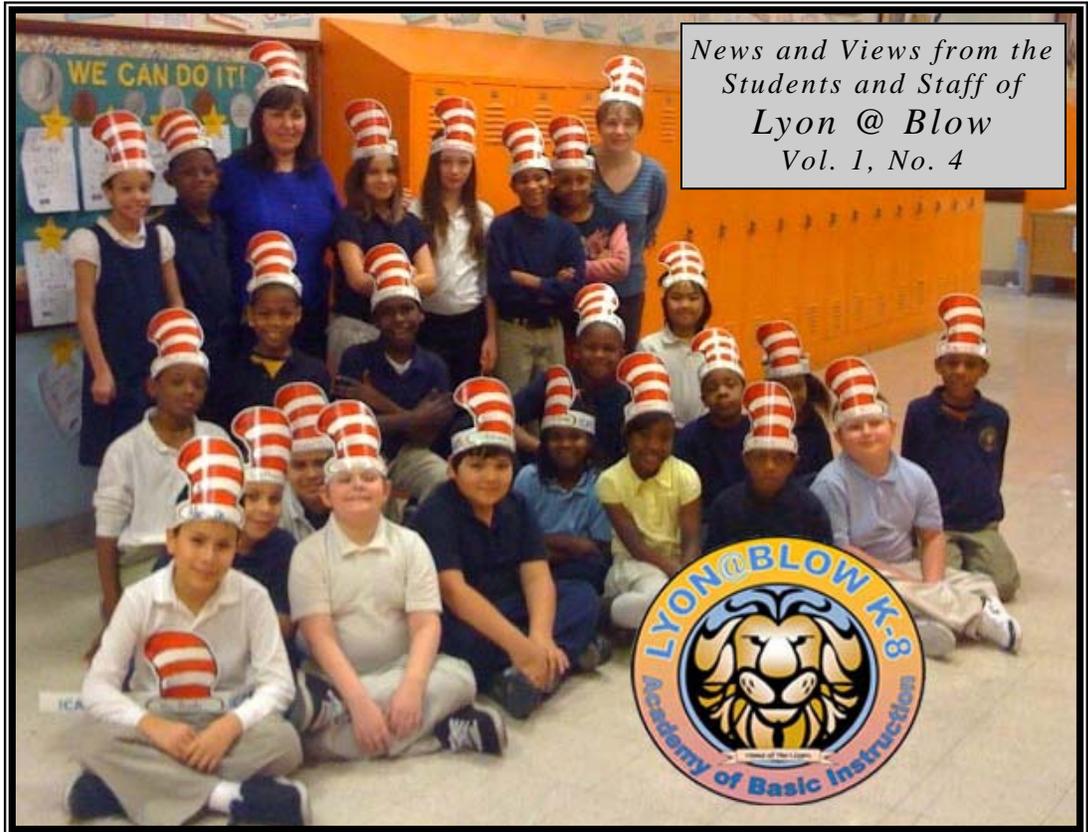


LYON AT BLOW
 Academy of Basic Instruction
SPRING NEWS 2010

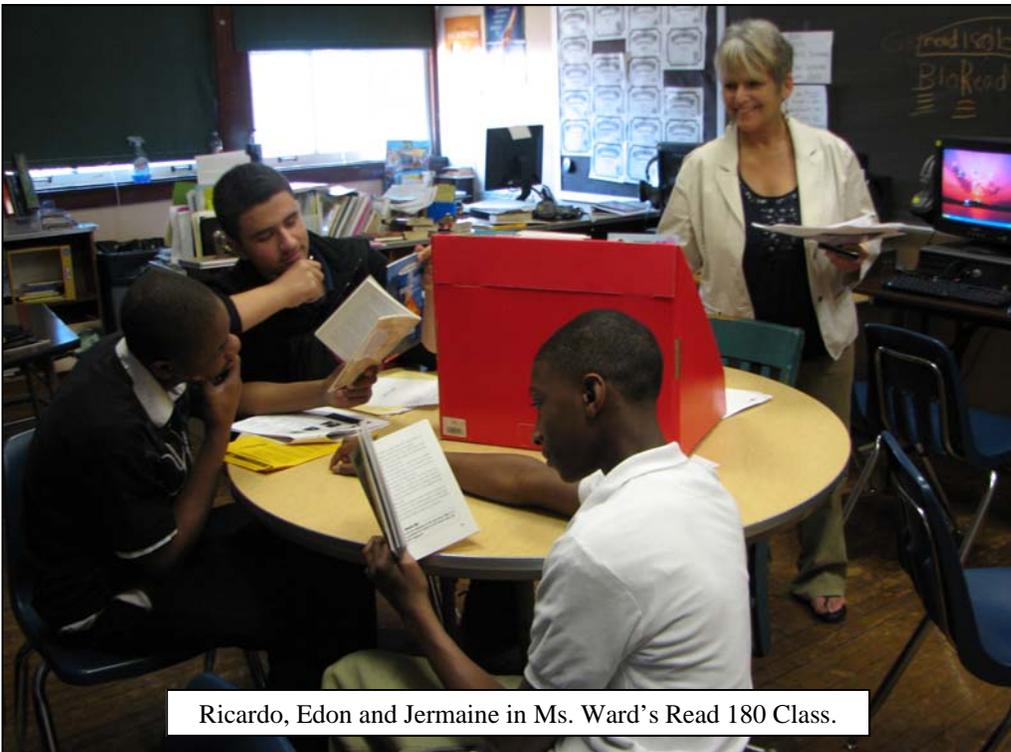


*News and Views from the
 Students and Staff of
 Lyon @ Blow
 Vol. 1, No. 4*

READING CELEBRATION — This issue’s cover photo, courtesy of Lyon at Blow’s Elementary Spanish teacher, Ms. Bryant, features students from Ms. McCord’s Homeroom who celebrate reading and the work of Dr. Theodor Geisel. Geisel is best known as Dr. Seuss, the author and illustrator whose work has inspired and entertained readers for more than fifty years. Principal Iskali (left) joins the fun with Ms. McCord, pictured right in the photo. *Read Across America Day*, March 2, is held on Geisel’s birthday.

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Ricardo, Edon and Jermaine in Ms. Ward’s Read 180 Class.



Michael Ransom takes the 1st Place Award at the Zoo Art Exhibit in Drawing for grades PK-5. (See Page 5.)



Ancient Egypt and two months of study in a unit on Ancient Egypt are celebrated on Wednesday, March 10, 2010 in Ms. Norris' 6th Grade Home Room. Ms. Norris (far right) worked with members of Metro Theater Company bringing a special program to students combining speech, drama, and problem solving skills to explore the life and culture of Ancient Egypt.



Students learned how to play the ancient Egyptian game called Sennet. They paired off and played the game against one another in a series of matches leading to a championship series. The students used math skills to track all the matches and display the standings with tables, charts and graphs. Later, they displayed the results on the bulletin board.



Ms. Norris helps students track the results of their tournament play and demonstrates how to graph the results. The activity was only one of the many that involved the class in hands-on tasks related to ancient Egyptian culture. You may notice Ms. Norris' head-dress which she wore in the spirit of the times. The students were engaged and enjoyed the lessons.

Egypt

THE PYRAMIDS AND PHAROAHS

A PYRAMID IS A TRIANGULAR SHAPED BUILDING THAT HAS BEEN AROUND HERE FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS. THE PHAROAHS USED TO BE THE RULERS OF AN STATE. EVERYBODY FOLLOWED THEM. IF THEY DIDN'T THEY WOULD HAVE SEVERE CONCEQUENCES. MAYBY IF IT IS NEC-ESSARY THEY WOULD PUT THEM TO DEATH.

THEY HAD A RIVER CALLED THE NILE RIVER. IT WAS THE LONGEST RIVER THERE. IT WAS NEAR MESOPOTAMIA AND THE MOUTH OF THE NILE RIVER INTO THE MEDITRANIAN. THEY HAD THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM HOOKED UP TO THE NILE RIVER THAT HELPED.



Egyptian Times



We all know that there are a lot of pyramids in Egypt. But do you know what's inside of them? Inside of the pyramids are very treasured items. Do you have any idea what the items are? It's mummified kings, queens, pharaohs and nobles. The reason they mummified them is that they were so important, loved, valued, and very wealthy.

Egypt has a flag just like many other countries. And the colors on their flag symbolize something different. Red is Egyptian hardness, and bravery at war. Black is Determination. White is peace and honesty. A shield over a golden eagle facing the right above a scroll stands for Egypt in Arabic!

Egypt

Last Wendsday we went on a scavenger hunt. We went to all these classes. The reason we even went on a scaventur hunt is that our two pharaohs and a noble went missing, and we had to find them.

We went to Ms. Blake, the Office, and to Mr. Strong. We went to find all these places by using a map. We went to these teachers to have clues but to actually get

Well, we finally got all the clues. Then we got upstairs and finished the hunt in second place.

At least we weren't last.



THE EGYPTIAN TIMES

As an extension of their study of Ancient Egypt, students from Ms. Norris' 6th Grade Homeroom assembled two and four page newsletters chronicling their two month unit on Ancient Egypt. Ms. Norris and Mr. Phoenix, the Lyon @ Blow Computer Literacy Teacher, teamed on the project. Students wrote articles in Ms. Norris' class and entered their text and digital photos in Microsoft Publisher.

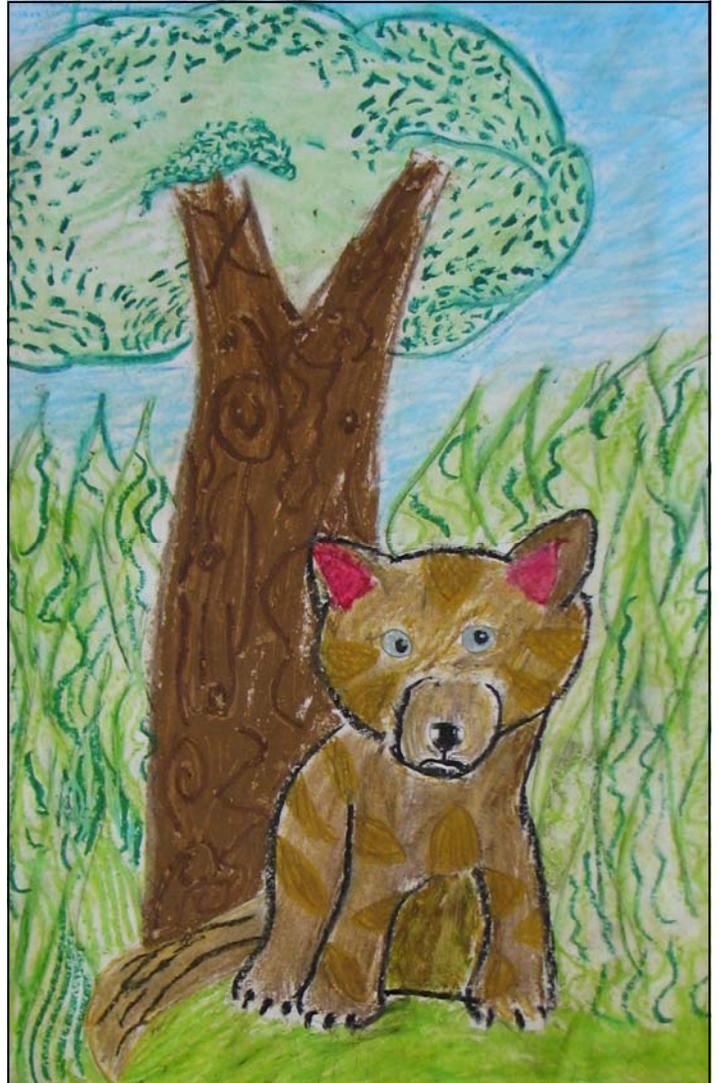
"Ms. Norris had a great idea," said Phoenix. "It was great having the students reflect on their experiences of ancient Egypt and then come across the hall to their computer class and use modern technology and state of the art equipment to express themselves. It's always a plus when students have something to say. It makes teaching keyboard skills and computer applications a lot easier."

Norris and Phoenix have planned similar assignments in the past and hope the students continue to see the connection between their written work and the technical skills they are developing in computer class.

St. Louis Zoo Art Exhibit



Zaair Taylor, Kindergarten



Nichaela Hoffman, 6th Grade



Danielle Rankins, 8th Grade



Selmir Esmerovic, 2nd Grade



Andre Ransom, 6th Grade



Tiffani Moses, 1st Grade



Michael Ransom, 1st Grade (1st Place — Drawing, PK-5)



Rayanna Conway, 5th Grade

On Thursday, February 18, 2010, Lyon @ Blow's Art Teacher, Mrs. Deleon, delivered student art work to the St. Louis Zoo for its annual exhibition. Eleven of the pieces she took to the Zoo were selected by exhibition officials for display. Congratulations to Mrs. "D" and her students, and to all the children throughout the school whose work was considered. The following list is of those students who have work hanging at the zoo:

Zaair Taylor, Kindergarten; Tiffani Moses, 1st Grade; Michael Ransom, 1st Grade; Selmir Esmerovic, 2nd Grade; Josephine Pounds, 4th Grade; J'Niya Coleman, 4th Grade; Dawn Beer, 4th Grade; Rayanna Conway, 5th Grade; Nicheala Hoffman, 6th Grade; Andre Ransom, 6th Grade; Danielle Rankins, 8th Grade.



Josephine Pounds, 4th Grade



TOP: Dawn Beer, 4th Grade — BOTTOM: J'Niya Coleman, 4th Grade



LYON @ BLOW CELEBRATES THE SEASON WITH WINTER FEST! It's been more than three months, but no one is about to forget the Winter Fest celebration held on December 12, 2009. The school-wide event was organized by Lyon @ Blow Music Teacher, Mr. Clark with musical acts provided by staff and students. In the photo above of the Kindergarten class, Kylic adjusts the microphone for his classmates.



8th Grader Ricardo Duver steps up to the public address system to host Winter Fest and announce the various acts. On stage waits the Lyon @ Blow Choir, ready to perform musical numbers for the school.



Performers in the kick-line await the signal.



Many parents attended the winter celebration. Here they listen attentively to the Lyon @ Blow Choir, directed by Mr. Clark.



Okay! Now, it's time to kick!



6th Grade Math Teacher, Ms. So at the violin.

SUPER FANTASTIC
WINTER BREAK — LYON @ BLOW
STAFF PARTY

Winter Fest was hardly three hours old when the staff left the building at the end of the day and got ready for the staff party. The group met at the Genesis Banquet Center in South County for a wonderful dinner as the guests of Ms. Iskali. The party was Ms. Iskali's personal gift to the men and women who make up the teaching and support staff of Lyon @ Blow Elementary. It was a great time, and during the gift exchange there were loads of laughs.



Ms. Blake with Mr. Gordon and Mr. Smith.



Ms. Hill gets the surprise of her life when she opens her gift.



Supply your own caption...



The food was delicious and there was plenty of it!



Ms. Iskali holds up one of the gifts from her staff.

THE TIMES WE REMEMBER...

Ms. Bryant, Mr. Gilmore, Ms. Encalade, Ms. Norris, Mr. Ginter, Ms. Budde



Mrs. Downey, Mrs. Deleon and Mr. Deleon, Mr. Haas,
Mrs. Price, Ms. Blake, Ms. Williams



THE TIMES WE WON'T FORGET...

Mrs. Hayes, Mrs. Mickles, Mrs. Bush and Mr. Bush





Mrs. McCord prepares her students for their portion of the school-wide Character Education Assembly focusing on Respect.





Students of all ages are honored for their good character at the monthly, school-wide Character Education Assembly.



From Ms. Harringa's classroom, Kia Johnson reads her award-winning essay on Respect to the assembly.



Mr. Gilmore and Mrs. Hayes accept the Teacher of the Month Awards

HEALTH



To encourage staff to take a more active roll in managing their own health and wellness, the District instituted a Wellness Program in concert with the District's Employee Health Care Provider. On February 24, 2010 medical professionals came to Lyon @ Blow at the conclusion of the school day and set up testing stations in the First Floor Computer lab. They measured your teacher's height, weight, body mass, blood pressure and cholesterol. In the insert above you'll see one of the health care workers take a sample of Ms. Harringa's blood. The samples were run through machines on the spot to indicate the degree of employee "wellness" based on the cholesterol, blood sugar and other factors. Most of the teachers and staff were very glad to get the information.



Mrs. D takes a break from her busy day to stop into the temporary Wellness center and have her blood pressure checked.



In the Waiting Room. 7th and 8th Grade Communication Arts Teacher, Ms. Lockett and 7th and 8th Grade Math Teacher, Mr. Stewart anxiously await the results of their wellness tests.

WELLNESS



7th and 8th Grade Science Teacher Mr. Ginter stopped into the 1st Floor computer lab before Christmas when another group of Health Care Professionals was at Lyon @ Blow to administer voluntary, free H1N1 vaccines to protect against influenza.



Mr. Reinstein doesn't bat an eye when the needle sticks!



Free form dance. Ms. Fish and Mrs. D provide some modern interpretive dance as we await our turns to have blood drawn at the Wellness Screening on February 24th.



IN FOCUS

A team of educators visited Lyon @ Blow and assembled early in the morning for a presentation from Principal Iskali and the school administration. The team asked questions and talked to students and then went out into the building. They went into classrooms and observed teachers and students at work. Afterwards, the team went to the District Administration building and met up with other teams that had visited other St. Louis schools. The teams talked about their experiences and shared ideas with District Administrators. Later, the team got back to Principal Iskali and thanked her and her staff for a great visit. We are glad they enjoyed their time at Lyon @ Blow.



TEACH FOR AMERICA REGIONAL VISIT



Lyon @ Blow Elementary School recently took part in a visit from Teach for America (TFA) officials. Members of the visiting team of educators went into classes and observed TFA teachers and students at work. The above picture shows Principal Iskali welcoming TFA team members to her building before the start of the school day.



IN AND AROUND THE CLASSROOM



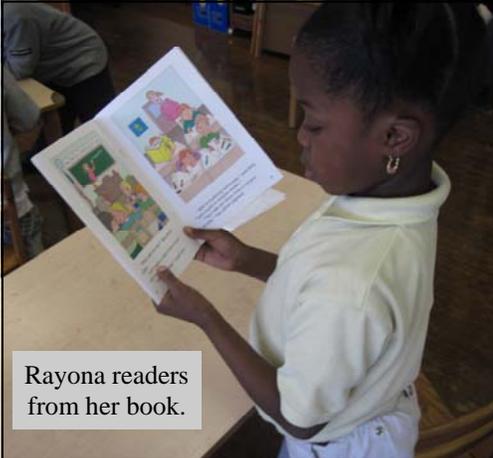
Mrs. Price reads to her Kindergarten class.



SPANISH — A portrait of the Ms. Lockett's 8th Grade students. They're seen here in their Spanish class with Ms. Rains.



SOCIAL STUDIES — Students from Mr. Ginter's 8th grade homeroom prepare for a test in Ms. Encalade's Social Studies class. They took the test on the Friday before Spring Break.



Rayona readers from her book.

Ms. Harringa's students take a break from independent study to come together to ask questions about the world. It's a great place to practice speaking and listening.



Kia shares her book.

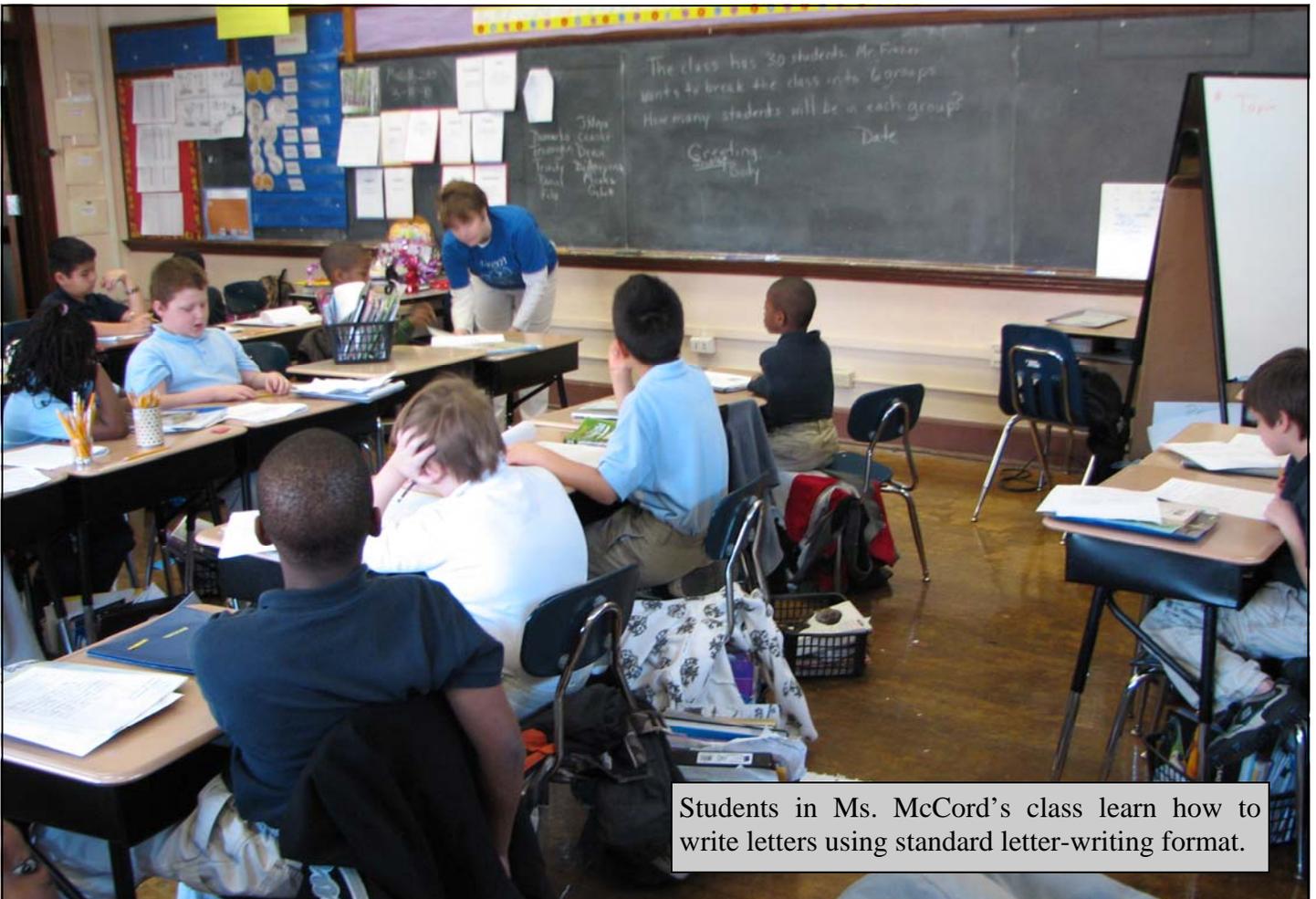


DeMaria shows her workbook.



Student height and weight are measured. Students also had their blood pressure taken to assess the student population's general physical health.

Ms. Blake, Lyon @ Blow Physical Education teacher had medical students visit the school on Thursday, March 11, 2010. They helped the district get a snapshot of student wellness.



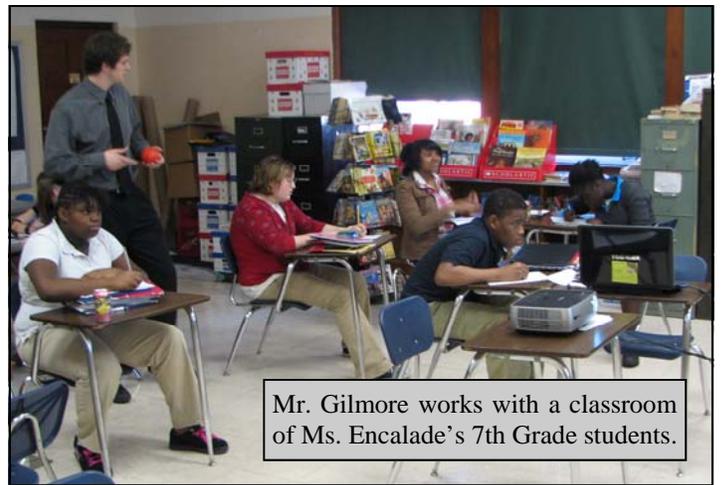
Students in Ms. McCord's class learn how to write letters using standard letter-writing format.



Students from Ms. Norris' 6th grade home room attend Mr. Clark's Music class. Mr. Clark has been busy this winter. In addition to teaching all his classes, he directed sound and music for the school wide assemblies, organized and rehearsed Lyon @ Blow students for an evening performance at the Fox Theater, and shot and edited a video for the Character Education assembly on Integrity.



Ms. Fish and Mrs. Andrews with some of their students.



Mr. Gilmore works with a classroom of Ms. Encalade's 7th Grade students.

Mr. Ginter, Lyon @ Blow's 7th and 8th Grade Science teacher in a lighter moment between classes stops for this shot at his door with Edon Mehmeti. Edon is an 8th Grade Student from Mr. Stewart's home room. Mr. Stewart teaches 7th and 8th Grade Mathematics.



IN AND AROUND THE CLASSROOM



Students in one of Mrs. Downey's reading classes.



Aubrey and Dorian in a morning class with Ms. Hill.



Safety First. Making the rounds with the digital camera on Friday, March 12, we got this photo of School Safety Officer, Mr. Strong and the Lyon @ Blow School Nurse, Ms. Shelton. Somehow, we all just feel better with them in the building!



Ms. Deleon reviews the day's assignment in her Art class with 6th Grade students from Ms. So's homeroom. Ms. Deleon had recently completed her work helping with the St. Louis Zoo Art Exhibit which included a field trip with some of her students.



Students in Mrs. Williams' 1st grade class.



Students in Ms. Lockett's 7th Grade Communication Arts Class.



Mrs. Hayes' and Ms. Housewright's students got together on the last hour of the day before Spring Break for a big celebration.



Andre, Carolyn, and Jerome.



Ms. Housewright and Ms. Trapp at the party.

INTEGRITY



A great video on Integrity produced by Mr. Clark, presentations from students, good character awards for students, a wonderful speech from Mrs. Shelton on the meaning of Integrity — all these great features made for a wonderful Character Education school-wide assembly on Integrity.



I hope you had a safe, restful and fun Spring Break. Now, as we begin our 4th quarter, it is time to work even harder at school. On Tuesday, March 30th, we begin MAP testing at Lyon @ Blow. Be sure to get plenty of sleep on the night before each day of testing. Get up in the morning with plenty of time to spare to get ready and have a good breakfast. You will want to have all your energy to do your very best on this important assessment. I know that all my staff and students will do an outstanding job during the period of MAP testing. — Ms. Iskali

Ms. So gets a congratulatory hug from Ms. Harringa as Ms. So and Ms McCord are both named Teacher of the Month winners at the conclusion of the assembly.

