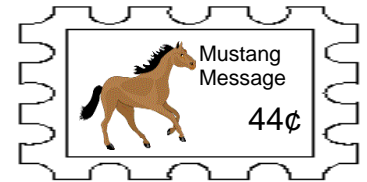


Hunters Woods Elementary School
for the Arts and Sciences
2401 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA 20191



Welcome Edition

School Phone: 703-262-7400

August 20, 2009

Attendance Line 703-262-7474

Olivia M. Toatley, Principal

Avis Russell, Assistant Principal

Greetings Hunters Woods Families:

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year! I hope your summer has been filled with fun, relaxation, and new adventures. The staff and I are thrilled about all of the wonderful possibilities for an exciting and positive school year.

Our school's mission is to empower all learners! We have high expectations for every student. We will differentiate instruction to accommodate all learning styles, and we are committed to building and maintaining positive relationships with all members of our learning community.

Our custodial staff has been busily preparing for the opening of school. Classrooms, bathrooms, pods, resource rooms and school grounds are positively sparkling! If you have a chance, please extend kudos to Mr. Wiley and his team. They have been working very hard.

Five of our colleagues transferred to other locations this summer. Best wishes to Lauren Shernoff, Nina Thomas, Wendy Pierce, Sally Crouse, and Carol DeFilippo. Arnetta Foster has retired. They will be missed.

We are happy to welcome some new and familiar staff members to our learning community. **Ms. Tracey Jenkins** will join us as our Advanced Academics (formerly known as GT) resource teacher. Tracey has worked as a resource teacher in other schools and in the AA office. She will be with us on Thursdays and Fridays and every other Monday. **Ms. Stacey Walter**, a new teacher, will join our 5th grade team. Stacey, a Marymount graduate, was an early hire candidate to FCPS. She is familiar with our school because she did her fieldwork

here with several of our teachers. **Ms. Avery Straw**, a familiar member of our learning community, will now join us as a classroom teacher in 5th grade. Avery has served as our AA resource teacher and as a 4th grade teacher. We are thrilled to welcome back Kindergarten IA, **Ms. Savita Singh**. Finally, we welcome GMU interns **Ms. Michele Kaminski** and **Ms. Ashley Toth**. Michele will be working with Karen Richards and Ashley will be working with Molly Downs first semester.

Please join us for our annual Open House on Thursday, September 3 at 4:30 pm. All doors will be locked at 3:30 pm so that our staff can make final preparations. Class lists for grades K-1 will be posted near Exit 8; 2nd and 3rd grade class lists will be posted near Exit 7; 4th grade class lists will be posted on the cafeteria windows; 5th grade class lists will be posted near exit 2; and finally, 6th grade class lists will be posted on the front doors. Our hope is that these arrangements will make finding your new classrooms a little less congested. All class lists will be posted on the front doors for the Labor Day weekend.

This event will be a wonderful opportunity for parents and students to meet their teachers, visit classrooms, and to join other HWES families for pizza and soda. Parents will be able to purchase lunch cards, drop off medications, and update their contact information.

I am confident that this will be a spectacular school year! See you at the Open House.

Sincerely,

Olivia M. Toatley
Principal

Open House and Community Picnic

Thursday, September 3, 2009

From 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Students may visit their new classrooms and meet their teachers.

The 2009 – 10 School Year Begins

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

School Hours Daily Schedule*

Head Start, Kindergarten & Grades 1 - 6

Mondays: **8:40 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.**

(Head Start 8:40 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.)

Tuesday – Friday

8:40 a.m. – 3:20 p.m.

*Note there is a 5 minute change in our bell schedule.

Back to School Nights

Grades K-3, Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Newcomers Coffee, 6 pm

Visit Classrooms, 7 pm

Grades 4-6, Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Newcomers Coffee, 6 pm

Visit Classrooms, 7 pm

Tdap Requirement

A booster dose of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) vaccine is required for all students entering the 6th grade, if at least five years have passed since the last dose of tetanus containing vaccine. **Sixth grade students can't start school without providing Tdap documentation to the office.** The Fairfax County Health Department has scheduled clinics to administer these vaccines at no charge. More information is available at:

<http://www.fcps.edu/news/vaccine.htm>

Note from the Health Room

Parents of students new to Fairfax County Public School - If you have not already turned in your child's physical and immunization information, please do so as soon as possible. Schools are required to have this documentation on file to complete student registration. **Students can't start school without providing documentation of required physical and immunizations to the school office.** Immunizations are available from either your private physician or the Fairfax County Health Department. Immunizations given at the Health Department are free of charge. If you have any questions regarding this information, please call Judy Podlesney, our school public health nurse, at 703-326-6563 or via email at Judith.Podlesney@fcps.edu if you have any questions.

Kiss & Ride

The kiss and ride is located in the loop on Steeplechase Road for parents wishing to drop off or pick up students. The ideal time to drop students at school is between 8:15 am and 8:30 am. When picking up children, parents should loop around if their child has not come outside in order to keep the lane moving. Please note that the loop on Colts Neck Road in front of the school is **for bus traffic only.**

The Office of Safety and Security, in compliance with the fire marshal, has designated the kiss and ride loop as a fire lane. This means parking is not permitted in the kiss and ride loop at any time.

Bus Lists

Please take the time to review the enclosed bus list. Have your child arrive at the bus stop fifteen minutes before the scheduled time of arrival. It takes a few days before the bus schedule settles into a routine, as there are always adjustments at the beginning of the school year. Updated lists will be provided as applicable. We appreciate your patience.

Tuesday Folders

Every Tuesday, parents will receive a folder that contains announcements or a newsletter and examples of their children's work. On September 8, the first Tuesday folder will contain important information and forms for your review. Some forms require a parent signature and a prompt return. Please return your child's completed emergency care form to school as soon as possible.

Parking Alert

Please do not use Paddock Lane for school event parking. One side of Paddock Lane does not have sidewalks and some yards have been damaged from foot traffic. Please obey all parking signs. Thank you for your cooperation!

Class Supply Lists

Class supply lists are enclosed with this newsletter and parents can also access them on our school web site: <http://www.fcps.edu/HuntersWoodsES/>

*** In order to save paper, we are mailing one Newsletter per family.**

School Office Information

Please inform new neighbors and friends that it is important to register their children now for the 2009-10 school year.

Parents must notify their child's school when their home address changes. For a change of address, parents need to complete the "Student Information Update" form and provide proof of residency as required by FCPS regulation. A change in residency may require a change of school.

Students who are moving out of Fairfax County should take their birth certificate, physical/immunization record, report card and proof of residence to register in their new school. Student records will be sent directly to the new school upon receipt of a request for records from the new school.

