



HUMPHRIES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

September 2016

Melanie Mitchell, Principal
Benita Grant, Assistant Principal

Principal's Message



Melanie Mitchell

Greetings Parents and Community Members,

Our portables are gone and we have settled in for the new school year. We are excited about a new year of teaching and learning with your students. Our school has quite a few teachers and staff who are new to Humphries this year. We welcome the following teachers: Ms. Bell, Ms. Askew-Davis, Ms. Upshaw, Ms. Edwards, Ms. Andrews and Mr. Hill. We also welcome Ms. Jack, the special education lead teacher and Ms. Jenkins, the Student Support Team Specialist. Our new pre-k para is Ms. Sylve. In the front office, our new office clerk is Ms. Tukes. We are proud to have each new staff member who has joined our team.

We have gotten off to a great start this year. However, morning arrival needs a few changes. All parents who are dropping students off before 7:45 AM should drop them off on School Drive, at the crossing guard. No cars should drop off in the bus loop before 7:45 AM. Also, when students are dropped in the front, they should be let out at the sidewalk. No student should be dropped off on the left side and have to walk in front of cars.

Communication with parents is important at our school. The newsletter will continue to be sent home at the beginning of each month. You should also look forward to receiving the blue communication folder every Thursday. Please check book bags every Thursday evening for important announcements. This week the Parent Compact letter will be sent home. Please sign and return the letter. During the school year, check our website frequently for updates. We want to stay connected to parents. If there are other modes of communication that work better for you, let us know.

Our annual PTA/open house meeting will take place on September 13. Please come out and meet the teachers and learn the expectations in your child's classroom. We will also speak about Title I and our school's state status. This year, our status remains as a Focus school. This means our pattern in test scores from the previous three years shows that our lowest scoring 25% of students are scoring lower than the state. As a focus school, we have received additional funds to improve student achievement. We will purchase additional technology for student use. In a few days, we will send home a Title I Designation Parent Notification letter very soon. We will also send the Title I required Parent Right to Know letter too. These letters will provide you with information about the school's status.



September

5	Labor Day—school is closed
8	Progress Reports
11	Patriot Day
12	Roadrunner Rally
13	PTA/Title 1 Meeting/Open House @ 5:00 pm
	Eid-al-Adha
15	National Hispanic Heritage Month begins
16	Constitution Day Observed
22	Autumnal Equinox
24	National Punctuation Day
29	All-Star Parent Volunteer Day, 10:00-1:00

In addition, please remember that we are a uniform school. Students should wear navy or khaki bottoms blue, yellow or white tops. Please, for your children's safety, make sure that they wear closed toe shoes. No sandals are allowed at school.

Students should attend school each day and arrive on time. We want every opportunity to educate our students. If possible please schedule doctor appointments for days when school is closed. We have had the highest attendance in the South Atlanta cluster for two years. For these accomplishments, we have earned the monthly traveling trophy. We intend to win the attendance trophy this year too!

The staff and I are looking forward to another great school year. Please feel free to visit the school. Parent day is the last Thursday of each month.

Kindergarten News

We are off to a great start in kindergarten this year! It has been a busy few weeks as children learned classroom routines, expectations and curriculum material. The first four weeks of school are always tiring and challenging for kindergarten students. We are amazed at the progress each child has made as they transitioned from the summer months to the full and rigorous days of school.

We cannot emphasize enough how vital daily attendance at school is to your child's consistent academic and social progress. Daily attendance includes not just being in class regularly, but also being on time, and staying for the full day. We work very hard to make sure every day provides rich experiences that will motivate your child to come to school.

Kindergarten Café

We are cooking with the alphabet in our "Kinder-garten Café." We focused on the following letters (Mm, Ss, and Aa). Our kinder kids have tasted the following: Mm~macaroni and cheese; Ss~spaghetti; and Aa~Applesause

Kindergarten is a very important foundation for your child's future success in school and it is our goal to help each student meet his or her full potential. We look forward to working with you and your child during this exciting school year.

First Grade News

Welcome to First Grade! We are excited about the 2016 - 2017 school year. We have a lot of fun team building activities that will accompany our daily learning. We want to form strong relationships between our students, parents, and teachers. It is important for us to work together to grow our students. We would like to thank you for sending your child to school in their uniforms everyday (Monday through Friday). We have started working on Reading and Writing across the curriculum, focusing on sight word fluency and developing meaningful sentences. In mathematics, we are working on counting and writing numbers from 1 to 120. We are studying American folk heroes like John Henry, Johnny Appleseed, Annie Oakley and Paul Bunyan.



Grade Two News

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year. The year has started out wonderfully. The students and teachers are so excited about all the upcoming activities at the school this year. Second grade started immediately with instruction, assessing our children, and assigning homework. We are very busy in the classrooms. The students are studying place value in math, stars in science, the importance of rules in social studies and comprehension and fluency in reading. This year promises to be very challenging for your child. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact your child's teacher at (404) 802-8750.

MOID K-2

My name is Mrs. Angela Andrews and I am the new MOID K-2 Teacher/Case Manager at Humphries Elementary School. I have the pleasure of working with Mrs. Phinazee and Mrs. Lindley and we make a great team.

Our students were Super Cool Kids while experimenting this month with Thermometers. In our experiment our Materials consisted of 5 thermometers for each student, 10 Styrofoam cups : 2 for each student (one filled with ice and the other with warm water), 5 pencils, 5 crayons, and 5 data recording sheets. The students understood that the thermometer was a delicate instrument that had to be handled carefully so that it wouldn't break. We conducted the experiment by placing thermometers in cold, ice water first. We then recorded the temperatures and drew pictures of the thermometer ratings. Then we placed the thermometers in warm water. We then recorded those temperatures on our data recording sheet. We also drew pictures of the thermometers to show those ratings. The students learned that the hotter the temperature; the higher the rating on the thermometer and the lower the temperature the lower the rating. This helped our students to better understand the standard on weather patterns and how those patterns change from one season to the next.



Grade Three News

Welcome Back!! We are off to a great start! It has taken some time to get use to changing classes this year, but now we are on a roll!

We are working on the following skills:

- Math: Rounding & Multiplication Facts (Continue to study facts 0-5 for mastery)
- Reading: Text dependent questions
- Science: Rocks, Minerals, & Soil
- Social Studies: Paul Revere

Our daily homework is used to reinforce skills we learn or will learn in class each day. It is very important to turn in homework DAILY! Our students should be reading daily. Please check with your child's teacher to get your students lexile level range, so that they are reading the appropriate level text.

We are in need of pencils and disinfectant wipes for our classes! Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns or if there is any way we can help assist your child!

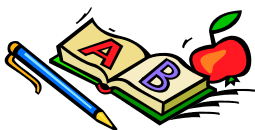
Grade Four News

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year. The Fourth Grade Team is extremely excited and enthusiastic about teaching your child this year. It is in your child's best interest that we all work together in regard to his/her education. This year we are departmentalized where your child will all be attending class with one teacher for English Language Arts and Social Studies and then

with another teacher for Math and Science. We believe that for our students to grow to their full potential we must have a strong classroom community where all students feel valued and accepted and learn to value and accept others. Therefore, to promote a caring classroom community, we have been focusing on responsibility, respect, kindness, fairness, acceptance, empathy and helpfulness. Please help us build a strong school-to-home connection by discussing these important concepts and character traits with your child this month at home. This will be a fast paced year with lots of new material. Please take the time to read, practice and assist your child at home. If there are any questions, contact as soon as possible since our primary goal is to ensure your child's success. Thank you to all of you for having your child's supplies and helping with some needed classroom supplies. We are off to a wonderful start. We look forward to having a successful year with you and your child. WATCH US GROW!

Grade Five News

We are off and running. Our students are setting goals and tracking their progress in data notebooks. All 5th grade students are responsible for completing at least two Accelerated Reader books per week in order to meet a monthly goal of 100,000 words read with 80% accuracy on the comprehension test. Please keep in mind that students are graded based on MASTERY of state standards in all content areas and not merely on effort. To that end, much more studying is required. Also, students have completed the STAR Math and Reading screeners. Please schedule a conference with your child's teacher to discuss the results. By working together, we can help your child reach their full potential!



Enrichment News

Humphries' Enrichment Team, which consists of Spanish, Art, Music, and Physical Education classes is off to a roaring start! Enrichment teachers meet with all grade levels, Pre-Kindergarten to 5th grade on a weekly basis. Our classes began with establishing classroom expectations, consequences, and rewards. During the month of September, classes are focusing on the following learning task : in Spanish, students are sequencing information such as the alphabets, numbers, etc. utilizing the target language; in Art, students are analyzing relationships between ideas and objects; in Physical Education classes, students are defining character traits; and in Music, students are singing accompanied and unaccompanied songs as they are experiencing speech patterns. Just a reminder to parents: Please allow your child to wear tennis shoes during their P.E. schedule times along with shorts underneath skirts/jumpers for the girls. We are all looking forward to a wonderful, meaning, and engaging jour-

From the Media Center

September is a good month to read books about school and reading. Here are a few books to share with your children and students.

- Allard, Harry. Miss Nelson is Missing.
- Bridges, Shirin Ruby's Wish
- Bunting, Eve. The Wednesday Surprise.
- Clements, Andrew. No Talking.
- Ernst, Lisa. Stella Louella's Runaway Book
- Evento, Susan. Mary McLeod Bethune
- Grabenstein, Chris Mr. Lemoncello's Library
- Henkes, Kevin. Lily's Purple Plastic Purse
- Henson, Heather That Book Woman
- Kline, Suzy. Horrible Harry
- Knudsen, Michelle. Library Lion
- Lovell, Patty. Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon
- Mayer, Mercer. First Day of School
- McKissack, Patricia. Going Somewhere Special
- Miller, William. Richard Wright and the Library Card
- Mills, Claudia. Fractions = Trouble
- Mora, Pat Tomas and the Library Lady
- Murray, Laura. The Gingerbread Man Loose in the School
- Polacco, Patricia. Thank You, Mr. Falker
- Porter, Connie. Addy Learns a Lesson
- Rey, H. A. Curious George Learns the Alphabet
- Stuve-Bodeen, Stephanie Elizabeti's School
- Weatherford, Carole. Dear Mr. Rosenwald
- Williams, Suzanne Library Lil
- Yolen, Jane. How do Dinosaurs Go to School?

LIBRARY CARDS FOR ALL!

Do you have a library card? Does your child?

September is National Library Card Sign-up Month. All students who attend an Atlanta Public School are eligible for a library card to the Atlanta-Fulton Public Libraries. Let us put a library card into every student's hand so they will have access to learning and fun resources and books – all available for free in our libraries!

Visit your closest branch or online at www.afpls.org to sign up for your library card today!

From the Parent Center:

Way to go Humphries Family for starting out on such a great note this year! We are looking forward to an exciting year of learning, transitions, improving, parental involvement and engagement.

We welcome the parents of Humphries ES and the community to the Parent Center everyday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The center is located in room 206 on the second floor.

I, Ms. Howard, am here to assist you with a valuable two-way communication between the school and home. How can we do this you may ask? The parent center is available to provide resourceful information, some materials to help

with student projects, homework assistance, and job search assistance, resume assistance, GED classes, academic workshops, etc. We are committed to seeing that all parents have the opportunity to become fully engaged with the learning process of their child.

One of our goals this year is to show and give opportunity for parental involvement. Parent Day which is held every last Thursday of the month is an opportunity for parents to become fully engaged with other parents in the process of learning and volunteer time. To find out more information about this, please contact Ms. Howard in the Parent Center. We look forward to meeting and building a partnership with all of our Humphries Parents. We are building a healthy community family!



GED Classes



are starting at Humphries Wednesday,
September 7, 2016!!

Classes will be held on Mondays and
Wednesdays from 9:00 to 12:30!

Please come in for an application
from Ms. Howard or the main office.

EACH ONE TEACH ONE

**If you have any questions contact
Ms. Howard at 404-802-8750 or
gahoward@atlanta.k12.ga.us**

Please bring a photo ID to the class.