

THE COUGAR BEAT

October 5, 2009

From the Principal

Spring Branch ISD has purchased GradeSpeed for all elementary campuses. The GradeSpeed ParentConnection is a convenient home-to-school collaboration tool that allows parents/guardians of SBISD students in grades 1-5 to keep track of their children's academic progress online, via an easy-to-use web site.

If you are a new family to HCE, please follow these steps to create an account:

Go to www.springbranchisd.com
Click on Schools
Click on Hunters Creek
See the link under Parent Portal


***For security reasons the last step of the registration process is to come to the office where you will be asked to provide a picture ID and a completed verification form for activation purposes by our Registrar, Nancy Hastings.*

*** For families who do not have a computer at home, you may come to campus and use a library computer to register for an account any day.*

If you are a returning family, you can access your child's grades using the same login as last year.

The *Gradebook* page displays current grade information. Teachers will have 7 school days (exceptions for major projects and holidays) from the assignment's due date to enter grades.

Calendar

- 10.12 Student Holiday - Columbus Day
- 10.13 PTA Meeting . 10:00 am . Library

- 10.21 Grading Period Ends
- 10.22 Early Dismissal . 12:00 pm
- 10.23 Early Dismissal .12:00 pm
- 10.26 Red Ribbon Week
Report cards go home
- 10.30 Kinder Farm Concert . 8:30 am . Cafeteria
- 11.3 5th Grade bake Sale
- 11.10 PTA meeting—Library
- 11.11 3rd & 4th Musical Performances
- 11.13 Auction @ Forest Club
- 11.19 Gift Wrap Distribution

LIFE SKILL

Common Sense

To think it through
before you act!



President's Notes

I hope all of you enjoyed Open House last Thursday night! Many families stayed to enjoy the delicious pasta dinner prepared by HCE mom Amy Cone of Dream Cuisine. Thanks to Amy for donating her time and talents to benefit our school. Also, a huge thank you to PTA chairs Dawn Dixon and Gina Karathanos for coordinating the dinner, organizing parent volunteers, and for the many hours they spent to make this night a huge success!

First Day Packet orders have now been processed. Thanks to Allison Daughtry, PTA Vice President, for the hours she spent processing FDP's! Also thanks to Marla Reidel and Chrissy Schneider for counting and organizing the t-shirt and sweatshirt orders which will be placed this week. Lina Jorgenson, thank you for processing our PTA memberships which will be mailed in time to meet the October 15th deadline. A huge thanks to Renata DeMoes and Megan DeGeurin who spent numerous hours compiling our school directories. They expect to deliver the directories around October 20th.

Last week started our Innisbrook gift wrap sale which will run through October 12th. Orders will be ready for pick up before Thanksgiving. Elizabeth Darnall and Cindy Pappas have arranged all the goodies in the front lobby display case for you to see, so make sure to stop by!

All of our Rebate Programs are now in place. HCE can earn money while you shop at your favorite stores. Please remember to update your Kroger and Target cards (Kroger ID# 1701, Target ID#101317) so that HCE will receive credit for your purchases. Randall's bar code is available in the front office or you may email Radka Kral at radka01@att.net and she will be happy to link your card for you. Box tops are also a great way for us to earn rebates and can be turned into the front office along with your teacher's name.

Many of you attended the PTA Parent Education Seminar on Internet Safety held on September 24th. I hope you will watch for upcoming seminars and take advantage of the interesting topics and speakers coming soon. Thank you to Meg Bissinger for coordinating these informative seminars for us.

Our next PTA General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14th at 10 a.m. in the Library. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Julie White

PTA President
juliegwhite@sbcglobal.net

Understanding and Supporting Literacy - Parents and Teachers Working Together



Please join us on Thursday,
October 29, 2009
Meadow Wood Elementary
4:00-6:30

Choose your mini-sessions and leave with ideas for word work, fluency, comprehension, writing, or study skills.

Sponsored by the Dyslexia Department & Special Education

PDLC: #5128.11501

Parent contact: Vanessa Duran - 713.365.4795

Teachers, parents, and community members are welcome to attend this workshop!

Calling all word sleuths!



To: All HCE students in 3rd through 5th grade

Subject: After-school club...our fourth year...!

If you would like to learn about the history of our modern English language, especially how it was influenced by Old English (Anglo-Saxon), Latin and Greek, come join us! Led by Roberta Smiley (former Hunters Creek parent, seven-year HCE spelling bee volunteer, and 1971 National Spelling Bee finalist), through discussion and motion (?), you will discover:

clues to *identify* words that have their origins in those three languages

how knowing word origin can help reveal a word's *meaning*

hints on how to *spell* these words

NEW this year! Fun memory tricks! ("Learn how to learn...")

This "Wonderful World of Words" club will meet during the 2009-10 school year on *six* consecutive Fridays* as follows:

Dates: 10/16 through 11/20*

Time: 3:00 to 3:55 p.m.

Location: HCE Library

Cost: FREE!

*NOTE: 10/23 meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 10/21** instead due to early dismissal on the Friday of that week.

The **registration deadline** is **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14th** (that's VERY SOON!!), and **space is limited**—registrations received *after* the deadline will be accepted on a space available basis only—so please sign up *right away* if you're interested! Also, this year registration will be **by E-mail ONLY**. The registration form/permission slip is on the next page; you can either copy and paste it directly into your E-mail, or send it as a separate attachment.

A confirmation E-mail from spellinghelper@aol.com containing additional club information will be sent to you **before** the first club meeting on Friday, October 16th; **if you do NOT receive one, PLEASE CALL 713.467.0034.**

Calling all word sleuths!



“WWW” Club Registration Form/Permission Slip

Date:

Student’s Name:

Grade:

Homeroom teacher:

Previous “WWW” club member? Yes No

If “Yes,” what year(s)?

Parent’s/Guardian’s Name:

Home Phone Number:

Emergency Contact Phone Number(s):

Names of other adults or children with whom student is authorized to leave:

Food allergies (list):

Would you be interested in helping during club meetings (examples: taking attendance, passing out papers, helping to conduct meetings)? Yes No

If “Yes,” which day(s) would you like to help? List as many as applicable; you will be notified on which days your help is needed. This year’s meeting dates:

Fri., 10/16

Wed., 10/21

Fri., 10/30

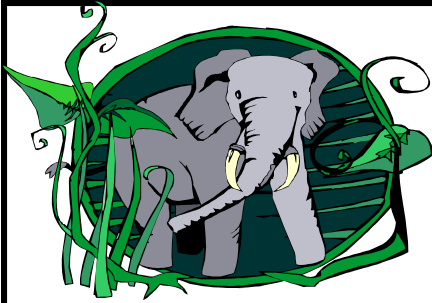
Fri., 11/6

Fri., 11/13

Fri., 11/20

To register, E-mail this completed form to spellinghelper@aol.com

Questions? Contact Roberta Smiley, spelling coach, at spellinghelper@aol.com or 713.467.0034



Thank you to all the crazy 4th and 5th grade monkey moms who helped with the “Jungle Jam” Teacher Appreciation Luncheon on September 25th!!! From buying and decorating, to door prizes (Congrats to all the winners!) and making dessert, to serving and cleaning up – it wouldn’t have been the success it was without you! Thanks to

Julianne Kennedy, Jennifer Kruse, Meryl Gregory, Veronica Lopez, Wendy Koy, Valerie Muller, Anna Reppert, Shauna Bayly, Paige Johnson, Stephanie Kissner, Chris Baker, Tanna Myers, Ronnie Beyer, Joanna Johnston, Mary Kent Yochum, Stephanie Phillips, Kimberly Burleson, Brenda Petry, Mindy Voyles, Linda Dumesnil, Tina Freedman, Laura Shelby, Caroline Trowbridge and Lauren Friedman. Thank you to all the other parents who volunteered to help – we had too many volunteers!

What a great problem to have! We appreciate your offers.
And lastly, a special thank you to Fadi’s for all the delicious food!

Will your school win?
Enter now for a chance to win
500,000 Bonus Box Tops for
your school!

- Grand Prize: 500,000 Bonus Box Tops (\$50,000 value)
TWO First Prizes: 250,000 Bonus Box Tops (\$25,000 value)

Remember to enter every day!
Visit www.thebigclip.com every
day through October 31, 2009,
to enter.
Good luck!

Thank you from your friends at
Box Tops for Education.



KROGER & RANDALL’S CARDS

Please email your name and card number to
Radka01@att.net to have them linked
to the HCE School account.

Any question please contact Radka Kral, 337-
280-6888, Radka01@att.net.

CLICK ON THE LOGOS BELOW TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BIG CLIP PARTNERS.



**HUGE THANKS!!
AMY CONE
AND
DREAM CUISINE**

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR MAKING
OPEN HOUSE DINNER A SUCCESS WITH
YOUR CHICKEN SPAGHETTI!
WE APPRECIATE YOUR WILLINGNESS,
HARD WORK AND DEDICATION!**

Nurses Notes

There has been a recent recall of **Tylenol** products for infants and children that were manufactured between April 2008 and June 2008. This is the web site if you would like more information on which products have been recalled, and the reason for the recall:

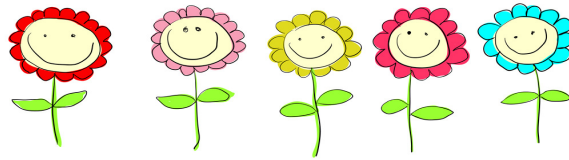
http://www.tylenolprofessional.com/assets/TYLENOL_Letter_091809.pdf

HCE Policy Corner

Identification Badge: All adults on campus are required to wear identification badges at all times. Parents and other visitors are required to report to the office and show proper identification upon arrival at the campus, sign in and obtain a visitor's badge. Any adult who is not properly identified either by a district or visitor's badge will be immediately directed to the office. Even if you are stopping by campus for a brief lunch visit, a parent conference, to read to a class, or even to help out in your child's classroom, you must sign in at the front office. Thank you for helping to keep safety a priority at HCE.

Planning Forum Recap

9-24-09



On September 24th the Planning Committee met with staff and parents to identify potential HCE projects to be considered for funding by the PTA during this school year. Proposals/suggestions presented, in no particular order, are as follows:

Literacy Library books

Resource teacher planning days to promote better collaboration with general education teachers;

Additional funds for teacher seminars;

12 golf umbrellas for parent drive;

Second traverse wall;

12 flip cameras for students to videotape science, reading and math projects/experiments;

Funding for Tribes training for 6 new teachers;

Teacher training on physical and emotional bullying in schools;

New microscopes, safety goggles and triple beam balances;

Continue police officer traffic control in the mornings throughout the school year; and

Wall ball court.

Your input is always welcome, so please contact Stefanie Roach and/or Laurel Sidney, if you have other ideas for consideration.

Laurel Sidney



HCE SPIRIT SHOP ITEMS

Show your Hunters Creek pride with our NEW items-ALL items have the HCE LOGO!! Complete and return this form with your check (made to HCE PTA) to the box in the office labeled "SPIRIT SHOP" or via your child's backpack/folder.

Child's Name _____

Teacher _____ Grade _____

Girls Green/White tie-dye shorts with HCE Logo \$15.00

YS ___ YM ___ YL ___ Adult S ___ Adult M ___

Girls Solid Green Wind short with HCE Logo \$12.00

YXS ___ YS ___ YM ___ YL ___ Adult S ___ Adult M ___

Boys green mesh "football" short with HCE Logo \$12.00

YS ___ YM ___ YL ___ Adult S ___ Adult M ___

Long Sleeve Gray T-Shirt With HCE Logo \$13.00

YS ___ YM ___ YL ___ Adult S ___ Adult M ___ Adult L ___ Adult XL ___

_____ HCE Bumper Sticker \$2.00

_____ BPA-Free Water Bottle \$4.00

_____ HCE Logo Lunch Tote with Zip-Top \$8.00

_____ Green Ruler and Calculator in one with HCE logo! \$5.00

_____ Green Folding Umbrella with HCE Logo \$9.00

_____ HCE Pencils 3 for \$1.00

TOTAL \$ _____ **Questions? Contact Lisa Kurtz, ldkurtz@aol.com**

Open House dinner rocked!

Thank you to so many people who made this night possible: Amy cone and the Cone family! Everyone commented on how awesome the food was! We appreciate every second you invested towards this event!

A huge thanks to Mr. Rojas for making certain we had everything we needed; helping set up, clean up and everything in between!!!!!!!

Thank you to the 5th graders who helped set up the tables in 30 minutes!! I emailed 14 kids and next thing i know, 30 showed up! You girls and guys were super and you saved us mega time!!!!

Thank you to the numerous volunteers, who were scheduled, and to those of you who were not scheduled. I appreciate those of you not scheduled, taking the initiative when it looked like we needed help.

Thank you Rhonda Metz, Dawn Wilson, Carrie Sturges, Paige Weinstein, Eunice Lee, Cherie Azad, Julianne Kennedy, Jane Thompson, Brenda Petry, Tracy Sarver, Lina Jorgensen, Valerie Holder, Julie White, Carrie Knowles, Beth Silsby, Mary Lee Latta, Ronnie Beyer, Kris Maclay Mrs. Roach, Mrs. Henry and Mrs. Luburger!

Thank you Susie, for ordering the tables. Thank you Anna Reppert for bringing all of the drinks, in which *everyone* raved about the lemonade!

Thank you to my co-chair, Gina Karathanos for all of your help, time and support!!! I know this was a huge commitment, and i appreciate you very much.

Thank you to Teresa Witte, Althea Lee, Sandy Means, Renata DeMoes and Virginia Schwanauer for proofreading and beautifully detailing my weekly submissions in the newsletter *every week*, for the past 6 weeks!!!

Last but certainly not last, thank you to all HCE parents for purchasing tickets and supporting the PTA!! It was a huge success and I was very proud to be apart of such a super night!!

Very sincerely,
Dawn Dixon



WE NEED YOUR HELP TO REACH OUR AUCTION UNDERWRITING GOAL!!!

Underwriter Name _____
 (as it is to appear in the directory and auction catalog)

Contact Name _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____ Phone Number _____

Elvis Presley Level	\$2500	_____
The Beatles Level	\$1000	_____
The Rolling Stones Level	\$500	_____
Michael Jackson Level	\$250	_____
AC/DC Level	\$100	_____
Madonna Level	\$ 50	_____
Grandparents: Frank Sinatra Level		_____

Donations will be acknowledged in the auction catalog.

Please submit this form and your payment in one of the following ways:

- (1) Send it to school via your child's backpack in an envelope marked "Auction Underwriting"
- (2) Place it in the "Auction" box in the school office
- (3) Mail it to Jenny Greer, 902 Tarrington Court, Houston, Texas 77024
- (4) If paying by credit card, email the information on this form to jgreer@gibbs-bruns.com.

If paying by check, please make check payable to Hunters' Creek Elementary PTA.

If paying by credit card, please include the following information:

Card type (circle one): MC, VISA, DISCOVER, AMEX

Card number: _____ Expiration date: _____

Name as it appears on card: _____ Amount to be charged: _____

Card holder's email address: _____

This contribution is fully deductible to the extent allowed by law.
 Hunters Creek Elementary School PTA is a non-profit
 501(c)(3) educational and charitable organization



THANK YOU TO OUR AUCTION UNDERWRITERS!

**Bank of Houston
Röhe & Wright Builders**

**The Knox Family
Julie, Terrell & Colin White
Lene & George Kiersted
Darby & Andy Suman**

**Bank of Texas
The Kellner Family
Stephanie & Jay Carr
The Daughtry Family
Amy & John Miller
Kathryn & Neil Stone**

**The Freedman Family
Camille and Mollie Macicek
The Desai Family
Debbie & Frank Robinson
Gail & Eric Gould
The DeMoes Family
The Mertensotto Family
Cindy & Sean Cooper**

**Claudia & James D. Key
Jill & Chris Oliver
Aurelio Benavides
The Gartner Family
Elizabeth & Steve Darnall
Susan & Baris Ertan
Angela & Tan Le
Sandford Barlow LLP**

**Patricia & Chris Armitage
The John Osborn Family**

**The Elvis Presley Level
Stan & Reinette Marek**

**The Beatles Level
Martha Turner Properties
Drs. Rhonda & Paul Metz
Andrea Le
Memorial Gastroenterology Associates – Dr. Paul Azad**

**The Rolling Stones Level
The Mouer Family
Laura & Bruce Shelby
The Reppert Family
Karoline & Tim Carlson
Althea & Henry Lee**

**Michael Jackson Level
Paula & Mark Kotlarek
Hai Ho Nguyen & Kim Dao
Roger A. Soape, Inc.
Joanna & Patrick Johnston
Jen & Brian Moss
The Jorgensen Family
The Genung Family
Nick Simms & Liz Freeman**

**AC/DC Level
Kara & Lee Norris
The Gilhooley Family
The Vaughan Family
Elizabeth & Gantt Walton
The Rawlinson Family
The Witte Family
Yuki & Ned Shimizu**

**Madonna Level
Jenny & Niko Lorentzatos
Audrey Hoang**

Frank Sinatra Level

**Roswell & Sandy Vaughan, grandparents of Mary Helen and David Schmidt
Joanie & Don Haley, grandparents of Becca and Katelynn Copeland
Lakshmi & Krishna Vavilala, grandparents of Ariana and Ashwin**

Todd, Dawn, Taylor, Todd II, Tanner Dixon

**The Upper Hand Salons
The Greer Family
The Schmidt Family**

**Liz & Matt Rotan
Michelle & Robert Elliot
The Sturges Family
The Ansari Family
Miles Kurtz**

**The Wendler Family
Marci & Carlos Hamilton
Dr. Mike Mizell, orthodontist
Mike, Melissa & Emily Anderson
Andrew Esses
Marilyn & Scott Irwin
The Giles Family
Amanda Vavilala & Richard Morales**

**Carmen & Jaime Vergara
The Edmonds Family
Meg & Dave Bissinger
Tricia & Gale Oliver
Jeré Meaux
The Jimenez Family
The Kelley Family**

The Wright Family

Thank you to Gibbs & Bruns, LLP, for providing paper and copying services for Auction Underwriting flyers and letters.



Cougar Eye Winners!

<i>Kindergarten</i>	<i>Cameron Kelley, Bauer Bruce</i>
<i>First</i>	<i>Abbey Hall, Jackson Wells</i>
<i>Second</i>	<i>Zack Nafaa, Sofia Ruiz</i>
<i>Third</i>	<i>Celine DeMoes, Daniel Rivera</i>
<i>Fourth</i>	<i>Sarah Sarver, Buddy Friedman</i>
<i>Fifth</i>	<i>Leslie Sevilla, Finn Bremner</i>

To Submit a Newsletter Article

1. Write your article as a Microsoft Word document.



2. E-mail it to all 5 newsletter editors at:

rdemoes@comcast.net
althealee@comcast.net
sassydesignsinc@comcast.net
virginias@ireality.com
witte@texas.net

3. You should then **receive a response** from the editor who is responsible for that week. **If you do not get a response, please call** one of us to make sure your article will be included! The **DEADLINE** for submitting articles is every **WEDNESDAY AT 10:00 AM**. Articles will be accepted **ONLY** by e-mail. If you have any questions, please call any one of us!

Renata DeMoes	281-381-6545
Althea Lee	713-984-1615
Sandy Means	713-906-1289
Virginia Schwanauer	713-984-2490
Teresa Witte	713-647-8444