

COUGAR CALL OUT

★ HUNTERS CREEK ELEMENTARY ★

2011-2012

Stefanie Roach, Principal

November 14, 2011

From the Principal

Hunters Creek Community Service Project



Community service is a fun way for students to explore and learn about the world, while helping to make our community a better place. Researchers have found that community service projects promote the development of committed, caring citizens. Successful programs provide opportunities for students to make decisions and plan the projects with adult assistance.

With student involvement as our goal, the HCE Leadership Council brainstormed possibilities for our projects and voted to support **Casa de Esperanza de los Ninos – the House of Hope for Children**. *Casa de Esperanza* is a safe place for children in crisis due to abuse or neglect. The *House of Hope* provides residential, medical and psychological care according to the needs of each child.

Our drive will be from November 14-17th. At the request of **Casa de Esperanza**, each grade level will be collecting the following items

Kinder – children's socks or children's underwear



First – sandwich bags

Second – packages of small boxed cereal



Third – boxes of pasta

Fourth – **Plastic bottles** of peanut butter

Fifth – **Plastic bottles** of jelly

As with all of our community service projects, we would like each individual child to have ownership in these projects. It is much more meaningful to children if they do something that helps them feel like they are contributing, rather than having Mom or Dad go to the store and buy something to send to school. Please discuss with your child ways to earn money to help purchase the items that are sent to school. Your child will gain a sense of satisfaction knowing that he/she has made a difference in lives of other children.

**We appreciate your support of our efforts with this project!
Please send the items to school November 14 – 17th.**

Calendar

- 11/14 Science Fair Projects Due
- 11/15 6 pm Science Fair
- 11/16 View Class Science Fair
- 11/18 Staff Appreciation Luncheon
D.A.R.E. Graduation, 11am
- 11/22 Progress Reports go home
- 11/23-25 Thanksgiving Holiday
- 11/29 8:30 am PTA mtg @ DC
- 12/1 Classroom Spelling Bee
- 12/8 6 pm Choir Program
- 12/13 JA Biztown– 5th grade
- 12/15 8:30 Kinder Holiday Program
- 12/16 8:30-10:15 Sign-Along
11:00 Holiday Parties
Noon Early Dismissal
- 1/4 Students return to school
- 1/6 Report Cards go home

LIFESKILL

Initiative

To take the lead in helping to
make the world a better
place!



President's Perspective

First off, I would like to thank Georgia Stewart and all of the other volunteers that helped make Field Day such a success! All our little buckaroos had a great time. Also, I hope everyone had a chance to come out and help at our first Beautification Day at HCE! The grounds are looking fabulous - thanks to our Grounds committee for organizing this event and all of your hard work leading up to it!

Looking forward to next school year, (*yes, I know, it's not even Thanksgiving yet!*) I want to explain how a few things will be changing in the way we fill our committee chair positions. Stephanie Carr, our current Vice President, will be sending out a form in early 2012 listing all available positions. On the form, you will be asked to pick your top three to five choices. Stephanie will then fill committee chair positions from these forms. **If you have chaired a committee position for two years or more, you will not be able to chair that position again.** We greatly appreciate your commitment, but after two years, it's time to pass the reigns on and try on a new hat! If you have any questions, please contact me or Stephanie.

I hope ya'll have a great week!! Don't forget to mark your calendars for the next PTA Meeting on November 29 at 8:30 in the Discovery Center at HCE.

Happy Trails,

Mindy Voytes
PTA President

Dare Graduation

Our fifth grade dare graduation is set for
November 18th at 11:00.

Please be sure to put this very special day on your calendar!

D.A.R.E.



Hunters Creek Elementary ~ Girl Scouts

A new Girl Scouts **Daisy Troop** for Kindergarten girls is coming soon, and we want you to join us!



Registration forms will be in the HCE office. Pick one up for your daughter and one for yourself, too. Join **Troop 18538** as a Parent Leader and have some fun with your Kindergarten daughter!



For more information, contact
Stephanie Carr @ 713-252-4826 or
Nan Chandler @ 713-703-6615

To Submit a Newsletter Article

Write your article as a **Microsoft Word** document and **e-mail** it to **5** newsletter editors at:

rdemoes@comcast.net

281-381-6545

rwitte2@comcast.net

713-647-8444

gkarathanos@att.net

281-813-5937

rhondadavisonmetz@yahoo.com

713-410-5408

sassydesignsinc@gmail.com

713-906-1289



all

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!



Saddle Up For Spelling!

The Spelling Bee is Coming!

It's time to buckle up for the upcoming classroom spelling bees December 1st. All 3rd, 4th and 5th graders are encouraged to participate. A "bee packet" containing printed lists of the words for the classroom spelling bees, plus some additional information and forms, will come home in the Tuesday folders this week. The packets will also be e-mailed, plus a few extra copies of the packets will be available in the school office and the library. The word lists themselves will also be posted on the HCE library website in flash card format—"bee" sure to check them out!

Students can decide just how much of a "word wrangler" they want to be in their classroom bee, simply by choosing the highest word level they wish to study:

Interested just in spelling a couple of words right? Learn the *first 3 columns* of the Level One words.

Want to do a little better than that?

Learn *all* of the Level One words.

Want to be one of the last spellers standing? Do some work on the Level Two words as well.

Want to be *sure* of going to the school spelling bee in January? Learn the words from all three levels.

Morning Practice Sessions

Mark your calendars--practice sessions start on Friday, November 18th! There will be 6 morning practice sessions to help the students prepare for the classroom bees. These will be held from 7:30-7:55 am as follows:

(NOTE: 3rd graders practice in the **Discovery Center**; 4th/5th graders practice in the **Library**)

Friday, November 18

Level One words (grade-level words—first 50 words)

Monday, November 21

Level One words (higher grade-level words—50 more words)

Tuesday, November 22

Level Two (Greek)

Monday, November 28

Level Three words (Frequently Misspelled Words)

Tuesday, November 29

All word levels and/or a practice bee

Wednesday, November 30

All word levels and/or a practice bee

If your speller is planning on attending any of these practice sessions, please complete the form in the back of the bee packet and send it back to school *as soon as possible* so that we have some idea of how many spellers to expect at the practice sessions.

Also, we need volunteers to assist with word calling at these sessions. Please contact Alison Hickey at tokyoalison@yahoo.com if you are interested. No experience needed, just a nice clear reading voice and plenty of enthusiasm! Please let us know if you have any questions.

Your Spelling Bee Committee,
Wendy Koy, Lina Jorgensen, Alison Hickey
Roberta Smiley, coach



From the Nurse:

Lice

Fall and winter seasons are when the most cases of head lice are reported. The best way to fight head lice is to become proactive. Here are some prevention and treatment tips.

Prevention:

- Don't wait for "the letter" to come home from school. Check your child on a weekly basis for head lice. The best way to do this is purchase a metal lice comb. A preferred comb has long tight teeth for a better grip on hair. (my favorite-NitFree Terminator). Use the comb by combing in sections and start at scalp to ends of hair. If combing dry hair take the comb over a bowl of water and flick the metal teeth after each sweep with the comb. When you run your nail across the teeth the loose dirt/dry skin or possible nits or eggs will drop into the water. The nits, usually grayish color, will float on the top of the water. The lice will go to bottom of bowl. Combing can also be done with wet hair and conditioner to ease the discomfort and help de-tangle. Inspect the comb by wiping on white towel/napkin and look for gray nits or lice.
- Many times the eggs are impossible to be seen by the naked eye in the hair. For this reason classroom checks are not 100% and should not be relied upon as a parent. Inspect your child's hair after slumber parties or sleepovers and on a weekly basis.
- Long hair should be worn back (preferably in a braid) or up.
- Do not share personal items!
Be wary of movie theater seats!

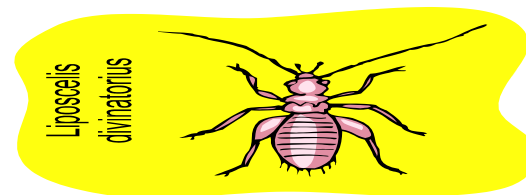
Treatment:

- Call your pediatrician for recommended method. There is controversy over the use of medicated shampoos as the lice are becoming resilient to most treatments. Any treatment should be used in conjunction with removal or all nits and lice with comb.
- Helpful lice treatment centers are available. This is an expensive but extremely helpful treatment route and many guarantee removal.
- Lice removal specialists recommend using a mint spray in addition to mint shampoo conditioner to repel the lice. Ask your doctor if they recommend these products in your child's treatment plan.
- Wash sheets and pillowcases and recently worn clothing in hot water and dry in a hot dryer. Combs and brushes may be soaked in hot water for 10 minutes (or placed in top of washer and run one cycle).

When you find lice...tell others that could have been exposed! Please remember that the stigma of uncleanliness and embarrassment needs to be broken. Excluding students from parties because of possible history of infection is unnecessary. Teach your child to limit head to head contact with others and to refrain from sharing brushes/hair accessories with others and they will be safe.

If you are concerned or have any questions always call the clinic to request a hair check for yourself and child.

Sincerely,
Mercedes Mulvey, RN
Hunters Creek Elementary



**It's up to you, don't get caught
by the FLU!!**

Fall Health Fair

**Spring Branch Community Health Center
Pitner Clinic**

**Saturday - November 19th, 2011
10am - 1pm**

FLU SHOTS

FREE for children with
Medicaid or uninsured



\$10 for Adults
* While Supplies Last

- Fitness Assessments
- Glucose
- Blood Pressure
- BMI

- Popcorn
- Moonwalk
- Snacks
- Games



**8575 Pitner Rd.
Houston, TX 77080
713-462-6545**



Spring Branch Education Foundation and the Altharetta Yeargin Art Museum will help you with your Christmas Shopping

Holiday Shopping just got easier. The Spring Branch Education Foundation(SBEF) the the Altharetta Yeargin Art Museum(AYAM) have teamed up to help you with just the right gift for folks on your holiday list. They are offering cards that will let the recipient know that a donation has been made in his or her honor. The proceeds benefit the SBEF and AYAM with donations being tax deductible. These are great ways to honor teachers, friends and co-workers. There are five designs that were selected from student artwork. Please go to the link to see how you can order and get your shopping done early.

<http://shop.springbrandeducationfoundation.com/>



HOUSTON TEXANS CHEERLEADER CLINIC

LET'S LEARN TO YELL AND MOVE LIKE AN ACTUAL HOUSTON TEXANS CHEERLEADER!

Attention all HCE Students!

We have one last auction item that anyone can participate in and won't want to miss!

When: Saturday, November 19, 2011

9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Where: HCE Hardtop

What: Join a few of our city's own Houston Texans Cheerleaders for a CHEER CLINIC!

Learn sideline routines, take pictures with the uniformed cheerleaders, and put on a show at the end of the clinic for your family. What an opportunity! What a memory!

Who: All students -- boys and girls -- ALL AGES!

Cost: \$50 per student

Send money or check made out to HCE PTA in your child's green folder or drop it off at the office. Be sure to note your child's name, grade, and note Cheer Clinic.

CHEER! YELL! CHEER CLINIC! DANCE! MOVE!



Spring Branch Independent School District
Inspiring minds. Shaping lives.
www.springbranchisd.com

Dear SBISD Parents and Community Members,

Reminder! The next Spring Branch Plan 2012-2017 Community Forum is November 15.

We hope you will join us at one of these important community events to learn about the *Spring Branch Plan 2012-2017* and share your thoughts about the proposed plan.

**Spring Branch Plan, 2012-2017 Community Forums
6-8 p.m., High School Auditoriums**

Tuesday, Nov. 15	Memorial High School
Thursday, Nov. 17	Northbrook High School

To learn more about the Spring Branch Plan 2012-2017, please visit <http://cms.springbranchisd.com/plan2012>

For more information, please contact SBISD Community Relations, 713.251.2287 or partner@springbranchisd.com.

Hope to see you at one of the Forums!

Sincerely,
Kathy Goss, Community Member and Co-Chair, Spring Branch Plan Task Force
Linda Buchman, SBISD Community Relations Officer