

# The BUZZ

Tomahawk Elementary PTO Newsletter

(Continued from page 3)

website at [www.vahealth.org/childadolescenthealth](http://www.vahealth.org/childadolescenthealth) for further insight and information about school age children!

## Kindergarten Connections

Vicky Weaver, Kindergarten Teacher

During the 4th six weeks of school, our Kindergarten students will be learning information that covers some big SOLS for our grade. In Social Studies, we will be covering the following "Famous Americans": George Washington, Abe Lincoln, and President Barack Obama. Also, we will learn why we celebrate President's Day. In Math, we will be learning to identify and know the value of the following coins: penny, nickel, dime, and quarter. Another Math skill we will be working on is telling time to the hour. Some of these concepts can be tricky for Kindergartners to master so please review these skills at home with your child as we work on them in school.

## Terrific T-1

Andrea Webb, T-1 Teacher

During the 5th Six Weeks T-1 students will be learning The Letter Cluster Phonics Song and The Long Vowel Marching Song. These two songs will help the students learn and apply long vowel and letter cluster sounds to unknown words. Students will be working on the following letter

cluster sounds: or, sh, ch, er, ir, ur, th, ow, ou, ing, ang, ung, oy, oi, oo, tion, ph, ui, ue.

During Math students will work on measurement and addition and subtraction.

Unit topics will include: animals (insects, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians); the season of spring, St. Patrick, and oceans.

## Character Corner

Becky Yaffee, Guidance

I am happy to report that our "Soup"er Bowl Food Drive was a huge success!! Our goal was to collect 500 cans of soup and our wonderful Tomahawk students were able to collect 637 cans !!! What a great way to exhibit Caring, Respect, Responsibility, and Citizenship by our students; they are "Kids Of Character"!! Thank you all for your support. The Lynchburg Food Bank was running very low on food and they were thrilled to come pick up our collection.

Currently, I am teaching Character Education in Third and Fourth grades. Kids of Character teaches the six pillars of character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Fairness, and Citizenship. Be sure to ask your children about the pillars of character.

I continue to run small groups dealing with: Divorce, Children of Alcoholics, Children of Incarcerated Parents, as well as

Anger Management.

If I can be of assistance to you or your child, please do not hesitate to give me a call. The phone number here is: 237-4090 ext. 4.

## Fabulous Fun

Sonja Yoder, 4th Grade Teacher/PTO Volunteer Coordinator

Thank you to everyone who helped out with and attended Tomahawk's First Daddy Daughter Sweetheart Dance. It was a beautiful evening, and it was an amazing sight to look out and see so many Dads and Daughters. We could not have done it without your help. From the baking of the first cookie to the hanging of the last light, your help made the difference. Each time you volunteer it encourages our school and makes it a better place to be!

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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.**

## From The Principal's Hive...



Mrs. Donna Brown, Principal

Just a reminder that students, when absent, are to return to school with a note from the parent/guardian stating the reason for the absence or a note from the doctor. Absences that are not accompanied by a written explanation are considered unexcused.

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Registration will be held on April 23 from 9:00 until 2:00 in the front lobby area of the school. Pre-K students can enroll if they will be four years of age as of September 30, 2009. Students are eligible for Kindergarten if they will be five years old as of September 30, 2009. Parents will need to bring two proofs of residency requirements for Campbell County (physical address verification), original Birth Certificate, and Social Security number (optional). At the registration, you will receive information on the Physical Examination and Immunization Records that will need to be completed before the start of

## MARCH IMPORTANT DATES

March 2nd thru 20th	Odyssey Nominations are being accepted from teachers or parents! Please see teacher for nomination forms. More information on Page 3!
Tues. 3/3	5th Grade SOL Writing Test
Wed. 3/4	5th Grade SOL Writing Make-up Test
Thurs. 3/5	5th Grade SOL Writing Test Pre-K Parent Workshop to be held at the Timbrook Library ~ 6:30pm. <b>*All Pre-K parents and students are encouraged to attend!</b>
Fri. 3/6	5th Grade SOL Writing Make-up Test
Mon. 3/9	Author Fred Bowen ~ TES Library For Grades 3, 4, and 5.
Thurs. 3/12	Jump Rope for Heart ~ During the school day. Talent Show Practice ~ 6:30pm
Fri. 3/13	Hit the Books with the Lynchburg Hillcats
Mon. 3/16	Campbell County School Board Meeting 7pm ~ Campbell Co. Technical Center (Budget will be on the agenda!)
Thurs. 3/19	Talent Show Dress Rehearsal ~ 6:30pm
Thurs. 3/26	School Talent Show ~ 7pm in the gym.
Mon. 3/30	Theater Four Production for Pre-k thru 5th Grade

### NOTE: the 5th Grade Writing SOL Date Changes!

Tuesday, March 3, 2009 ~ Multiple Choice Section

Thursday, March 5, 2009 ~ Direct writing Section

Wednesday, March 4 and Friday, March 6 ~ Make-up Testing

the school year and a screening date for each child to receive the Brigrance screening.

We have a basket of eyeglasses that have been turned in throughout the year. If your child is missing glasses please come by the office and check. Any glasses remaining after March 31st will be donated to the local Lion's Chapter.

We have a large amount of coats, sweaters, hats, and mittens that have been left in the Lost and Found, located in the hallway beside the cafeteria. All items need to be collected by March 20th. Remaining coats will be donated to a local agency that provides coats to those in need.

**Fitness Fun**

Woody Wooldridge, P.E.

Reminder: Jump Rope for Heart, to benefit the American Heart Association, will be held March 9th thru the 13th for all Pre K, K, T1, and 1st grade students. On March 12th the following schedule will be observed:

- \* 2nd grade 10:10 - 11:10
- \* 3rd grade 12:00 - 1:15
- \* 4th grade 1:30 - 2:45
- \* 5th grade 8:45 - 10:00

Students are encouraged to turn in all money collected for this event that week, with the

**PTO President's Buzz...**

Tammy Slade, PTO President

I would like to say thanks to all the volunteers at the Book Fair Chili Dinner. The Key Club members were great. We had a good turn out and I hope everyone enjoyed it.

We had our February general meeting and it was successful. Susan Hogg, School Board Representative was there. If anyone had questions regarding the upcoming school year and the budget they could talk to her.

We are still in need of volunteers for our PTO Board, if you are interested in working on our board but don't want to start out as the lead person of one of our committees we are looking for people to come aboard and work with the volunteers that we already have. This is a very rewarding thing to do and you can give as much time as you have to spare.

For the Spring Fundraiser our students have been working hard in the art classes. We have sent in a piece of artwork for each student at Tomahawk. This will be used as our Spring Fundraiser. Please watch your child's Monday folder for more information.

Our next general meeting is May 5, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. please come on our and join us. We are going to vote on our board position and on our budget for the up coming school year.

deadline being March 12th.

If you would be interested in helping count our donations that day (March 12) contact Mr. Wooldridge at 237-4090 or email him your intentions at wwooldridge@k12.va.us.

We appreciate your help in this worthy cause.

**Library Tales...**

Kathy Meredith, Librarian

I want to thank the whole Tomahawk family for making our book fair such a success. We had a tremendous turnout

of volunteers throughout the whole week. The P.T.O. hot dog dinner was a ton of fun, and it gave us all a chance to eat & shop as a family. Our teachers received around 67 donated books thanks to the generosity of so many of our current and former students. Our total sales were right at the \$10,000 mark, which will translate into almost \$2,500 in books and cash. Again, I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for all your support.

Our next big event will be Monday, March 9th. Fred

Monday, March 9th. Fred Bowen, the author of the AllStar SportStory Series will be giving our 3rd-5th graders an inside look at being a writer. Several of his books were on sale at the book fair, and pre-orders are available, too.

As we roll into the spring semester, I'd like to update you on the results of our Virginia Readers' Choice primary voting. Our winner by a 2-to-1 margin was Once I Ate a Pie by Patricia MacLachlan. Voting on the elementary titles will take place in April.

**Odyssey**

Lani Patrick, Odyssey Teacher

The Odyssey program is Campbell County's Gifted Program. The program is a pull-out program designed to expose students to disciplines that are not an ordinary part of the curriculum, develop students' ability to carry out, independently, an in-depth study, assist students to become self-directed learners, and to help the student grow in critical thinking skills.

**Congratulations to Sydney McCray from Mrs. Morton's 5th grade class. She was the winner of the Jonas Brothers Raffle! The raffle made \$76.00 for the library. Many thanks to Keith Trent from the Hershey Company for his sponsorship of this event.**

The selection process for the program involves the following components: 1) Parent and Teacher Nomination form, 2) Ability test performance, 3) Academic Record, 4) Interest Inventory, and 5) Creative Writing Sample. All of the components are evaluated and scored. A committee comprised of teachers and administrators meet to discuss the total profile to determine if the program would be a good fit for your child.

Although nominations are accepted all year long, we are actively seeking nominations from March 2, 2009 through March 20, 2009. Nominations for the 2009-2010 school session may be submitted by teachers, parents or legal guardians, other persons of related expertise, and community members. Parents and individuals wishing to nominate a student for the Odyssey Program should contact the principal, Odyssey teacher, or guidance counselor for the appropriate forms.

**From the School Nurse...**

Susan Anderson, R.N.

With the flu season here, many of our students have gotten sick. Strep throat is common right now too, along with upper respiratory illnesses. Please note the following information about cold and flu symptoms.

**TES Talent Show**

Thursday, March 26th  
7 - 9 P.M. ~ T.E.S. Gym

The talent show will showcase students in grades 3 - 5.

Everyone is invited to come see the show!

And remember, if your child has a fever, please follow your doctor's guidelines about returning to school.

**Common Cold**

- ⇒ Usually no fever
- ⇒ Usually no headache
- ⇒ Mild fatigue, weakness
- ⇒ Sneezing, stuffy nose
- ⇒ Mild to moderate cough
- ⇒ Sore throat
- ⇒ Hand washing helps prevent

**The Flu**

- ⇒ Sudden fever ~ usually lasts 3 or more days
- ⇒ Headache
- ⇒ Extreme fatigue, weakness
- ⇒ Sneezing, sometimes stuffy nose
- ⇒ Cough is common, sometimes severe
- ⇒ Sore throat sometimes occurs
- ⇒ Vaccination & hand washing help prevent

Please remember to send an excuse note in with your child when he or she returns to school. Please visit the Virginia Department of Health