinguishing between facts and opinions. They will be able to write strong openings, add details, and support their facts with strong

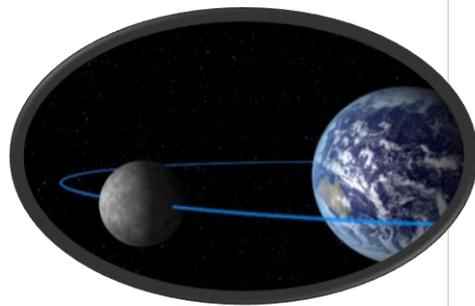
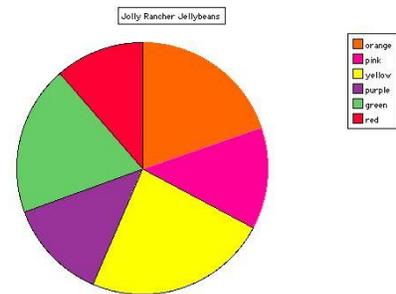
closings. The students will also revise an opinion essay, using a revision checklist. Third graders will review synonyms, antonyms, homonyms and dictionary skills. This is an exciting time for third graders as we close out the year.



Science & Social Studies

Science is an interesting challenge for the students as they study the Earth, Sun, Moon and the planets. Science activities will include making a shoe box constellation, making a Model Solar System and modeling the moon's phases.

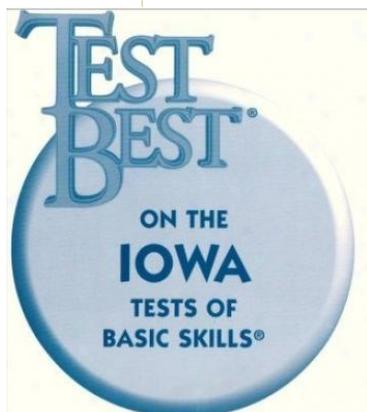
United States history will be reviewed in May, also. Geography studies will include completing bar graphs, circle graphs, line graphs, time lines and flow charts.



Math

We'll review and extend previous work with measures of length, weight, and capacity by providing a variety of hands-on activities and applications. Measurements are displayed in graphs and frequency tables. Third grad will extend previous informal work with the median and mode of a

set of data and calculate the mean. These statistical measures are used to analyze and compare measurement data. A series of reviews and assessment activities will be administered to give each student an awareness of what they've accomplished throughout the school year.



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2th Grade News – Reading & Writing

. Attention will be directed toward reviewing vocabulary skills such as prefixes, suffixes, words in context, antonyms, and synonyms. Comprehension skills will be reinforced as we explore whole-part relationships,

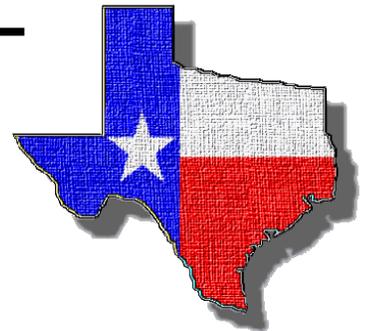
comparative relationships, cause-effect relationships, predicting outcomes, drawing conclusions, and summarizing. The last few weeks, Second Grade will review syllable division and spelling changes before suffixes.



A **prefix** is added to the beginning of a word to make a new word.

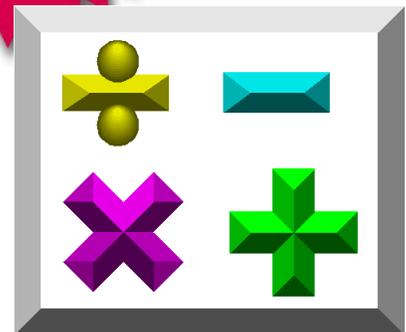
Science & Social Studies

There will be focus on Texas hero's and symbols in May. They'll also be studying the solar system and enjoy making their own. These last few weeks will be used to review and reinforce materials covered in Science and Social Studies.



Math

We'll review equivalent units of measure in the customary and metric systems. They'll develop a technique for estimating distances by pacing, along with making measurements to the nearest half-inch and half-centimeter. Second Graders will be reviewed as they use a "Good Buys" poster about groceries to practice finding alternate ways of paying for purchases. After a review of decimal notation used to represent money amounts, they'll explore various names, fractional and decimal, for a penny and a dime. They'll be able to use decimal notations for dollars and cents in a variety of situations. The second



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1st Grade News – Reading & Language Arts

They are building vocabulary by recognizing structural and contextual clues in their readers. They will continue reviewing details, topics, cause-effect relationship, predicting outcomes, and understanding the main

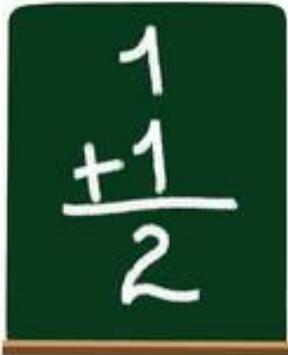
ideas. They have mastered and will continue using alphabetical ordering when organizing their work ideas. As we close out the year, we'll review all our vowel and sounds.



Science & Social Studies

Writing and illustrating the animals and different products of the rain forest will be a great adventure. The first graders are also learning how to follow directions on a map by using the map keys. They'll be focusing on Texas and complete a book about Texas Heroes, Texas Resources and Symbols. First grade will really go "far out" by studying the solar system the last few weeks of school. This is a busy time for First Grade.

Math



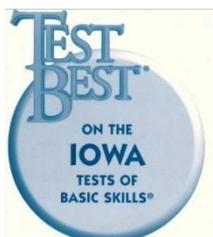
We will review concepts such as solving problems and sharing solution strategies together. They'll be gaining experience in practical work with money, as well as gaining a better understanding of addition and subtraction. They will be formally introduced to concepts of fractions, fraction notation and vocabulary of fractions. Work with place value, digits, and tens patterns is continued. Extensive work on number

lines and number grids is extended as we review negative numbers on number lines and link them to backward calculator counts. To provide closure on all the "data" we've collected, we'll summarize our findings. We'll review telling time, temperature differences, number scrolls and complete a year-end Geometry Review!!!!



Spelling

Please remember to review spelling words DAILY. This is very important to their learning experiences. Thank you for your continued support with their spelling work.



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Kindergarten News – April/May Unit **By The Sea & What a Wonderful World!**



April: The purpose of this unit is to help students to focus on and investigate oceans and life in and around them. The selections the students listen to and read are primarily informational texts. Through these selections and their unit investigations, the students will discover a number of facts about the oceans, marine plant and animal life, and the

properties of ocean water and how it differs from the water they drink.

Oceans occupy most of the surface of our planet. As they study this unit, they'll begin to understand how oceans affect their lives and all the people in the world.

May: Everything that adds fun to life form is the focus

of Kindergarten final unit. The children participate in music, art and games as they develop an appreciation of the amazing possibilities life has to offer. They will review comprehension strategies and skills, the writing process, vocabulary and an array of literature.

Math

April: This month in Math, we will continue our spiral curriculum in all of the strands we have studied.

Some of our activities will include:

Place Value:

...money and calculators

"What's My Rule" (functions):

...pairs of numbers

...attributes

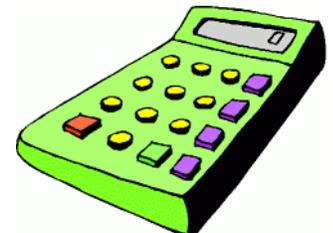
Study of Shapes:

...compare shapes, shape puzzles, "I Spy" shapes, body shapes, rope shapes, geo board shapes, shape museum, straw shapes

Study of area:

1. Continue measurement
2. Work on addition
3. Missing addends

May: Kindergarten will round out the year by reviewing and expanding on previous concepts. Problem solving will be emphasized. They will continue with place value and subtraction also.



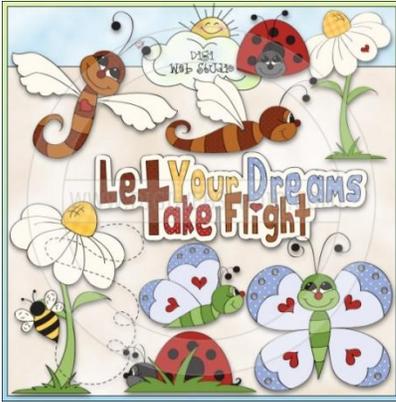
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Advance Pre-K News – Reading “TAKE FLIGHT”



As the school year comes to and end it is evident that advanced Pre-K students have developed in their natural talents and gifts. They are ready to Take Flight. They have explored activities to enhance critical and creative thinking skills throughout the school year.

The skills of logic and reasoning teach children how to think. Thinking skills are precisely the skills needed to be able to learn anything at any time. If a student has a grasp of how to think, school success and even success in life will become

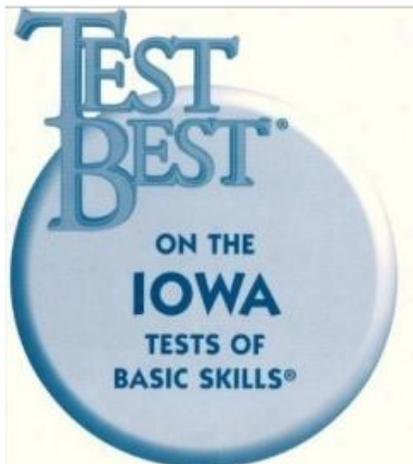
more assured. Also, they will become more self-confident as new tasks are approached. Remember to continue reading throughout the summer months. They are ready to “take flight” into Kindergarten in August.

Math

Pre-K’s building a foundation of basic math skills through hands-on activities with concrete models. The activities have engaged the students in “doing mathematics” as they

build a deeper understanding of concepts. These concepts will be reviewed the last month of school. During the summer months as you share time together remember to incorporate math into everyday activities. Ask your child

questions about how many months, weeks and days will pass before school begins again. Graph out your findings and when playing games use tally marks to keep score.



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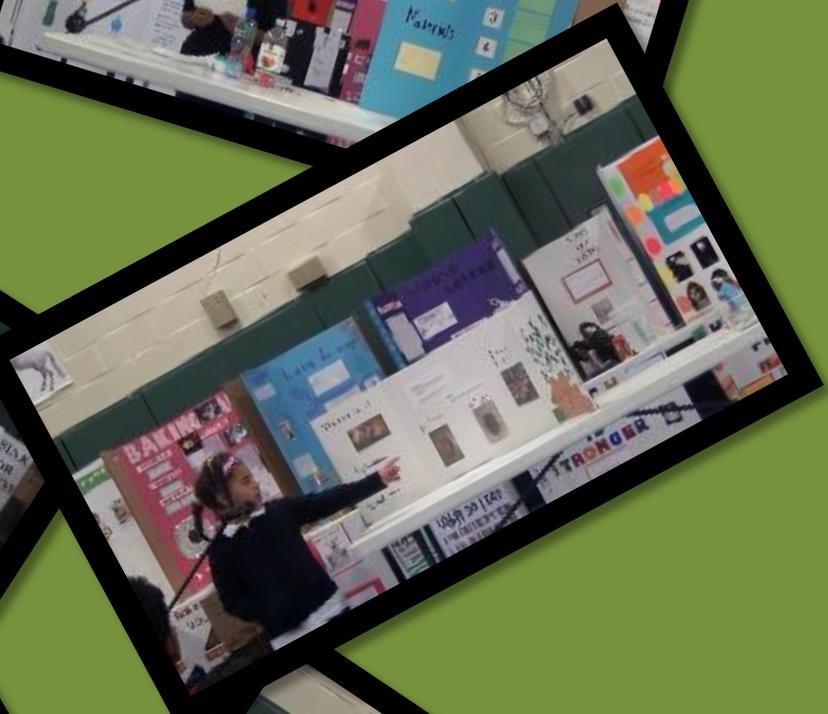
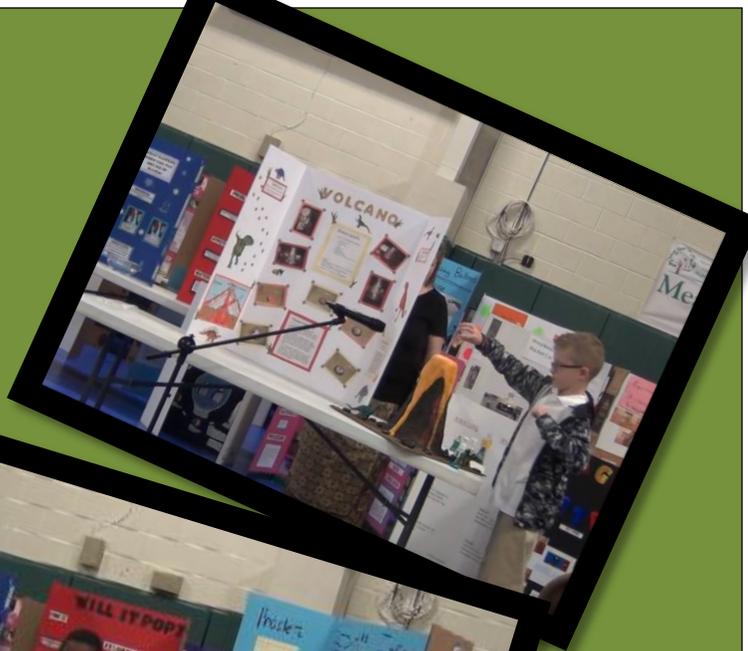
Last day of School May 30th. Private School closed April 18th for Good Friday.



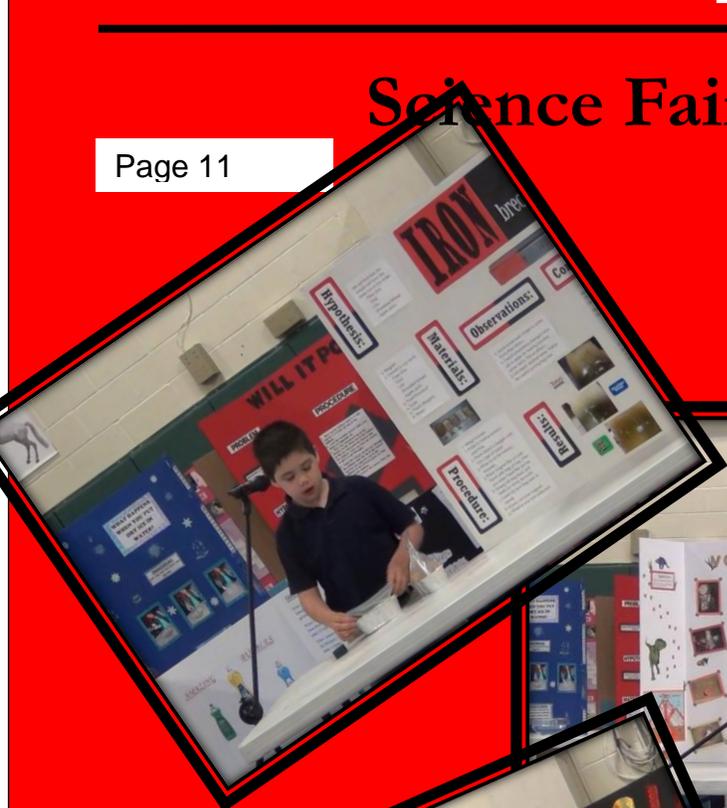
Science Fair 2014



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