



HUMPHRIES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

May 2016

Melanie Mitchell, Principal
Benita Grant, Assistant Principal

Principal's Message



Melanie Mitchell

We have finally finished administering the Georgia Milestones Assessment and are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the scores. We should receive the scores by mid-May. If students do not pass math or reading, they will retake these portions of the test before the end of the school year in May. Students must pass math and reading in grades 3 and 5 for promotion to the next grade.

We are now enrolling rising 1st – 5th grade students for the APS Summer Academy to improve academic performance and become college and career ready. Students will be chosen based on district test scores and teacher recommendation. If your child is invited to summer academy, please ensure he or she attends in order to receive the extra help. The deadline for applications is May 10, 2016. The camp dates are June 1 – June 30, 2016, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am – 1:30 pm.

There are several important spring activities. They are listed separately in the newsletter and on the website. We welcome your attendance and participation for the events. Please inform your child's teacher if you are available to assist. We also need for all parents to register their student for next year. If you have not completed this task, please call the front office at (404) 802 – 8750. We would like to have all students registered before the end of the school year.

Our staff would like to congratulate our newest GO Team members. Our team includes three parents: Ms. Dyzala Foster, Ms. Toravia Hill and Ms. America Ricardo; three staff members: Ms. Danielle Moore, Mr. Moses Tejuoso and Ms. Elizabeth Woods; two community members: Ms. Georgia Farley from First Baptist Church of Stewardship and Ms. Cynthia Nesbitt from Pinnacle Credit Union; and one swing seat member from the community: Ms. Yolanda Barrow, board member of Oxford Village Townhome Apartments, along with the principal. This team has assembled to ensure the school and the community focus collaborative on student academic excellence.

As we move toward the end of the year, please continue to allow your students to wear a school uniform. We want students to continue their focus on learning and not on name brand clothing. Although the weather is warming up, we DO NOT allow students to wear open-toed shoes. We want all students to cover their feet for safety.

Teacher Appreciation Week May 2, 2016 – May 6, 2016

May

1	May Day
2-6	Teacher Appreciation Week
5	Cinco de Mayo
	Isra and Mi'raj
	Ascension Day
8	Mothers' Day
10	Field Day
11	All Media Center books must be returned.
15	Pentecost
17	Educators of the Year Program
20	Pre-K Celebration
21	Armed Forces Day
23	Kindergarten Sight Word Pageant
23	Grade 5 Year-End Celebration
24	Awards Day (Grades 1-4)
	Grade 5 Promotion
25	Humphries' Retirees Celebration
25	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
26-27	Post-Planning

We look forward to our end of the year activities. Among the activities, Ms. Grant and I are sending 50 students in grades 3, 4 and 5 to overnight camp. Other grades will be going to the Aquarium. We also have several activities: field day, movie day, and awards day. The staff requests your assistance by talking to your students about being kind, cooperative and respectful to adults and classmates. Students will lose points each day if positive school behavior is not displayed. If students lose too many points, they will not be allowed to participate in activities. Thank you parents for your support.

Kindergarten News

Our students are building sentences using their sight words. Please continue to help students study and learn their sight words every night. We have a special prize for our top sight worders! If each individual meets their personal goal each week, they get a treat!

In Math, we are continuing with addition and subtraction. We would like our students to be fluent in their addition facts up to 10. Please go by a dollar store and pick up addition flash cards or make your own.

We have some dates to keep in mind so your students can show what they know.

- Sight Word Celebration –weekly goals
- Final Sight Word Sentence Bowl -5/12
- Math Facts Bowl-5/6

*Dates are subject to change.

Students will win ice cream parties and other tokens in these competitions. We will have our culminating activity on May 20th with special prizes awarded by the administration team. You will be updated prior to the events.

Come out and celebrate your children learning!

First Grade News

Wow! The end of the year is here! Your first grader is well on their way to becoming a second grader. As the year ends, we want first graders to continue to work on skills that will help them be successful in the coming school year. Some great skills to work on during the summer include: basic addition and subtraction facts, reading both fiction and nonfiction, practicing puzzles and other brain teasers, using computers or ipads to do research on topics they are interested in and much more. Have a great summer and remember to practice those important skills!

Grade Two News

The year is quickly coming to an end but the instruction has not stopped. Your child's teacher is finishing up the curriculum for this year and giving your child an introduction to the third grade course of study. The second graders are also beginning their end of the year test given by the district. Please make sure your child comes to school daily with his/her supplies and completes all nightly homework assignments.

Grade Three News

It is hard to believe that the end of the school year is quickly approaching! The year's end always brings with it a tremendous sense of accomplishment. Our students have made dramatic gains in their academic achievement.

From increasing their Lexile Scores to participation in the Dunk Tank Celebration for attending school daily – our students have been involved in an extraordinary number of activities. Of course, we should not forget the tremendous amount of learning which has taken place during the year. Throughout all of these activities our students have demonstrated great character!

However, the school year is not over and students are still required to come to school prepared to learn daily. Continue to emphasize that learning is the primary goal of attending school! We are noticing that many third graders are losing focus and are not actively engaged in the learning process. Learning is active and requires effort. Please discuss this with your child and as always please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher about an academic or conduct concern. Thank you.

Grade Four News

As we approach the end of the school year, the fourth grade teachers would like to thank you for all of your support throughout the school year. We are very excited about the social and academic progress that our students have made and our students are very excited as they begin the next phase in their educational journey. We would like to encourage you to ensure that your child is still utilizing and refining academic skills over the summer. Take your child to the public library to check out books. Have your child keep a journal to write about his or her reaction to various chapters in a book. Students might also keep a journal about what they do every week during their summer break. Here are some websites that provide great support: multiplication.com, studyisland.com, sheppardsoftware.com, Tumblebooks.com (Check the summer reading pamphlet for the password,) and i-Ready.com. Have a safe and happy summer!

Grade Five News

This year is quickly coming to a close. We have completed Milestones testing and you will be notified within the next 3-4 weeks if your child did not meet the state minimum requirements for promotion. It has been our pleasure to serve your children this year. Below please find a list of upcoming activities designed to celebrate the hard work and accomplishments of your child this school year:

- 5/2 Field Trip to the Civil Rights Center
- 5/10 Field Day
- 5/20 Movies and Popcorn
- 5/23 5th grade cookout 12:00-2:00
- 5/24 5th grade Awards Program 12:30

A parent letter with additional details will be sent out shortly. Thanks for working with us to make this year a success!

Enrichment News STEM Field Day

On Tuesday, May 10, 2016, your child will be participating in Humphries STEM Field Day! This is when your child will experience the STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) concept through the subject areas of Physical Education, Music, and Art. Your child will have several opportunities to learn about STEM in multiple ways. This will be a creative, fun, and exciting time. Field day t-shirt orders are now being accepted; shirts are only \$4.00, deadline is Friday, April 29, 2016. Activities will begin 9:00a.m. and end around 2:15p.m. Hope to see you there!



Summer Reading

Don't forget to read with your child over the summer! Reading is like any other skill; if you don't practice it, you lose it. The average student loses three months of reading skill in the summer, so let's keep reading and be ready for next year.

To help with this, the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library offers a number of programs, activities and summer reading contests. Make sure your child has a library card and uses it frequently.

This year there are a number of free and low-cost programs that make books available in electronic format: Tumble Books (www.tumblebooklibrary.com), Epic Books (<https://www.getepic.com/>), the Get Georgia Reading Program (<http://www.getgeorgiareading.org/myon2016>) and Hoopla (www.hoopladigital.com).

Media Center News Asian Heritage Month

May is National Asian Heritage Month. Here are a few books to help celebrate this month:

- Armstrong, Jennifer Chin Yu Min and the Ginger Cat
- Bae, Hyun-Bae New Clothes for New Year's Day
- Bannerman, Helen The Story of Little Babaji
- Barasch, Lynne Hiroshi's Hands
- Bridges, Shirim Ruby's Wish
- Buck, Pearl Big Wave
- Chinn, Karen Sam and the Lucky Money
- Coatsworth, Elizabeth The Cat Who Went to Heaven
- Freedman, Russell Confucius: the Golden Rule
- Friedman, Ina How my Parents Learned to Eat
- Gleason, Carrie Chinese New Year
- Haskins, James Count Your Way Through Japan
- Jani, Dr. Mahendra What You Will See Inside a Hindu Temple
- Kipling, Rudyard Rikki-Tikki-Tavi
- Krishnaswami, Uma Monsoon
- Krull, Kathy Kubla Khan: The Emperor of Everything
- La Valley, Josanne Vine Basket
- Lin, Grace Dim Sum for Everyone
- McKay, Lawrence Journey Home
- Mochizuki, Ken Passage to Freedom: The Sugihara Story
- Mukerji, Dhan Gopal Gay-Neck
- Park, Linda Sue A Single Shard
- Rao, Sandhya My Mother's Sari
- Say, Allen Grandfather's Journey
- Sperry, Armstrong Call it Courage
- Staples, Suzanne Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind
- Thong, Roseanne Round is a Mooncake
- Van, Muon In a Village by the Sea
- Watkins, Yoko So Far From the Bamboo Grove
- Yep, Laurence Dragonwings
- Yin, Chris Coolies
- Young, Ed Lon Po-Po