



Lighthouse School® 200 Cluster Newsletter September 2009

Notes from the Homeroom:

“New friends to meet, old friends to greet.” Getting acquainted and reacquainted as we immersed ourselves in September’s Cluster monthly theme “Getting to know you.” Some activities included making posters, playing games, and answering questions that all related to who we are. Several homerooms created and displayed uniquely illustrated posters including their wishes and aspirations. A Cluster breakfast aided in reuniting friends, making friends and developing our social skills as we enjoyed muffins, bagels, cream cheese, cantaloupe, grapes, bananas and milk. On September 16th, we celebrated our Lighthouse School’s sports teams at an all school Pep Rally. Such an amazing sight to see and experience! Blue, gold and white balloons, bleachers, posters, pep squad, uniformed sports teams, students and teachers in school colors, all uniting in applause and cheering. All being a part of the team... the Lighthouse team.

The enthusiasm continued as homerooms and Clusters competed in an original cheer competition. At the conclusion of the day, the judges announced that by unanimous vote, the entire 200 Cluster had won a pizza party for their display of school spirit. The following Wednesday proud, happy students gleefully munched their pizza prize with their fellow classmates. Undoubtedly, cheering and winning the pizza activity were the favorite highlights of the month. That same week we experienced Constitution Day. Some students were able to develop their own Declaration of Independence while other students counted the stars and stripes on the flag, colored flags and sang patriotic songs. This was a proud day to be an American.

While the students are learning about themselves, they are reviewing math facts, grammar and conducting reading assessments on lessons. This year, Health and Wellness, taught by Adaptive Physical Education teachers, will be occurring in the homeroom. This month, good hand washing techniques adapted to each homeroom was included in the curriculum.

In Science, the mysteries of rocks and minerals were unlocked as the students discovered the “What, Why, and How” of rock formations. In a fun yet educational format, the students grew crystals, pounded round rocks to discover the crystal geodes within, and played rock category matching games.

Community Therapy encouraged and enlightened our students to choose their own books to borrow and read through a “Breakfast with Books” program at our own school library.

Lastly, “Sunny, the Therapy Dog” resumed monthly visits as the students happily welcomed her return.

Some upcoming events for the month of October are spectator tickets for soccer and flag football games and a Fall Fair on Friday, Oct. 23rd.

Have a happy and safe month.