

Our mission is to provide an exemplary education that inspires and prepares all DoDEA students for success in a dynamic, global environment. October 2010

Fire Prevention Month



This month the Fire Department came to Sevilla E/MS to visit and explain the importance of Fire Safety. The children were able to explore the different fire trucks, ambulance, police department, and even learn how tough it is to use the fire hose when putting out fires! Thank you to the Fire Department for making Fire Safety month a fun learning experience!



Pumpkin Day



"How does she do it!?" everybody asked. For almost 2 years now, 4^{th} grader R_ R_ has been baffling Mr. B_ and his students with her perception game with 9index cards. And still, no one has been able to figure it out, not even the adults.

This little game was just one of several language arts games that were played in Mr. B_ station on Pumpkin Day at Sevilla EMS. Mr. B_ had just finished reading a story he had composed which not only included all the members of his class as characters in the story, but also provided a tasty treat for the lucky student who ended up with the treat when the story was over. And how, one might ask, does one get to be the lucky one? Pretty simple, really . . . every time the story mentions left, the treat is passed one person to the left, and every time right is mentioned, it goes one person to the right. Some of the groups also played a word game. Each student had a different Halloween word taped to their back, and everyone could see the word except for the person with the word taped to their back. Each student had to figure out their word by asking only questions with yes or no answers.

The Second Annual Pumpkin Day was organized by Kindergarten/1st grade teacher M_ K_, and took place in the afternoon at Sevilla EMS on Halloween Day. Ms. K_ divided the students of the school into 5 groups and created a schedule that rotated through the stations in 20 minute segments all afternoon.

The theme of the day was all about pumpkins, so naturally it followed that the K-1 class was called the "Seeds," the 2nd/3rd graders the "Sprouts," the 3rd/4th graders the "Plants," the 4th/5th graders the "Flowers," and the junior high schoolers the "Pumpkins." Each of these groups rotated around the school to the six stations every twenty minutes or so.

At the cooking station in the kitchen, $4^{th}/5^{th}$ grade teacher A_ M_ guided the groups through making pumpkin "eats," like pumpkin cookies, pumpkin pudding, and pumpkin soup. Not only was it fun and a good learning experience to make the foods, but it was great fun when at the end of the day, the whole school got together and enjoyed eating up all the creations.

At the arts and crafts station, sponsored by Sevilla's Spanish Language and Culture teacher I_ C_, some of the groups made "cajita de calabaza con pipas de calabaza (pumpkin boxes with pumpkin seeds)," while other groups made "calabaza de fieltro (felt pumpkins)."

At the computer station, run by middle school teacher $S_J_$, the students all helped to put together a power point presentation that included the students' own voices reading through the presentation. The students really enjoyed hearing themselves on the recording and replay.

The games station was co-sponsored by $C_B_$ and $K_R_$. They dared to ask the children if they had what it takes to make a zombie burst out laughing. No one was able to make Zombie X_, Zombie B_, or Zombie G_ laugh . . . they were tough nuts to crack! In addition to the Zombie game, groups got to choose from playing Halloween shapes Freeze Dance, telling a Round-robin ghost story or playing "Ghost in the Graveyard." The students were great listeners, and great participants, and even the adults realized that silly fun is lots of fun—especially on Pumpkin Day!

But, of course, no Pumpkin Day would be complete without a good science mystery, and so each group got a chance to solve the mystery at Ms. K_ science station. Some of the children thought they saw a little green leprechaun from last St. Patrick's Day hiding clues in the pumpkin sitting in the kindergarten room, but the kindergarteners insisted that it was the Pumpkin Bandit who left all the science trivia questions in mysterious places in, around, and outside Sevilla Elementary School. And sure enough, each group was successful in finding the clue cards. After scratching off the cards, each group got either the right answer and the next location, or the wrong answer, and a penalty before scratching off the next choice on the card. The best part of the trail the Pumpkin Bandit left behind was that the kids learned the life cycle of the pumpkin by tracing the path to the candy prize. And then, at 1500, E_ E_ came on the PA and said, "Ok, now, let's go get those pumpkin treats!" And, happily, everybody enjoyed those delicious treats!

Take me out to the ballgame...

"It's going . . . going . . . gone! Another Home Run for third grader $E_D_{,}$ her 5^{th} , a major league record for home runs in one game.!"

Mr. B_ classes always get excited for the Academic World Series, as well as for the three other academic sporting events that are held in his classes each year. No matter what grade or subject he is teaching, Mr. B_ classes always get fired up for the Academic World Series, the Academic Super Bowl, the Academic Final Four, and the Academic Derby.

Mr. B_ combines the rules of the sport, and questions from all areas of the curriculum in his Academic events. Since his students are $2^{nd}/3^{rd}$ graders, this year's baseball game was six innings long, just like in the Little League World Series. Not only was Miss D_ the star of the game, but she was also the manager of her team, the Texas Rangers. She chose A_ S_, M_ P_, K_ M_, R_ W_, and B_ T_, the other 5 players on the Rangers, and made the batting order. There are three outs in one inning, and each player gets base hits by answering questions correctly. When a question is missed, the player is out. All of E_ players got at least one hit, and Miss P_, like E_, also got 6 hits!

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In the first inning, spelling words were used for the questions. In the 2nd inning, math provided the questions, geography was used for the 3rd inning, grammar for the 4th inning, reading and science for the 5th inning, and players could choose their subject area for the 6th inning questions themselves. The hit achieved is decided by how many questions a player can answer correctly consecutively. So, it takes four correct answers in a row to hit a home run.

Second grader X_ B_ was appointed manager of the Milwaukee Brewers, and although the Brewers didn't win, all of the Brewers also had at least one hit, with C_ R_ having four, and D_ C_ the big star with three home runs!

Mr. B_ students were answering correctly far more often than incorrectly, as is evident by the final score. Texas won the slugfest 16-10.

Mr. B_ is very proud of his students, and already they look forward to the next event in early February, the "Academic Super Bowl."

SPORTS CLUB ROUNDUP for October 20, 2011

No matter how Mr. B_ sets up the teams, when floor hockey is the sport at Sports Club, the games are always hard fought and close, and the latest contest was no different.

The winning goal was scored by T_F_of "Team Awesome," coached by $B_T_$, with only seconds remaining, not enough time for Coach $Z_G_$ Champions to come back.

Others scoring goals toward the final score of 3-2 were X_B_of Team Awesome. Other members of the winners from "Team Awesome" were $I_C_, D_C_, S_B_, J_S_, A_S_$, and $L_R_$, who had two crucial saves in goal in the closing moments of the game.

Both goals for the opposing "Champions" were scored by J_B_. E_kept the game close for the "Champions" with her outstanding goalkeeper play.

Down on the Farm

"I hope we get that one!" E_ exclaimed, pointing to the young "blue-shirted" teaching guide who was across the room helping to prepare the snacks for the Sevilla EMS students visiting the farm.

The snack time was the first of many activities planned for the children of Sevilla EMS at the farm. The drive by bus to the farm had taken about an hour, and the snack, complete with a ham and cheese sandwich and a box juice drink, were the perfect start to a great day.

After snacks were complete, the students were all brought out into the courtyard to be divided by the teaching guides into groups of about 6-8 for the rest of the days' activities. P_ was our guide, just as E_ had hoped, and it wasn't long before P_ and all the students in Mr. B_ and Ms. K_ groups were fast friends, at least for the next couple of hours.

P_ is a recently graduated university student in elementary education, but as yet without a job, so this is the kind of job that is a good start for her. This farm is known for the opportunities it opens for those who work here. Many of the employees of the farm are people who have difficulty finding work anywhere in today's world because of handicaps or limitations either physically or mentally that they may have. It was one of several things that were particularly important for the Sevilla EMS students to observe and learn.

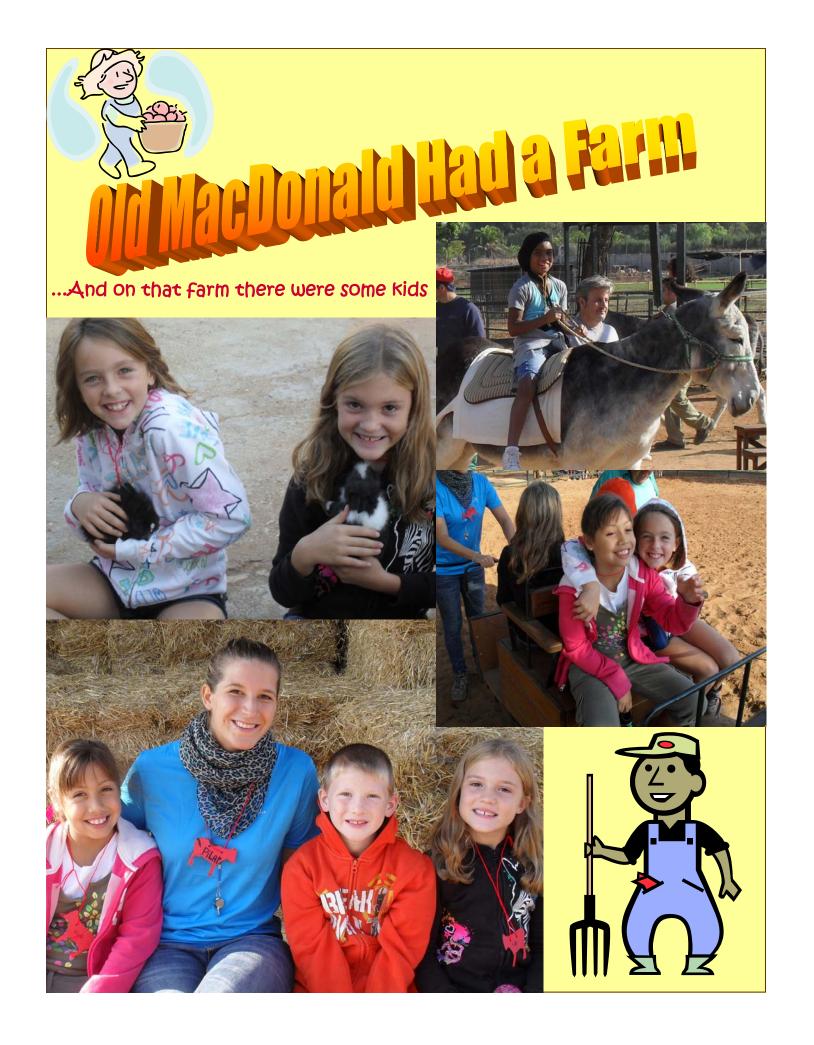
The farm grows many different vegetables, crops, and trees, including pumpkins, radishes, and trees, and raises all sorts of mostly farm animals, including pigs, horses, deer, rabbits, chickens, geese, peacocks, turkeys, sheep, donkeys, and mules. All of the students were able to see the animals close up, some with newly born young, and were even able to touch, pet, and hold some of them. M_ and C_ of Mr. B_ group were two of the students who agreed that holding the 15 day old bunny-rabbits was for them the highlight of the day. Several of the sows (the mama pigs) had litters of piglets at various ages of development, but, although the little ones were cute, all agreed that it would be dangerous to try to hold or pet one of the piglets, especially with "Mama" around.

The students also learned that not all the animals were truly farm animals, although some, like the white herons (egrets) accompanying the farm animals grazing in the fields, were critical to the well being of many of the farm animals. The egrets make life more comfortable for the grazing animals by ridding them of the parasites and insect pests that plague them.

Other students enjoyed the four person cart ride best, a cart drawn by a tiny Shetland Pony. Everyone, even the teachers and chaperones, could ride the burros if they wanted, and nearly everyone did. There was also a big horse-drawn carriage that each group was privileged to ride in turn. The guide driving the carriage encouraged the students to sing "Old Macdonald" while touring the farm in the carriage, saying that the better the children sang, the better the mule would pull the carriage. He was pleased to hear several other songs, like Bingo, and John Jacob Jinglehammer Schmidt too. I wonder if he had heard those American farm songs before!?

Not only did the students learn about the animals, and the special employees working there, and get to make new friends with "P_" and the other "blue-shirted" guides, but they also had the chance to plant several different seedlings to take back to school to nurture and observe.

But finally, it was time to say good-bye, and after lunching in the park adjacent to the farm, enjoying its many playground toys, slides, and equipment, it was back on the bus for the ride home, with full bellies, and minds full of new knowledge and first hand experience of farm





On October 14, 2011, the teachers at Sevilla Elementary/Middle School spent the day reviewing school improvement issues from last year, and looking at possibilities for this year.

Last year was the accreditation year for SEMS. The Advanced team that evaluated SEMS, gave the school 5 operational and two highly functional scores. These scores have led to the reaccreditation of SEMS for another five years.

After reviewing SR (Scholastic Reading Inventory), DRA (Diagnostic Reading Assessment), Math pre-assessments, and reading, through a beginning of the year writing narrative from each student, it was decided by the staff that our writing goal would remain, with an emphasis on the writing process and the 6 traits + one writing system. In addition, the staff decided that they would consider changing their second school improvement goal to a math goal as opposed to the reading one which they have been working on over the past few years. This considered change is based on data that shows the reading scores have steadily improved and from the math pre-assessments which suggest that a switch to a math goal might be a better choice than to continue with the reading one.

In order to strive for continuous school improvement, we depend on a working SILT (School Improvement Leadership Team). This team is made up of teachers and parents. In future meetings, parents will be invited to work alongside the teachers in helping our students meet the goals once they are set.

The day was truly spent in keeping with the Sevilla EMS vision, a vision that you can find stated in full in the back of the

newsletter 🙂 .







Middle Schoolers check out weather equipment.



J_R_listens to details about the art of flying.

he need for speed.

Active Duty members and students strike a pose in front of a KC-135 tanker.

D.A.R. Week What was your favorite part of Red Ribbon Week, R_?" asked Mr. B_. In his class, his 2nd & 3rd graders were writing a followup on the Red Ribbon Relays, which kicked the whole week off last Monday, October 24, at Sevilla EMS on Moron AB.

Mrs. K_ R_, the health tech at the school, had organized the Relays. It had an Olympic Opening Ceremony



effect to it, as Mrs. R_ had helped each class make a big "Drug Awareness" banner that could be carried around the track as the first event of the week.

But alas, after 47 straight days of sunshine, it rained. Wouldn't you know it?! And the event had to be postponed until Wednesday. But that didn't keep it from happening, so at 0900 hours on Wednesday morning the classes marched all the way around the track sporting their big "Drug Awareness" banners. Mr. B_ class also made personalized small flags decorated in the same "Drug Awareness" theme which were carried in the procession by each student.

But time did not stand still as the school waited for the opening ceremony. Sgt. M_ continued to teach the DARE program with a special schedule that Mr. Eldredge, the assistant principal, had set up for him.

And each day, sponsored by the PTO, the students had something to wear to remind them not to use and abuse drugs.

On Monday, College T-shirt Day, students wore shirts of their favorite college to show that their future is bright when you say "NO" to drugs.

On Tuesday, it was Backwards Day, and everybody wore their shirts backwards to "Turn your back on drugs."

Wednesday, it was Crazy Socks Day, because the kids wanted to "sock it to" drugs that day! Those socks were funky-crazy!

Thursday was Boot Day to "Stomp out drugs!" and ...

Friday was Red Shirt Day to honor Red Ribbon Day. All the students solemnly swear not to use illegal drugs, or to use drugs illegally.

Also on Friday was the culmination of the week long door decorating contest. Mr. B_ door, covered with the student flags made for the Red Ribbon Relays opening ceremony, was the winning door, as chosen by a select group including the commander J_ R_, and the 2nd and 3rd grade class will get to have a pizza party with the principal.

And, speaking of the opening ceremony, what WAS R_ favorite event of the week anyway? "It was beating my dad in our race at the Red Ribbon Relays!" In fact, although the command sent over Chaplain K_ R_, SMSgt R_ M_, Capt. J_ F_ and Capt. E_ B_ to compete in the relays against the students, the students won every race but one!

The message of the whole week was clear, as it should be, to all the students . . . "Say No to Drugs!"



Sevilla EMS

Dodds Unit 6582, APO, AE 09643

Comm: 95-584-8464 or DSN: 722-8464 Website: http://www.sevi.es.eu.dodea.edu

Dates To Remember: 4 Nov– Teacher work day– No school. 11 Nov– Veteran's Day-No School 17-18 Nov– Parent/Teacher conferences– No school 24-25 Nov– Thanksgiving Break



Guess Who???

*Every month, we will submit a staff member's answers to these questions. We will reveal this month's mystery person in next month's newsletter. See if you can guess who this month's staff member is!"

Hometown: Columbia, South Carolina

Favorite place to visit: Madrid, Spain

Hobbies: Sevillanas, Bellydance, Drawing, Traveling, Reading

Which cartoon character best describes you: Don't really have one.

Favorite words to live by: "Do your best even when no one else is looking"

Our School Vision

Sevilla EMS is a community of students, parents and teachers who work together developing personal skills. Teachers facilitate an inclusive and diverse education that leads to academic and social success through a rigorous and differentiated curriculum. The students actively engage as productive and responsible life-long learners in preparation for their lives as global citizens.