



HUMPHRIES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November 2016

Melanie Mitchell, Principal
Benita Grant, Assistant Principal

Principal's Message



Melanie Mitchell

Thank you to all of the families who attended math night last week. We had a fantastic time and enjoyed your company. Families that learn together can excel to higher heights. We are continuing to spread the word that all students in grades K-5 should be working hard to learn math facts. Grade K should be able to count and identify objects to match numbers up to 100. Grades 1-2 should be adding one and two digit numbers and grades 3-5 should know all multiplication facts. We are pushing our students to understand recall math, in order to move forward with more difficult concepts.

The South Atlanta State of the Cluster Meeting date has been changed from November 2 to November 10, at 6:30 at South Atlanta High School. Please come out and hear the focus and progress for our schools.

It's that time of year for the fall mornings to be very dark. Several students are walking in the dark without a parent. It is difficult for the students to be seen by car drivers. Some of the students are pushing each other into the street. We have had several calls of children playing in the street. Please walk your students to school to make sure they arrive safely.

We look forward to our families visiting again for Thanksgiving lunch on November 17, 2016. We should be sending a flyer home for advance purchase of adult lunches. In order to ensure the cafeteria prepares enough food, please purchase your meal in advance.

Thank you to all parents who are sending students to school each day. Thank you to all parents who helped transport students to school when bus 805/632 did not pick the students up a few weeks ago. Please send students on time. When students are late, they miss instructional time.

Thank you to all parents for being a part of the Humphries' family! Please remember to cast your vote on



November 2016

- 1 Dia de los Muertos begins
- 2 All Souls Day
- 6 Daylight Savings Time changes
- 7 Roadrunner Rally
- 8 Election Day —No school for students. Teachers report for Professional Learning.**
- 9 Progress Reports due
- 11 Veterans Day—School is open
- 17 Parent Volunteer Day and Family Luncheon**
- 18 Activity Day
- 21-25 Thanksgiving Break-No School**

Election Day (November 8). Students will not attend school on Election Day. Have a great month and set your clocks back on November 5.



Humphries Elementary School
3029 Humphries Drive
Atlanta, Georgia 30354

Kindergarten News

GREAT job students and parents. We are moving along with our Sight Words. We would like to thank the parents that came out to the RED LIST Sight Word Bee. The students were excited and had a great time showing their progress with learning their words.

In Science, we are studying Living and Non-Living things. Your child will have a project DUE on Wednesday, November 16, 2016. Please start now looking for pictures to display on a POSTER BOARD. More information with the grading rubric will come home soon. **HAVE FUN.**

First Grade News

As we enter our second quarter of school, your first grader will continue to build their reading comprehension strategies skills which include recognizing the main idea, key details, retelling and sequencing in a text. Please continue to help your child practice reading sight words with speed and accuracy. Recognizing sight words will help your child become a more fluent reader. When reading with your child at home, remember to use these strategies.

In addition to daily reading with your child, you may practice oral sentence dictation as well. This is an important exercise to help your child repeat your sentence and then write it. Also, have them repeat aloud that a sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with an ending punctuation mark before they write.

FUNdations

Here are the skills and concepts that will be covered in our phonics program.

- letter-keyword-sound for consonants and short vowels letter formation
- alphabetical order
- sound recognition for consonants and short vowels

Grade Two News

Second grade is diligently working on mastering our reading and math skills mentioned in the prior newsletter (identifying key details, answering and asking questions; understanding place value of a three digit number). We have also introduced new reading skills to the scholars which includes identifying the moral of a fable, and describing the introduction, middle, and conclusion of a story. In Mathematics, we have introduced how to solve word problems using the CUBES strategy and adding and subtracting two digit numbers using base ten blocks. In Social Studies, we are discussing Georgia's First People (the Creek and Cherokee Native Americans) and in Science we are discussing seasonal changes!

Parents, please continue to monitor weekly homework and sign their behavior sheets!

MOID K-2

The MOID K-2 Unit is excited to announce that the final shipment of our Literacy Center "Safe Play" Plastic Balls is on the way. That's right! Our beloved Literacy Center is about to be up and running. We will soon have a state of the art Literacy Center in which the students will have a calming, colorful, and relaxing reading area to soothe and assuage their natural love of books. Additionally, your students are incredible learners. I was so amazed as I watched them enhance their ability to count using tally marks. We used pretzels to make tallies in the classroom and one child came really close to going to 50. I was so amazed. Of course, we had pretzel and juice snacks in the meantime. Finally, my little explorers have become quite adept at differentiating between land and water on a map and a globe. They can explain how to read a simple map and they navigate quite well using the classroom globe. All in all, our little life-long learners never cease to amaze me; and I can give you my word that there will be much more to follow. Stay Tuned!

Grade Three News

Greetings Parents!! Happy Fall!! The year is flying by, with everything moving so fast we would like to remind you of a few important things...

- Students should be reading every night for 20 minutes.
- Students should be practicing multiplication facts for mastery. The goal is to have the students master their 2's, 3's, 4's and 6's. Please study with them and make or purchase flashcards.

In Reading ELA, we are focusing on main idea and supporting details. Have the students review these skills throughout their reading each night. In Math, we are focusing on division and multiplication!! In Science, we are working on Pollution. In Social Studies, we are working on Geography/ Government. There is a slight change to our Homework sheet, we will now complete one sheet for two days (ex: Sheet 1 due on Tuesday). We want to make sure you are using the extra time to practice reading!!! Please do not hesitate to email or call us if you have any questions or concerns! Thanks in advance!

Grade Four News

Hello Families! Well, the first nine weeks are behind us. We celebrate the outstanding of accomplishments of our students and we recognize that we still have many areas where we can grow. As we rapidly approach Thanksgiving and the Holiday Season, let's not lose our focus on learning. The Fourth Grade Team remains excited at the growth of our students in all aspects of our studies. In math, the stu-

dents will culminate the unit on multiplication and division with a performance assessment and move on to learning about fractions. In ELA, the students are beginning their research to complete their performance task that will have them write a biographical essay on a poet they have chosen. In social studies, the students are exploring the colonization of North America, the thirteen colonies and the birth of our Nation. Lastly, in science the students are continuing to look into the solar system and astronomy. Please continue helping us build a strong school-to-home connection by discussing these important concepts and helping your child with homework at home. In addition, please continue to replenish school supplies throughout the year and when possible donate by sending healthy snacks for the students to eat. Ensure each student reads for at least 20 minutes daily and studies their multiplication facts. Our social-emotional learning program remains a point of emphasis. Reinforce the importance of making good decisions, being respectful and attentive at home and in the community. Let us continue to make our good better and work to have our better work to be the best. Thank you very much.

Grade Five News

The first quarter of school has ended and students received their first official report card. Please review your child's strengths and weaknesses and devise a plan of action to move him or her to the next level. Also, please contact us with any questions or concerns. Our upcoming units of study are adding and subtracting decimals, Genetics and Heredity, Reconstruction and the growth of industry, and the close reading of informational and literary texts. Encourage your child to read and write every night. Remember they have a reading goal of 1,000,000 words!

Enrichment News

The Enrichment Team is steadily enhancing and nurturing our Humphries Roadrunners in the areas of Music, Art, Spanish, and Physical Education as the year moves progressively forward. In Music, our students are preparing for the Winter Holiday Program as they play rhythm/melodic pattern in a group formation. Students continue to appreciate Art by understanding and applying techniques and processes with the use of primary and secondary colors. Students continue to exchange simple spoken and written information, and expressing dialogue with the use of the Spanish language. In Physical Education, students are applying basic golf concepts as they are learning proper form of rolling a ball and putting a ball to a target. Great job Humphries Roadrunners as we continue to meet the needs of all students!



From the Media Center

November is a good month to read about Autumn, harvest and Thanksgiving. Here are a few books to share with your children and students.

- Anderson, Laurie [Thank You, Sarah: the Woman who Saved Thanksgiving](#)
- Barth, Edna . [Turkeys, Pilgrims, and Indian Corn: the Story of the Thanksgiving Symbols](#)
- Brown, Marcia [Stone Soup](#)
- Bruchac, Joseph [Squanto's Journey](#)
- Bunting, Eve. [How many days to America?](#)
- Cherneski, Felicia [From Apple Trees to Cider, Please](#)
- Cohen, Barbara [Molly's Pilgrim](#)
- Crane, Carol [P is for Pilgrim](#)
- Falwell, Cathryn. [Feast for 10](#)
- Galdone, Paul [Little Red Hen](#)
- Gibbons, Gail. [Thanksgiving Is.](#)
- Gershator, David. [Bread is for Eating](#)
- Grace, Catherine. [1621: a New Look at Thanksgiving](#)
- Jackson, Ellen. [The Autumn Equinox: Celebrating the Harvest](#)
- McKenzie, Precious [Lost in the Corn Maze](#)
- McMullan, Kate [Fluffy's Thanksgiving](#)
- Micucci, Charles [The life and Times of Corn](#)
- Miller, Reagan [Sukkot](#)
- Osborne, Mary Pope [Thanksgiving on Thursday](#)
- Pettiford, Rebecca [Harvesting](#)
- Roberts, Bethany [Thanksgiving Mice](#)
- Rockwell, Anne [Apples and Pumpkins](#)
- Schuh, Mari [What Happens in Fall](#)
- Schnur, Steven. [Autumn: an Alphabet Acrostic](#)
- Siegelson, Kim. [Dancing the Ring Shout.](#)
- Uk-Bae, Lee. [Sori's Harvest Moon](#)
- Wallace, Nancy Elizabeth. [Pumpkin Day](#)
- Waters, Kate. [Giving Thanks](#)