

School Address:
13222 Corona Street
Thornton, CO 80241

Issue 2

September 29, 2008



Hunters Glen Elementary

Accelerate student academic performance and nurture their social development.

Important Numbers

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Attendance:

720-972-5458

Clinic: 720-972-5445

Cafeteria: 720-972-5451

BASE & KEEP

720-972-5449

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PRINCIPAL
MRS. KATHY HATZ

ASST. PRINCIPAL
MS. MARCY LISTER

OFFICE STAFF
MRS. KAREN ALLISON
MS. AMANDA GUZMAN
MRS. KAREN WEBER

BASE
MRS. ANDY RAMIREZ-
HILTON
MR. SANTINO LOCHI

Principal notes...

Fall is upon us and the cooler weather is welcome! Please remember to have your child dress in layers for our changing weather. We do go outside for recess everyday if it is above 20 degrees and not too wet.

We are currently short handed in the office and we ask you to bear with us for the next few weeks. It was discovered last week that Amanda's four year old daughter has a brain tumor. She

had surgery last Friday and a treatment plan will be determined today. At this time we are not sure how long Amanda will be out. Please keep her in your thoughts. Our phenomenal PTO Board has generously offered to help man the phones so that Karen is able to leave her desk for lunch each day.

A very special thanks to Amy Barnes for doing this month's newsletter. We are truly blessed to have

such wonderful parents in our community! You all continue to amaze me!

We look forward to seeing all of you at our Fall **Parent Teacher Conferences** on October 8 (1:20—6:00 pm) and October 9 (8:00—3:00).

We will not be having school on Halloween this year. October 31 is an Inservice Day. We will be having a **MONSTER MASH DISCO** on Thursday, October 30 from 6:30—8:30. Please plan to join us.

News from Kindergarten

We're off to a great start! Our focus during the first weeks of school has been on establishing rules and routines, building friendship and a classroom community. Now that we have settled into a routine and a predictable schedule, we are ready to start several

new units of study: Families, Fall, Nursery Rhymes, and Writers' Workshop. Assessment Days on September 4 and 5 ran very smoothly. We look forward to sharing results with you during the upcoming Parent/Teacher conferences on October 8 and 9. Please

also refer to our October Kindergarten newsletter for more detailed information on curriculum and schedules. We send our Kindergarten newsletter home with your child right on or before the first day of each month.

Jackie Van Winkle

- Please be sure to check out our Parent Information Board located to the right of our main entrance. You will find lots of very helpful and interesting tidbits.

News from First Grade

The children are doing well with all the new routines and expectations of First Grade! Our Homework Routine is now in "full swing" and the students are currently responsible for nightly reading, spelling and math (Monday through Thursday.) A "Book Bag" containing a "familiar book" from reading group will

come home 2-4 nights per week. On other nights, we ask that your child read to or with you for 10+ minutes. We will be adding the content area of "Writing" to our homework routine in the next few weeks. At that point, and for the remainder of the school year, your child will be responsible for nightly reading, writ-

ing, math and spelling - Monday through Thursday. We greatly appreciate your support as you help your child establish a homework routine at home...promoting positive study skills that will carry over to the many years ahead! We look forward to meeting with all of you at our upcoming Midterm Parent-Teacher Conferences! **Happy Autumn!**

Mrs. Bredl

News from Second Grade

The second grade teachers would like to thank all of the families who attended curriculum night. We enjoyed sharing with you the success of all of the students.

Second grade students have finished Unit 2 in Everyday Math and will soon begin unit 3. Secure goals for Unit 3 include that students know all addition facts and easy subtraction facts, can show "P," "N," "D," and "Q," for any given amount and can tell time to 5 minute intervals.

We have also been concentrating on our first Science unit called Liquids, Solids and Gases. Ask your student what they know about these things.

We are working on the reading strategies predicting and connecting. Ask your child to make a prediction before reading and ask if they can make a connection while reading.

We have finished letter writing and are starting Personal Narratives. Students are working on developing "topic" charts for writing so they will have lots of ideas for narratives.

Second graders have completed the Second Step curriculum. This is a program designed to help students develop empathy and problem solving skills. Therefore, students have strategies for being able to successfully control impulses and solve problems that arise with peers. All students enjoyed this unit and are practicing what they have learned.

Please remember to send a "healthy snack" with your child every day.

News from Third Grade

Students are beginning to make the transition to third grade. In a nut shell, they are working toward becoming more independent learners. By now your child should know the classroom routine. Please help your child find a time and place to read a book at their independent level, for at least 20-30 minutes each night. In math, we are working on Unit 2, number story problems, as well as adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers. Please practice the basic facts with your child at home. These should come with automaticity. In addition, using a planner is new to third graders.

So, it might be helpful if you checked your child's planner nightly. This will reinforce the importance of organization and bringing it home each night.

We enjoyed meeting parents at Back to School Night and Curriculum Night, and look forward to seeing you again at Parent Teacher Conferences in October. Thank you for your continued support.

This year, at Hunters Glen, we would like all Third Graders to take the Cognitive Abilities Test (COgAT). This is one way for teachers to determine how to best meet the needs of the differenti-

ated learners in their classrooms. If you want your child to participate, please fill out the questionnaire and send in the pink permission slip no later than October 21st.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Thompson (GT

Coordinator) at 720-972-8166.

News from Fourth Grade

Welcome back to school. It has been a smooth start, except for the sniffles and sneezes. We would like to remind you of conferences on October 8th & 9th. Look for a reminder letter of your date and time to be coming home. It is crucial in fourth grade that all students are proficient with their math

facts: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Please work with your child so they don't fall behind. We will also be starting our first research project on Colorado wildlife and collaborating with Mrs. Jameson, our media specialist, to ensure your child learns how to use the library correctly to find in-

formation. Thank you in advance for your support in educating your child.

Sharon Lathrop
4th Grade Chair

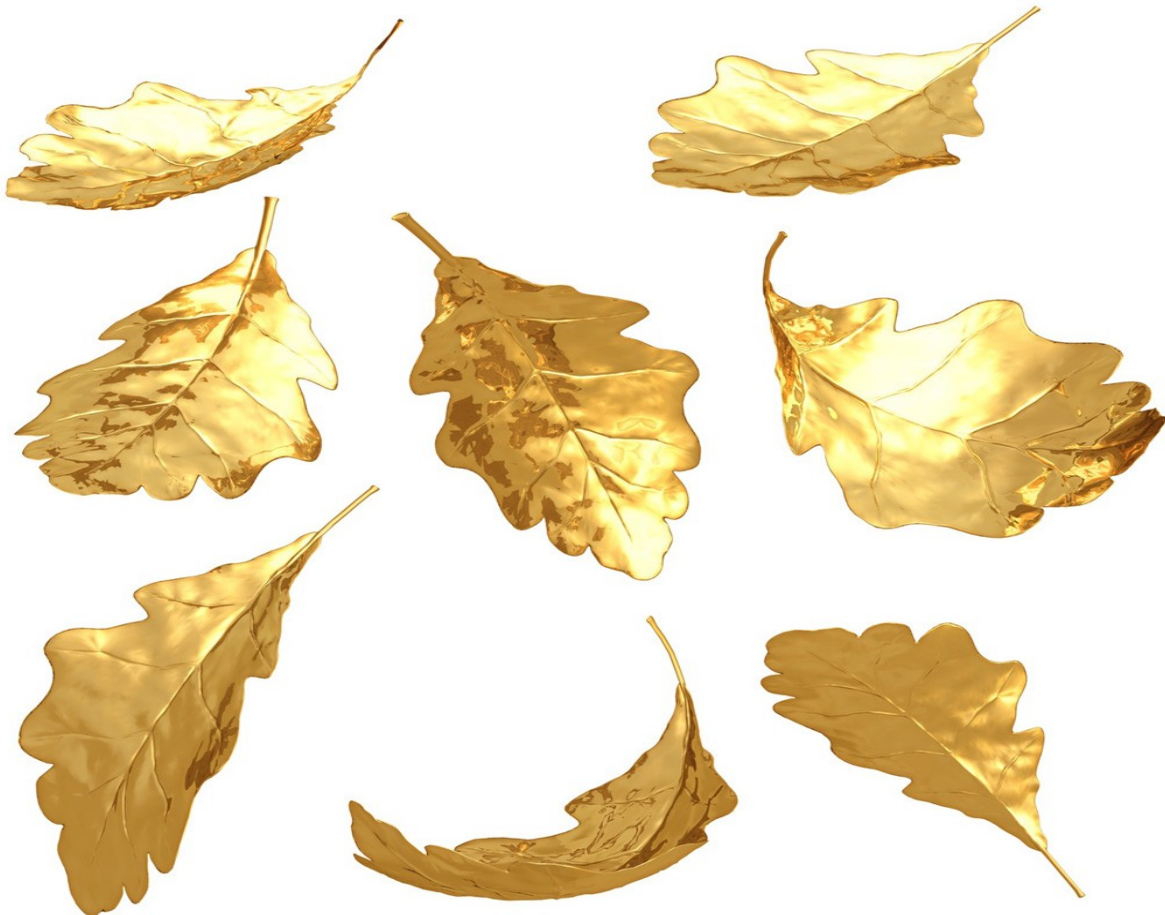
News from Fifth Grade

Our fifth graders have been off to a rousing start to the new school year. After taking on the role of crime scene investigators for our Murder Mystery unit, they are now busy digging into the past as we research European explorers.

As October approaches, we look forward to studying a new science unit, Mixtures and Solutions. While the rest of the district won't officially use this unit until next year, we are very fortunate to be able to "pilot" the unit this year. The fifth grade team is also looking forward to meet-

ing with our parents during October conferences.

Debbie Darvill



Gym



Welcome to a new school year. We have gotten off to a somewhat different start this year as it pertains to before and after school activities. I decided this year to start alternating volleyball and flag football with each other. Instead of offering volleyball in the spring through BEAR CRAWL, I will offer flag football for a small fee. Also there will be BEAR CRAWL classes offered both before and after school for those interested. Some classes will overlap other activities that are being offered after school. Please be aware of this as it will be almost impossible to avoid this from happening. To find out more, please come to the October 2nd PTO meeting as I will be going over BEAR CRAWL and demonstrating a couple of activities with you and your children.

Mileage Cards: If your son or daughter has been talking to you about mile cards, I have a letter going home sometime between September 22nd and September 29th that will explain what those cards are all about. Parents and family members are more than welcome to participate as well.

We will be starting Gymnastics sometime during October for the P.E. rotation. During this time the students will be working on tumbling skills (rolling, weight transfer, balance, flight, jumping and landing from various heights, etc.) and some equipment activities (spring board, low and high balance beam, etc.).

Joe Guillaume

Music

We are only now finishing our first rotation of specials so have only had one week of music thus far. In all music classes K-5 students have been learning a little about Chinese culture and music. Throughout the year we will incorporate some Chinese songs and games where they fit into our music curriculum. Every student has loved getting a chance to play the big Chinese gong.

All students began with various name games incorporating rhythms and solfege appropriate for their grade level. "Bees" was the theme for Kindergarten. Students learned a variety of speech pieces incorporating body percussion on steady beat, pitch matching and songs on sol and mi, and movement and dramatic play activities around the theme.

First grade sang and played small percussion instruments to a steady beat. They also used the "listening tubes" to continue to refine their singing skills. They did movement and dramatic play activities to Saint Saens "Royal March of the Lions" from the *Carnival of the Animals*. We made our own rainstorm with body percussion and small percussion to a poem and explored crescendo and decrescendo and dynamic markings for *piano* and *forte*. They also explored steady beat and loud/quiet through movement to Bizet's March from *Children's Games*.

Second grade started on barred instruments accompanying a speech piece and rotating through the instruments while doing a contrasting speech piece resulting in a AB form. They played singing games in which each child had to improvise movements to a steady beat or play a barred instrument accompaniment while reinforcing solfege on *so la* and *mi*. They also learned *America* and did various creative movement activities.

Third graders, watched performances of a wonderful Boy Choir and young men's vocal jazz group in an introduction to choral music and to reinforce the need for singing in the head voice. They did mirror movement activities

Music cont.

to Chinese music and other classical music. They did a fun and rhythmically challenging activity to Fuzzy Wuzzy on the barred instruments to a *so la mi* melody. They reviewed *mi re do* to complete the pentatonic scale on another two part activity which incorporated speech, body percussion, barred instruments and song.

Fourth and fifth grade also watched the men's vocal jazz group which was an exciting demonstration of both vocal technique and rhythmic and harmonic complexity. They did activities involving movement in canon. They began a piece on barred instruments using syncopation, low so and low la which involved some crossover mallet technique. Fifth graders also learned one song which will be part of a fifth grade musical called "The Patriots" to be presented in May. I also maintain a list of private teachers of various instruments and voice.

Christine Holley

Dates to Know about

October 2	PTO Meeting: 6:45 pm
October 6-9	Bookfair
October 8	Parent Teacher Conferences 1:20 pm-6:00 pm No school for 1/2 day Kindergarten
October 9	Parent Teacher Conferences 8:00 am-3:00 pm No School
October 10	No School-Teacher Work Day
October 30	Monster Mash Disco Dance 6:00pm-8:30pm
October 31	No School—In Service Day

News from the Library

October is Read Aloud month. The purpose is to invite families to participate in children's literature by reading aloud on a daily basis. In Becoming a Nation of Readers, 1985, it stated that **"the single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children."** Need a good book? Here are some suggestions.

Read a **Colorado Children's Book Award** nominee with your children.

Visit our library and ask for the **CCIRA Read Aloud** recommendations

Jim Trelease publishes the Read-Aloud Handbook-check it out!

Visit the Book Fair at school Oct 6th-9th.

Turn off the TV (gulp!)

We will set aside Thursday October 30th for Halloween Read Aloud in the Library

Book Fair is coming. Setting up the books will begin around 12 pm on Friday Oct 3rd. Help is needed:

The hours the book fair will be open are:

Monday-Oct 6th 7:30 am—3:00 pm

Tuesday-Oct 7th 7:30 am—3:00 pm

Wednesday -Oct 8th 7:30 am—6:00 pm

Thursday-Oct 9th 8:00 am—3:00 pm

We will box everything up after 3 pm on Thursday Oct 9th , so no books will be sold after 3 pm. If you can help during any of these times, please call Mrs. Jameson in the LMC. **Working just two hours at the book fair can earn you 10% off on book purchases!**

TEACHER'S WISH LIST will be available at the book fair for parents looking for a special book to give to a teacher. Teachers post books they would like for their classroom, and you can select one to give as a gift, a great idea for getting one present out of the way on your Christmas list.