

From The Edge

Forest Edge Elementary School for Communications and Technology



Edge Events Oct-Nov 2009

Tuesday, October 13
Fall Individual Pictures

PTA Meeting
7:30 pm—Pod 5

Thursday, October 15
Character Counts Reception
8:20-8:50—Cafeteria

Wednesday, October 21
Adult ESOL Class Registration
5:00-7:00 pm—Cafeteria

Mon/Tues, November 2 & 3
Student Holidays
Teacher Conferences

Mon-Fri, November 2-6
Book Fair—Library
9:00 am-3:00 pm

Family Night, Nov. 4, 6-8 pm

Thursday, November 5
Market Day Pick Up
4:45-5:45 pm—Cafeteria

Tuesday, November 17
Individual Make-Up Pictures
9:30-11:30 am

Wednesday, November 25
Early Dismissal at 1:20 pm

Thurs/Fri, Nov 26 & 27
Thanksgiving Holiday
No School



October 2009

Principal: Mr. Frank Bensinger
Assistant Principal: Mrs. Emily Cope

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Please, please, please... **DO NOT** park in the front bus loop! The curb next to the building is a fire lane, and cars will be ticketed and towed by the authorities. This is not an area where school personnel can intervene on your behalf.

Some of you may have noticed that our playing fields are getting a facelift. The county has provided funds to upgrade these athletic fields. We are having to revamp our lunch and recess schedules to work around this project. The children and teachers have been very understanding. Our fields should be beautiful when the renovation is complete. ~FLB

Advanced Academic Programs—2009 Parent Information Nights

The Office of Advanced Academic Programs (formerly known as “GT”) is holding four parent information nights: Thurs, Oct 8, McLean HS; Tues, Oct 13, Oakton HS; Thurs, Oct 15, Annandale HS; Mon, Oct 19, West Potomac HS. All meetings will be held in the auditorium from 7:30 to 9:00 pm and are open to the public; no registration is required. Directions are available at www.mapquest.com. After a brief overview of the programs available to grades 3-12, there will be break-out sessions for parents of elementary, middle, and high school students. The high school session will include an overview of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, the International Baccalaureate, and the Advanced Placement programs.

For more information contact: Advanced Academic Program at 703-846-8663 or visit www.fcps.edu/DIS/OHSICS/advepd/advepd.htm

New Attendance Procedures Regarding ABSENCES and TARDINESS

If your child will be absent from or late to school, please call the **ATTENDANCE LINE** (available 24 hours) at 703-925-8080 before 9:30 am. The FCPS new attendance procedures require schools to submit daily attendance records by 9:45 am. If you have not called the school by 9:30 am, you will receive an automated phone call from FCPS to verify your child’s absence or tardiness. If your child is late, please have your child report to the office to get a **TARDY SLIP** before going to class. Please remember to bring in a doctor’s note for all absences pertaining to medical/dental appointments.

September 2009
CHARACTER AWARDS
for Citizenship



Kindergarten

Herron: *Gabriel Patterson & Sakina Bhinderwala*
 Mek: *Andrew Cramer & Nava Mehrpour*
 Pisani: *Trenten Moder & Yasmine Weir*
 Urban: *Scott Little & Lucia Salmon*

1st Grade

Ayers: *Lindsay McCartney & Anastasia Vlasova*
 McGowan: *Quinn Raftery-Sweeney & Eleanor Boyer-Uriarte*
 Sheldon: *Amelia DiBiase & Leah Blum*
 Tesch: *Mohamed Ali & Melissa Hernandez*

2nd Grade

Alexander: *Jason Aldridge & Nia Winston*
 Brown: *Shamaree Taylor & Navid Mehrpour*
 Field: *Connor Witt & Likhitha Addagata*
 Kemmerer: *Nicholas Hall & Rachel Butlin*

3rd Grade

Forest: *Fiona Pratt-MacDonald & Jonathan Purcell*
 Greenburg: *Mithra Dhinakaran & Drew Westenhoff*
 Lanning: *Mary Watson & Walker Dillard*
 Parmalee: *Jacquelynn Gutierrez & Fabricio Alvarez-Torres*
 Pfeffer-Hahn: *Reza Zaidi & Hudson Perry*
 Sutter: *Caroline Dauchess & Benjamin Schwartz*
 Zalkind: *George Philis & Ashkon Shaheedian*

4th Grade

Anderson: *Shabbir Waheed & Michelle Gyurova*
 Davidson: *Lauren Spar & Tiana Griessel*
 Gordon: *Kathryn Mallaney & Jeffrey Alas Cortez*
 Hufford: *Andrea Gebhardt & Nathan Hamlett*
 Stein: *Joyce Lee & Jack Eggeman*

5th Grade

Cagno: *Akil Samuel & Jack Tibbitts*
 Conselatore: *Keerthi Puvvada & Ella Van Engen*
 Greenwood: *Anthony Green & Alexa Ponder*
 Morgan: *Ana Delacruz & Jacob Freeman*
 Norman/Farrell: *Calisa White & Mary Marquez Rueda*
 Sablosky: *Nash Hemrajani & Lindsey Rogers*

6th Grade

Basdekis: *Colin Nulty & Bickey Beyene*
 Birkhead: *Olivia Strahan & Andy Zhao*
 Graham: *Hannah Wolfe & Kyle DeMerlis*
 Levis: *Colston Moder & Jacob Kemp*
 Vedder: *Sharvari Bhatt & Kevin Salassi*

Volunteers Needed for Annual Vision and Hearing Screenings

Thursday, October 15, & Thursday, October 22, 9:00 am-2:30 pm (hourly shifts available) No experience is necessary. Training is provided before each shift. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Katie Cang at 703-925-8010. Thank you for your support!

Counselors' Corner

This month our school is focusing on the character trait: **RESPECT**. As parents and teachers, we try to model respect by our actions and words. We hope our children listen and learn to be respectful towards others. At times, however, we find ourselves in a situation with a child that is "talking back" to us. Robert and Julie Kline, authors of *Responsible Parenting Newsletters*, remind us that children who talk back are placing themselves in positions of recognition and authority. When children get parents to argue with them, they feel a sense of power. If parents do not argue back, children learn that arguing does not work.

Quick tips for when your child is "talking back" and is not being respectful:

- Respond to your child in a calm voice and let them know you will listen when they are ready to talk calmly to you .
- If something can be ignored, ignore it (unless the child's behavior could cause harm to the child or someone else). Sometimes the best approach can be no action at all.
- If a situation cannot be ignored, take some action which does not include a lengthy discussion. For example, simply state: "If you choose to continue arguing and talking back, you will have chosen to lose your computer time today." Then follow through with the consequence.

Be consistent; it may take some time using these tips to teach your child a more respectful way of talking to others. But time, consistency, patience, and love are what parenting is all about!

Martha Hutchinson and Sheila Murphy, School Counselors

Parenting During Tough Economic Times*

Brought to you by your school social worker, **Bessie DeFreitas, LSCW-C**
 703-925-8033—Bessie.defreitas@fcps.edu

How can you parent well when times are tough? Strapped for time but your kids still need your attention? Here are some tips:

Limit kids' exposure to worries. Try not to talk too much about your own fears when the kids are listening. You may think your 5-year old tunes out adult topics, but he or she may hear just enough to spark anxiety.

Share honestly but appropriately. Secrets can be scary. You don't want to overwhelm your child with information, but it's probably best to share some of your family's financial situation. Take a reassuring approach by pointing out any areas you know are stable, such as staying in the same school despite any other changes.

Economize in a way that's clear and fair. If you need to scale back on your children's after-school activities, letting them pick from a few options may decrease their disappointment. You might also consider less-expensive options at local community centers and libraries too. And don't forget to show kids that you're cutting back on some of your own "extras" as well.

Keep predictability high. Kids like routine. Make sure your child's routine includes exercise to burn off energy, soothing nighttime activities, and, above all, some special time with you. Children crave attention, and if they're not getting it in positive ways, they may get it by acting out.

*Adapted from Mental Health America

Volunteers Needed

Forest Edge Fall Book Fair—November 2-6

- Set-Up: Friday, Oct 28— 12:00-3:00 pm
- Browsing Days: Thurs & Fri, Oct 29-30—Help younger children write their book selections
- Buying Days: Wed-Fri, Nov 4-6— Help students find books, pay, bag books, and restock shelves
- Take Down: Friday, Nov 6, 12:00-3:00 pm

If you are interested in volunteering, please call Yolanda Maldonado at 703-925-8000.



2009-2010 SCHOOL HOURS

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Main Office : 703-925-8000

Attendance Line: 703-925-8080

Kindergarten through 6th grades

Monday: 8:40 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.
 Tues-Fri: 8:40 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.

Pre-School Hours

Monday: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m./11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
 Tues-Fri: 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m./12:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Head Start (FECEP)

Monday: 8:40 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
 Tues - Fri: 8:40 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.