

HOOD AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Important Dates for October

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| <i>Fire Safety Assembly</i> | 3 |
| <i>State-wide Fire Drill</i> | 5 |
| <i>Family Writing Night at FIS, 6 pm</i> | 6 |
| <i>After School Skills Review Camp begins for <u>Grade 1</u> (Mon., Wed.)</i> | 10 |
| <i>After School Skills Review Camp begins for <u>Grade 2</u> (Tues, Thurs.)</i> | 11 |
| <i>Picture Re-takes</i> | 12 |
| <i>Bus Driver Appreciation Week. Report cards go home.</i> | 17 |
| <i>PTO Meeting @FIS</i> | 18 |
| <i>Student Holiday/Teacher Work Day</i> | 21 |
| <i>Red Ribbon Week</i> | 24 |
| <i>Fall Festival, Pumpkin Walk</i> | 28 |

TITLE I PROGRAMS GET UNDERWAY

In the spring of 2011, the federal government approved Hood Avenue Primary School's application to use Title I funds school-wide. This means that Title I funds can be used for programs that benefit all students rather than only benefitting students designated as being at risk. Parents gathered in the cafeteria on September 29, 2011, to hear how those funds benefit their children. Parents also met with the Title I personnel who work with their children.

A large portion of the Title I budget is spent on personnel. Nine paraprofessionals were hired to work with children in the classroom as well as by pulling children into small groups for specific academic interventions. We are also in the process of hiring a certified teacher for the position of parent liaison/instructional coach. As the parent liaison, the person will work to strengthen the partnerships between home and school through workshops and the Parent Resource Center. As an instructional coach, this person will work with teachers and the Title I paraprofessionals to insure students receive academic interventions that best meet their needs.

With Title I funds, we will begin our After School Skills Review camp which targets first and second grade students who need additional help with reading and math skills. Transportation home from the camp is paid for by Title I funds. Classworks, Study Island, and Fasset Math are computer software programs bought with Title I funds. All students will be able to benefit from these programs since teachers will be able to differentiate assignments in order to design lessons that meet the unique needs of individual learners. In this way, students working above grade level receive more challenging assignments. Students working at or below grade level get additional reinforcement of skills.

Parents and community members can see the Title I school-wide plan on the school website at www.hoodavenueprimary.org.



MUSIC TEACHER WINS \$1500 FOR A DIGITAL KEYBOARD!

Becky Mayo may be new to the Hood Avenue faculty, but she is quickly establishing her own legacy as the music teacher. On Friday, September 30, 2011, representatives for the Coweta Fayette EMC Bright Ideas Foundation surprised Ms. Mayo with \$1500 grant for the purchase of a digital keyboard.

In the grant applica-

tion, Ms. Mayo made a strong argument for the benefits of music education. She wrote, "listening to musical examples on the digital piano will gradually extend students' attention spans, which supplements learning potential in other content areas." Using the digital piano, Ms. Mayo will be able to expose the children to different melodic

patterns, a variety of musical styles, and she can record musical accompaniments that can be used for special programs and community events.

*Photo: Ms. Mayo with Ms. Tenney's first grade class.

PTO News

- Innisbrook sales closed on Oct. 3. We sold over \$13,000 of product. We will update you regarding our profit as soon as the sales figures are finalized. Thank you for your support of our fall fundraiser.
- PTO offers another fundraiser that benefits you and the school. For \$5, you can purchase a ticket for Belk's early bird shopping event on Nov. 5. You receive \$5 off your first purchase as well as access to major discounts on other purchases. See Dian Nelson in the front office to purchase your ticket.
- Keep an eye out for details regarding Fayetteville's pumpkin walk and the Hood

Visit us at
www.hoodavenueprimary.org.
 It's a great way to stay informed!

This month's life skills are honesty and initiative.

Class Attendance winners:
 K- Ms. Zimmerman's class
 1- Ms. Tenney's class
 2- Ms. Trussell's class

Lowest Tardies Winner:
 Ms. Stogsdill's class!

Parents really do make a difference!

NEW PARKING PROCEDURES INCREASE SAFETY

You may have noticed a few changes in the parking lot and in our drop-off and pick-up procedures. The parking lot now has 6 visitor spaces on the front row closest to the school. There are still 3 visitor parking spots on the back row. The sidewalk also has a cut-through, making it easier to know where to safely cross the car lane. Duty personnel use a stop-and-go sign to control the flow of traffic and to help parents safely walk their students across the car lane. The overall result is a quicker, faster flow of traffic and increased safety for our students.

Here are a few reminders about drop-off/pick-up procedures:

- Please do not double-park behind cars in designated parking spots.
- If you park, you must walk your student across the car lane.
- If you arrive at school at 7:40 am or later, there is the possibility that you may encounter limited parking spaces. Be proactive by arriving at school before 7:40 am to

insure your student is in class by the 7:45 am bell.

- Students arriving after the 7:45 am bell are considered tardy.
- Car rider students should be picked up by 2:45 pm.
- Car riders who are not picked up by 2:45 pm will go to ASP. Parents are charged a fee for this service.
- At the end of the day, parents must present the blue car rider sign in order for school personnel to release the student.
- If you do not regularly pick up your child by car, you will need to enter the front office to check out the student through the computer. Please be prepared to show ID to the front office staff.
- If you lose your blue card, you can ask for a replacement card in the front office. Please be ready to show ID to the front office staff.
- Notify Linda Ashmore in

the front office if you need to make changes as to who is allowed to pick up your child.

- If you need to make a change in regards to how your child is going home, please send a note to your child's classroom teacher.
- If a transportation change needs to be made during the school day, please call 770-460-3560. The earlier you let us know of the change, the easier it is for us to get your child to the right place at the end of the day.
- Child safety laws have changed. All children 8 years old and younger must ride in a car seat or booster seat. Parents can receive a free booster seat when they participate in a program called Safe Kids. Call 770-305-5416 for more information.

DID YOU KNOW...

It's not too late to become a volunteer at school. Teachers always welcome a helping hand, whether it's during the school day, after school, or through something you do at home such as making phone calls to organize holiday parties.

Ms. Teat continues to welcome parents who want to serve as academic tutors. If you would like to tutor children in reading and/or math, please contact Marilyn Teat at 770-460-3560.

PTO provides many volunteer opportunities. Contact Jennifer Tarmen at jenja0577@yahoo.com or 678-688-6139. Upcoming PTO volunteer opportunities include helping to distribute Innisbrook items and organizing the upcoming Fall Festival.