



Manatee Memos

HOLLYWOOD CENTRAL ELEMENTARY

A grade 'A' school

Mrs. Fran Merenstein, Principal
Mrs. Jamie Maradiaga, Intern Principal

www.browardschools.com
www.hollywoodcentral.org

"GO GREEN"
May/June 2009

754-323-6150
Teacher Voice Mail: 754-323-6151
ATTENDANCE: 754-323-6163

DATES TO REMEMBER

GO GREEN' Tip of the Month: *Plant a tree. You'll breathe easier knowing there is one more tree cleaning the air.*

- May 4 Interims Issued
4th Everglades Trip
- May 4-8 TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK**
- May 5 4th Everglades Trip
- May 8 3rd Grade Show 9-10 am
Banking Day
Math Superstars ice cream party(**select students only**)
- May 11-21 Raffle Basket Sale
- May 12 5th Olsen Trip
- May 15 by invitation only-PTA/Volunteer/Partner
End-of-Year Lunch 11:30-12:30
- May 21 PTA Pasta Night 5-7:30/Raffle Basket
Sale Ends
- May 22 Safety on Wheels Rodeo
- May 25 **NO SCHOOL-MEMORIAL DAY**
- May 27 K&1 Awards Assembly/ K-8:30; 1-9:30
SAC/SAF Meeting 2:30 pm
Barnes & Noble Night 6:30-8:00 Oakwood
- May 28 2&3 Awards Assembly/ 2-9:50; 3-8:30
5th Gr. West Lake Park Trip
MacKenzie Music Recital 6:30 pm
- May 29 4&5 Awards Assembly/ 4-8:30; 5-9:50
- June 1 PTA Installation-8:30 am - Cafeteria
- June 2 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony 6-8 pm
- June 3 5th Grade Social
End-of-Year Classroom Parties
- June 4 **EARLY RELEASE-12:00 DISMISSAL & LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS**
- June 5 **NO SCHOOL-EMPLOYEE PLANNING**

Message from Ms. Merenstein and Ms. Maradiaga

April has proven to be yet another very busy month for Hollywood Central Elementary. We began the month with a well-deserved Spring Break. When our students returned from break they were ready to hit the ground running.

Fourth Grade wowed us with their Spring Extravaganza entitled "We Come From Everywhere." It was so exciting to see the boys and girls reciting parts, singing songs, creating scenery, painting backdrops, operating the curtains and learning about the magic of the sound booth. We are anxiously awaiting the Third grade production during the month of May.

We had a very successful Book Fair Family Night and Go Green Summit where children and families were invited to purchase books from our Scholastic Book Fair and see the amazing "green" projects that our students have been working on all year long! The environmental displays were simply breathtaking and we applaud the efforts of our teachers and student body. We truly enjoy highlighting our accomplishments. We sincerely thank Ms. Cowfer, Ms. Nelson, for their assistance in coordinating this great event.

Once again we highlighted our students K-5 as they walked across the stage of the Performing Arts Center receiving awards for their academic and behavioral success. This is such an important event and we will have a repeat performance in late May to honor the last quarter of school.

Hollywood Central PTA, teachers, faculty, community members, business partners, parents and students have all donated incredible give-aways for the PTA Raffle Baskets. We are all anxiously awaiting Pasta Night on May 21 where we will fill our bellies, dance with Danny the D.J. and pray for our name to be called for the raffle baskets! Be on the lookout for Pasta Night order forms and flyers to be sent home.

We are thrilled to announce that Writing scores have been released and Fourth Grade students and teachers did an AWESOME job! Our overall score increased from a 3.9 to a 4.2, and we made considerable gains in students scoring above 4.0. We are patiently awaiting the FCAT and SAT results. They are due out mid to late May. We are confident that the remaining test scores will follow this "upward" trend!

It is hard to believe but this will serve as our final formal newsletter of the 08-09 school year. Please be on the lookout for details and information regarding our upcoming May events.



Faculty & Staff Appreciation Week May 4-May 8

This is a great opportunity to "THANK" our incredible faculty and staff for all of their hard work and dedication. A little praise, word of thanks and/or gift of kindness can work wonders! Appreciation and motivation have never been so easy. Take advantage and appreciate the Hollywood Central faculty and staff!



SPECIAL RECOGNITION

HCE is proud to announce that two of our 5th grade students, Cheyenne Mallinson and Taina Joseph, were inducted into the "National Achievers Society", sponsored by the Urban League of Broward County. The National Achievers Society is a nationally recognized honor society for minority students. The requirements for eligibility is to be a full-time student in a Broward County public or private elementary or private school. Academics: must maintain A/B grades for three consecutive grading periods for the school year, no Cs with the exception, student may have one C in honors, gifted or advanced placement classes.

MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 25

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

It's so hard to say good-bye! This last month, our kindergartners are working hard learning how to identify cause and effect in our stories, as well as reviewing all those letters in our alphabet! Our students are busy preparing for Mother's Day and Father's Day by making all sorts of crafts! Please continue to review all those wonderful sight words learned throughout the year, so they are not forgotten! Keep reading at night with your kids! Now that many of the children learned how to put words on paper and make sentences, we urge our parents to continue to practice this skill with them at home and over the summer! They can help you make lists for food shopping or write a letter to a family member! By making it meaningful you can help encourage all those wonderful skills they have worked so hard to gain!

FIRST GRADE NEWS

This is it, the last full month of school! We can't believe the year is almost over. First graders have done a wonderful job this year and all the first grade teachers are so proud of them! Don't forget to continue your reading routine over the summer.



SECOND GRADE NEWS

As the school year draws to an end, the second grade faculty would like to thank all of the parents and community volunteers who have made this school year a wonderful and fun learning experience. We have seen a tremendous amount of growth in our students both academically and socially.

"Career Day" and "Take Your Child to Work Day" were wonderful opportunities to think about future careers and courses of study. Thank you to all the participants. Your Second Grade Team is so glad that they chose the teaching profession!

We applaud all our students who read 100 books in their Reading Across Broward Reading Logs and look forward to the awards assembly at the end of the year where all of those students will be recognized and rewarded.

It is now even more imperative that parents review their child's planner and homework folder every evening as quite a bit of important information will be forthcoming both in regard to the remainder of the year and for next year.

Have a safe and wonderful summer!

THIRD GRADE NEWS

Third Grade has learned a great deal about "Going Green" through all of the informative assemblies, activities, and routines that HCE has carried out this year. Our Spring performance, Tide Pool Condos, focuses on how humans affect the oceans as well. We can think of taking care of our oceans as "Going Blue." Looking forward to seeing all family and friends at the show on Friday, May 8, at 9:00 in the Performing Arts Center. Thank you to all of the family members who have been so generous with donations and volunteering time in preparation for this wonderful, creative project.

We continue to work on multiplication and division at various levels, narrative writing, and reading comprehension. As we head into the final weeks, the third grade classes will be wrapping up with a review of third grade material to support the learning that will take place in fourth grade.

FOURTH GRADE NEWS

Congratulations to all of the fourth graders for putting on a wonderful Spring Fling play! Fourth grade students have started working with Ms. Nelson in the science lab. They will be completing many hands-on experiments.

Looking ahead, the trip to the Everglades is finally here! The students will be attending this excellent experience on May 4th or 5th. Please make sure your child wears long pants, a long sleeve shirt, and old sneakers on the day of the trip.

FIFTH GRADE NEWS

As we approach the end of another great school year, we ask that everyone pay attention to our schedule of upcoming events. Make sure all necessary forms have been filled out and turned in. Stress that at all times we expect that the children show their best HCE "Manatee" Manners.

We will be visiting Olsen Middle School on May 12th.

Our annual Fifth Grade End of the Year Picnic will be May 28th. Please make sure that students come in appropriate "HCE" attire for the event.

The End of the Year Awards ceremony will be held on May 29th. Please be aware that this event will last longer than past award ceremonies since we will be honoring students for their achievements throughout the year.

The Fifth Grade Promotion Ceremony will be held on June 2nd from 6:00-8:00 P.M. in the Performing Arts Center. A flyer was sent home outlining expectations for this event.

We will then culminate our honoring of the fifth grade class of 2009 with a social on June 3.

Remember that while we have many wonderful and exciting things planned for our magnificent fifth grade, we still have final exams left to focus on. Again, we also wish to stress that appropriate behavior is expected at all times.

Thank you all for sharing in this school year. It has been an honor to work in partnership on your child's future. We wish you the best of luck. You will always be a part of our HCE Family.

ESE News

During the month of May there will be additional learning gains for all the students at HCE. They are continuing to learn mathematical equations as well as advancing in reading ability. Parents should encourage their children to read a little each night and then ask them questions about what has been read. This assists in comprehension and vocabulary development. Also, as you're going throughout your day with your child, name different items in the environment and describe the purpose of each. This is a way to work on vocabulary and sentence structure.

Also remember, May is Better Speech and Hearing Month. This is in recognition of Speech/Language Pathologists. It is also to highlight the types of services provided by SLPs.

GUIDANCE NEWS

The year has just flown by and the children have worked hard. However, we still have some testing to complete. The first and second graders will be taking a math test this month while the children who are getting ESOL services will be finishing up the CELLA test. Hopefully, the testing program will end soon and results will be shared as soon as they are sent to us.

Thanks,
Marion Green, Guidance Counselor

Saludos

SPANISH NEWS

Hola, amigos! I can't believe that the 2008-9 school year is coming to a close. I hope that everyone has a very nice summer! Here are some helpful hints on What to Do During the Summer to Keep Practicing Your Spanish.....

Visit your public library for Spanish books, videos, (The Disney ones are great! as your child has already seen them in English. This is a great way to learn a language!). The public library also has bilingual storytimes. They tell or read a story using both Spanish & English.

Go to a Spanish restaurant. There are many in the area that serve food from one or more of the 21 countries that speak Spanish! There's one on Harrison Street called Baraka. They even have flamenco dancing! Ole! You could even practice ordering your food in Spanish! (Yo) quiero.....I want... (Yo) necesito....I need....

Go to a market that has items that you can use to make your own Hispanic dishes at home! There are many in the area. There's one on U.S. 1 called, "El Presidente".

In closing, I would like to thank all of the parents & children who were involved in the Spanish Competition this year! I could not do it without YOU! Thank you EVERYONE! Special thanks to Mrs. Villiers-Furze & Mrs. Hauser for volunteering this year! GRACIAS! GRACIAS! GRACIAS!

Again, have a GREAT summer! I'm headed for the mountains! (Adonde vas?)

Keep on speaking Spanish!

P.S. Another suggestion: Talk to your neighbors, friends, & relatives (anyone who will listen) in SPANISH. Remember....PRACTICE! PRACTICE! PRACTICE!

Senora Culp

NURSE KATHRYN'S CORNER

Swimming and playing in water can give your child much pleasure and good exercise. But you must take steps to prevent your child from drowning.



* Never let your child swim in any body of water without an adult watching.

* Be sure the adult watching your child knows how to swim, get emergency help, and perform CPR.

* Keep a life preserver and shepherd's hook in the pool area to help pull a child to the edge of the pool when necessary.

* Teach your child safety rules and make sure they are obeyed.

-Never swim alone.

-Never dive into water except when permitted by an adult who knows the depth of the water and who has checked for underwater objects.

-Always use a life jacket when on a boat, fishing, or playing in a river or stream.

* Caution your child about the risks of drowning during the winter by falling through thin ice.

* Don't let young children and children who cannot swim use inflatable toys or mattresses in water that is above the waist.

* Watch children closely when they are playing near standing water, wells, open post holes, or irrigation or drainage ditches.

* Teach your child to swim once he or she is ready (usually around 5 years old).

American Academy of Pediatrics



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NEWS "BITES" FROM THE CAFETERIA



The Broward School District will no longer accept checks for payment effective Friday, May 1, 2009.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS WHO PAY FOR LUNCH:

Effective Friday, May 1, 2009, the Cafeteria cannot accept checks as payment for student meals for the remainder of this school year. You will have to have money in your account or in your hand to get meals; there will be no meals charged. **If you have previous charges, please see that they are paid immediately.** Teachers will have a list of students who owe money.

Media Center News



Our Media Center is a wonderfully busy place! Our Spring Book Fair was a huge success and we give a special thank you to Noelle Koch and Patty Ornellas, the PTA Book Fair Chairwomen and their entire crew.

The last day for student book check out is May 8, as we must do our annual book inventory and secure our overdue books. Please remember, the Broward County School system requires you to pay for lost books.

Don't forget - Summer Reading Is Important! We encourage you to visit the Broward County Library and various book stores. The Hollywood Branch of the Library is having extensive free programming for children throughout the summer - visit the Library & see Ms. Janet Cutro for the schedule. Watch for HCE's Summer Reading ideas in the next few weeks. We will soon have the new list of Sunshine State Readers for the 2009-10 school year. This year's Sunshine State Award went to The Ghost's Grave.

Have a delightful, safe summer, and I'll see you in the Fall!



Partners In Education

We are so lucky here at Hollywood Central to have such wonderful Partners in Education! As we wrap up the 2008-2009 school year we'd like to make special mention of **First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood** for being our Partner of the Year! Our students benefited greatly academically, physically, financially and emotionally from all their help. We look forward to seeing our Partners at our end of year appreciation luncheon on May 15th. Look for more details to follow.

REPORT TO PARENTS

When It's More Than 'Just a Phase'

Sometimes, it's just a nagging feeling—the sense that maybe what a child is experiencing isn't just a normal phase but is something that needs looking into. Whether it's moodiness or baby fat, it's helpful to know when to check with the experts.

Putting on Pounds. All children go through times when their weight varies. It's common, for example, for kids to gain a pound or two right before they have a growth spurt, after which they return to their normal shape. But it's important for families to be aware when a child's weight gain is more than normal. Not only is obesity linked to a host of serious, lifetime diseases, like diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease, but it can also cause a child to have self-esteem issues.

The best way to determine if a child is carrying too much weight is to look at the Body Mass Index (BMI) formula for children. The chart, available in doctors' and school nurses' offices, is also available online at <http://apps.nccdc.gov/dnpabmi/calculator.aspx>. If the results show that your child has a weight problem, you may want to confirm it with the doctor or nurse, who can use methods like a skin fold test to give a more accurate result. Some children with a high BMI are not overweight, but most do end up needing to shed a few pounds. Following through on this might be difficult at first, but the payoff will last a lifetime.

Acting Out. Is your child simply acting out, or can it be something more serious, such as attention-deficit disorder (ADD) or attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)? While there are many tests that children undergo before they're actually diagnosed with one of these conditions, it's safe to say that these children have an unusually hard time concentrating. Their energy levels are so high that they are restless and have real difficulty keeping still. They also find it unbearably hard to wait their turn. While all children are fidgety at times, children with ADD or ADHD display excess energy and inability to concentrate all the time.

A child who is dealing with problems like these is suffering and needs your help. If you notice these problems, or if your child's teacher has indicated that your child is having behavior issues in class, begin by seeing the school counselor. The counselor will be able to discuss with you the process of getting your child tested, which will involve working with your family doctor and a child psychologist, as well as the school.

Feeling Down. Adults are not the only people who can suffer from depression; children have been diagnosed with it, too. The first thing to consider is how long the feeling of sadness has lasted. Everyone is sad from time to time, but depression can last for weeks, months, or even longer. Also, when children are sad, they can usually tell you why; however, children who are depressed typically can't express why they're feeling so low.

Some of the symptoms of depression in children include problems with sleeping, nightmares, and unusual anger. Schoolwork often suffers, as children who are depressed don't feel motivated to try or participate. Depressed children also pull away from their friends and family members and become increasingly alone.

It is absolutely vital that, if you sense your child is suffering from depression, you have him or her seen and evaluated. You can begin with the school nurse or social worker, but you will probably be referred to a child psychologist. Depression is treatable and often curable. The important thing is to get help.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

CONGRATULATIONS VOLUNTEERS!

Hollywood Central Elementary has turned in the 5-Star Award book and approval is pending.

Thanks!


ANNOUNCING OUR VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR!!

Adult Volunteer of the Year

Rachel Coleman 

The heartbeat of Hollywood Central, Rachel assists with student supplies, field trips, uniforms, and also serves as the PTA Treasurer.

Senior Volunteer of the Year

Irving "Pops" Gordon 

The school's very own Snow Bird, "Pops" returns every December and, rumor has it, comes direct from the airport to the school to begin his annual volunteer stint.

Program Organizer of the Year

Tina Gelinas 

Although new to Hollywood Central, Tina's boundless energy, dedication, and imaginative ideas have led to the success of many programs and events at school.

Student Volunteer of the Year

Reginald Gray 

From the entry bell, to the recess bell, to the dismissal bell, Reggie's youthful character shines as he assists in various positions throughout the school.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! We will be honoring our volunteers with an Appreciation Brunch on Friday, May 15. Invitations will be sent out at a later date.

**2009-2010
School begins
August 24, 2009**