

April 1, 2013

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EPIC! Summer Camp

The Lexis EPIC Summer Program is just around the corner. Here's a quick snapshot:

- Camp is open to all children capable of functioning independently from K-8, so your children may invite siblings and friends who don't currently attend Lexis. Dates are June 3-June 28th from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- The four weekly themes this year are: *Energy Sources Everywhere; Puzzles and Poetry; Inventions and Ice Cream; and Celebrate America.*
- Camp will include: weekly field trips, social skills classes, keyboarding, explorations, music, reader's theatre, art, and sports. Tutoring and Executive Functioning Coaching will also be offered.

Green Eggs and Ham Wins Out!

In celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday on March 1st, Lexis Prep students were asked to write a short narrative about which book was their favorite and why. The votes were tallied by our librarian, Darla Ghanat, and the students' favorite Dr. Seuss book was **Green Eggs and Ham.** Students were also asked to build a "Seussical" model out of Legos. The results are reflected in the pictures below:



Team Jake was inspired by Dr. Seuss' inventive spirit!

Team Maxwell was inspired by the Sneetches!





Question-Answer Relationships (QAR) - a helpful strategy for reading and thinking

There are three metacognitive processes that students need to be proficient readers. The first is **self-knowledge** (knowing one's own strengths and weaknesses in understanding text). The second one is **self-monitoring** (awareness of whether or not comprehension is occurring). The third is **task knowledge** (knowing what reading strategies are required by the particular reading material). The Question-Answer Relationship (QAR) helps students discover for themselves whether the questions they are being asked are explicitly answered in the text or require more than one source of information (or divergent thinking) that is not found in the text. By using this strategy, we are able to help students learn to answer *inferential*, *critical*, and *creative* questions. This method encourages students to ask themselves, "Where can I find an answer?", then use the following hierarchy of questions and answers to make a decision.

- ◆ **Question type 1 (*literal*).** Answer: **"Right there."** This tells the student that the answer is easy to find in the story. The exact words in the question are contained in the story.
- ◆ **Question type 2 (*inferential*).** Answer: **"Think and Search."** This tells the student that the answer can be found in the story, but he/she will have to put two ideas together; meaning the words used in the question may be different from the words used in the story, so the answer will be a little harder to find.
- ◆ **Question type 3 (*critical*).** Answer: **"The author and me."** The answer is in the story but there is only one way the question can be answered- from the author's point of view. The student may think of another way to answer the question after considering the author's ideas.
- ◆ **Question type 4 (*creative*).** Answer: **"On my own."** The child won't find the "exact" answer to this kind of question in the story. The answer may come from his/her imagination or from information he/she already knows about the topic.

Think Aloud Strategy

In this strategy, there are five techniques that proficient readers use for thinking critically and processing the text:

- 1) **Hypothesizing and predicting**- after looking at the cover, title, and the pictures (if any) in a passage, have your child ask him or herself, "What do I think this is going to be about?"
- 2) **Organizing images**- following each paragraph, have your child ask, "What is going on right now in the story, passage, paragraph, etc.?"
- 3) **Using prior knowledge**- Have your child ask, "What am I reminded of that I already know about?"
- 4) **Monitoring one's own understanding**- Have your child ask, "What do I think these unfamiliar words might mean?" "What are some ways I can get clues to their meanings?"
- 5) **Fixing comprehension errors**- After every paragraph, have your child ask him/herself, "Do I want to change any of my original thinking as I read?"



GOOD LUCK AND LET US KNOW HOW YOU DO!

IMPORTANT PARENT INFORMATION

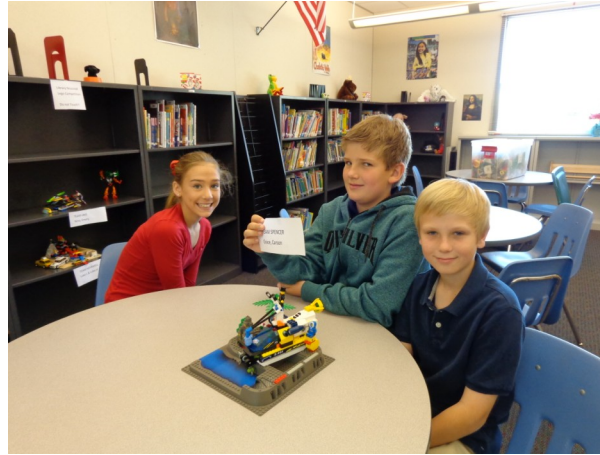
RULES OF THE ROAD

Please, please slow down and be watchful when you enter the *Lexis school zone* to drop off and pick up your children from school. We also need to remind you to **park** your car in the designated lots if you are entering the school building for any reason. Parking illegally in the circle causes back-ups and can easily lead to an accident if a car is blocking someone's view of children being dropped off or picked up.

Your complete cooperation is needed if we are to keep everyone safe! Thank you!

Green Eggs and Ham Wins Out! cont.

Team Spencer was inspired by the Cat in the Hat!



Reminder

Please remember to send your child to school in tennis shoes. Even though the weather is getting warmer, we want to avoid injuries on the playground. Thank you for helping to keep our students safe!

STUDENT'S CORNER



March Art Awards

Ryan Freeman won a March Art Award for his: Paper Collage Volcanoes and Life of a Butterfly.

Carlos Martinez received an outstanding artistic achievement award for his: Desert Animals-Cactus Wren, Rattlesnake and Scorpion; Paper Collage Volcano

Laurel Abbott received an artistic art award for her: Symbolism and Art- Rene Magritte Study; Mixed Media Rain Sticks and The History of Rain Sticks.

Meredith Kuhler received an artistic art award for: Wet on Wet and Wet on Dry Painting; Symbolism and Art-Rene Magritte Study; and Mixed Media Rain Sticks.

March Wheaties Awards

Aiden Smith received the lower school Wheaties award for March for being an excellent participant. He routinely comes to class ready and waiting for directions and is eager to play. He demonstrates teamwork and sportsmanship and constantly gives his best effort during warm-up stretches, and games.

Jackson Reynolds won the March Wheaties award for his outstanding effort in P.E. He has been an exceptional participant and demonstrated effort and skill during warm-ups, drills, and games.

Jackson follows directions and is a leader to his peers by consistently demonstrating expected behavior.

Congratulations Ryan, Carlos, Laurel, Meredith, Aiden and Jackson!



TIMELY INFORMATION

Counselor's Corner

Alison Mozias

Your children have been making new social connections school wide during the past few weeks by participating in our **Friendship Hunt**. All of your children wrote clues on index cards about themselves and had to pick another student's card anonymously. Their job was to find out whose card they had by asking questions to solve the mystery. This activity allows them to walk over and initiate conversations with peers that they may not normally speak to, thereby forgoing new relationships and potentially new friendships.

Additionally, we've been continuing to stress the importance of **friendship** in other ways, both by "filling buckets" in Mrs. Sandoval's class and by creating lists of what good friends do and do not do in both the upper and lower schools. Ms. Mece's class has been having a blast with **Superflex** (Michelle Garcia Winner) and his team of **Thinkables** who battle the **Unthinkables...**

Finally, in the lower school we're stressing the importance of distinguishing between "Tattling" and "Reporting"; where tattling is getting someone into trouble, while reporting is getting someone out of trouble.

ENROLLMENT

2013-2014

Re-enrollment letters were sent home last week and are due back on April 19th. Please call the office if you have any questions.

Thank you!

FIELD DAY/All School PICNIC!

On Friday, April 5th, Lexis will hold it's annual Field Day. The field day activities will take place from 10:30-11:40 on the JCC field. Following these activities, the PTO is sponsoring pot-luck picnic from 11:40-12:30 in the multi-purpose room and outside picnic tables (weather permitting.) From 12:30 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. parents are invited to attend an STO workshop in the multi-purpose room sponsored by representatives from the Arizona Private Education Scholarship Fund. While parents are attending the workshop, students will be participating in a kickball game.

PTO NEWS

Jetta Atkinson, Acting President

The Lexis Prep PTO has a great website for all good things in the works for Lexis Students and Staff. Please go to <http://lexisprepto2013.shutterfly.com/>.

Questions? Please contact katyabroderick@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events:

Field Day, Friday, April 5th. Field Day Volunteers and Pot Luck Sign Up Forms are on the website

AZ Airsoft Half Day, Wednesday April 10th.

PTO Meeting, Wednesday, April 10th 8:45am - 9:30am - Parent/Staff coffee from 8:30am - 8:45am

Trimmed Box Tops are due to the teacher on May 1st. Congratulations to Ms. Mece's class for being the Spring Class Winner.

Teacher Appreciation Week - volunteers appreciated. Contact: jetta.atkinson@yahoo.com.