



The Seahawk Times

Silverbrook Elementary's Monthly Newsletter



November 2009



www.fcps.edu/SilverbrookES



Volume 2
Issue 3

Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

I hope that you all were able to meet with your child's teacher during the conference days. It is a goal of our school (and the school district as well) that the teachers and parents of every student make initial contact during this time to ensure a partnership that will enable them to work together for the success of our students.

We are now beginning a new marking period. This is a great time to reinforce good study habits. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's teacher if you have any questions regarding academic progress.

This month we are very fortunate to welcome Miss LaRonda Peterson to our Silverbrook Administrative Team. Miss Peterson comes to us from LEAD Fairfax, a program that trains new school administrators. She will be an additional Assistant Principal and has been assigned to Silverbrook from Nov. 2009—April 2010. Please be sure to see the short article in this newsletter for more information on Miss Peterson.

We have several special events coming up this month. Please be sure to look in this newsletter for information on: a Parent-Principal Coffee, SCA Thanksgiving Food Drive and our Thanksgiving Luncheon. Also – within this newsletter

you will find information about a Parent Opinion Survey that will be sent in early December to a random sample of Silverbrook parents. Be sure to check out all of this information.

During this month of Thanksgiving all of us here at Silverbrook have much to be thankful for – a great school and community, terrific teachers and most of all wonderful students! I appreciate you doing your part to make our school a great place to be.

Have a wonderful November!

Melaney Mackin
Principal

After School Hours

Please be advised that student and community access to the classrooms closes 30 minutes after the end of each school day. If your child has forgotten their homework, they will not be allowed to get back into their classroom after that time. Please be sure to remind your students to take all work they need for home with them at the end of the day.



Silverbrook's Thanksgiving Luncheon

We hope you can join us for our first Thanksgiving Luncheon to be held Thursday, November 19th. We will serve a traditional Thanksgiving Lunch but will have other choices available as well. We are offering the option for adults to pre-pay, but prepaid lunches are non-refundable. Please contact the office for pricing and class lunch schedules or for any other information. We hope to see you all here.



SCA Food Drive

This year the Thanksgiving Food Drive will start on Friday, November 6 and go through Wednesday, November 18th.. This food collection is for needy families. Boxes will be placed in the front lobby to collect canned and non-perishable foods. The class with the highest food count by Nov. 18th will receive a Pizza Party from Dr. Mackin. The SCA hopes that the Food Drive will be a great success!



Thank You!

A BIG thank you to parents who supported classroom teachers by purchasing books from the book fair that were on their wish lists for their classroom library. The teachers appreciate all your generosity!



Parent-Principal Coffee

Please join us for our Parent-Principal Coffee to be held Monday, November 9th at 9:00am.

The discussion topic will be Advanced Academics and the Strategies Lab. We look forward to seeing you there.



ATTENTION PARENTS:

The Student-Parent Federal Impact Aid Survey Information was distributed during conferences. Please take the time to fill them out. These forms support our school system request for federal grant funds. It is imperative that we have a survey form for each child in the school. Thank you for your help and if you have any questions please feel free to contact our school office.

Early dismissal on Nov. 25

Students will be dismissed at **12:45 p.m.** on Wednesday, November 25, which is the day before the Thanksgiving holiday. We will operate on a Monday schedule. Please be sure that your child knows about any special arrangements you may have to make to accommodate this change in schedule. School will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Nov. 26 & 27.



Picture Make Up/Retake Day

Provine School Pictures will be at Silverbrook on **Wednesday, November 18th** to take pictures of students who missed picture day, forgot their money, or were not happy with their portrait package. Please remember, you must have payment this day to purchase pictures or return a picture package to have your picture retaken.



Holiday Assistance

The holidays can be stressful under the best of times. Fairfax County has agencies that may be able to offer assistance to families that have a demonstrated need.

Families whose children are on the free and reduced school lunch assistance program and/or who demonstrate a need for assistance with holiday meals and/or gifts for children under the age of 18 may contact the school counselors, Peggy Cantey or Katrina MacWhorter by December 4, 2009 to sign up with "Our Daily Bread."

Parent Opinion Survey

Your views and opinions are important to us. This winter a random sample of *Silverbrook Elementary* parents will receive the Parent Opinion Survey. This survey is part of the Principal Performance Evaluation Program and offers parents an opportunity to provide anonymous input about various issues related to our school. These include safety, parent involvement, curriculum, communications, and expectations for student achievement and behavior. The survey will arrive in the mail in early December 2009 and will be returned directly to the Fairfax County Public Schools' Office of Student Testing for processing. If you receive a copy of the Parent Opinion Survey, please take a few minutes to complete and return the survey. Your opinions do matter.

Welcome Miss Peterson, Assistant Principal

LaRonda Peterson is entering her eleventh year as an elementary educator with Fairfax County Public Schools. Originally from Richmond, VA, Miss Peterson attended Hampton University where she received her bachelor's degree in English Arts/Early Childhood Education and a master's degree in Teaching. In 2005, she was selected for the Accelerated Certification Cohort Program through LEAD Fairfax/George Mason University, completing her endorsement in administration and supervision. Miss Peterson has taught second, third, and fourth grades and served as intersession coordinator at Mount Eagle and Franconia Elementary Schools. This year, she will spend her time as a LEAD Fairfax Administrative Intern at Silverbrook and Laurel Hill Elementary Schools, she will be serving Silverbrook in the role of Assistant Principal. Miss Peterson is looking forward to getting to know all of our Silverbrook families!

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 10: PTA Meeting
7:00pm

November 11:
Veteran's Day-School is open!

Report Cards Go Home

November 19:
Thanksgiving Luncheon

November 25: 2 Hour Early Dismissal

November 26 & 27:

NO SCHOOL

Happy Thanksgiving

