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## Library News

Bonnie Talcott, Librarian/IMT

Feb 2009



Holiday books were of course very popular to check out in December, and I had a lot of choices available for the kids. For K-3 library storytime, I read *Hanukkah* by Miriam Nerlove, *A*

*Magical Christmas* by Claire Freedman, and *The Little Seal* by Sue Harris, a cute book about friendship. Additional holiday books read to the K-1 classes were *The Christmas Hat* by A. J. Wood, *There was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Bell* by Lucille Colandro and *The Snow Tree* by Caroline Repchuk. In the 4th and 5th grade classes, we finished up with *Marley*.

In January and February, I am reading the California Young Reader Medal nominated books. The kids will then vote for their favorite, and I'll mail in the results to the committee. For the K-2 classes, the picture books are *Uncle Peter's Amazing Chinese Wedding* by Lenore Look, *Bats at the Beach* by Brian Lies, *Stanley's Wild Ride* by Linda Bailey, *The Perfect Nest* by Catherine Friend and

*Hilda Must Be Dancing* by Karma Wilson. The picture books for older readers for the 3rd-5th graders are *Brothers* by Yin, *Pop's Bridge* by Eve Bunting, and *Mystery at the Club Sandwich* by Doug Cushman.

*Snow Bear* by Miriam Moss and *Hooray for Fish* by Lucy Cousins were also read to the Kindergartners in January.

To celebrate Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, I read *A Sweet Smell of Roses* by Angela Johnson to the 1st and 2nd graders and *Riding to Washington* by Gwenyth Swain to 3rd-5th. Both books are about girls going to the March on Washington to hear him give his famous speech, just at different reading levels.

Scholastic held a Holiday Warehouse Sale in Thousand Oaks, so I was able to conveniently purchase a few more boxes of new books with bookfair credit. This year's Book Fair is coming up the first week of March!

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Dec 2008



Halloween was celebrated in the library for a couple weeks in the K and 1<sup>st</sup> grade classes with the picture books *Bats at the Beach* by Brian Lies and *Trick-or-Treat,*

*Smell My Feet!* by Lisa Desimini. Kindergartners got a little extra story time with *Harriet's Halloween Candy* by Nancy Carlson, *Corduroy's Halloween* by Don Freeman and *A Very Brave Witch* by Alison McGhee. I also read poems from *Hey-How for Halloween!* by various poets to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes.

First-graders learned about finding a "just right" book in the cleverly written *Goldie Socks and the Three Libearians* by Jackie Mims Hopkins, and the K classes learned a little bit about good classroom behavior in *Miss Nelson is Missing* by Henry Allard.

The week before Thanksgiving, *One is a Feast for Mouse – A Thanksgiving Tale* by Judy Cox was read to all the K-3<sup>rd</sup> classes, along with poems from Jack Prelutsky's *It's Thanksgiving*.

I continued reading a chapter each week of *Clementine* to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes, which we will be finishing this week. I have multiple copies of this book in the library and also the sequel *The Talented Clementine*, both of which have been a favorite with the kids to check out.

In the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes, I have been continuing with *Marley*, and we will finish the book by Winter Break. The kids have been really excited as they've seen the movie previews and posters, and with all the requests from kids to read it themselves, I did buy 8 copies for our library. I also bought the picture books *Bad Dog, Marley!* and *A Very Marley Christmas* and will be reading them to all K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes in December, so they are introduced to *Marley* in book form first before they see the movie.

In the last couple weeks, I've been pulling all the Christmas, Hanukah and winter books from the shelves in preparation to display and encourage the kids to check them out for the December holiday season.

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Oct 2008



Weekly classroom visits to the library began September 8. That first week I went over the rules of our library and read fun picture books set in libraries: *Corduroy Goes to the Library* by Don Freeman (K), *Library Lion* by Michelle Knudsen (1st), *Library Mouse* by Daniel Kirk (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>), and *Please Bury Me in the Library* by J. Patrick Lewis (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>).

Kindness was one of the Words of the Week in September, so I picked the books *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein, *Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister, and *One Smile* by Cindy McKinley to share with the Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade classes. We spent a couple weeks on this theme of kindness and sharing. Then I read *Wild About Books* by Judy Sierra (K) and *The Boy who was Raised by Librarians* by Carla Morris (1<sup>st</sup>).

I'm reading the humorous chapter book *Clementine* by Sara Pennypacker to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes. It was

nominated by kids for the 2008 California Young Reader Medal Award.

For the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes, I chose *Marley: a dog like no other* by John Grogan, a special adaptation of the author's best-selling book "Marley & Me" for young readers, which I read a couple years ago and some of you may have also. It's perfect timing as we'll finish reading the book by winter vacation, and the movie opens on Christmas!

On September 30, I went down to the Scholastic Warehouse in Culver City, and using the book credit money from the last very successful PFA Book Fair, I was able to purchase 6 boxes of new books for the library. Since there were no classroom visits the week of parent conferences, I worked on getting the books ready for circulation. I love seeing the kids so excited about checking out the new books!

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## Library News

Bonnie Talcott, Librarian/IMT

Sep 2008



Hi, I'm Bonnie Talcott, your new Librarian/IMT. I met with the beloved Theresa Scarpine before school started, and she showed me around your wonderful library. I know you will all miss her, but I am thrilled to be here and anxious to meet all of you.

Let me tell you a little about myself. I've lived in Thousand Oaks for 16 years, and have three children. Kevin and Melanie are at Thousand Oaks High School as a junior and freshman, and Brian is in 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Los Cerritos. When I first moved here, I worked for the school district as a paraprofessional, but after having my second child, decided to be a stay-at-home mom. Three years ago, I began working part-time at the circulation desk of the Westlake Village Library, so many of you will recognize me from there. It's been so nice to see some familiar faces, and I'm so happy to be here at Westlake Hills, running my own little library and sharing my love of reading with your children.

The first couple weeks here were very busy, getting the teachers all the textbooks, workbooks and supplies they needed in the classrooms. I unpacked tons of boxes that were delivered over the summer, as the district adopted a new edition of the Everyday Math curriculum plus all the yearly ordered consumable workbooks. A big thanks to Jennele Hogue, our new PE specialist, for helping me get it all done.

Classes began their weekly visits to the library September 8. I'm busy getting all the new kids to Westlake Hills their library cards and entering them in the circulation database. I'm also excitedly picking out books to read in the coming weeks. I'll let you know what we've been reading every month in these ETC. articles.

Thank you Lisa Manning (Library Volunteer Coordinator) for already recruiting a great crew to help me with shelving. If any of you would like to help me during your child's weekly library time, please let me or their teacher know. The library is open after school, so stop by and say hello!

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