

Hickory Creek Elementary School HAWKS' NEST

"First we love them, then we teach them"

Dr. Paul Goricki, Principal

Mrs. Brenda Boyd, Assistant Principal



From the Principal's Desk

Nancy Vara and Jenny Densmore are Hickory Creek Teachers of the Year!

I'm proud to announce that Hickory Creek's *Teacher of the Year* is Nancy Vara. Mrs. Vara teaches fifth grade science, reading and social studies. Every day Nancy exemplifies the personal and professional qualities that represent the very best of our school. Mrs. Vara has long deserved this special honor and we're thrilled for her.

Hickory Creek's *Rookie Teacher of the Year* is Jenny Densmore. Miss Densmore teaches kindergarten and she does a terrific job of engendering a love for learning among our youngest students. Teachers who have taught less than three years are eligible for this district recognition.

Because Hickory Creek Teachers of the Year are nominated by their teaching colleagues, this peer recognition is a true honor. In a school like Hickory Creek, with so many extraordinary teachers, it is difficult to single out one or two teachers for this recognition. All of us are very proud to work with Nancy Vara and Jenny Densmore.

Welcome, Gabrielle Contreras!

I am pleased to announce that Miss Gabi Contreras has been recommended to fill the third grade vacancy at Hickory Creek. Miss Contreras has performed very well as long-term substitute at our school and I am happy to welcome her as a full-time faculty member.

October 26, 2009

Volume 5, Issue 7

Upcoming Events:

October 27

Character Counts Musical by
2nd grade students 6:30 pm

October 29

Book Fair Begins
Kindergarten Halloween Parade
9:00 am

October 30

Student Holiday/
Teacher In-Service

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Please Remember Hickory Creek Elementary is a
Peanut Allergy Awareness School.



Mrs. Boyd's Banner

Gifted Referral Deadlines

Please be aware that there are dates to remember if you wish to have your child considered for gifted services.

November 20, 2009 Deadline to request gifted screening contact guidance counselor.

March 5, 2010 Deadline for submission of private evaluations to guidance.

April 5, 2010 District meeting for determination of eligibility.

April 9, 2010 Letters mailed home to parents about eligibility determination.

May 7, 2010 Deadline to submit Intent to enroll in a Gifted Cluster Program.

Gifted services are provided at all schools in the district and cluster sites are available for elementary and middle school. Please contact Lynn O'Connor, Program Specialist for Gifted Services at 547-7680, to answer any questions about referral procedure and gifted services.

Listen to Students Read!

Do you drop your children off at school in the morning? Can you stay for 30 minutes and listen to students read? We Need YOU!

Please consider volunteering 1 morning per week from 8:00-8:30 in a computer lab to allow children to participate in the Read Naturally computer program. Technology phobia? Not a problem with this program. It's "Easy Peezy Mac and Cheezy!" Please contact Mrs. Andrea Finnerty at HCE finnera@stjohns.k12.fl.us for more information.

GATOR BOWL TICKETS

You can purchase Konica Minolta Gator Bowl tickets for the 1:00 pm 2010 New Year's Day game. These tickets normally sell for \$50 each. You can purchase them for \$20 each and HCE keeps \$10! This is a great savings to you and also helps our school raise money. The deadline to purchase these tickets is Friday, November 13th. The deadline cannot be extended so get your orders in fast. Please complete the attached order form and turn it in with your check payable to HCE PTO. Tickets will be delivered to you on December 1, 2009. If you have any questions, please contact Kelli Barrington at cbarrington@bellsouth.net or 568-0656.

Students Name _____

Teacher _____

Parent's Name _____

Phone number _____

Parent's email address _____

of tickets _____ x20=\$ _____

Make checks payable to HCE PTO.

SAVE THE DATE!

Cadeau Gift Shop in Bartram Walk will be sponsoring a "We Love Our Schools" night on November 5th! They will be offering wine & cheese as well as 10% off each purchase and a 10% donation to HCE PTO. This promotion also runs during the day of the sale and the day after for maximum contributions. They are currently having a contest between HCE, CCE and DCE to receive a 5% bonus of the sales. Get that holiday shopping done early and help HCE too.

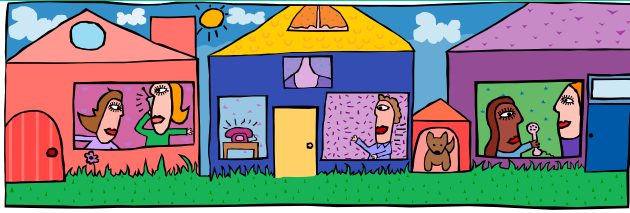
Music Notes from Mrs. Gauger:

1. Students in grades 3, 4 and 5 have been working on learning some music vocabulary words since the first week of October! They have written down the due date AND the test date in their planner. They have been given class time to look up and write the definitions and all the information is posted on the Music Website at www-hce.stjohns.k12.fl.us. Click on "Staff Directory" and scroll down to Mrs. Gauger's name and click on "Website." Scroll down and click on "Vocabulary Homework" and you will find the list of words and definitions as well as a Word Search puzzle (for extra credit on the test!) and a set of flashcards to use when studying! The due dates and test dates are posted on the Music website, too.

2. Tuesday night - **OCTOBER 27TH** - is the annual **Character Counts! musical** presented by the Second Grade classes of Hickory Creek! Students will present the musical at 8:30 am, 1:30 pm and again in the evening at 7:00 pm. Check the reminder letter sent home last week for times your child needs to report and locations. The attire for this performance is blue jeans and the HCES field trip t-shirt for your child's classroom!

3. In preparation for the upcoming holiday seasons, we are showing that **Hickory Creek is a CARING school by collecting donations of canned food and non-perishable food items at this week's Character Counts! performance.** When you come to the concert, please bring a donation of food or monetary donation which will be used to provide food for families from within our own Hickory Creek family! And watch for more information about a **benefit concert** we are putting together as well!

4. Many thanks to those of you who purchased BRAX Spirit cups from Band and Chorus students! This was an outstanding fundraiser and the child you purchased from directly benefited from your purchase/donation! Thank YOU!



Community News

River Of Pumpkins—Pumpkin Patch

Our patch will be open beginning September 29th from 10:00 am to dusk everyday. Come join in the fun and get prepared for fall. We are located at 2600 Race Track Road.

Creeks Girls Lacrosse

Register now to join the Creeks Girls Lacrosse which is open to girls in grades K-8th. Registration begins October 1st through December 31st and the season runs from February through May. Register online at www.caalacrosse.com.

Creeks Boys Lacrosse

Register now to join the Creeks Boys Lacrosse which is open to boys in grades K-8th. Registration begins October 5th and the season runs from the middle of February thru March. Register online at www.creeksjax.com.

3rd Annual Fall Festival

San Juan del Rio Catholic Church and School will host it's annual Fall Festival November 6,7 & 8th. School Midway Games, JCJ Amusement Rides, Food & Refreshments, Giant Raffle, \$8,000. in cash prizes, SJDR Café, Silent Auction, Entertainment all 3 days. Join us for fun and fellowship. All proceeds will be given to our "Expect A Miracle" campaign for the needs of our School and Church.

Bartram Trail High School Presents

The Performing Arts Department proudly presents Music Theatre International's "Jekyll & Hyde The Musical" on November 19-21st at 7:30pm in the school auditorium. Ticket prices are \$10. for adults and \$6. for students. For advance ticket sales call Bartram High School at 904-547-8340 ext. 22574. Please join us for this exciting performance.