

Kristin's Class Newsletter

March 23, 2009 Clara Barton Open School kristinlorna@comcast.net 763-533-1092

Dear Families,

Spring is here and it's MUDDY! Even our warmest days have been chilly at 10:35, our recess time. Jackets, hats and gloves are still in order. It's also an awesome time for rainboots or perhaps an extra pair of shoes and socks in the backpack, just in case. One of my favorite things about 5-6-7 year olds is their undeveloped sense of cause and effect. Highly intelligent children will be genuinely surprised that playing in a puddle at recess will result in wet pants and socks!

Africa

The time goes so quickly! Last week we finished our mural about the Peruvian folktale *Love and Roast Chicken*. We headed right to Africa and read one folktale after another, looking at patterns, colors and artifacts along the way. We are planning two plays- one based on *Love and Roast Chicken* and the other on *Anansi and the Moss Covered Rock*.

Lucky

On St. Patrick's day we couldn't resist spending some time building Leprechaun "houses." (They were really traps. SHHH!) We wrote poetry to entice the wee folk to visit their houses, and even shrunk the poems to leprechaun size. Well, we didn't catch one, so

we can't solve the economic downturn with Leprechaun gold (darn). However, we were given a poetry loving guinea pig named Lucky as a reward for our trouble!

Students are anxious to take Lucky home for weekends and vacations. If you are willing to have Lucky over Spring Break, (woo hoo!) write a note. You will need to transport Lucky and his cage in a car, and keep him safe from other pets, younger brothers and sisters, etc. We'll put all of the notes in a hat and have a lottery to decide who gets to have Lucky sleep over.

Author's Tea and Art Crawl

April 2, the last day before Spring Break (woo hoo!) we'll have the culminating event for our third unit, World of Beauty. You are invited to hear us read stories and poems we have written during World of Beauty, see our art, and maybe see a couple of plays if all goes well. Be there from 7:45-8:45.

Absolutely Fabulous News!!!

Our student teacher Meghan Franzen will be back with us starting today! Full time! She will start by helping out, and gradually take on more teaching time under close supervision. Meghan is already a competent teacher and will be a big help in the classroom. YAY! Kristin

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