

Friday, October 26, 2007

It is hard to believe that one quarter of the school year has almost passed! This week I have been assessing students on their progress. Parent/teacher conferences will begin on Monday, November 5 and run through on Friday, Nov. 9. There will also be conferences on Wednesday, Nov. 14. I am looking forward to meeting with you and discussing your child's progress.

We read two Barbara Saul books this week. The first was Ghost Story. The second book was a rhyming book, Fall Is Here. We made our own counting books this week called, "1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Halloween Has Come Alive." Your child should have brought home all of these books this week to add to their personal library at home.

I want to remind you about that wonderful television show from PBS called **Between The Lions**. It is on Channel 13 every afternoon from 2:30 – 3:00. I highly recommend that you have your child watch this program. **Between The Lions** is named for a family of lions who run a library like no other on earth. The doors "between the lions" swing open to reveal a magical place where characters pop off the pages of books, vowels sing, and words take on a life of their own. The series combines innovative puppetry, animation, live action, and music to transform the sometimes-confusing process of learning to read into an entertaining adventure for children ages 4 to 7 and their families.

If you have a VCR or DVR, record the show so that your child can watch it again and again. We also have copies on DVD that your child can check out of the school library. I strongly urge you to have your child watch **Between The Lions**. You can also follow the links on our web page to the **Between The Lions** web site, a place for kids and their families to play and learn together. This web site offers a wide range of interactive literacy activities, games, and stories to extend the fun and learning on-line. Parents will also find practical activities and suggestions for turning everyday situations into opportunities that encourage their kids to read, write, listen, and talk. Visit and sign-up for the newsletter. The web site is at [pbskids.org/lions/](http://pbskids.org/lions/)

Next week we begin a three-week unit of study entitled Healthy Me. I am asking that children bring some of their baby clothes or other clothes that no longer fit to share with the class on Tuesday, October 30.

Your child may wear a Halloween costume to school on Wednesday, October 31. There will be a school-wide costume parade at 8:45 am. You are welcome to stay and watch, it is a lot of fun! The children will take off their costumes after the parade, so please make sure they have proper clothing underneath or else bring a change of clothes.