

Pat's Limpid Angels

Newsletter
November 7, 2007

This frigid week we have learned to deal with adversity. Our difficulty has been that we have not been able to get the heat in the school to work. Therefore, it has been very cold in our little learning abode. However, we are strong as ice age man and have survived (we are hoping we can get Ethan's dad to do his magic and get the heat working). On the topic of ice age man, we have been discussing the Stone Age in history class. It is an interesting experience to learn the long history of humans and how "quickly" we developed intelligence and a social order. We hope to create our own cave painting art over the next few weeks.

In the same making mood, we spent last week designing and building our annual spooky school. The art room became a haunted factory where the younger kids created monsters that hung on the ceiling and took over the school. Meanwhile, the powerful older kids created a horror extravaganza to scare the pants off the younger kids. The party was no disappointment. We screamed hungrily losing our voices in the end. It was all worth it. "I knew it was Pat, but with the lights it was just spooky" Tricky Tristan yowled. To top it off we had sumptuous snacks, (not all sugar) and bubbling potions. We want to thank Ken and Jeremy Schmidt and Ethan Fox for helping with final spook house prep and Sue Kann, Carrie Brown and Maureen Marron for supplying treats and drinks. Halloween was not all we celebrated; we also danced with the dead for Day of the Dead. We built an attractive alter with sunshine marigolds for our beloved Professor Steve Fox. Then the punchy piñata was pummeled to pieces as a final treat. It was a night to remember.

We have not only been ripping piñata to pieces and partying; we have also been working hard at math. This week we talked about weight. We built balance scales and compared the weight of things in the school. Then we talked about ounces and pounds. We all tried to estimate how much our plump pumpkin weighted. Perky Patrick nailed it on the dot with twenty pounds.

In the area of literature, we took a break from Tom Sawyer for the scary season and read short stories to keep our hearts pumping. Edgar Allen Poe and

Mostly Ghostly are still our favorites in this genre. This week we returned to the tales of Tricky Tom. After a furious feud, Tom and Becky finally made up. We are anxious to finish this wonderful tale and visit the Marvelous Mississippi Museum as the fantastic finale.

Our field trip this week will be decided by the weather witch. Dress warm and hope for sunshine. We will hike Palisades Park if the weather is warm or go to Iowa Hall if it is cold.

That's all for now!