

# WHITE OAK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



## WHITE OAK NEWS

October 2009

### Principal Ponderings:

Dear Parents:

Thank goodness that the rain has ended and the mornings are cool and afternoons delightful! We are all thankful that Coweta County did not suffer as much devastation as other parts of Georgia did. I know that the children are happy to be playing outside once again! Actually, the teachers are happy that they are able to be outside also! :)

We have been very busy this past month as we prepare for our 5 year GAPSS visit. GAPSS stands for Georgia Assessment of Performance on School Standards. This visit will take place on November 4th and November 5th. The 15 member team that will visit White Oak will consist of representatives from Central Office staff, principals, assistant principals and teachers from Coweta County. They will be evaluating our progress on the school standards. The areas that they will be looking at are: curriculum, instruction, assessment, planning and organization, student - family-community, professional learning, leadership, community-home-school, and school culture.

On the first day of the visit the members of the team will be visiting and observing in classrooms. They will also talk with members of the faculty and staff, and with parents. I will be contacting some of you and asking if you would be willing to come to the school and meet with members of the team to talk about White Oak and your experiences here. On the second day of the visit the team will evaluate the data collected during their visit, rate our school in the above areas and present them to the administrative team. Later they will be shared with the staff.

We will be providing meals (breakfast and lunch) both days. I would like to thank Mrs. Susan Hester for agreeing to chair a committee to provide meals on November 5th. If you are willing to help with this please email or call me and I will let her know. In preparation for the visit we are in the process of turning one of our rooms on the fifth grade hall into a Research and Vision/Conference room. When complete this room will have test scores and data, student art work, student writing and our vision for the future. Mrs. Pam Lewis and Mrs. Susie Kirkham have been hard at work painting the room and Mrs. Sharon Liebe is in the process of drawing the White Oak tree on one of the walls. When the work is complete I welcome parents to come and visit and enjoy our new room! Thank you to the ladies working so hard to get it finished in time for the GAPSS visit.

You all are the glue that binds White Oak together. Every day I see many examples of parents and teachers working together to help students succeed, and to make White Oak the wonderful school that it is. Thank you for all that you do.

Growing toward excellence with PRIDE,

Cheryl Sanborn



### October

**October 15**

PTO meeting - 6:30

Report Cards Issued

**October 16**

Holiday—No School

**October 19**

Holiday (No School)

**October 20**

Sally Foster Pick-up

Red Ribbon Week (Thru Oct. 23)

**October 22**

2nd Grade—GYSTC

**October 27**

Spirit Night at Chick-fil-A

**October 30**

Kindergarten dresses as

scarecrows

**NOVEMBER**

**November 6th**

Spirit Night @ Junction Lanes

**November 12**

Picture Re-takes

**November 17**

Spirit Night @ Moe's

**November 19**

PTO Meeting - 6:30

**November 20**

Progress Reports issued

**November 12—27**

Thanksgiving Holidays



## Noteworthy News

### IMPORTANT AFFIDAVIT INFORMATION

All student households must provide a *notarized* Affidavit of Residence **and** two items of proof of residency. Please note that the only utility bill that can be used is an ***electric*** bill. No other utility bill can be accepted. Also, please be advised that **you must sign the affidavit in the presence of a notary and the two proofs or residency must be submitted with the affidavit.**

**Two party affidavits must be done immediately, they should have been done before school started.**

All other affidavits are due by December 17, 2009. Please submit yours as soon as possible to avoid a last minute rush!

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## NOTES FROM NURSE PATTY

Please note that immunization waivers have expired. If you have not returned to your health care professional to complete your immunizations it must be done immediately. Hearing, Vision and Dental waivers will expire in the near future. Please see your health professional as soon as possible.

McNeil Consumer Healthcare (the makers of TYLENOL®) is voluntarily recalling certain lots of Children's and Infants' TYLENOL® liquid products that were manufactured between April, 2008 and June, 2008. All products manufactured met internal specifications. However, the company is implementing this recall because during this period, an unused portion of one inactive ingredient did not meet all quality standards. As a precautionary measure, it was decided to recall certain lots of Children's and Infants' TYLENOL® liquid products.

<http://www.tylenol.com/generic.jhtml?id=tylenol/news/subpchildinfantnews.inc>

The recall does not apply to Children's TYLENOL® Meltaways and Junior Strength TYLENOL® Meltaways.

Also please remember NOT to give aspirin, or medication containing aspirin or salicylates to a child for their fever, as it may cause a severe, life threatening illness.

**PARENTS, PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN FEVER FREE FOR 24 HOURS *WITHOUT MEDICATION!***



## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

*By Silverlene Kindle*

# Hispanic Heritage, Red Ribbon and Drug Awareness

September 15<sup>th</sup> – October 15<sup>th</sup> is National Hispanic Heritage Month. During this period our students are hearing morning announcements about the rich contributions of Hispanic Americans. One such person's life is celebrated by the entire nation in the month of October – Enrique Camarena. It is his life and legacy that we celebrate during National Red Ribbon Week.

Enrique Camarena was a Drug Enforcement Agent who was murdered while working on a major investigation involving the flow of illegal drugs into this country. After his death in 1985, family and friends began wearing red ribbons to support his lifetime dedication to seeing a DRUG-FREE AMERICA. Slowly their efforts led to the establishment of a national campaign devoted to teaching students to stay "Drug Free". Today the Red Ribbon Campaign sponsored by the National Family Partnership is the oldest drug prevention program in the nation.

During this month, all students will be encouraged to participate in activities to help them make a life-long commitment to staying drug free. We ask the entire White Oak community to unite with us and take a visible stand against drugs by wearing a red ribbon and talking to your children about the value of staying drug-free.



## **New at White Oak:**

Perfect Attendance Award criteria for monthly recognition:

Students must be present each day and cannot be absent, tardy, or checked out of school. At the beginning of each month students will receive a treat, be recognized on WON, our news program, and have a leaf with their name on it displayed on our White Oak tree in the front hall.

We have many new items in our school store. Our REACH students are doing a great job working in the store managed by Mrs. Corley and Mrs. Puschaver.

We have Bus Safety Patrol Students at dismissal time. They are doing a great job helping students find their buses, monitoring behavior and helping the bus drivers with whatever they need.

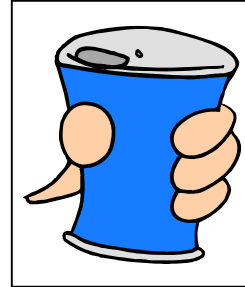
You can order your yearbooks online this year. It will save the PTO money which will allow PTO to earn more money that will be used for student needs. There is a link on the PTO website to order.

Please remember: you cannot make a left turn out of the side parking lot on White Oak School Drive in the mornings when dropping your children off. There is a sign prohibiting that. This is for the safety of parents and students in the car rider line and to keep the line moving so that students can arrive on time. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**  
**WITH MRS. PUSCHAVER**

"Can-Do-It"

# RECYCLING



Recycling continues this year at White Oak. However, this year all proceeds will go directly to an account for use in the classrooms. Please remember to have your children bring the cans directly to Jan Puschaver so they can be enrolled in our Environmental Kids Club. We will meet a few times during the year for environmental projects.

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**Visit the School Store**



Forget your child's snack? Don't have time to buy that ruler? The school store is your solution. White Oak's School Store is open every day from 7:30 to 8:00. All proceeds are used to help your child in the classroom. This year water and snacks will be available for \$.50.

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**EVERYONE LOVES LEARNING!**

By Stephanie Fletcher

Hispanic/Latino Heritage Month begins on September 15<sup>th</sup> and ends on October 15<sup>th</sup> each year. In honor of this celebration, we invite you to view our display in the front display case put together by our White Oak students and Mrs. Fletcher. Mrs. Johnson-Kindle has also put together a bulletin board across from the media center highlighting many famous Hispanic/Latino people. Thank you to all of our students who have lived in or visited a Spanish-speaking country for their contributions!

There are several more students who would benefit from having an adult "buddy" to help them review sight words, spelling words, and their AR books. If you are available to help 30-45 minutes/week, please e-mail Mrs. Fletcher at [stephanie.fletcher@cowetaschools.org](mailto:stephanie.fletcher@cowetaschools.org). Thank you!



# REACH

With Paula Corley

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Gifted Referrals will be accepted Oct. 12 – 30<sup>th</sup>.** Please contact Mrs. Corley during this time period if you are interested. You will need to fill out a referral form to nominate your child for testing. Please note that your referral does not guarantee testing and that your child will need to meet the standard for testing before we proceed.

\*\* More questions like the one below are posted on Mrs. Corley's website under "Testing" and "Common Questions About Gifted Children" [www.schoolrack.com/REACHcorley](http://www.schoolrack.com/REACHcorley)

**What is the difference between a bright child and gifted child?**

Bright Child	Gifted Learner
Knows the answers	Asks the questions
Is interested	Is highly curious
Is attentive	Is mentally and physically involved
Has good ideas	Has wild, silly ideas
Works hard	Plays around, yet tests well
Answers the questions	Discusses in detail, elaborates
Top group	Beyond the group
Listens with interest	Shows strong feelings / opinions
Learns with ease	Already knows
6-8 repetitions for mastery	1-2 repetitions for mastery
Understands ideas	Constructs abstractions
Enjoys peers	Prefers adults
Grasps the meaning	Draws inferences
Completes assignments	Initiates projects
Is receptive	Is intense
Copies accurately	Creates a new design
Enjoys school	Enjoys learning
Absorbs information	Manipulates information
Technician	Inventor
Good at memorization	Good guesser
Enjoys straightforward sequential presentation	Thrives on complexity
Is pleased with own learning	Is highly self-critical