

# A Robbins Elementary THANKSGIVING

## Advocacy Assembly

The day before Thanksgiving, the Robbins Elementary students celebrated everything they had learned about Pet Responsibility at a festive Assembly. There were no turkeys, mashed potatoes or pies but lots of



Winners of the Speuter Story Contest with Dr. FitzGerald and the PRC Mascot Speuter.

THANK YOUs. The Robbins teachers were THANKED for sharing their students and the Pet Responsibility teachers were THANKED by the students for teaching them all about being responsible pet owners. All the students were THANKED for becoming Advocates for animals! The students impressed the guests and teachers with their knowledge

of pet responsibility as they reviewed the prior five lessons.

The Assembly had two special guests. The Pet Responsibility mascot, "Speuter", shared her story about being homeless and then adopted into a loving home. Speuter reminded everyone about the importance of spaying and neutering pets. Everyone THANKED Speuter for coming to Robbins Elementary School. Dr. Dana FitzGerald, DVM, Pinehurst Animal Hospital, was the Assembly Special Guest. She talked to the students about becoming a veterinarian, her work at the animal hospital and her love for animals. She demonstrated how she examines dogs. Beannie



Star Artist winners with their certificates and winning "clinic bags".



Wall, a sweet white poodle, was her 'patient'. Dr. FitzGerald also shared information about the variety of careers involving working with animals. Everyone THANKED Dr. FitzGerald for coming to Robbins Elementary School.

During the five session program, students wrote stories about why they wanted their pets spayed or neutered. The following seven students received free spay / neuters for their pets: Chance D., Meliegha F., Jesus C., Bella M., Annalise Y., Camila C., and Cynthia C. Each winner also received a framed certificate, gift of writing pad with pen and a paw print medalion. The Speuter Story winners were THANKED for being advocates for their pets.



Dr. FitzGerald showing the students how to examine a pet, aided by Beanie Wall with Suzie Wall looking on.

Students had the opportunity to show advocacy by creating a pet responsibility message with art work on white paper Clinic Bags. The Clinic Bags are used at the Sandhills Spay Neuter Veterinary Clinic to dispense information and medication for the pets who were fixed on that day. The following students were recognized for their creative art work and excellent pet responsibility messages: Jonathan B., Alison H., Eliza M., Aleaha P., Chance D., Meliegha F., Ella P., Aubrey V., Camila C., Crystal G., Jason R., Caleb A., Lyla M., Angel N., Annalise Y. These students received a "Star Artist" certificate and a notepad with coloring pens. The students were THANKED for being Advocates for Moore County pets.

At the end of the Assembly, students joined in the Advocacy Promise and were given a large pet responsibility Promise Poster to sign when back in their rooms. The poster will be displayed proudly in the school.

All the students received a THANKSGIVING goodie bag with a Pet Responsibility bookmark & sticker, pencil, eraser, pencil sharpener, Life Saver (to remember to save pets' lives), Kit Kat bar (to remember how important cats are) and a Hershey's Kiss (to remember to love all pets).

Parents of the Speuter Story Contest winners received information about free transportation to and from the Spay Neuter Clinic for their pets.

As the Assembly closed, all students were THANKED for becoming advocates for pets!

*Article by Barbara Ross, Vice President of the PRC*

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