

Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences

2401 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA 20191



School Phone: 703-262-7400

March 4, 2008

Attendance Line 703-262-7474

Olivia M. Toatley, Principal

Robin S. Mentzer, Assistant Principal

Avis Russell, Assistant Principal

Principal's Message

Dear Hunters Woods Families and Friends,

March has certainly come in like a lamb this year. Let's hope it will leave the same way. We see signs of spring all around HWES. Mrs. Negri reports that our outdoor green spaces are showing signs of spring's awakening. She is planning many opportunities for our students to 'grow' from an outdoor education!

Congratulations to the cast and crew of the *Guys and Dolls* Junior production. Under the able direction of Patrick Ware and the many parent assistants, Broadway was alive and well in our Black Box Theatre. Thank you to all the parents, guests, teachers and other staff members who came to see and encourage our students. All of the participants gave 'Oscar-worthy' performances.

Students will be taking SOL's in the coming months. Fifth grade students are taking the writing portion of these assessments this week. Consistent student attendance is critical as students continue to learn new material and prepare for these upcoming assessments. Parents would be very beneficial if you would make appointments after school.

Please continue to encourage your child to perform his/her best on each and every task, ask questions if he/she doesn't understand something, do their homework, and come to school with a positive attitude.

Sincerely,

Olivia M. Toatley
Principal

Spring Picture Day



- On **Wednesday, March 12, 2008** individual and class photos will be taken at Hunters Woods Elementary.
- No prepayment is necessary.
- Your finished pictures will be sent home shortly after picture day. You will be able to review them and have the option of purchasing them at that time.
- This year's individual photos will be taken with an English Garden (greenery) back drop. **Solid color clothing creates the best portraits.**

It takes many **volunteers** to help picture day run smoothly. Please contact Glenda Strickland or Elva Liagouris at 703-262-7400 if you are available to volunteer.

Important Message for Parents/Guardians of Fifth Grade Students

Effective July 1, 2006, all students in Virginia must receive a booster dose of Tdap vaccine **prior to entering sixth grade**, if at least five years have passed since the last dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine (DTP, DTaP, DT, or Td).

Please check your child's immunization records carefully. If your child is required to have a Tdap booster, we ask that your child receive it and that you provide documentation to the school **prior to June 17, 2008**.

It is most important that you attend to this matter soon. **Sixth graders cannot begin school in the fall without documentation of having had the Tdap booster or having had a tetanus-containing vaccine within the past five years.**

Please contact Mary Anne Oishi, our school public health nurse at 703-481-4247 or via email at MaryAnne.Oishi@fcps.edu if you have any questions. Thank you for your cooperation.



Kindergarten Orientation

Do you have or know a child who may be eligible for kindergarten next year?

Kindergarten Orientation for Hunters Woods is scheduled for Monday, May 19, at 1:30 PM.

Children who will turn five on or before September 30, 2008, are eligible for kindergarten for the 2008-2009 school year. To verify if Hunters Woods Elementary serves your residence, you may ~~access~~ [access www.fcps.edu/boundary](http://www.fcps.edu/boundary) through the ~~internet~~ Internet, or call 703-329-9831 for boundary information. You will find in today's Tuesday folder; a preschool survey form to be completed for children eligible to enter kindergarten, or for children now attending private school who will enter first or second grade at Hunters Woods for the next school year. Detailed information regarding our Kindergarten Orientation will be mailed to each family who returns a preschool survey form. If you have any neighbors with preschool children who did not receive a survey form, please share this form with them, or ask them to stop by the office to pick up a form. Thank you for your help with this survey.

Addendum to SOL Testing Schedule

Students in Grade 5 have taken the first Virginia Standards of Learning Test (SOL). Monday, March 3, 2008, was the SOL Writing Multiple Choice test. Wednesday, March 5, 2008, is the SOL Direct Writing Test. Make-up sessions will be held Tuesday, March 4, and Thursday, March 6, 2008.

Students in Grades 3-6 will be taking the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) Tests from May 19 - May 30, 2008 & June 3 - 6, 2008. It will be very helpful if you can avoid appointments that will take your child out of school during this time period. Also, it will help your child perform his or her best if he or she has had a good night's rest, a healthy breakfast, and comes to school with a positive attitude.

Summer School 2008

Dates for summer school, as well as times and course offerings, will change for summer 2008 because of reductions in the school system budget. A redesign in the summer school program will affect elementary, middle, and high school programs. The details of the redesigned program are still being developed and will be shared as soon as they are completed. The proposed summer school plan will be posted on the FCPS web site when it is presented to the School Board at a date to be determined. Budget documents, including work session and public hearing dates, are currently available at <http://www.fcps.edu/news/fy2009.htm>. We encourage you to stay updated by visiting this web site or by signing up for the Keep in Touch message system.

Cold and Flu Season



Now that the cold/flu season is here, many children will become ill either at home or at school. If the illness occurs at school, please arrange to have your child picked up within 30 minutes or as soon as possible. It is preferable not to have children remain in the clinic any longer than necessary.

A fever is an important symptom. If your child has a fever, or has vomited at home during the night, please do not send him/her to school. Please be sure to calculate the 24 hours from the time the fever is verified. For example, if your child has a fever around 12 noon, then the 24 hours is calculated from 12 noon into the next day. Please be certain your child is symptom-free for one full day before returning him/her to school. Children who come back to school too soon can have a relapse and then lose additional time from school.

March is National Nutrition Month

In partnership with the American Dietetics Association, the Energy Zone is celebrating National Nutrition Month.

Energy Zone's Top 3 Nutrition Facts:

1. Use MyPyramid.gov as a reference for healthy eating habits. Lifestyle changes are more effective than "quick fixes".

2. There are many diet myths. Make sure the nutrition information you are getting is from a credible source - a registered dietitian or science-based articles.
3. Evaluate a food by reading nutrition labels. Basic understanding of a food label can help you make smart food choice.

Eat Whole Grains Every Day

The 2005 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and MyPyramid recommend six servings of grains daily. The Guidelines continue to advise that we eat 3 or more of those servings as whole grains. Whole grains are an important source of fiber and reduce the risk of chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, and obesity. Today, many Americans only eat one serving per day and over 30 percent do not eat whole grains at all.

The Whole Grain Council, a non profit group has developed a consumer- friendly stamp for whole grain products. The stamps below identify whole grain products as "good, excellent, and 100% excellent source."



If a product does not have the stamp, read the label. When the first ingredient is whole wheat, whole grain, oatmeal, brown rice, bulgur, popcorn, or wild rice, the product is most likely a whole grain food. Daily whole grain menu suggestions:

Whole grain cereal	Whole grain bread	Whole grain crackers
Oatmeal	Tortillas or wraps	Popcorn
Whole grain bagel	Whole grain pasta	Whole grain pretzels
	Brown rice	Whole grain chips

School meals include several whole grain products such as pasta, cold cereals, rolls, and pizza crust.

Reston Youth Art Show



All are invited to enjoy the artwork of Hunters Woods Elementary students at the Lake Anne Reston Community Center, Jo Rose Gallery. The theme of the show is Sensing a Place. This annual show celebrates the work

of young artists from Hunters Woods and seven other local elementary schools. The show runs from March 4-30th. The reception for student artists is on Sunday, March 16, from 2:00-4:00 pm.

Fine Arts Night

Come join the Music, Dance, and Visual Arts departments for Fine Arts Night, March 11 at 7:00 pm. Your family is invited to attend sessions in Dance/Movement, Music and Visual Arts. Parents of Band, Chorus and Strings students will be able to perform along with their children.

