



# Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences

2401 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA 20191

School Phone: 703-262-7400

Attendance Line: 703-262-7474

Olivia Toatley, Principal

\* Jason Skerker, Assistant Principal

\* Rhonda Mayfield, Acting Assistant Principal

**December 6, 2011**

## Principal's Message

Dear Hunters Woods Families,

I hope you all had a very happy and joyous Thanksgiving holiday and that you were able to take a few moments to reflect upon all the reasons we have to be grateful. I am grateful for family, friends, colleagues and for the greatest job in the world. Learning with and facilitating the instruction of children is an amazing and fulfilling calling. The staff and I are very thankful for your continuous support. We do not take your support of our learning community for granted.

Our Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon was a great success. Thank you to the many family members and friends who attended. Special thanks to Mrs. Sealey and her incredibly efficient staff, the teachers and staff that volunteered as servers and to Mrs. Clara Welch who helped us organize and train the sixth grade students who served as waiters, greeters and clean-up crew. Because of their efforts, we were able to serve 1122 lunches.

This week, December 5-9, Fairfax County Public Schools is celebrating National Inclusive Schools Week, and this year's theme is "Awareness to Action: Moving Forward." Inclusive Schools Week highlights the accomplishments of families, schools, and communities who promote inclusive education for all children across the world. The week celebrates the progress that schools have made in implementing inclusive practices to ensure a quality education for an increasingly diverse student population, including students with disabilities, those from culturally, linguistically diverse backgrounds and those who are economically disadvantaged.

In November, we had the pleasure of hosting members of the Taiwanese delegation from the Education and Cultural Division in New Taipei City. Student Council representatives showed our visitors around to some classrooms to learn how we integrate arts and music into our curriculum. We always enjoy showing how Hunters Woods captures so many different interests and how teachers incorporate these in their lesson planning.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and fun-filled winter holiday. Be safe, rest and create some wonderful new family memories.

Sincerely,

Olivia M. Toatley, Principal



## Reminders for Parents

With holiday travel coming up, please call the attendance line at (703) 262-7474 in advance if your child's attendance schedule will change.  
(You may leave messages 24 hours/day)

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Please send your child to school dressed appropriately for the colder weather. A warm coat, hat and mittens may be needed to stay warm and enjoy outdoor recess time.

*Thank You!*

## **WINTER BREAK**

*December 23, 2011 -  
January 2, 2012*



## Advanced Academic Programs Corner



### Important Reminders:

A Parent Information Meeting will be held at Hunters Woods on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at 7:00 PM in the Museum Pod. This meeting is for interested parents of students in Grade 2 and any interested parents in grades 3-6 who would like to learn more about the screening and referral process for the Advanced Academic Program Level IV Center. Information will be provided on the screening process, components of the referral file, how to complete a referral file, important deadlines, and other dates.

Advanced Academic Programs *Level IV (Center) Referral Forms* are due to the local school by **4:00 PM** on **February 3, 2012**. No late referrals will be accepted. Referrals can be dropped off in the main office and submitted to Valerie Carter, Advanced Academic Resource Teacher. These forms can be filled out by parents of students in Grades 2-6 who are interested in their child being considered for possible Level IV center placement. Second graders **not** in the screening pool and **all** third through sixth graders are screened only by referral. (Parents of students who are in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade pool will be notified by the school.)

Referral forms are available in the main office and also on the Advanced Academic Programs website at <http://www.fcps.edu/is/aap> - go to *Forms*.

Parents can also download the *Parent Information Packet* available on the website. This packet provides pertinent information regarding the referral process and fillable forms needed to complete the process.

Parents can also submit *Optional Information* with the referral form. Optional Information is also due to the local school by **4:00 PM** on **Friday, February 3, 2012**. This information should be turned in to the main office and submitted to Valerie Carter, Advanced Academic Resource Teacher. Information should be placed in a standard 9 x 12 envelope with your name, child's name, and grade on the front.

If you have additional questions regarding this process, please call or email Valerie Carter, Advanced Academic Resource Teacher, at [vmcarter@fcps.edu](mailto:vmcarter@fcps.edu), 703-262-7455

## Make -Up Picture Day

- **Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>** is student Make-Up Picture day.
- Prepayment envelopes should be sent in with your student on the 7<sup>th</sup> and given to the photographer with full payment enclosed.
- If you did not like your child's picture that was taken in October, you may send back the complete package (pictures included) on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Your student may have their picture re-taken and you may exchange the old pictures for the new ones.
- If you forget to bring payment on Make-Up Picture Day, your next opportunity to have your student's picture taken will be in the spring.
- Solid color clothing creates the best portraits.

If you have any questions, please contact Glenda Strickland at 703-262-7400.

## Lost & Found...Claim Your Missing Items!

Our Lost & Found closet is overflowing! We need your help to clear it out and return the coats, hats, lunch boxes and other items back to their owners. Items will be displayed on the following dates:

**Dec. 13 - 15**                      **Lower Cafeteria Lobby**  
*During the day and at night*  
*during our winter concerts*

**Dec. 21 - 22**                      **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Pod Area**

Please make an effort to stop by and look for any missing items on these days. **All unlabeled items, not claimed by the end of 2011, will be donated to a local charity.**

## Food Drive is a Success

The Student Council Association is grateful to all the Hunters Woods parents, teachers and students who brought in canned goods for our Food Drive. We sorted and packed about 14 boxes of food for the Salvation Army of Fairfax and the Herndon-Reston FISH organizations. The food directly benefits people who live in our community. These organizations depend on the generosity of our community during these times of need. Thank you for your generosity.

### Consider Donating to the Tree of Warmth

The PTA and SCA are collecting items that will be given to needy children in the area. You may send in new socks, mittens, gloves, hats or scarves with your students and they may place them on the beautiful and festive *Tree of Warmth* in our lobby. This tree was on display at the PTA Winter Dance last week. Please send in donations by Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for helping children stay warm this winter season!

### Inclement Weather and Emergency Closing Plans

Due to inclement weather or other emergency situations, it may be necessary to close schools for the entire day, to open schools late, or to close early. To stay updated, please check the following:

- Tune in to local radio and television stations (including FCPS's cable Channel 21).
- Check [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu).
- Call the FCPS hot line at 800-839-FCPS (3277).

To receive this information via e-mail, sign up for the FCPS Keep in Touch (KIT) e-mail notification system at [www.fcps.edu/kit/](http://www.fcps.edu/kit/)

When there is a delayed opening on a Monday, school remains open for the **normal Tuesday-Friday hours** and we would dismiss at 3:20 PM.

Hours	Monday	Tuesday-Friday
Two-Hour Delayed Opening	10:40 a.m.-3:20 p.m.	10:40 a.m.-3:20 p.m.
One-Hour Early Closing	8:40 a.m.-11:50 a.m.	8:40 a.m.-2:20 p.m.

### News from the Library

Did you know that with an Internet connection our students can access a library of over 1,500 digital books? Fairfax County Public Schools offers a subscription service to [www.myON.com](http://www.myON.com) which is available to all students in the county. Since it is a paid subscription, a username and password are required.

FCPS is offering access to hundreds of digital books through the digital library, myON. Books can be accessed digitally or through the Internet. A variety of non-fiction, fiction, and biographies are available with titles such as *Drawing and Learning about Monsters*, *Hip-Hop Dancing*, *A Baboon Grows Up*, and more. In myON, you can browse a list of all available titles, or you can browse by category. Categories include Graphic Novels and Cartoons; Non-Fiction; Language Arts; Sports and Vehicles; Hobbies and How To; Scary and Gross; Math Fun; Animals; Fiction; Science; Social Studies; and About Me.

Audio is also available and gives students the choice to read along or to turn off the audio and read independently. Highlighting by word or sentence can be turned on to go along with the audio.

Just log on to [www.myON.com](http://www.myON.com) where you will be prompted for the school name, user name and password. Since FCPS must pay subscription fees for the databases, access is limited to members of the FCPS community. To find out the user name and password for myON, as well as other databases, please log on to 24/7 and go to the Library Media Center folder in HW Specials and Resources. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Mazur, Librarian, at [etmazur@fcps.edu](mailto:etmazur@fcps.edu).



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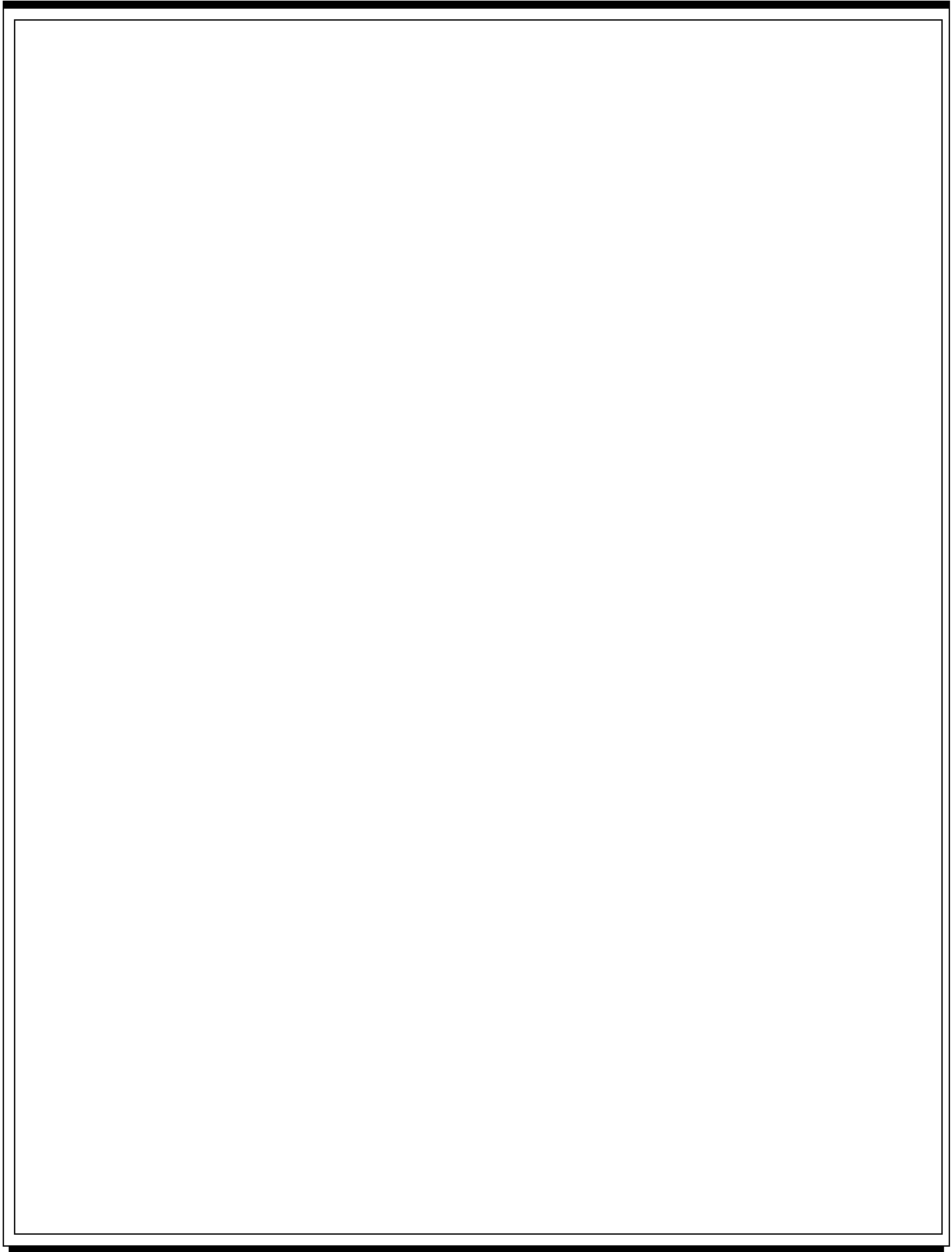
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## MORE WAYS TO CUSTOMIZE THIS TEMPLATE

### FOOTERS

To change the text at the very bottom of each page of your newsletter, click Headers and Footers on the View menu. Use the Header and Footer toolbar to open the footer, and replace the sample text with your own text.

### INSERT SYMBOL

It is a good idea to place a small symbol at the end of each article to let the reader know that the article is finished and will not continue onto another page. Position your cursor at the end of the article, click Symbol on the Insert menu, choose the symbol you want, and then click Insert.

### BORDERS

You can use page borders and text box borders to change the appearance of your newsletter. Borders on text boxes help keep different articles separate, and can set off sidebar articles from the rest of the page. To change a text box border, select it, double click its edge and choose the Colors and Lines tab in the Format Auto Shape dialog box.

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: I would like to change some of the text box shading to improve the print quality. Can that be done?

A: Yes. To change the shading or color of a text box, select it and double click its borders to open the Format Text Box dialog box. Click the colors and lines tab and then choose the new color from the Color drop-down list in the Fill section.

Q: What's the best way to print this newsletter?

A: Print page 2 on the back of page 1. Fold in half and mail with or without an envelope. For best results, use a medium to heavyweight paper. If you're mailing without an envelope, seal with a label.

Q: I would like to use my own clip art. How do I change the art without changing the design?

A: To change a picture, click on the picture, then point to Picture on the Insert menu and click From File. Choose a new picture, and click Insert.

## Inserting and Editing Pictures

*Type your sub-heading here*

You can replace the pictures in this template with your company's art. Select the picture you want to replace, point to Picture in the Insert menu, and click From File. Choose a new picture and then click Insert. Select the Link to File box if you don't want to embed the art in the newsletter. This is a good idea if you need to minimize your file size; embedding a picture adds significantly to the size of the file.

To edit a picture, click on it to activate the Picture toolbar. You can use this toolbar to adjust brightness and contrast,

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*Choose a new picture, and click the Link to File box if you don't want to save the art with the newsletter.*

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change line properties and crop the image. For more detailed editing, double-click on the graphic to activate the drawing layer. ■

Q: How do I change the text and borders that appear at the bottom of every page?

A: Click Headers and Footers on the View menu. Use the Header and Footer toolbar to navigate among headers and footers, insert date or time, or format the page numbers. To change the text in the footer, select it and type your new text. To change the border, click Borders and Shading on the Format menu.

Q: Can I save a customized newsletter as a template for future editions?

A: Yes. First make any changes you want to this newsletter, then click Save As on the File menu. Choose Document Template from the Save as type drop down list (the extension should change from .doc to .dot). Save the file under a new name. Next time you want to create a newsletter, choose New from the File menu, then choose your template.

