



The Seahawk Times



Silverbrook Elementary's Monthly Newsletter

December 2009

www.fcps.edu/SilverbrookES

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Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

Thanks to all of you who attended school events during November: Parent/Teacher Conferences, Parent-Principal Coffee and the Thanksgiving Lunch. The parent-principal coffee on November 9th was well attended and included a presentation from Advanced Academics Resource Teachers, Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Tugwell. I was glad that so many of you were able to hear about all aspects of our Advanced Academics program and to visit the new Strategies Lab. The month of December is also a busy month here at school. Please be sure to check out the calendar at the back of this newsletter for our other December events.

I also want to mention that our student council sponsors (Mrs. Saundra Ross, Mrs. Shannon Mueck and Ms. Kathy Hallock) – along with the student members of the SCA have really inspired our student body to bring in canned and boxed goods that are being donated to Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC) for the holiday season. Our main lobby was literally filled with items for donation during the week before Thanksgiving. I am so proud of our students for their hard work and out pouring of donations to support the community.

Thanks to Silverbrook students, many families were able to enjoy Thanksgiving.

If you have not been receiving email messages from the school regarding special events here at school – or updates from the school district that means that we do not have your email address on file. I recommend that everyone who has an email account look into doing this – especially with the winter season upon us. Inclement weather notices are sent via email to employees and families well in advance of delays or closings of school. Please call the school office for more information if you are not on our email list.

Enjoy the holidays and have a wonderful December!

Melaney Mackin

Principal

Thank you!

Many thanks to the Silverbrook SCA for organizing the wonderful fall food drive. This benefits the families in the Silverbrook community who are assisted by the Lorton Community Action Center. The SCA also extends a BIG "Thank You" to everyone who contributed. The outpouring of generosity was simply amazing. Thank you, everyone, for caring.



Cold Weather

Please make certain that your children are properly clothed for the cold weather. We will continue to go outside for recess throughout the winter months if the weather is dry and the temperature is above 32 degrees.



Winter Wonderland

Silverbrook's PTA is pleased to announce this year's Winter Wonderland will be held Friday, December 4th from 5:30—8:00 PM. Crafts, games, face painting and snacks will be ongoing in the cafeteria, and the evening will feature a performance by Almost Recess. Their show begins at 6:30. If possible, we are asking the younger children (grades K—3) to enjoy the festivities in the cafeteria prior to the Almost Recess performance and the older children grades (4—6) to enjoy the activities once the performance is over. Another way to help spread holiday cheer that evening to families in need in our community is by donating any of the following items: new/unused hats, mittens, socks; any non-perishable food items; or gifts for children or teens. These items will be donated to the Lorton Community Action Center. Come join us for this fun evening!



Holiday School Office Hours

We are taking a break along with the students. The school office will be closed during winter break: December 24—January 3.



Winter Choral Concert

The 5th and 6th Grade Choruses are proud to present their Winter Chorus Concert on Wednesday, December 9th at 7 p.m. in the Silverbrook gymnasium. The special guest piano accompanist will be none other than our former Silverbrook Music teacher, Mr. Mueller. Come and join us for a short and sweet evening of singing and desserts. We hope to see you there.



.Keep In Touch!

Silverbrook has started to use the FCPS Keep In Touch system. Whether it's a time-sensitive situation or just day-to-day events, Keep In Touch will provide you notification of these happenings via an e-mail to your home and/or your work email address. If you are not receiving emails from Silverbrook, please contact the main office, 703-690-5100, to confirm correct contact information.

Cafeteria Breakfast News

Due to reduced enrollment numbers, effective December 1, 2009 Silverbrook will only offer breakfast boxes to those students who eat breakfast with us in the mornings. The box will include cereal, a small pop tart, a juice and a milk.

Grocery Rewards Program Registration

Please register your Giant and Safeway grocery card accounts with the rewards programs by following these directions. Each of these programs support schools through donating supplies and the more participants, the greater the rewards.

Giant Grocery Store info is:

<http://www.giantfood.com/aplus/index.htm>
[GiantForm_09072008.pdf](#)

Silverbrook ID: 01908

Safeway Grocery Store info is:

<https://secure.escrip.com/jsp/supporter/registration/step1.jsp>

Silverbrook ID: 6564321



JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

January 1:

January 18:

Happy New Year! Martin L. King, Jr. Day

January 4:

NO SCHOOL

Welcome Back!

January 28:

January 5:

2nd Grading Period Ends

PTA Mtg. 7:00pm

January 29:

NO SCHOOL



Inclement Weather



We are approaching the season for inclement weather. Please keep this posted in a convenient place for reference when we have bad weather and school is delayed or closed. Please be sure that your child knows what to do when school closes early due to bad weather.

Safety first! FCPS will alter school opening and closing schedules when weather conditions threaten the safety of students who walk, ride school buses, or drive to school.

Weather-Related School Closing Options:

You can receive all of the necessary information from one of the sources below:

Local radio or television

Cox Cable channel 21

FCPS Keep In Touch (e-mail notification)

Website: www.fcps.edu

FCPS Hotline: 1-800-839-3277

TWO HOUR LATE OPENING:

Silverbrook classes start at 10:05

TWO HOUR EARLY CLOSING:

Silverbrook closes at 12:45

Please DO NOT call the school

