



THE HAWKS' NEST

Hickory Creek Elementary School

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Welcome To The Best School Year Ever!!!

Hickory Teachers
Enjoy Summer
Learning Together



Dear Hickory Creek Families,

It is my joy to welcome you to an amazing school! I hope your child has settled into their classroom and is getting to know their teacher and classmates well. We have gotten off to a great start! The building has seen several new updates including the fresh paint in the hallways and commons, the new playground, the Memorial Garden and the nearly complete sunshade in the amphitheater. There are many exciting programs planned to enrich the educational experience this year and maximize learning for every child. Please get involved as much as you can. We look forward to sharing this year with your child and family. If I can help in any way, please let me know. Hope to see you soon around the Creek!

Bethany Groves, Principal

Upcoming Dates:

August 30 -

Open House for
grades 3 - 5

6:30 - 8:00 PM

September 1 -

Open House for
Grades K - 2nd

6:30 - 8:00 PM



Back to School Bash sponsored by the HCE PTO a HUGE SUCCESS!!! Our families loved the new playground!

Our New Playground

This summer Hickory expanded its outdoor play areas with the addition of a third playground. It is located next to the basketball court in bright school colors. This year we are rotating all grades onto this area to make sure everyone gets to enjoy the new equipment. It has many items that encourage creativity as children play. When visiting with us, come check it out!

Thanks Girls School Troop 1165!

Hickory Creek is now home to two Buddy Benches! Buddy Benches are designed to foster new friendships and eliminate loneliness on the playground by providing a place for children to sit when they need a friend. Other students will know to ask that child to play when they see them on the bench. The students of Hickory will be educated in the coming weeks on the purpose and use of the Buddy Benches at special assemblies given by Girl Scout Troop 1165.



The Buddy Bench idea was proposed to Mrs. Groves by Girl Scout Troop 1165 as a part of their Silver Award project. The Silver Award is the second highest award in Girl Scouting and the educational presentation is the culmination of over 50 hours of service dedicated to their project *Make New Friends*, which included supporting newly arrived refugee families from Burma and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, providing needed items to migrant farm workers in the southern part of our county and entertaining senior citizens at Westminster Woods.

The girls in Troop 1165 started their Girl Scout journey together as Daisy Scouts at Hickory Creek and are now in the 8th grade at Fruit Cove Middle School and Switzerland Point Middle School. According to Emily Williams, member of Troop 1165, it was important for the girls to complete their project at Hickory because "Hickory Creek always treated us so kindly, it was time to give back."

Hickory's Heart

Through the PTO, Hickory Creek has an anonymous organization that helps support any of our students that may need nutritional support on the weekends and extended breaks. This group is called Hickory's Heart. If you know of a child that may receive benefit from this program, please call school and ask for Sherry. She will take care of making the arrangements. Donations of snacks, money and gift cards are also accepted to support this program. Please see the flyer on our school website for needed items. We will begin collecting at Open House. Any support is greatly appreciated.

Principal Chats Begin

September 12th will be our first Principal's Chat. Please join us in the atrium at 8:30 AM for a discussion about our goals and plans for this school year. Light refreshments will be served as well as a time for Q and A.

This session will be repeated in the evening as a part of the PTO's dinner and a meeting that evening starting at 6:00 PM.



Open House Schedule

6:00 - Newbie Reception in the Media Center.
By Invitation Only.

6:30 - All Parents in the Cafeteria

7:00 - 7:30 - First Classroom Presentation

7:30 - 8:00 - Second Classroom Presentation

(We encourage, but not require, parents
to attend without their children
so they may focus on the presentations.)

Read-a-Thon

The major PTO fundraiser for the year is the Read-a-thon. Children collect donations for reading over a period of two weeks. Contributions support a wide variety of projects and programs that directly enhance our students' learning environment. The Read-a-thon Pep Rally will be held on Friday, September 9th and kicks off September 12th, 2016 and runs through September 23, 2016. Your support is greatly appreciated! Look for more details soon!



The Book Fair is coming to Hickory Creek!



It runs from September 16th to the 27th. Evening Family Nights are September 20th and 22nd with special Pet Show Guests both evenings!



September 12th

This evening will be a special evening for information and fun.

PTO will provide a dinner free of charge at 6:00 PM. Principal's Chat will begin at 6:30 with a short presentation of this year's goals and plans. A PTO meeting will end the evening at 7:00 PM. All parents and children are invited. Childcare will be provided.

Please email hcepto05@yahoo.com if you will attend so childcare and food can be accurately provided.

Please email by September 7th .