

P.L.A.  
November 10, 2005

This has been a week filled with odd experiments. In Science "stand back" Steve became a fire breathing DrAgOn! He put flammable chemicals in a hollow tube and blew it over a standing propane torch. RoAr! The fire blew UP and then faded away. We learned about all the different flammable chemicals, like cornstarch and zinc, among others. We also learned about the fire triangle. This is what the fire needs. The fire needs fuel to burn, oxygen, and heat. If any of these are taken away, the fire will die.

**In our reading groups Abby and Anna are reading, "A Tree grows in Brooklyn." Next week Anna and Abby will report on this touching book. The rest of us (except T and Meagan) are reading "The BFG." This exciting book is about a Big Friendly, whizzopping, Giant. The main character is an orphan named Sophie, who is stolen by the BFG. The BFG takes her to giant country, where each night other giants (but not the BFG) go off gobbling humans beans. The BFG only eats snozzcumbers and drinks whizpop for fun. Sophie befriends the giant, who catches good dreams and blows them through his odd trumpet into children's minds. Their plan is to figure out a way to stop all of the other NaStY GiAnTs from gobbling up human beans. Please look on the wall of P.L.A. for our illustrations of the Bloodbottler giant.**

*In Writing we have been workshoping our horror stories, and are almost done with our drafts. We look forward to sharing these masterpieces with our friends and family. We hope to put them on our webpage, so keep your eyes open. Be prepared to ScReAm, and whizpop.*

In Math we have been doing diagrams and measurements. And in History we are making models of our chosen Native American cultures. We're learning the different foods they ate, what types of homes they had, their beliefs, and their tools and weapons, and where they lived - of course. Please check out our models because they're so awesome (and informative).

(Special thanks to Cathy W. for making us scrumdiddliumptious hot lunch every week!)

**Tomorrow we will be taking food to the Free Lunch Program as part of our community service program. We baked desserts for this week's meal. After delivering the food, we will go to the Cedar Rapids Art Museum to view the Grant Wood exhibit.**

**Brought to you by: Serious SaM, Stellar Sabin, and the BFG.**

#### REMINDERS:

If you haven't signed up for parent-teacher conferences, there are still openings on Mon and Thurs. Please call Pat to set up times. There won't be conferences on Thanksgiving.

Next Saturday, November 19 from 10-3 (or so) we will be winterizing the school. Any help is *greatly appreciated*.

We will also be having a great Thanksgiving Feast on Tuesday, November 22. Parents are invited to share this wonderful harvest feast with us. Please let Pat know if you plan to attend. More details to follow in next week's newsletter. Remember there is NO SCHOOL on Wednesday, November 23.