

Madras Middle School

WEEKLY NOTES FROM THE EAGLES' NEST

WEEK OF August 17, 2009



Our Mission: *Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day*
Our Motto: *Personal Responsibility In Developing Excellence*
Our Web Site: <http://www.cowetaschools.org/mms>

Principal, Lorraine Johnson
 240 Edgeworth Road
 Newnan, GA 30263 ♦ 770-254-2744

Mark Your Calendar

August

- 17 - PTSO Fundraiser Begins (Packets went home with students today.)
- 18 - PTSO Meeting, 6:30
- 18 - Open House, 7:00
- 24 - Chorus Parents Meeting, 7:00
- 24 - Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night, Thomas Crossroads Chick-Fil-A, 5-8 p.m.
- 27 - Parents as Partners: Internet Safety 7:00 p.m.
- 31 - School Council Meeting, 9:00 a.m.

September

- 8 - Parents as Partners: Organizational & Study Skills (10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.)
- 11 - Dessert/Fruit Bar for Teachers (sponsored by PTSO)
- 16 - Progress Reports Issued
- 17 - Fall Pictures
- 21 - (21-25) ITBS Testing for 8th Grade Students
- 24 - Eighth Grade CRCT Parents Night
- 25 - Pep Rally, 2:30
- 25 - Snack 'n Chat (sponsored by PTSO)

Eagle Athletics

Volleyball

- 8/14 - Preseason Tournament @ LMS
- 8/20 - ECMS @ MMS
- 8/24 - SRMS @ MMS
- 8/28 - MMS @ EMS
- 9/4 - MMS @ MMS
- 9/10 - MMS @ ECMS
- 9/14 - MMS @ SRMS
- 9/18 - EMS @ MMS
- 9/21 - MMS @ LMS
- 9/25 - AMS @ MMS
- 9/28 - First Round @ LMS

Football

(Practices are every Mon-Thurs from 3:30-5:20.)

- 8/21 - Football Jamboree @ ECHS
- 8/25 - MMS @ ECMS
- 9/1 - MMS @ SRMS
- 9/9 - EMS @ MMS
- 9/15 - MMS @ LMS
- 9/22 - AMS @ MMS
- 9/29 - First Round Playoffs @ NGHS

Check our Web site for regular updates. Dates and times

2009-2010 School Council

Council Members:

Michele Aldredge, Parent
 Lorraine Johnson, Principal
 Gerald Kemp, Parent
 Audrey Mallet, Teacher
 Terry Pealor, Parent
 Faith Shiffert, Parent
 Nancy Williams, Teacher

Meeting Dates:

Monday, August 31, 9:00 a.m.
 Monday, November 2, 9:00 a.m.
 Monday, January 25, 9:00 a.m.
 Monday, April 26, 9:00 a.m.

Volleyball Season Begins!

The Lady Eagles are off to a fabulous start! They defeated the East Coweta Indians in both sets: 25-9 and 25-15 in the preseason volleyball tournament at Lee Middle School last Friday. Their first home game is this Thursday as they again take on the Lady Indians of ECMS. Cost of admission is \$4.00 and sets start at 4:30 in the Madras gymnasium.



8-18 Practice, 3:30-5:00
8-19 Practice, 3:30-5:00
8-20 Game at Home vs. ECMS (4:30)
8-21 Practice, 3:30-5:00

Parent Portal

Parent Portal Access allows parents to follow their children's daily attendance, grades and other school matters online. If you are new to our school system or you have never been issued an activation key codes, you may come to the front office at Madras any time during school hours (8:00-4:30) to receive your Parent Portal account code. Parents with children at multiple Coweta County schools only need to visit one school, since the activation key is assigned to them uniquely and will access the school records of all children in their household. To maintain security of student information, the passwords will only be given out to custodial parents or guardians when they visit the school in person. Parents should be prepared to show identification and are asked not to share their household's unique code or the password codes that they choose.

From the Principal's Desk

Lorraine Johnson, Principal

Dear Parents,

Our new school year is off to a wonderful start! Our mission, *Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day*, drives what we do here at Madras to help every student be successful, and we are pleased to report that Madras maintained its distinguished school status by meeting the state required standards and making annual yearly progress (AYP) for 2008-2009. A few highlights are listed below:

- Overall attendance rate increased, and our attendance rate increased in all reportable subgroups.
- Ninety-five percent of Madras students met or exceeded expectations in language arts and reading
- Overall mathematic scores meeting or exceeding expectations was 85%; our students with disabilities made a 7% gain.

The implementation of Georgia Performance Standards and the increased annual measurable objective (AMO) keep us focused on school improvement. While we work to improve in all areas, mathematics continues to be a main focus of our school improvement plan. The Georgia Performance math standards now integrate geometry, algebra, and statistics into the curriculum, and we are working diligently to help close the gap between what students know and what is expected in the new curriculum. Math support, flexible grouping, differentiated instruction, formative assessments, Accelerated Math, math manipulatives, before and after school tutoring, online math support, additional professional learning for teachers, teaming, and parent communication are a few of the strategies and action steps put into place this year to improve our overall math scores in all subgroups.

Throughout the year students, teachers, and parents will hear the phrase "Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day" along with our motto, "Personal Responsibility in Developing Excellence" (PRIDE). As educators it is our personal responsibility to assure we are doing all we can to help our students learn, and we stress to our students that it is their responsibility to take advantage of the opportunities provided including doing their best and attending school each day. We appreciate our parents as partners and we know that working together we will have a successful year!

Weekly Notes from the Eagles' Nest

Madras Open House is Tuesday, August 18th!

We would like to extend an invitation to you and your child to attend Madras Middle School's Open House on Tuesday, August 18th at 7:00 p.m. This will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's teachers and to learn more about our PTSO and counseling department. Tuesday night's schedule is listed below. **Sixth and seventh grade parents will first stop by their child's homeroom to pick up a schedule since they will visit connections before returning to their child's team.**

Sixth Grade		Seventh Grade		Eighth Grade	
7:00-7:10	1st Period Connections (Pick up schedule in homeroom.)	7:00-7:25	Visit PTSO/Counselors Tables (Main Hallway) REACH Teachers if applicable	7:00-7:25	Visit Team Teachers (Meet in Team Science Room)
7:15-7:25	2nd Period Connections	7:30-7:40	4th Period Connections	7:30-7:55	Visit PTSO/Counselors Tables (Main Hallway) REACH Teachers if applicable
7:30-7:55	Visit Team Teachers (First team class is third period.)	7:45-7:55	5th Period Connections	8:00-8:10	6th Period Connections
8:00-8:25	Visit PTSO/Counselors Tables (Main Hallway) REACH Teachers if applicable	8:00-8:25	Visit Team Teachers (Meet in Team Science Room)	8:15-8:25	7th Period Connections

The Madras PTSO will meet prior to Open House at 6:30 in the cafeteria. Officers are available to meet with parents during Open House and MMS spirit wear will be sold.

Please be aware that Open House is a time for teachers to explain their policies and curriculum. Should you have further questions or concerns, you may contact our counselors to set up an appointment. We are looking forward to a wonderful year and hope to see you Tuesday evening.

Nurse Notes

Please remember if your child brings non-prescription medicine to school, it must be in the original bottle accompanied by a letter or note from the parent or guardian authorizing permission to administer medication at school. This includes cough drops and aspirin or Tylenol. Please contact Nurse Geter at 770-254-2744, ext. 206 or email marie.geter@cowetaschools.org if you have questions.

Earn cash for Madras with Box Tops 4 Education!

You can help earn cash for Madras by clipping box tops. Right now, triple points can be earned. To see a list of products, visit this link at: <http://www.cowetaschools.net/mms/PTSO/BoxTops.pdf>.



Madras Welcomes New Staff Members!

Madras Middle School welcomes several new staff members this year. Each new member of our Madras family is highly committed to our Madras mission and is looking forward to a great year! Please join us in welcoming:



Michael Mitchell, Time-Out Paraprofessional
Kristin Skelly, Sixth Grade REACH (language arts)
Jonah Barnhill, 8th Grade Math, Science

PTSO *Calling All Parents*

We are beginning the final countdown to the end of the year, and the Madras PTSO needs you! We are looking for volunteers to serve in various capacities for the coming school year, 2009-2010, and the PTSO is a wonderful way to get to know other parents while helping the faculty and students at MMS.

The Madras PTSO sponsors a variety of activities and works with teachers and administration to help provide funding for extra instructional needs. Our organization also volunteers time in the school and provides "extras" for teachers such as *Wonderful Wednesday*, Teacher Appreciation goodies, dessert bars and more! Please consider helping Madras continue its tradition of excellence by volunteering your time and talents. If you would like to become a member of PTSO, please complete the membership form below, or download a copy from the MMS Web site, and return the school's front office. If you have any questions, please email Cathryn Ray at mattandcatray@hotmail.com for more details.

2009-2010 Madras Middle School PTSO Membership Form

Welcome to Madras!

The purpose of the PTSO at Madras is to help improve our school by combining the efforts of parents, students and teachers. We want teachers and parents to join P.T.S.O. to help make our school a better place to work and learn!

Our fundraising has benefited a variety of projects in the past including school building improvements, teacher classroom requests, technology purchases and sports programs. We ask that each family join PTSO with a \$10.00 contribution (checks should be made payable to Madras PTSO).

We also need your volunteer time! If you are interested in helping in any of the following areas please indicate that on the form below. You will be contacted as the events take place.

Thanks in advance for your support!

Parent Name _____

Student (s) at Madras and grade _____

Home Phone number _____

Email address _____

I can help with:

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Fall 2009 Magazine fundraiser
Concessions at Sporting Events
Bake Sales / Snak & Chat
Spring Fundraiser
Teacher Appreciation

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Agenda Sales - first week of school (during school hours)
Health Fairs (during school hours)
Veterans Day Breakfast (November)
School Pictures (during school hours)
Book Fairs (during school hours)

Other: