



The Seahawk Times



Silverbrook Elementary's Monthly Newsletter

October 2009



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Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

We had a terrific first month of school! Thank you to all of you who took the time to attend our Back to School Night. There was a really good turn out both evenings. It was wonderful to see so many of you there!

Thank you as well to many of you who stopped in the lobby to sign up for Parent View – giving you access to the Blackboard Course Sites for your child's classroom. All Silverbrook teachers will be posting information regularly beginning the week of October 5th. Please be sure to check it out. If you have not yet registered – please contact our School-based Technology Specialist, Mrs. Sue Milton for more information.

Don't forget to check out our October and November calendars at the back of this newsletter for upcoming school activities and meetings. This feature is provided in every newsletter.

Enjoy the fall season and have a great October!

Melaney Mackin
Principal

Silverbrook Fun Run



The Annual Silverbrook Fun Run will take place this year on Friday, October 2, 2009. This is an opportunity for the students to help the community in a fun way. All students will participate in the fun run which takes place on the school grounds. Grades 4—6 and AM Kindergarten will do their "run" at 9:30 am and grades 1—3 and PM Kindergarten will "run" at 1:00 pm. The Fun Run is also a great opportunity to help the community. Registered fun runners help the Lorton Community Action Center receive much needed financial resources through a grant from the Fannie Mae Foundation. Parents are always encouraged to attend and cheer all the students on.

Picture Day

Tuesday, October 6 Gr. K—3
Wednesday, October 7 Gr. 4—6. Please make sure to fill out the picture order envelope that will come home in your child's Wednesday folder and return it to school on or before picture day. If your child does not have their payment on picture day they cannot purchase a picture package. All students, whether they have payment or not, will have their picture taken for the yearbook.



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.



Cafeteria Reminder

Please remember we do not allow fast food or soft drinks for lunch in the cafeteria.



Gym Shoes

Parents please make sure your child wears appropriate gym shoes/sneakers on their P.E. days. Shoes such as sandals or Crocs should not be worn for safety reasons.



Birthday Celebrations

Parents are welcome to bring in a snack to share for their child's birthday. We ask that you limit it to one snack that is a finger food and to please prearrange with your child's teacher your plans to bring in the birthday treat. Birthday party invitations **may not** be distributed at school unless all students in the class are invited. Also, balloons are not permitted as part of the celebration.



Label Belongings

Please be sure to mark your child's name on jackets, lunchboxes, etc. so that the items can be returned if lost or left behind.



Parent-Teacher Conferences, November 2nd & 3th

Before the end of the marking period it is the goal of all of our teachers to have a conference with each student's parents. As a parent every time you attend a parent-teacher conference you learn more about your child and strengthen the bond with your child's school. Getting to know your child's teacher and hearing his/her views of your child's progress actually helps your child succeed. So please make your attendance at parent-teacher conferences a priority.



Below are a few suggestions regarding conferences:

- A typical conference lasts between 10 – 20 minutes. If you feel that you need additional time, please ask for a follow-up session.
- Keep an open mind. Some parents become defensive when teachers discuss trouble areas. Remember that these conferences are meant to help you understand your child's performance. Working together will

help your child succeed in school. Make plans to follow up on suggestions from the teacher. Decide together what you, your child, and the teacher can do to help your child succeed.

- After the conference talk with your child about what was discussed and how they can improve their progress. Remember to praise all of the things that your child is doing well and to pass along teacher compliments, as well as any areas that need improvement.
- Please remember that a conference can be scheduled anytime, not just for this annual event. Feel free to call and schedule a phone or in-person conference anytime that you think there is a need.

NOVEMBER DATES

- Nov. 2 & 3 —Conference Days
NO SCHOOL
- Nov. 10 —PTA Meeting 7:00p
- Nov. 25—2 hr. Early Dismissal
- Nov. 26 & 27—NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Holiday

Bookworm Central Book Fair and Book Character Dress-Up Day

The Bookworm Central Book Fair is coming to Silverbrook from Monday, Oct. 26th—Friday, Oct.30th. Student browsing days are Mon. and Tues. Official sales begin at the Family Pizza Evening Tues, Oct. 27 from 5—8 pm. Sale days continue all school day Wed. and Thur. and all sales end on Fri. Oct. 30th at 10:30 am.

Book Character Dress-Up Day is Friday, October 30th. All Silverbrook students are encouraged to participate in this SCA event by dressing up as their favorite Book Character. There will be two parades. The AM Kindergarten students and first grade classrooms will parade at 9:15 while the PM Kindergarten students and second grade classrooms will parade at 12:00. The parades will begin in the main lobby and travel through all the C-Pod classrooms. Our older students are always invited to watch the parade and enjoy the costumes from their seats in the hallways. So join the fun and dress up like your favorite book character.



