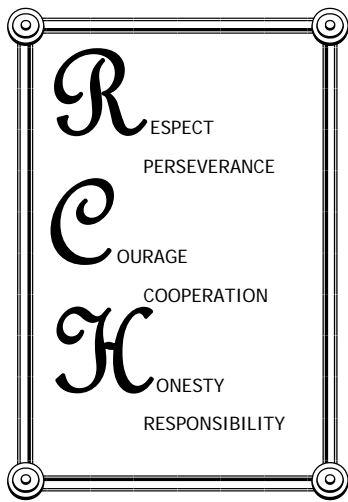


MARCH 5, 2009

7602 HEMING COURT
SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA
22151
(703) 658-5500
(703) 658-5555 attendance
FAX (703) 658-5597



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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,

Our Heritage Night on February 20th was a tremendous endeavor thanks to the planning of many people. The international foods were delicious, the performances were fantastic, and the atmosphere of friendship and unity was wonderful. Thank you to everyone who helped to make our Heritage Night such a special occasion for our students, staff, and families.

By now you have heard about the budget issues facing Fairfax County Public Schools in the next few years. We are faced in the county with unprecedented growth, a significant drop in local real estate values, and \$40 to \$50 million less in state revenue. Our school board is presenting a \$2.2 billion budget to the Board of Supervisors and that is \$10.3 million below our current budget. We also expect our student population to increase by 5000 throughout the county.

We want to let you know that we will do all we can at North Springfield to minimize the impact of the budget crisis on our students and our school. We hope we can continue to work together to maintain the positive goals that we have developed for student achievement, essential life skills, and our responsibility to the community and we will look for cost effective ways to provide our students with all that they need at school.

Our character qualities of respect, responsibility, honesty, courage, coopera-

tion, and perseverance will continue to be a major focus at North Springfield and the students will earn gold ribbons and citizenship pins. Please let us know if we can help you in any way as we navigate through the budget crisis and tough economic times.

With warmest regards,

Alice E. Alexander
Principal

NSES PTA BINGO NIGHT



Friday, March 6th, 2009

Doors open at 6:30pm

*Food and drink sales will benefit the 4th grade field trip to Richmond

Games begin at 7:00pm

Cost: \$3/card or \$5 for two cards

**Please DO NOT drop student's off by themselves, they MUST be accompanied by an adult



Important Phone Numbers

Attendance	703-658-5555
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

**Traveling for Spring Break?
Will Your Student Be Missing School?**



Don't forget to inform both the main office and your child's teacher with your travel information. Specifically your child's name, teacher's name, dates of absence and reason for absence.

You can easily submit this information by:

- Sending in a written note to the teacher
- Sending an email to NorthSpringfieldES.Attendance@fcps.edu
- Calling the attendance line at (703)658-5555

Parent Coffee Dates

(Dates are subject to change)



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

Where: Cafeteria
Time: 8:30-9:30am

4th Grade Tuesday, March 10, 2009
5th Grade Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Café y Conversacion

Por favor marquen sus calendarios para reunirse conmigo y conversar en espanol acerca de temas que les pueden ayudar

Miercoles, 1 de Abril, 8:00am y
Miercoles, 27 de Mayo, 8:00am
En la Escuela de North Springfield

Por Favor Vengan
Tendremos RIFA y PREMIOS!!

2009 Loudon County Speed Stack Tournament



Early on Saturday morning, February 28th, Ms. Metz, several staff members and parent volunteers brought fifty-seven students to the Speed Stack Tournament in Leesburg, Virginia. Congratulations to the following students for their outstanding achievement and thank you, parents and staff for your dedication all day Saturday.

Medal Winners from the Speed Stack Tournament Are:

Name	Medal	Event
Tommy Cappello	Silver	3rd Grade 333
Nicky Sheppard	Bronze	3rd Grade 333
Tommy Cappello	Gold	3rd Grade 363
Tommy Cappello	Gold	3rd Grade Cycle
Nicky Sheppard	Silver	3rd Grade Cycle
Tommy Cappello	Gold	3rd Gr. Doubles
Nicky Sheppard	Gold	3rd Gr. Doubles
Grace Hatch	Silver	3rd Gr. Doubles
Ashley Swankowski	Silver	3rd Gr. Doubles
Tea Langlois	Gold	4th Grade 333
Conrad Shartel	Gold	4th Grade Cycle
Simran Sethi	Gold	3-5th Grade 333
Shahram Saeedi	Silver	3-5th Grade 333
Meyri Guerrero	Bronze	3-5th Grade 333
Simran Sethi	Gold	3-5th Grade 363
Meyri Guerrero	Silver	3-5th Grade 363
Shahram Saeedi	Bronze	3-5th Grade 363
Simran Sethi	Gold	3-5th Gr. Cycle
Shahram Saeedi	Silver	3-5th Gr. Cycle
Carter Eddy	Bronze	3-5th Gr. Cycle
Sheryl Fox	Gold	Team Cycle
Ms. Metz	Gold	Team Cycle
Meyri Guerrero	Silver	Team Cycle
Simran Sethi	Silver	Team Cycle
Eddy Carter	Bronze	Team Cycle
Jonathan Laredo	Bronze	Team Cycle

Top Times for the Tournament

Tommy Cappello	363	3.02 seconds
Tommy Cappello	Cycle	9.09 seconds
Tommy Cappello	Doubles	13.13 seconds
Nicky Sheppard	Doubles	13.13 seconds

Overall Tournament Combined Time Champion

Tommy Cappello	Gold	14.54 seconds
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Fantastic Effort By ALL Of Our Participants!

NSES News

**Kindergarten Orientation
Monday, April 20 1:00pm**



It's that time of the year again for Kindergarten Orientation. If you have a child or know of a **child that will be turning 5 on or before September 30, 2009** please let NSES know. We are now taking information in order to put together registration packets. These registration packets will be sent out at the end of March. Packets should be completed and returned at the **Kindergarten Orientation on Monday, April 20th, 1:00pm in the Cafeteria.**

Guidance Updates



**Cut Back on Screen Time Week
April 20-April 26**



Next month's guidance lessons will focus on cutting back on screen time. Viewing and choosing alternative activities that are healthful, fun and educational. During the Cut Back On Screen Time week please encourage your children to come up with different activities that will help them change their viewing habits. At the end of the week they will return a signed form to their teacher. They will earn a *responsibility book bag ticket* and *pencil* to help their class successfully compete in the *Cut Back Challenge*. Media has a profound effect on our children. It has the wonderful capacity to inform and entertain your children, but too much viewing of inappropriate programs can negatively affect school performance, health, aggressive behavior and overall social/emotional growth. Your assistance with this effort will greatly enhance its value and effectiveness.

Career Day Coming Soon

On June 1st from 8:30-10:30am our school is planning a Career Day for the entire school. We are excited to offer the students a chance to learn and explore what it would be like to work in a variety of different careers. We are planning a full and exciting day and are in much need of any support that you can offer. Research indicates that students with career goals are more likely to succeed in school and resist negative peer pressure. Thus we are inviting you to come and share with our students what you do after you drop your kids off at school.



Important SOL Testing Dates

Please check your calendars to ensure that your student has NO appointments scheduled on the dates listed below. If they do PLEASE take the time to reschedule the appointment so that your child will be ready for the SOL.

SOL Schedule for 2009

*** Dates are Subject to Change**

<u>3rd Grade</u>	<u>4th Grade</u>	<u>5th Grade</u>
5/18 English	5/20 English	5/21 English
5/19 English	5/27 Math	5/26 Science
5/22 Social St.	5/29 Social St.	6/3 Math
5/28 Science		
6/2 Math		

The teachers have been hard at work instructing our students in preparation for the SOL tests. The last step in the test preparation requires the help of our parents/guardians. We ask you to be our partner in education by sending your student to school:

- Well rested and in good health
- Stomachs full from a healthy breakfast
- Relaxed and holding a positive attitude

Read Across America



March 2-March 31, 2009

Students are encouraged to read as much as they can between Monday, March 2nd and Tuesday, March 31st. Students should have received their tally sheets earlier this week. These tally sheets **MUST BE TURNED IN NO LATER THAN APRIL 1.**

- K, 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades—Record book titles
- 4th and 5th grades—Record pages read

****BONUS POINTS****

- 4th grade— Books re. VA and/or 900 section of NSES library
- 5th grade—Books re. US States and/or 900 section of NSES library

Survey of Preschool Children

Do you have or know of a child that will be eligible to begin kindergarten in the Fall? If so please complete and return the Survey of Preschool Children that was sent home a few weeks ago. This information helps us prepare for the upcoming school year

PTA Newscorner

Next PTA Meeting

We invite you to join us on **Tuesday, March 31 at 7pm in the library.** These meetings are an easy way to 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 [Ca-hasalt@aol.com](mailto:hasalt@aol.com).

Pink Flamingos Flock North Springfield

Looking for a fun and easy way to help the PTA raise money for our school? Looking for fun way to push away those dreary winter days and bring the excitement of spring to the neighborhood. Interested in "flocking" a family with pink flamingos or finding out more about it? All you need to do is call Jim Hatch at 703-256-3391 and he'll fill you in on the details.

NSES Care Closet



The NSES Care Closet is open for business. Right now our bins are full of nice, warm winter clothing. Once the weather breaks in the next few weeks the winter clothes will be removed and warm weather clothing will be available in it's place. When cleaning out your closets in preparation for the new season please consider donating your gently used clothing to our school.

BOXTOPS CONTEST



Congratulations to the Third Graders for winning the Boxtops contest. Way to go! The Ice Cream Party will be held in March, date TBD. Please contact Alyssa Getsey (703.256.8069), if you would like to help with the party.

Thank you to everyone for clipping and turning in the Boxtops. We just earned **\$296** for North Springfield. Please continue to turn them in, as we will have one last contest this school year. The overall results are below:

FEBRUARY CONTEST

GR.	BOXTOPS	# ST/Class	ST. TOTAL
PRE-K	63	54	1.2
K	477	83	5.7
1st	601	87	6.9
2nd	638	87	7.3
3rd	574	69	8.3
4th	88	58	1.5
5th	521	94	5.5
LOBBY			
TOTAL	2,962	532	5.6

Keep Kiss and Ride Safe



- Please drive SLOWLY through the parking lot
- Drive in the direction of the painted arrows ONLY
- Remain in the K&R lane until the car ahead of you moves out
- NO vehicles should be parking OR driving through the side parking lot. This is for walkers ONLY.
- Children SHOULD be dropped off at school AFTER 7:30am.

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