



# HUMPHRIES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**October 2017**

Melanie Mitchell, Principal  
Connie Todd-Johnson, Assistant Principal



## Principal's Message

Fall is in the air! We are already almost at the end of the first quarter of school. Fall break will be next week, October 9-14. Students will not come to school. During this time, please let your students read. We require each student to read and test on three books per week. We want to keep students reading while they are away from school.

Thank you to the families who came to the Open House Night on September 19. We are working to increase participation in our school events. Our next event is Family Literacy Night, on October 17, at 5:00 PM. We have literacy activities to share. Our goal is to work together to increase our reading and writing scores.

Our first school market day was a success! The Atlanta Food Bank brought a variety of items to give to families. They had fresh cabbage and beans, along with non-perishable items. The market day will be the last Thursday of the month, unless a school holiday changes the schedule.

This Friday, the South Atlanta Cluster will celebrate homecoming at Lakewood Stadium. The game will begin at 5:30 PM. Let's come out and bring our students to the game.

If you would like to volunteer at our school, we are always looking for readers. We invite you to schedule a date to read to students. We welcome volunteers to assist us. It takes all of us working together to make our students successful.

~Melanie Mitchell

## November 2017

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 2            | Roadrunner Rally                          |
| 3            | GO Team Meeting                           |
| 5            | First Day of Sukkot                       |
| 8-14         | National Fire Safety Week                 |
| 9            | Columbus Day                              |
| <b>9-10</b>  | <b>PL Days, Students do not Report</b>    |
| <b>11-13</b> | <b>Fall Break, Students do not report</b> |
| 11           | Last Day of Sukkot                        |
| 16           | Boss' Day                                 |
| 16           | Dictionary Day                            |
| <b>17</b>    | <b>PTA Literacy Night 5:00 pm</b>         |
| 19           | Report Cards                              |
| 21           | S. Atlanta Cluster Walk                   |
| 23-27        | Red Ribbon Week                           |
| 26           | Parent Day 10:00—1:00                     |
| 26           | Atlanta Food Bank                         |
| 27           | STEM Day                                  |
| 27           | Trunk-O-Treat                             |
| 31           | Halloween                                 |
| Nov 1        | Make-up Picture Day                       |

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## Kindergarten News

Kindergarten has been off to a wonderful start. The children have settled quickly into classroom routines and are learning to become more independent. They show positive attitudes towards learning and they are learning to be supportive, kind, and respectful.

Language Arts: Kindergarten will be continuing to review their letters and letter sounds as well as practice their printing every day.

Reading: Students are learning the difference between a nonfiction and fiction book. We will also learn how to ask questions and identify the topic and main ideas of a nonfiction book. We are continuing to introduce a new skills and concepts.

Math: This month Kindergarten will be working on understanding patterns and sorting. They will also continue to work with numbers just beyond 20.

Science: Students will learn about Earth's materials and resources.

Social Studies: Students will continue to learn about the work that people do in our community and what type of service they provide to us.

## First Grade News

The fantastic first grade teachers and students are off to a wonderful and productive school year. We have covered several skills in a short amount of time. Parents we need your help to assist your child with practicing their Dolch Sight word lists according the designated color for that month.

Here is a peek at some of the skills we have studied in the following content areas that are listed below:

- Reading/ELA-Story Elements, short vowels, diagraphs, and verbs
- Writing-Informational Writing, identifying and writing complete sentences
- Math-Counting and identifying numbers 1-120, place value, one more, one less, addition and word problems
- Science- Weather & Seasons
- Social Studies- Needs, wants, scarcity, jobs, geography and landforms

## Grade Two News

It was great to see a lot of families at our fall Open House! Thanks for taking your time to visit our classroom and learn about what your child has been doing in class. Our students have engaged in many challenging

and rewarding learning experiences and there's more to come. In the month of October, 2nd graders will continue to look at characters in literature and how they respond to major events in the plot. We will also focus on describing and making connections in informational texts. In math, the students will build on concepts learned last year in 1st grade and become more fluent in addition and subtraction. In science, we are learning about stars and in social studies we are learning about the regions and major rivers of Georgia.

Please be involved in your child's education by checking their homework, attendance and academic progress often. Make attending school meetings, events, and parent-teacher conferences a priority. Ask teachers if you can help them find educational materials and resources that they need and if you have time, help the teacher in the classroom.

## MOID K-2

Autumn is officially here! Leaves are beginning to change. The leaves that were green during the spring and summer will now begin to turn yellow, orange, brown, and red! What a beautiful sight to behold! The MOID K-2 Unit will be utilizing our STEM day to discover that these colors are already inside the green leaves. Students will discover, using chromatography, that they can separate a mixture into its parts. We will use simple rubbing alcohol and coffee filters to see the different colors that are already in the green leaves. Also, we have learned how to safely experiment and complete observations. We will all wear our goggles and we are going to be really careful when pouring rubbing alcohol. As a matter of fact, we will simply observe; while our teachers pour the alcohol for us! We are excited! See you next month!

## Grade Three News

We are working on the following skills:

- Math: Subtraction/ Addition with Regrouping & Multiplication Facts (Continue to study facts 0-5 for mastery)
- Reading: Context Clues & Writing Paragraphs
- Science: Pollution
- Social Studies: Geography/ Native Americans

Our daily homework is used to reinforce skills we learn or will earn in class each day. It is very important to turn in homework on Thursdays, it does count as a grade!

Please continue to encourage our students to read daily. Students should be taking 3 or more AR test a week at school and passing with an average of 80% or better! Readers ARE Leaders!!

If you are interested in coming in for a parent conference please send a note to your child's homeroom teacher, indicating which subject you have a concern about.

We are in need of pencils, tissue, glue sticks and disinfectant wipes of 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**

**ELA News:** Writing and Reading Choiceboards are always assigned on Fridays. Choice boards are Due THE FOLLOWING FRIDAY. We are focusing on the Main Idea and Supporting Key Details this month. Students will also be working on their Narrative Writings.

Also, ensure that students are reading AR books weekly AT HOME DAILY and completing Reading Homework assignments. MOST IMPORTANTLY, PARENTS PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU VIEW YOUR CHILD'S GRADES IN INFINITE CAMPUS.

**Math News:** This month we are moving towards understanding the relationship between Multiplication and Division. Please stress the importance of students being able to SHOW THEIR WORK and JUSTIFY THEIR ANSWERS in Math. Have them slow down and explain the steps to you as if they are teaching you how to do it. We are also continuing the Math Ninja Multiplication contest with our 3s, 4s, and 5s multiplication Facts. You're your students at home to challenge them. HOMEWORK IS GIVEN DAILY TO STUDENTS.

### **Science**

S4E2. Earth, Moon, and Sun

Use models of the Earth, Moon and Sun to...

- Explain why we have day and night.
- Track the Moon Phases for one month.
- Build/Create a model of the Moon Phases.
- Describe each moon phases

### **Social Studies**

SS4H. Cause-Event- Results of:

- The American Revolution
- The French and Indian War
- Declaration of Independence

## **Grade Five News**

This year is flying by! We are nearing the end of the first quarter and embarking on new areas of study. In Math your child will begin working with decimals and learning about constructive and deconstructive forces in Science. In Social Studies we are exploring the role of cattle trails, the Transcontinental Railroad and the Panama Canal. We continue to have challenges with meeting our school-wide Accelerated Reader goals and our fifth graders must increase fluency and comprehension rates by reading more! Please join us and help us by making sure your child completes homework and studies one hour a night. Together we can ensure your child reaches their academic potential.

## **Enrichment News**

During In SPANISH, students will continue to concentrate heavily on the use of cardinal numbers as well as being introduced to new essential vocabulary each class period. Hispanic Heritage Month began September 15 and will last until October 15. In addition to standards being taught, various individuals of Hispanic origin who have made notable contributions to society will be highlighted in class weekly.

The following are some of the exciting activities that will be happening in ART:

- 5th graders will be creating geometric sculptures.
- 4th graders will drawing a close up view of an object from nature.
- 3rd grade will be creating a landscape drawing.
- 2nd grade will be drawing a picture of themselves dancing.
- 1st grade will be creating stormy weather drawings.
- K/ Pre K will be creating shape animals.

All grades will be participating in the Cyber Security Poster Contest.

During PE, we will continue to focus on Physical Education Standards 1 & 2. Students will demonstrate competency in motor skills and movement patterns, as well as develop an understanding of movement concepts. Our unit focus will be fitness, students will have an opportunity to rotate to different exercise stations. The purpose of this fitness unit is to help improve students' cardiorespiratory endurance!

In MUSIC, the students are celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month by singing, dancing, and learning about composers and performers of Spanish decent. The students are learning patriotic songs that celebrate our country.

## News From the Counselor

It's hard to believe we are already a full two months into the 2017-2018 school year! During the months of August and September, all students Pre-K through 5th grade received classroom lessons on kindness, cooperation, and conflict resolution. October will focus on the theme of respect. Students will continue to refine and practice the conflict resolution techniques learned while also exploring the concept of empathy, how to develop empathy for others and the role this plays in respecting others. We will also learn about respecting ourselves- our minds and bodies- by making good choices. Humphries Elementary will be participating in the National Red Ribbon Campaign during the week of October 23rd-27th. This is an opportunity for the students at Humphries to learn about making healthy choices, focusing on their futures, and not letting anything get in the way of their goals. The Red Ribbon Campaign asks students and communities to make a personal commitment to a drug-free lifestyle. There will be themed dress up days during the week of October 23rd-27th and grade level appropriate activities for students that focus on their future dreams and goals. Stay tuned for more information about this exciting initiative. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please reach out to me at (404) 802-8761.

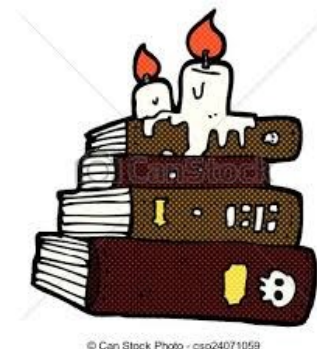
## GO Team Meeting

The next GO Team meeting will be held on December 12, 2017 at 4:00 pm. All stakeholders are invited to observe.



## Breakfast in the Cafeteria

Breakfast in the cafeteria is served until 7:55 AM. Any student arriving between 7:55 – 8:15 will be served grab and go style to eat in the classroom. Any morning arrivals after 8:15 AM should eat before arriving at school.



## From the Media Center

October is a great month to read mysteries and spooky books. Here are a few books to share with your children and students.

- Arnosky, Jim Monster Hunt
- Bruchac, Joseph Skeleton Man
- Bunting, Eve The Bones of Freddy McGee
- Cooper, Susan Over Sea, Under Stone
- Dahl, Michael Zombies in the Library
- George, Jean Craighead The Missing Gator of Gumbo Limbo
- Gibbons, Gail. Halloween Is:
- Gidwitz, Adam A Tale Dark and Grimm
- Gilpin, Daniel Scary Creatures: Bats
- Hahn, Mary. Wait 'Til Helen Comes
- Hirsh, Marilyn The Rabbi and the 29 Witches
- Howe, Deborah Bunnacula
- Irving, Washington Legend of Sleepy Hallow
- MacDonald, Bailey Secret of the Sealed Room
- McKissack, Patricia. The Dark Thirty
- Miller, Connie Crime Scene Investigators
- Olsen, Owen, Ruth Vampires and other Bloodsuckers
- Olson, Arielle Ask the Bones
- San Souci, Robert. Double-Dare to be Scared
- Sendak, Maurice Where the Wild Things Are
- Sobol, Donald Encyclopedia Brown
- Stevenson, Robert Louis The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
- Stine, R. L. Dear Diary, I'm Dead
- Strickland, Brad. Beast Under the Wizard's Bridge
- Weatherford, Carole The Library Ghost
- Yee, Wong H. Mouse and Mole: A Perfect Halloween