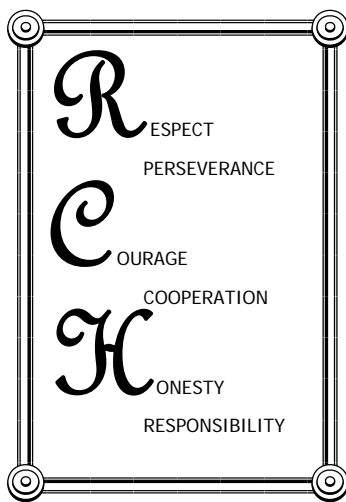


OCTOBER 2, 2008

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Message from the Principal	1
Tips for a Smooth School Year	2
NSES News	3
PTA News	4
School Calendar	5

North Springfield Elementary School Beaver Bulletin

Principal's Monthly Newsletter
Mrs. Alice Alexander, Principal
Mr. Chad McRae, Assistant Principal

www.fcps.edu/NorthSpringfieldES/

Message from the Principal

Dear North Springfield Families,

We had the best opening of school in years, thanks to the combined efforts of parents, teachers, staff, and students. Thank you for your kind and respectful manner in which you deal with the school staff on a daily basis. It is so nice to see everyone model the behaviors that we hope our students will adopt in school and in their daily lives. I believe that our school community exemplifies the character qualities that are the cornerstone of our belief system at North Springfield.

We have many school events that are planned for you and your children this month and we hope you can join us for these special events. Our PTA board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 7th in the school library. The first grade team will attend and tell you a little about life in first grade at North Springfield.

Ms. Barody and the language arts committee are planning an exciting Literacy Night for all the students and their families on October 15th. Please come and learn neat activities that you can do with your children at home. We will have books and activities as well as pizza available for purchase at a reasonable price.

Some of our student artists are in the middle of an art project where they are designing and painting two murals in the library. Under the direction of Ms. Cibulski, our PTA art committee chair, Ms. Gaske, our librarian, and Ms. Pomeroy, our art teacher, the students will soon complete their new masterpieces. Please stop by the library soon to see their great art!

We also have our annual tailgate party and Annandale football game on Friday, Octo-

ber 24th. This is a great tradition at North Springfield where we enjoy a tailgate party in our parking lot and then drive to the Annandale Football game. The children can go to the game for free when an adult buys a ticket to the game. The most exciting part of the evening will be the run across the football field by students and staff right before the opening kickoff.

Other special events that are being planned include the 4th Grade Colonial Day at Gunston Hall, Red Ribbon Week, and our recycling efforts. Look for more details about these events coming your way soon.

I want to thank the PTA for the wonderful support you have shown to the teachers and staff at North Springfield. The Bingo Night was a huge success and we were so pleased to raise money for special projects at our school. Ms. Dannholz and the PE teachers organized the Bingo Night and the fourth grade teachers sold pizza to help defray costs of the big fourth grade trip to Richmond.

Our Sally Foster fundraising event has almost come to a close and we are very grateful that many families joined us to help raise needed funds for our school. Thank you so much.

I hope you are having a great year so far. Please stop by to say, 'Hello', when you are in the school. I look forward to meeting you and visiting with you throughout the school year.

With warmest regards,

Alice E. Alexander, Principal

Important Tips for a Smooth School Year

School Hours



Monday
7:30-12:35pm

Tuesday—Friday
7:30am -2:40pm

Please do not drop children off before 7:30am

Reporting Student Absences & Late Arrivals

You can leave a message on either the phone or email listed below 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



Call: 703-658-5500



Email:
NorthSpringfieldES.Attendance@fcps.edu

When bringing students late to school it is essential for student safety to park your car and walk your student into school. Please DO NOT drop children off unattended at the door. This way we can ensure that the office and classroom are both aware that your child has arrived safely to school.

Early Dismissal & After School Dismissal Changes



Help NSES make your child's early dismissal or change in after school dismissal go as smoothly as possible. In order to do this please do the following:

1. Send an email to both your child's teacher and the NSES attendance line to alert school that your child will be leaving early or going home with another student.

OR

2. Send your child to school with a written note.

Please include the following information in your email or note:

- Date
- Time of dismissal
- Child's name and teacher's name
- Your name and contact phone number
- Name of student your child will be going with
- Where the child will be picked up
- Name of person picking the student up

If a last minute dismissal change should happen please call the main office when possible BEFORE 2:00pm.



Important Phone Numbers

Main Office	703-658-5500
Clinic	703-658-5510
Cafeteria	703-658-5521
Guidance	703-658-5575
Preschool	703-658-5511
SACC	703-658-5561 (New #)

FCPS School Closings and Safety

To receive the most up-to-the-minute information on school delays and closings please use

FCPS Inclement Weather Line

1-800-839-3277

OR

Cable Channel 21

After School Hours Transportation Issues

Call the Transportation Office at (703)446-2000 until 5pm
Call the Office of Safety and Security at (703)764-2400 after 5pm

Clinic Guidelines

Help keep NSES healthy by following these easy steps!

- Students should stay home when they have a fever
 - Students may return to school when they have been fever-free without medication for 24 hours.
- Students should stay home when they vomit
 - Students may return to school when they have been vomit-free for 24 hours.
- Students should stay home when they have a contagious illness (i.e. pink eye and Strep throat)
 - Students may return to school once they have taken medication for the illness for 24 hours.



Medications

Now that cold and allergy season is upon us please make sure to follow School Regulation 2102.10 as defined in the NSES 2008-2009 Parent and Student Handbook. This Regulation prohibits school personnel from administering any medication unless a parent has completed an Authorization for Medication form.

- For student safety only parents are to bring medications into school. Students are not allowed to transport medications in their backpacks. This is to include non-prescription, over the counter medications. Any questions about the medication policy should be directed to the Clinic Room Aide at (703)658-5510 or our assigned Public Health Nurse at (703)913-8967.

NSES News



Cafeteria Notes

If your student will be buying lunch please follow these helpful steps:

1. **Make checks payable to NSES Food Services and include your student's full name (first and last) and cafeteria PIN on the memo line.** Please specify if the money is to be used for the purchase of breakfasts, lunches, milk or a la carte items.
2. **All money must be sent in a sealed envelope with:** student name, teacher name and Food Services labeled on the front.
3. 2008 school lunch costs; lunch including milk—\$2.40/day, milk—\$0.60, breakfast—\$1.50/day.
4. Remind your students to turn in their lunch money when their teacher takes the daily attendance.



Family Literacy Night

Wednesday, October 15
5:30-7:30pm

Come learn ways to help your child with reading and writing in age appropriate ways. Join in on grade level activities and discussions to help their reading skills at home.



North Springfield Clothing Drive

Throughout the month of October the NSES SCA will be collecting NEW warm clothing to donate to children at a local shelter. You can participate by bringing in NEW clothing such as hats, scarves, gloves, mittens, boots and jackets.

**Last Day for Clothing Collection
Friday, October 31.**



Fall School Pictures

In today's folder you will find a Lifetouch school picture order form. If you are interested in ordering your child's school picture, you must **complete the order form and send your payment with your student on Tuesday, October 7th.** If payment is not received at that time your student will still have their picture taken for the yearbook.

**Deadline Extended
New Date -October 6**

Sally Foster Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone for your hard work at selling Sally Foster. This is our **only** fundraiser for the year which helps support field trips, assemblies and supplies for the school. **Only a few orders have been turned in so far so we have extended our deadline to Monday, October 6. Please take advantage of this extension and sell over the weekend.** We expect to have the orders filled and delivered to the school for pickup on Tuesday, November 4, Presidential Election Day, from 8am-4pm in the library.



Fairfax County FY 2010 Budget

Fairfax County wants YOUR Input On Closing the Budget Gap for FY 2010

Fairfax County is projecting a budget deficit of more than \$400 million for FY 2010, which must be addressed through a combination of spending reductions and other strategies. The challenge is to develop a budget with an appropriate level of services that are both sustainable and acceptable to the community.

You are invited to attend one of the 20 community dialogue sessions scheduled to gather comments from the public. Registration is required for attendance. For more information, including addresses, or to register, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget or call 703-324-2391.



Preschool/FECEP Parent Coffee

Date Rescheduled –Tuesday, October 29
9:30—11:00am

Ms. Alexander, Principal and Mr. McRae, Assistant Principal invite you to join them for coffee and conversation.

PTA Newscorner

NSES Night at AHS Football Game

Mark your calendars for North Springfield Night at the Annandale Atoms football game. This year our NSES students will run across the football field **Friday, October 24 at the Varsity game again West Potomac High School.** This is always a fun event as we get a chance to run across the field before the game. We hope you will join us starting with a Tailgate party at NSES beginning at 5:30pm.

Next PTA Meeting

NSES PTA meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month. We invite you to join us on **Tuesday, October 7 in the library.** These meetings are a great way to meet other parents and school staff, find out what is going on in the school and a wonderful way to get involved in your child's education. We look forward to seeing you there.

Giant Scrip

The NSES PTA participates in Giant Food's Scrip program. Here's how it works... you purchase Giant gift cards from the PTA and use them like cash at any Giant grocery store. The Giant pays the NSES PTA 5% of every dollar purchased. Like the Giant Bonus Card program, it costs you nothing to help us earn money for NSES. If you are interested in participating please refer to the "Shop at Giant?" order forms sent home in previous Thursday envelopes. You can also contact Caryl Salters at 703-750-0072 or Cahasalt@aol.com.

T-Shirt Orders

Interested in purchasing one of the new green NSES t-shirts a lot of people are wearing? If so you need to put in an order quick. Check out the order form in today's Thursday envelope. **The last day to place your order is tomorrow, October 3rd.**

You've Been Flocked

Have you been having fun riding around the

neighborhood and finding the houses that have been "flocked" by pink flamingos? Interested in "flocking" a family or finding out more about it? Call Jim Hatch at 703-256-3391.

PTA Art Events This Month

Library Murals: Every Tuesday and Thursday, 2:40-4:40pm, we are working with 4th and 5th grade students on 2 murals in the school library. Come by and watch the progress! This is a collaboration between the Library (Mrs. Gaske), the Art Department, (Mrs. Pomeroy), and the PTA, (Ms. Cibulski).

Museum Tour: Sunday, October 19, FREE guided tour of the American Art Museum (F Street at 8th Street), Folk Art Gallery. *First 10 families to sign up.* Meet at Springfield Metro at 10:30 am or 11:30 am in the lobby of the museum.

Children's Art Framing Session: Wednesday, October 22, 8:30-10am in the cafeteria; and 6:30-8:30 pm in the Art Room. Parent volunteers gather to select art work produced in the art classes, frame the art, then display the work along the Art Corridor (Courage Court). Framed work is then offered to the families to purchase for a small fee.

GRACE AIS Program: Wednesday, October 29, 8:30-10am, Parent volunteers (docents) meet to receive more information and share ideas about giving art presentations in the classrooms. The portfolio topic for November is: *Cave Paintings.*

Questions? Dana Cibulski (703)642-0375 or danacibulski@cox.net

YOUR PTA AT WORK FOR YOU

<http://NSESPTA.googlepages.com/>

President	Jim Hatch	703-256-3391
1st Vice Pres.	Amy Hughes	703-354-7402
2nd Vice Pres.	Cyndi Brown	703-866-3044
Interim Treasurer	Alicia Ward	703-333-5084
Secretary	Maryann Germaine	703-534-5427