

e-news



from your District Technology Resource Teacher

Monday, December 10, 2001

Celebrations:

Kim Johnson, Donna Nicholson, and Cathy Meccariello at Yates went to the Ambrose Training Center to learn how to use KidPix. In addition to a really great KidPix manual, there are tons of great sites on the internet, which demonstrate great educational uses for this software. Kim's students used KidPix to create a Thanksgiving invitation. Donna's students will be using KidPix in conjunction with their unit on Economics.

Members of Lansdowne STLP are now venturing into news casting. Under the wings of STLP co-coordinators, Annette Moore and Boyd Huffman, the student technology leaders will be providing regular broad casts, and they are excited!!!!

Harrison second graders in Beth Fritz's class used Kidspiration to reinforce economic concepts. She divided her students into small groups, and they used the program to classify needs and wants.

Lori Rutherford is re-testing the students keyboarding skills in the computer lab at Rosa Parks. It's exciting to see the progress. We are now seeing students score at 40 words per minute. The district goal is to have all 6th grade students at the 20 words per minute level.

On-Line P.D.

You have probably seen information in Kentucky Teacher and in e-mails about the on-line P.D. beginning in January. Several courses are available. Because Fayette County Technology Resource Teachers wrote these classes, all teachers in our district can take these courses at a reduced rate. The cost of these classes can be covered by your P.D. budget. For more information, touch base with me or your P.D. chair at your school.

Web Sites of the Week:

Many thanks to Beth Drake (Yates) for sharing this site she received from Diane Culbertson at KDE:

From Tom Snyder Productions, a web site on holidays:

Holiday Web Activity: Celebrating different holidays around the world.

<http://www.tomsnyder.com/enews.asp?ID=0112> PLACEMARK

Looking for a creative way to teach your students about different cultures? Would you like to involve all your students in a seasonal project, regardless of what holiday they celebrate? Look no further! Simply visit our holiday Web page, created with Placemark, for links to sites about Ramadan, Kwanzaa, and more! Visit the sites yourself to gather information to present to your class, or have your students break into groups to research a certain holiday to present to their peers. Give extra points for creativity, such as cooking a special holiday treat or singing a song particular to the holiday they are presenting.

Our students need to be able to use knowledge, not just know about things. Understanding is about making connections among and between things, about deep and not surface knowledge, and about greater complexity, not simplicity.

-V. Perrone, How to Engage Students in Learning

Many thanks to Jan Ross at Dixie for sending me these sites on abcteach.com:

Check out these links for holiday activities from the [abcteach](http://abcteach.com) site. Great printouts for crossword puzzles and other activities and there are some really cute shape books in the shape of a candy cane and a stocking. Also some great Kwanzaa and Hanukkah activities. Check them out.

Seasonal Links on [abcteach](http://abcteach.com) that may be of interest are:

December Activities

<http://abcteach.com/MonthtoMonth/December/decemberTOC.htm>

Christmas

<http://abcteach.com/Christmas/ChristmasTOC.htm>

Hanukkah

<http://abcteach.com/MonthtoMonth/Holidays/hanukkuhTOC.htm>

Kwanzaa

<http://abcteach.com/MonthtoMonth/Holidays/kwanzaaTOC.htm>

Schedule:

Monday, December 10	Yates
Monday, December 10	"PowerPoints with Pizzazz" Professional Development at Ambrose Training Center
Tuesday, December 11	District Technology Assessment at Garden Springs (morning)
Tuesday, December 11	Yates (afternoon)
Wednesday, December 12	District Technology Assessment at Russell Cave (morning)
Wednesday, December 12	Float Day/Central Office (afternoon)
	(Completely Booked!)
Thursday, December 13	Lansdowne (morning)
Thursday, December 13	I will be out with my husband who is have surgery on his shoulder (afternoon)
Friday, December 14	District Technology Assessment at Southern Middle School (morning)
Friday, December 14	Lansdowne (afternoon)
Monday, December 17	Float Day/Harrison and Lansdowne
	(Completely Booked!)
Tuesday, December 18	Harrison
Wednesday, December 19	Harrison/Central office
Thursday, December 20	Staff/Float Day
	(Completely Booked!)
Friday, December 21	Winter Break

Have a GREAT week!

Barbara

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"People rarely succeed unless they have fun in what they are doing". - Dale Carnegie

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