

HOOD AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Important Dates for November

<i>Kindergarten Field Trip</i>	5
<i>Book Fair (all week)</i>	
<i>School Council Meeting,</i> <i>7:15 am</i>	8
<i>Dinner with Santa</i> <i>6-7:30 pm</i>	
<i>Holiday activities begin.</i> <i>Check teacher newsletters</i> <i>for details.</i>	12
<i>Holiday Musical Pro-</i> <i>gram, 8:45</i>	14
<i>Feast Day for</i> <i>Kindergarten</i>	15
<i>Student Holidays</i> <i>Dec. 16-Jan. 2.</i> <i>Students return to school</i> <i>on Jan. 3.</i>	

SUGGESTIONS FOR KEEPING YOUR CHILD CONNECTED OVER THE WINTER BREAK

During winter break, give your child lots of opportunities to use his/her academic skills in fun ways. Try some of these tips, and see what works best for your child.

- Keep a bag of books or magazines in the car. Always try to fit in reading.
- Encourage your child to re-read favorite books and poems. Re-reading helps children read more quickly and accurately.
- Ask your child to choose a passage or book to read to an "audience" - perhaps visiting relatives and guests.
- Take turns reading aloud at bedtime.
- Try holding DEAR time at your house. DEAR stand for "Drop Everything and Read". During DEAR time, everyone in the family sits down for some uninterrupted reading time.
- Provide reasons for your child to write such as wish lists, grocery lists, party plans, invitations, and letters to relatives.
- Make or provide a journal for your child. Have him/her write or illustrate something each day such as weather conditions, cloud patterns, each day's activities, summary of a TV show, etc. Have your child date each entry and practice writing dates correctly.
- Have your child make his/her own ABC book about the holidays. Write a letter and draw a picture on each page. Older children can write a word or sentence on each page.
- Cooking with a parent helps a child with measurement skills, estimation, and fractions.
- Play Bingo to help with number recognition.
- Dominos and playing cards can be used for addition and subtraction practice.
- Give your child a variety of coins and have him/her show you different ways to make 30¢, etc.
- Choose a "number of the day". For younger children, choose a number under 15. Ask your child to think up different ways to make the number of the day; for example, $8+3+4=15$ or $17-2=15$.

PTO is now collecting labels and bottle caps from Campbell products: Campbell soups, Spaghetti O's, Prego, V8, and Pepperidge Farms. Send them with your student or drop them in the box by the cafeteria.

Love the Library Service Project Raises Money for Flooded Library

This year we asked students to donate \$1 to the Love the Library Project. The service project raised over \$200. The money will be donated to the Wells Memorial Library in Upper Jay, NY. The library lost its children's collection when flooded during Hurricane Irene last August. Thank you to the students and families that supported this project.

PTO News

- The PTO has begun planning for Spring Fling. This traditional family-focused event takes a lot of organization. If you are interested in helping, please contact the PTO Board members. Contact information is listed on the PTO page at http://hoodavenueprimary.org/?page_id=146.
- Family Movie Night was a big hit! Families gathered at Hood Avenue to watch *Cars 2*. Parents and their children enjoyed a relaxing and fun Friday night.

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

This month's life skills are integrity and caring.

Class Attendance winners:
K- Ms. Warren's class
1- Ms. Groce's class
2- Ms. Beasley's class
PreK-98.6% attendance
Lowest Tardies Winner:
Ms. Howard's class

Parents really do make a difference!

UPCOMING PARENT WORKSHOPS AND PARENT ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

At Hood Avenue, we are fortunate to offer many ways for you to participate in your child's education. **Dinner with Santa** offers a spaghetti dinner and a holiday sing-along on **Dec. 8, 6-7:30 pm**. Reservations are available for the first 250 persons purchasing dinner tickets, \$5 for adults, \$2.50 for children. Be sure to bring your camera if you would like to take a photo of your child with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus. Contact Dian Nelson at 770-460-3560 for information on tickets.

How about breakfast on us? **Pastries for Parents** will be on **Jan 13, 7:20-8 am**. Come have donuts, coffee, and juice with your child .

On **Jan. 19**, Hood Avenue is hosting the HAPS/FIS **Math Night, 6:30 pm**. You and your child can participate in all sorts of fun math activities that reinforce math academic standards.

Once again, Wells Fargo is sponsoring the **Read Aloud program**. If you are interested in being a volunteer reader, please contact Marilyn Teat, 770-460-3560 or teat.marilyn@mail.fcboe.org. The training will be **Jan. 20, 8 am**, at Hood Avenue.

Through Title I, we are offering several new workshops. The first workshop is a **study skills workshop, Jan. 27, 8 am**. In this workshop, parents will learn how to help students develop good study habits.

Next, we will offer a **technology overview for parents on Feb. 3, 8 am**. Parents will learn about academic software such as Study Island and Classworks, which can be accessed at home through the internet. Reading and math websites will be previewed.

Finally, Ms. Winkie Greenhaw will inspire parents about the **importance of parent engagement on Feb. 16, 8 am**. Ms. Greenhaw will present the evidence as to why it's so important to be involved in your child's education.

Don't forget about the **Parent Resource Center**. Many materials are available for check out. Some materials are just for parents, and others are for children to use at home with their parents. You are welcome to come and browse or check out materials on these days:

Tuesdays, 7:15 - 8:15 a.m.

Thursdays, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

If you are not able to come to school during these times but would like to check out materials, e-mail cannella.margie@mail.fcboe.org. Tell her what topic interests you, and she will choose appropriate materials. The materials will be sent home in a special bag with your child for a one-week loan period. Send the materials back to school with your child. We hope this process makes it convenient for you to use our resources.