

THE BUZZ

Tomahawk Elementary PTO Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

April 3	PTO Art Show 7:00 pm
April 6	Kindergarten Music Programs 9:15 am—Martin/Stanley 10:15 am—Cox/Miller 11:15 am—Land/Hensley
April 9-13	SPRING BREAK! SCHOOL CLOSED
April 16	Fundraising Orders Due TODAY!
April 19	Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration 9 am—2 pm
April 24	FREE! Cyber Space Workshop 7:00—9:00 pm BHS Auditorium
April 27	Fall Carnival Planning Meeting 6:00 pm PTO Meeting 6:30 pm
April 27	End of the 5th Six Weeks
April 27	Spirit Day! (See page 2 for details)
May 7	Report Cards Will Be Sent Home
May 19	Fundraiser Pickup at Tomahawk

From The Principals Hive...

Mrs. Donna Brown



Spring is right around the corner and students are thinking of running, playing, and enjoying the warmer days and because of this they may not be thinking SAFETY.

Please stress the importance of wearing tennis shoes to school because students have physical education or recess daily and sandals, flip flops, boots are not safe for running on the playground.

Students need to be dropped off in the morning at the side drop off area and not in the lower parking lot, Bee Drive, or the area beside the gym unless parents walk the students to the entrance of the school. Recently, it has been noted that students have exited their cars to walk to the building unescorted by an adult and we are fearful that they may be hit by an exiting bus or vehicle.

Just a reminder to parents... please come to the front office if you wish for your child to be dismissed early or arrives to school late. Students will not be dismissed from the classroom by the teacher unless the student has been called to the office. Also, we cannot dismiss students to individuals that are not on your child's emergency form...so if there are changes in addresses, phone numbers, custody, or emergency contacts...please notify the personnel in the office immediately.

If your child is to go home with another student on the bus or as a car rider, it is vital that both students have a note brought to the office in the morning, so that teachers can be notified.

Just a reminder...we have had many students absent lately due to various illnesses, flu, or allergies. Please make sure that when students return to school they have a written excuse by the parent or a doctor's note stating the reason for their absences.

Spring Fundraiser With Schwans

Sheila Yeatts, Fundraising Chair

The Spring Fundraiser began at the end of March and all orders must be turned in on April 16th. It is very important to turn the orders in that day because we have a pick up date of May 19 and we can't push it back. Orders turned in after April 16 will not be processed.

We are trying a totally new, and I hope, enjoyable fundraiser. It is with the Schwan's company selling their pizzas and cookies. It is really simple! Brochures and order forms are sent home. Orders are taken and money collected.

On May 19 from 9am-4pm—yes, it is a Saturday—you just come to school and get your orders from the Schwan's truck. They will probably have 2 employees helping. I wish everyone a happy spring and a successful and enjoyable fundraising effort!

1080 Help Wanted

FUNDRAISING CO-CHAIR to assist in the implementation of fundraising program for 2007-2008 school year. No experience necessary...will train. Call Tammy Slade, PTO President, at 239-5024.

PERFORMING ARTS CHAIRPERSON to oversee \$2,000 budget, selection and booking of educational and cultural art programs for students for 2007-2008 school year. Call Tammy Slade, PTO President, at 239-5024.

CARNIVAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS to assist in the planning and implementation of the Fall Carnival in September. Must be able to have a lot of fun and enjoy a good time! Call Tammy Slade, PTO President, at 239-5024.

VOLUNTEERS needed to help with PTO activities, fundraising, assist school staff, bake goods for PTO sponsored events, help in classrooms, and anything else your time will allow. This is a very rewarding position! Call Tammy Slade, PTO President, at 239-5024.

Spring Spirit!

Barbara Rypkema, Chair

Spring is just around the corner and to celebrate the PTO will be sponsoring a "Fabulous Feet" Contest!

What is a "Fabulous Feet" contest? Starting on Friday, April 27th pictures of assorted faculty and staff member's tootsies will be on display in the foyer of the school. From April 27th until May 18th the students, faculty, staff and parents at TES can VOTE for the most "Fabulous Feet!" The voting will be done through the collection of coins with the money being donated to a local non-profit! The pair of feet who bring in the most "votes" will receive a special prize at the May 18th Family Fun Picnic! Other prizes will be awarded as

Art Show Scheduled

Mark your calendar...the date is set. Come see your child's artwork during the annual PTO Art Show!!

**Tuesday, April 3
7:00—9:00 p.m.**



well to the feet who participate! So... be on the look out for the "Fabulous Feet" entries, start saving your coins, and vote for the feet of YOUR choice!

To help kick off the contest and to celebrate the spring season, Friday, April 27th will also be a spirit day! Everyone is encouraged to wear rainbow colors to school that! Choose between the classes assigned rainbow colors (see below) or any TES spirit wear for the day!

- Pre-K & K ~ Red
- 1st Grade ~ Orange
- 2nd Grade ~ Yellow
- 3rd Grade ~ Green
- 4th Grade ~ Blue
- 5th Grade ~ Purple
- Faculty/Staff ~ Your Choice!

As always, please contact Barbara Rypkema (525-7124 or email me at Rypkema@verizon.net) with any questions or suggestions!

**Cyber Workshop:
The Internet,
Technology &
Safety**

**APRIL 24, 2007
7 - 9 PM
BHS AUDITORIUM**

A workshop addressing Internet Safety and 'Cyber' issues is scheduled for April 24, 2007 from 7PM – 9PM in the Brookville High School Auditorium. This is a **PARENTS ONLY** Workshop designed to educate parents about what is happening on the internet today and how it may be effecting your child.

- Do you know what kids can do with cell phones?
- Is your child a victim of Cyberbullying?
- What is a Blog?
- What other 'games' may your teen be playing online?

Deborah B. Finlay, MsEd, Guidance Director at Western Branch Middle School in Chesapeake, VA will be the presenter. She is an expert in the area of Cyberbullying and internet use and has been interviewed on TV and radio in addition to a number of well known magazines including *The Christian Science Monitor* and *People Magazine*. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about your child's virtual world. Sponsored by the Brookville Middle School PTO and Brookville High School.

Physical Fitness Testing To Begin

Mr. Woody Wooldridge, P.E.

Many thanks goes to all who collected donations for our JRFH. Up to this point we have collected just over \$11,000 with more expected in the next few days.

Physical Fitness testing will begin soon for all 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students. Please make sure that your child is wearing the appropriate shoes for these as well as any day that they have P.E. Their fitness scores will be recorded and assessment information will be coming home later in the month. Encourage your child to do their best and improvement in their test scores is what they should be striving for. Not being the best but living up to their potential.

Always encourage your child to be as active as possible and encourage any type of physical activity that they may enjoy. Sometimes they may need a little push in order to participate but once the spark is there the fire may roar.

The American Academy of Pediatrics says what children really need for healthy development is more good, old fashioned playtime.

Many parents may load their children's schedules with get-smart videos, enrichment activities and lots of classes in a drive to help them excel. While this may be fine to a point, children still need that unstructured time to unwind and actually relieve stress. Numerous studies have shown that unstructured play has many other benefits as well. It can help children become creative, discover their own passions, develop problem solving skills, relate to others and adjust to school settings.

Perhaps above all, play is a simple joy that is a cherished part of childhood. A lack of spontaneous playtime can create stress for children and parents alike. If it

National Library Week April 15-21

Mrs. Kathy Meredith, Librarian

I want to start off with a great big THANK YOU to everyone for their support of our Scholastic Book Fair in February. The snow messed up our schedule, but couldn't alter the support provided by the entire Tomahawk family. We raised approximately \$3,000.00 which we've already started spending!

April is a time of celebration in the library here at Tomahawk. The American Library Association has designated April 15 – 21, 2007 as National Library Week, with the theme: **"Come together @ your library®"** Embedded in the week is National Library Workers Day which is Tuesday, April 17th. Please join me in thanking Mrs. Kathy Giuliano for her tremendous dedication to both the children and the library here at Tomahawk. We are very lucky to have her as our Library Assistant! That same week has been designated "Virginia Volunteer Week" by Governor Tim Kaine. I'd like to officially thank our regular library volunteers, and our book fair volunteers for all they've done this year to help our library go!

As you begin your "Spring Cleaning" please keep an eye out for lost library books. There are quite a few that have been overdue for quite some time. One of the many lessons our children must learn eventually is to be responsible. If a library book has been lost, the responsible thing to do is to pay for that book. The good news is that if it is later found and returned, your money will be refunded to you.

Please encourage your students who are enrolled in the A.R. program to continue to read and take the A.R. quizzes. A.R. started in September, and runs deep into May (the exact, final day is still somewhat up in the air. We're working on scheduling a culminating activity to celebrate students who have met their goal for 4 of the 6 six-weeks periods, or who have met a grade-wide minimum (20 points for 2nd graders; 30 points for 3rd graders, etc). I'll set the ending date as late as possible to allow students every last minute to earn points.

Keep Reading!

occurs because young children are plopped in front of get-smart videos or the child loses their recess time, it can increase risks for obesity. It may even contribute to depression for many children, the report says. Keep your child busy but remember that all children need some time for themselves as well.

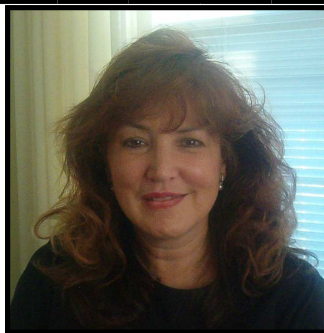
Our school will once again be participating in the ACES program this year. Our tentative date is the first Wednesday of May. We will as a school be exercising from 10 until 10:15 in the classrooms and weather permitting we will have a school-wide walk/joy around the track. The whole point of this pro-

ject is get some type of fitness education for 30 minutes. In this project we are trying to create a fun, non-competitive atmosphere. Last year 10 million children participated in 10,000 schools all over the 50 states and in more than 41 countries. This year an additional one million children are expected to participate.

Thanks for your encouragement and support of our physical education program here at Tomahawk. If you ever any concerns or suggestions, please feel free to pass them on to me.

Speech News

Mrs. Regina Mauzy, MS
Speech Pathologist



Dear Speech Therapist:

My child seems overly sensitive to noise, foods, even certain types of clothing! I recently found out he also has a language delay. Are all these things related? How can I help him?

Concerned Mom

Dear Concerned Mom:

Your child has some of the earmarks of what we term Sensory Integration problems, which account for the oversensitivity to foods, etc. Many of these children also have language delays because speech is just one of the many areas (tactile, auditory, etc) that are not being processed in a "normal" fashion. Think of it this way: you know how you feel when people "startle" you. Many of these children have systems that "startle" easily (Hypersensitivity), or the opposite, it takes multiple stimuli to have an impact (hyposensitive).

Language delays in these children are often a by-product of the sensory system not "processing" information correctly or incompletely. We often have to be creative and use multi-sensory modalities to teach children who have sensory input problems. Often these children benefit from a team approach to enhance their learning abilities. Talk to your physician or a pediatrician who is versed in these areas.

Here's a great resource tool on the web to visit:

<http://www.webspawner.com/users/rgspch1/index.html>

www.boxtopsforeducation.com

Many thanks goes to Carol Bertrand for counting and separating the Box Tops for me. I appreciate all her help. The next mail-in date will be in the fall, but keep sending them in before the end of school. Please note the Box Tops do have an expiration date, so send them as soon as possible.

If you ever have any questions, feel free to call me, 832-0111.

ENJOY SPRING BREAK! APR 9-13

Campbell Soup Label Change

Leslie Sowers

Please note that from now on all we need from the Campbell Soup labels is the UPC (bar code). Many of these are worth 5 extra points for our school. Also, from some of the Fusion drinks the lid needs to be saved. On the label it should tell you whether to save the UPC or the lid. You can always go the web site www.labelsforeducation.com.

They have a complete list of which part needs to be saved.

Box Tops For Education

Box Tops labels have been submitted for the spring and the PTO should be receiving about \$290. What a nice thing to receive from what is really trash! There are other ways to earn money from Box Tops for our school. Check out the website:

The Buzz is published monthly by the Tomahawk Elementary PTO, September—May.



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Parents:
Please feel free to email your ideas or suggestions for future issues of our newsletter to the email address above.