

Arlene Randall, Principal

October 30, 2009



Betsy Shomaker  
PTA President

Office Hours: 7:30– 4:30  
Doors open at 7:30

Front Office: 703-442-5800  
Attendance: 703-442-5858

## Cooper Newsletter

November 25—All Fairfax County Schools close 2 hours early

### Important Dates

- November 2-3 Teachers' Workdays and Student Holidays
- November 4-Health Screening \*date change, 7th grade
- November 4-Second grading period begins
- November 5-Field trip for all 8th grade teams
- November 6-Field trip for all 7th grade teams
- November 10-PTA Executive Board Meeting, 9:30 am
- November 11-Entertainment Coffee and Walk About
- November 16-20– Food Drive
- November 17-PTA meeting, 9:30 am, room 130
- **November 19-Picture re-takes**
- November 18-19-Play after school
- November 20-21- Play in evening, 7 pm
- November 25,-Two hour early release
- November 26-27-Thanksgiving Holidays
- December 3-Winter band concert, 7 pm, Cooper
- December 8-PTA Executive Board meeting
- December 10-Chorus concert, 7 pm, Cooper
- December 11-Interims mailed
- December 23-2 hour early closing
- Winter Break-December 24– January 1



### *Notes from Principal Randall*

**Cooper Parents:  
Please join us  
on November 11  
for**

**An Entertainment  
Coffee  
and Walk About**

**When: 10:00 am  
CMS, room 130.**

**What will be  
happening?**

**Entertainment  
by students, a  
brief Q&A &  
visits to class-  
rooms from  
10:45-11:45.**

**Welcome Par-  
ents & Grand-  
parents**

**Thank you** to all of the wonderful students who participated in this year's **Reflections** contest. We had 68 fantastic entries and we are happy to announce the winners in this year's contest with the theme....*Beauty Is* In the category of Visual Arts, First Place went to 7<sup>th</sup> Grader - Daniel Suh; in the category of Literature, First Place was awarded to 7<sup>th</sup> grader - Katherine Rohloff; in the category of Photography, First Place went to 8<sup>th</sup> grader – Emily Templin. Congratulations to our winners. Their entries will now be submitted to compete at the county level. In addition, the following students received Merit Awards for their entries: Visual Arts- 8<sup>th</sup> Grader Ivy Lim; Literature- 7<sup>th</sup> graders Emily Chiang and Riya Malhotra; Photography – 7<sup>th</sup> graders Brian Anderson and Kayla Omsberg; 8<sup>th</sup> graders Jordan Bailey, Ian Havasy and Julia Pierce For those of you who want to get an early start on next year's contest...the theme for the 2010-2011 **Reflections** contest is...*"Together We Can"*

### **STUDENT-PARENT SURVEY FOR FEDERAL IMPACT AID**

Students will be bringing home the Federal Impact Aid form on November 4. Please fill this out and return as soon as possible.

### **Forgotten items and messages for students.**

Parents are welcome to bring forgotten items to the front office, however:

***Instructional time will not be interrupted to inform students when an item is dropped off or to deliver messages.***

It is the student's responsibility to check for forgotten items and messages. Students are frequently reminded of this policy throughout the school year. As a courtesy we will only deliver messages and items during lunch & QST.

### *Notes from Student Services*

#### **END OF FIRST QUARTER**

We are coming to the close of the first quarter of the 2009-2010 school year. We anticipate that our first quarter report cards will be mailed on Wednesday, November 4. Our School Counselors are available to you and look forward to being of assistance.



Team Counselors can be reached at 703-442-5812.

**Avalanche and Eclipse,** Tina Fisher

**Tidal Waves and Fusion,** Tara Colgan

**Lightning and Tornadoes,** Lucy Skrabut

**Director of Student Services,** Michele Boak



## NOTES FROM THE COOPER PTA

Copies of the handouts and PowerPoint on the Fairfax County Youth Survey presented at our last PTA meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup> are available in the Front Office. If you have any questions about the data, please feel free to contact me at

[shomaker.jb@verizon.net](mailto:shomaker.jb@verizon.net) A very special thank you to Thelma Allcock for all of her extraordinary work in organizing this year's Talent Show. The performers all did an outstanding job; it was a wonderful evening made possible by her tireless dedication. Many thanks also to the chairs of the Reflections Committee: Debbie Volpicelli, Daretia Carmichael, and Rachna Malhotra. Reflections is an arts recognition and achievement program for students which provides opportunities for our students at Cooper to show off their talents in literature, musical composition, photography, visual arts, dance choreography and film/video production. The winners of the competition are listed in this Newsletter—congratulations to them for their hard work. Finally, please join us for the Entertainment Coffee and Walk Around on Wednesday,

November 11<sup>th</sup> 10:00-11:45. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear some of our talented students perform and also to see your child's classrooms in action. The next PTA meeting is Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Cooper's SRO, Officer Cooper, will be speaking to parents about "sex"ting—you don't want to miss this eye-opening presentation.

### COOPER STUDENT DIRECTORY

Your child should have brought home the hardcopy Cooper Directory. If it did not make it home, please remind them to pick up their copy in their QST classroom by Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. They are labeled with the student's name and quantity purchased, if you ordered extra copies. If you have any questions/concerns, please contact: 8th grade: Jackie Cho, [jcho@mcenearney.com](mailto:jcho@mcenearney.com) 703-473-1877 7th grade: Elizabeth Trumbull, [elizabeth.trumbull@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.trumbull@gmail.com) 703-927-5635. As a reminder, the directory is available on Blackboard this year: <http://fcps.blackboard.com/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp> We will update the on-line directory with contact information changes throughout the year. Please email all change requests to Jackie Cho (8th grade) or Elizabeth Trumbull (7th grade) at the email

addresses above. The current plan is to update the on-line directory every 1-2 months based on the number of changes received. There will not be updates to the printed version.

\*\*\* Detailed access information: Parents will be able to view the Directory either through their ParentView accounts or through their child's account. The class is called Cooper's Online School Directory. There is no direct website link because a login is required. You will need to login to Blackboard and then choose the class (Cooper's Online School Directory). Click on the Cooper Directory button on the left hand side. In the middle of the screen, there is a document link entitled, CMS Directory Final for Print.pdf -- click on the link to load the directory into your browser. The Find feature works and you can enter your child's last name to search for your information or you can page down until you find it. Here is the link to Blackboard: <http://fcps.blackboard.com/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp>

## More News from Cooper

### FROM THE CLINIC

We are in need of volunteers for the vision and hearing health screening. We cannot do this without your help. It is a 4-hour commitment. The screening takes place on Nov 4<sup>th</sup> and there are two shifts: Shift 1: 7:45am to 11am - Shift 2: 11:00am to 2:15pm. There will be a simple training provided before you begin with the children so no experience necessary. This will take place during your child's scheduled PE class, so why not book a shift around then, so you get an inside look into their day!! You will be working in teams so encourage a friend to come. Coffee and munchies will be provided. Please contact Betty-Jo Booth if you are available or have any ques-

tions. [Bbooth7112@verizon.net](mailto:Bbooth7112@verizon.net)

### BOXTOPS

October 30<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for the first shipment of Box Tops to General Mills for CASH! Please drop any you may have in the box in the front office. Remember, every little bit helps.

### LOST AND FOUND

Cooper's Lost and Found is overflowing. Please stop by the Cooper cafeteria to check on any items your student may be missing. On November 6 we will be donating all items to a local charity.

### RENEW TODAY—GROCERY RECEIPTS PROGRAM

5 MINUTES TODAY GIVES COOPER \$\$\$\$\$ EVERY TIME YOU SHOP! See the below link to find out how to sign up. [http://www.fcps.edu/CooperMS/Assests/pdf/d%20files/Grocery\\_Receipts\\_Form1%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.fcps.edu/CooperMS/Assests/pdf/d%20files/Grocery_Receipts_Form1%20(2).pdf)

**SEND YOUR STUDENT a "shout-out" in the special holiday edition of the Hawkeye and help a good cause!** The advance journalism students are trying to raise money to throw a holiday party for the kindergartener's at our sister school, Pine Spring. You can help by purchasing a shout-out, a business ad, or donating a new toy. Forms are on Cooper's website site. **Forms are due November 16<sup>th</sup>!** *Please help us Spread the Spirit!*

### COMMUNITY SERVICE IDEAS FOR RISING 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

Do you need an idea for your community service project? Go to the following link to get ideas/projects for your community service.

<http://www.fcps.edu/CooperMS/Cooper%20Gives%20Back/coopergivesback.html>

### TRAIL CLEARING WITH GREAT FALLS TRAILBLAZERS

THIS SATURDAY OCTOBER 31 at RIVERBEND PARK, 10 am - 12 pm. Meet at the Visitors Center. There will be all levels of work from hauling gravel in wheel-

barrows to widening trail to loping low hanging branches. Wear work shoes and gloves and, if possible, bring a shovel. Questions: Contact Mary Anger [gfangers@yahoo.com](mailto:gfangers@yahoo.com) or 703-853-8109.

### TRAIL CLEARING WITH GREAT FALLS TRAILBLAZERS

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14 at Upper Seneca Park, 10am-12pm. Meet at the far north end of Seneca Road. Bring good shoes, gloves and loppers or pruners. Questions: Contact Mary Anger [gfangers@yahoo.com](mailto:gfangers@yahoo.com) or 703-853-8109.

### COOPER WEAR

It's not too late to order your Cooper Wear!!! You can go on line to order school sweatshirts, sweatpants, t-shirts and bags at



[www.Pay4SchoolStuffOnline.com](http://www.Pay4SchoolStuffOnline.com) Click on Cooper Middle School and you'll be walked through the site, step by step. Remember Cooper Wear makes great holiday gifts for not only your family but also nieces/nephews and extended family! Direct pick up from the front desk is an option if it's a surprise! Share your school spirit!!!!

## **MESSAGE FROM THE COOPER PTA FUNDRAISING.**

We are pleased to announce that we have almost reached our \$25,000 fundraising goal for the year! Just a few more generous donations from our families, and we will have raised enough funds to purchase ten new SMART Boards for our classrooms. If you haven't yet made your donation, please consider doing so today. While \$70 per family will enable us to meet our goal, we warmly appreciate donations in any amount.

Please keep in mind that many employers have a "matching contribution" plan-donations up to a certain amount will be matched by your employer. Cooper PTA is also a qualified 501c(3) institution-all donations are 100% tax deductible. Donation forms can be found on the PTA website, and your contribution can be made by cash or check (payable to Cooper Middle School PTA). This year, the PTA is also pleased to offer an online payment system through [www.Pay4SchoolStuffOnline.com](http://www.Pay4SchoolStuffOnline.com). From the homepage of this website, just click on 'Cooper Middle School' to be walked through the site, step by step. This convenient and easy to use system is part of the PTA's effort to "go green." Please note that there is a minimal 1.25% processing fee for using this service.

A warm Cooper thank you to those of you who have so generously donated to our fundraising efforts. These wonderful SMART Boards can only be provided for our students by these generous contributions of our families--continuing our tradition of excellence here at Cooper. Questions? Please contact Natalie Sturm at 703-790-1540 or [njsturm@cox.net](mailto:njsturm@cox.net).