

Lower Elementary Dragon Prints

Students Put On Outstanding Nutcracker Concert!

Issue 15: December 9, 2011

Wednesday, December 7th, the Lower Elementary students performed a wonderful version of the Nutcracker Ballet for their Winter Concert. Each class sang, danced or played musical instruments. Students performed as key characters and narrated the performance. Congratulations to everyone for their hard work!



Upcoming Event Dates:

- ☺ Status Reports and Narratives sent home December 16
- ☺ Winter Holiday—Dec 19-Jan 8
- ☺ School resumes—Jan 9
- ☺ Visiting Author Assemblies—Jan 9



Mrs. Thomas' class enjoying a shared reading time.

Reading Together Builds Stronger Readers

Research shows that children need to see reading modeled by adults to help build literacy skills as well as a lifelong love of reading. Time spent reading with your child not only helps them improve academically, but also gives them special time spent with you. Here are some strategies for sharing reading with your child:

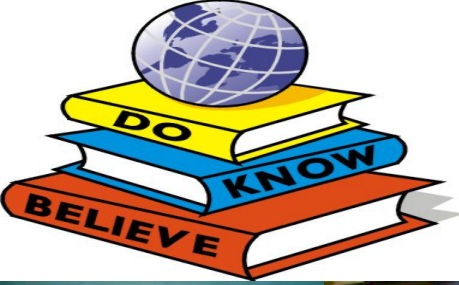
- Talk about the pictures.
- Ask your child to guess what will happen next. When little children look at picture books, they try to tell a story. Ask if your child liked the story. Why or why not? What was the best part?
- The next time you read the book together, let your child retell the story as you turn each page. Your child will remember more each time.
- Keep a bag with a few of your child's favorite books and some new stories. Take it whenever you go out, in case you have to wait somewhere.

Visiting Author/Entertainer set for Jan. 9th

QSI Shekou welcomes visiting author and entertainer Courtney Campbell. Ms. Campbell is an author, singer and songwriter that will be sharing her unique storytelling and songs in performances that are upbeat, encourage audience participation and are full of humor. Children experience creativity, imagination, use of language, music, storytelling and poetry.

"In an age when girls and boys pass so swiftly from Humpty Dumpty to Lara Croft, it is time they were allowed to feel it's cool to enjoy stories set to music... no one does it better than Courtney Campbell."—The London Daily Telegraph





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Interested in a parenting book discussion group?

Please join us to discuss the parenting book: **Love and Logic: Magic for Early Childhood** by J. & C. Fay

Some of the topics we will discuss include self esteem, raising responsible children, different parenting styles, power struggles, setting limits, use of empathy, misbehavior, trusting relationships, discipline and much, much more.

Seven sessions begin February 2, 2012.

For more information or to reserve your book please contact:

Sarah W. Kenealy ECC & Elementary Counselor



LE students have gathered toys and games to donate to other children at Project Eden, a girls home and school.

Creating Caring Children

During the months of December and January our Success Orientation focus turns to *Concern For Others*. Students have been showing their concern by

- Helping friends who have fallen or dropped work
- Talking to others who look sad
- Inviting people to play together
- Sharing toys or games
- Donating to help the less fortunate

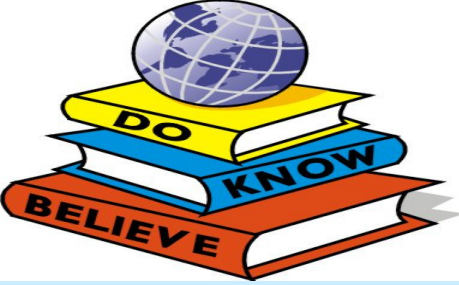
Please help support and reinforce your child's behavior. You can check out a book to read from our Library, talk about how your family shows concern for others, or find opportunities at home for your child to demonstrate what he or she can do.

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Thank You!

A very big thank you and congratulations goes to Kristin Hanson for organizing and producing the Lower Elementary Winter Concert! This production could not have succeeded without the support of the PSG, especially Kate O'Donnell who spent countless hours organizing behind the scenes. Mrs. Hanson would also like to thank her Concert committee and Stage Managers Jane Tarleton, Libby Woodhead and Amanda Borenstein. Last but not least, we would like to congratulate all of the Lower Elementary students who performed! It was a fantastic event!



Staying Healthy During Flu Season

Holiday stress and travel can leave us susceptible to the flu and other illnesses. Here are some tips from the Nursing Office to help avoid the flu and stay healthy during this holiday season:

- Wash your hands often!
- Get plenty of rest and sleep
- Avoid stressful situations or practice stress management techniques
- Make time for exercise
- Wash your hands again