



Highland Creek Elementary

PTA Newsletter

www.hcepta.org HCEPTA@aol.com

News from the President

I hope everyone enjoyed Winter Break. Now that we are back from break, I would like to address what has become a real issue for our parents. Our school simply wasn't built big enough to handle your overwhelming support and attendance at activities. We know that parking has been an issue at each event and that you have patiently waited in lines to participate in the activity you were attending. We truly appreciate your support at these activities, but are also aware that if we don't find some solutions, you will stop attending school events. I don't want that, the HCE staff doesn't want that, and most importantly, your children don't want that to happen.

In response to this issue, we will make some adjustments with our next two events. First, we will schedule two different timeframes for the **Father/Daughter Dance** on Friday, February 9th. The first session will be for Kindergarten and 1st grade students from 5:15 - 7:15 p.m. and the second session will be for 2nd - 5th grade students from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Second, the classroom **Spring Parties** will be scheduled as outlined below:

Wed. March 28th - Kindergarten students

Thu. March 29th - 1st and 2nd grade students

Fri. March 30th - 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students

We sincerely hope this helps eliminate the overcrowding and parking issues we have experienced with each event thus far. We plan to assess the outcome of these changes and will move forward with future activities in the same manner or make changes as appropriate.

I want to thank everyone who attended the PTA meeting and Holiday Program in December. If you were there, then you know the overcrowding was a safety issue as well as an impediment to the enjoyment of the program for many of the parents. Ms. Baldwin has addressed this with her staff and this issue was addressed at the School Leadership Team meeting on December 11. As indicated above, we are working to resolve these issues and appreciate your patience and continued support as we work towards a solution.

If you have any suggestions regarding this matter, I would love to hear them. Please share them with me at HCEPTA@aol.com.

Lorna Dore

PTA Calendar

<u>January 2007</u>		<u>February 2007</u>	
1st	NO SCHOOL	5th	Report Cards
9th	PTA Exec Committee Meeting (6:00pm)	6th	PTA Exec Committee Meeting (9:45am)
	PTA Executive Board Meeting (6:30pm)		PTA Executive Board Meeting (10:30am)
15th	NO SCHOOL (King Holiday)	9th	Father Daughter Dance
22nd	NO SCHOOL (Teacher Holiday)	14th	Valentine Exchange
26th	January Birthday Cake	19th	NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
		23th	February Birthday Cake

Upcoming Events

"Every Princess Has Her King"

Highland Creek Elementary's 1st Father/Daughter Dance

The date, time and theme have been set and all we lack are the girls and their Fathers - be ready to have fun, to dance and enjoy some royal treatment.

February 9, 2007

5:15—7:15 p.m. (Kindergarten and 1st grade)

7:30—9:30 p.m. (2nd through 5th grade)

Invitations will be sent home with all of the girls on January 11th.

Why aren't we having Heart Parties?

If you looked at the PTA calendar, you may have noticed that there is no Have a Heart Party listed, just a Valentine Exchange. Because CMS only allows two parties a year, the Head Room Parent Committee decided it would be better to spread those 2 parties out. Since the Head Room Parents don't organize the students' Valentine Exchange, the classroom teachers do, it was thought that the children would still get to participate in the tradition of the day and we could save the party for another time.

Spirit Store

Don't forget the HCE Spirit Store is open on Friday mornings from 8:45-9:15am in front of the Parent Center in the lobby.

The following HCE logo items are available:

Pencils: \$.25 Car Magnets: \$5.00

Light-up Key Chains: \$3.50

Color Changing Cups: \$2.00

Coming soon...

HCE's 1st Mom/Son Event

The Family Focus Committee is working hard on planning something special for you! Right now, the date has not been set, but it will definitely be sometime in March or April. Look for more details in the next newsletter.

Log those volunteer hours!!

We know we have some of the most active parent volunteers in all of CMS!! Help us prove it by using the new computer in the front office to sign in and out and log your HCE volunteer hours.

HCE PTA Website

Stay informed. Download forms, read latest PTA News at:

www.HCEPTA.ORG

More PTA News

Accelerated Reader News

Our Highland Creek Elementary students are still "Reading Up a Storm." In December, the AR Committee awarded 228 getting started awards, 123 ten point awards, 69 fifteen point awards, 22 twenty-five point awards, and four 50-point awards. Many of our kindergarten students have begun to take accelerated reader tests as well. Please continue to encourage your children to read, read, read!

The AR list can be found on the HCE website @ www.pages.cms.k12.nc.us/highland/ and our PTA website @ www.HCEPTA.org.

The HCE Student Directory has been distributed to all members of the PTA and families that purchased a copy. Each member of the PTA receives one free copy of the directory. We had feedback from many parents that they did not want a second copy of the directory even though both parents had joined the PTA. Therefore, we are distributing one directory per family. However, if you have paid for two memberships and would like a second copy please email us at HCEPTA@aol.com.

Many thanks to Jeanna Baugh whose computer expertise aided us in formatting the directory! We could not have done it without her! Enjoy!

2007 Reflections Winners

Literature

Leyla Ozelkan-2nd Grade-Ms. Weaver's Class
Jordan Clark-1st Grade-Ms. Whitmire's Class
Emily Rudiman-1st Grade-Ms. Whitmire's Class
Emma Hofert-1st Grade-Ms. Whitmire's Class
Grayson Key-1st Grade-Ms. Whitmire's Class
Chloe Wilson-1st Grade-Ms. Whitmire's Class

Art

Timmy Mangum-4th Grade-Ms. Meadow's Class
Derek Spach-Kindergarten-Mrs. Rice's Class
Jordin Link-3rd Grade-Ms. Rutz's Class
Caroline Lee-1st Grade-Ms. Whitmire's Class
Alyssa Drury-1st Grade-Ms. Whitmire's Class
Logan Mangum-1st grade-Ms. Whitmire's Class

Good luck to all in the next level of judging!

The Tile Wall is up and it looks great!!

The PTA would like to recognize Dayra Pereyra, our Head Custodian, for being available over Winter Break so that Meg Art could get in the building and mount the tiles on the wall. Thank you for your help!!

Thanks for the Cookies!

The Staff Appreciation Committee would like to say Thank You to the over 150 volunteers who brought in cookies and snacks for the staff Holiday Cookie Walk. Over 400 dozen cookies were donated. The HCE Staff enjoyed a Holiday Reception while choosing 3 dozen cookies to take home over the winter break. Remaining cookies were donated to the after-school program. This event was a huge success.

Several teachers have expressed an interest in the recipes used. If anyone would like to submit your recipe please e-mail Sara White at ChristopherSara@bellsouth.net.

Thank You again for all of your support.

HCE PTA News

Retail Incentives: Box Tops and Collections



Thanks to your Box Top clipping, the \$400 payout we reported earlier turned out to be over \$600. That's over 6,000 Box Tops!!



We are currently clipping Campbell's labels like crazy. Please remember that the program has changed and the front soup label panels are no longer redeemable. We need the UPC including the logo of the child with the graduation cap. Lowe's Foods gave us an additional 2,500 labels to bring the total to 7,500 donated labels. Thank you!!



Please continue to recycle your used printer cartridges and cell phones, we are sending in another shipment at the end of the month. Congratulations to Colten Hatch in Ms. Bryant's Kindergarten room who won a random drawing of submitted Green School Project items!



Our Harris Teeter December payout was over \$1,500!! It's not too late to link your card. Just go to any store, or www.HarrisTeeter.com, under Community programs. Highland Creek Elementary School's code is 6117.

Attention Parents of Highland Creek Elementary Students:

Highland Creek Elementary has a new School Leadership Team (SLT). The SLT consists of Parents of HCE Students, Staff and the Principal, Mrs. Baldwin who are interested in:

- * encouraging, supporting and creating opportunities for involvement from Parents in the Highland Creek community.
- * advancing policies and procedures that enhance and improve student achievement and meet educational and safety goals.
- * furthering open two-way communications between Highland Creek Elementary and Parents to address any concerns.
- * monitoring and assessing the School Improvement Plan.

If this sounds like something you would like to be involved in, and you want to make a difference in your new School, please bring a friend (or two) and come to the next meeting on Monday, February 12th at 6 pm in the Highland Creek Elementary Media Center.

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