

## **Activities to Support Civics Instruction at Locust Grove Elementary School**

- Principal's welcome speech to all students by grade level. The focus is on respect, responsibility, and being a good citizen. I meet with all the students in the fall, and do group meetings as needed / requested by teachers.
- K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades focus on responsibility, being a good member of your communities, following rules and understanding the consequences.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades do Market Day to support economics and civics. The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Market Day was in January, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade is in June. (See sample wares from Market Day)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade does a unit on the African country, Mali. A native of Mali and a local teacher shares experiences about Mali and its influence on western civilization.
- 4<sup>th</sup> grade emphasis is on the three branches of government (Virginia and US), Executive, Legislative, and Judicial.
- 4<sup>th</sup> graders study Orange County and Virginia. One of the activities is the poster contest sponsored the Orange Historical Society.
- All students (K – 4) are introduced to the political process. We often do mock voting during State and Federal elections.
- All students will vote for their favorite book by grade level on March 31. This activity is one that we use as part of our Reading Incentive – “Go Wild About Reading.” Each child will receive a copy of the book selected by his grade level.