

## January 2018

### Creative Challenges

The QUEST students finished their second assigned novels. The 1st and 2nd graders read The Year of Billy Miller. In the book, Billy encouraged his dad to create art out of everyday objects. We designed and created our own masterpieces. The 3rd graders read The World According to Humphrey. In that book, Mr. Brisbane designs a playground for Humphrey. We created our own unique obstacle courses for our tiny Humphreys to maneuver through. We had to test our structures repeatedly to be certain they were structurally sound. The 4th and 5th graders read Out of My Mind. The main character Melody, is not able to communicate through spoken language. Each student designed a tactile communication board. The devices they designed were the ONLY way they could communicate with each other. This activity gave us a glance into the life of the Melody character from our novel.

### Beach Party

We have been earning money this year for entering class prepared, always trying our best, respecting each other, and not making excuses. On February 2nd we will have a Winter Beach Party. The QUEST students can pay the low, low price of \$240 for an invitation to our beach party!! It will be so much fun!!

### Interest Inventory

The QUEST students are reflecting on their learning styles with Mrs. Devereaux. They are taking a survey that asks about their preferences in both real and hypothetical situations. For example, if they could be a real author, what would they write about and what would the title of their book be? If they invented a time machine, where in time would they visit?

### QUEST Novels

Timeline for the 3rd QUEST novel:

#### **A-Z Mysteries: The School Skeleton** 1st and 2nd

Chapters 1-5 Due January 29

#### **No Talking** By: Andrew Clements 3rd Grade

Chapters 1-12 Due January 29

#### **Remarkable** By Lizzy K. Foley 4th and 5th

Chapters 1-21 Due January 29

The entire book is due February 20.

### Research

We will begin research this trimester. The students will select three different systems of the body. They will read about their system, take notes, and create a different project for each system. This will be an independent research project for students in grades 4-5.

The 3rd graders can work with a partner and with some teacher support.

The 1st and 2nd graders will research in small group with teacher support. Some of the projects they can choose from are: written report, posters, mobile, oral presentations with note cards, PowerPoint, paper slide video, drawing a diagram of the system. Ask you child what system they selected to research first.

### AAGTS

Albuquerque Assoc. for Gifted and Talented Students will have their annual meeting Saturday, January 27, at the Albuquerque Academy. The guest speaker is Dr. Edward R. Amend. If you wish to register to attend or you need more information go to:

<https://www.aagts.org/conference-2018>