

# Heards Ferry Herald

▼ A weekly publication of the news and events of Heards Ferry Elementary School ▼

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[www.fultonschools.org/school/heardsferry](http://www.fultonschools.org/school/heardsferry)

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## From Your PTA Presidents

Four weeks of school have gone by already! Hopefully, your children are settling into their routines and enjoying the year. Here are a few reminders as you head into this holiday weekend:

- We still have some families who have not yet joined the PTA. The membership form is available on the website under the PTA tab. Please print it, fill it out, and send it in via backpack to the Main Office. **85%** of our Heards Ferry Families have already joined but we need everyone's support to keep our programs running.
- Please check with your Room Parents to be sure all the volunteer positions for your class(es) are filled. If you haven't volunteered yet, it is not too late to help in some way.
- You will occasionally be receiving emails from the PTA that are separate from the weekly emailed newsletter. We are conscious of the fact that people receive overloads of email so we don't want to add to your inbox clutter. Thus, we are going to try to restrict these PTA emails to no more than once per week unless it is extremely urgent. In some weeks, there will be no PTA email at all, only the weekly newsletter.
- Remember that the PTA meeting originally scheduled for October 7<sup>th</sup> has been moved to September 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 10:30AM. Please make a note of it and try to attend.

Finally, we hope everyone will take some time this holiday weekend to do something fun with their children like throwing a ball, taking a walk, or playing a board game. As we move into Fall, our schedules seem filled to the top with homework, sports and school activities. Before we know it, the holiday season craziness will be upon us. So, we all need to remember to make the best of opportunities like a long weekend to connect with our kids and enjoy some time together. We can't stop them from growing up... so "carpe diem" everyone!

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### [New Articles](#)

### [Staff Update](#)

Our numbers in first grade have hovered at the twenty-two mark per class since the start of school. With the enrollment of a new student, we were allocated an additional first grade

classroom. I know that it is difficult making changes to the classes after school has started. However, we believe that smaller class sizes will benefit our students and give each student more individual academic attention. Selection for the new classroom will be completed next week by Mrs. Scott, Curriculum Support Teacher, and me. In making the selection, we look at performance levels, gender and special circumstances if there were any.

I would like to introduce the following teachers: Mrs. Ann Alvarez who will be our first grade teacher. She is a veteran teacher of fifteen years and has been at Heards Ferry for the last four years in Special Education. Mrs. Mary Horn will be taking Mrs. Alvarez's place as one of our Special Education teachers. Mrs. Horn has worked at Heards Ferry for three years as a paraprofessional in kindergarten, second grade and Special Education. We have also earned an additional Special Education teacher. Dr. Susanna Giuliano will be joining us from Lake Forest ES. Dr. Giuliano worked at Heards Ferry two years ago as a Pre-Kindergarten Special Needs teacher.

### **HOW TO DOUBLE YOUR DONATION TO THE PTA WITHOUT GIVING ANOTHER DIME:**

Many companies, large and small, offer to match any donation an employee gives to a non-profit organization. The Heards Ferry PTA is a 501(c)3 organization that is eligible for these matching programs! So, if you have already made a donation to the PTA (at Sneak Peek or Back to School Night, for example), please check with your company to see if they have a matching program. If they do, please email Megan Grout ([megangrout@comcast.net](mailto:megangrout@comcast.net)). If you can get the forms, I will fill them out and submit the tax-exempt paperwork necessary for the matching program. This effectively **DOUBLES** your contribution to the PTA and is a huge help in funding our budget for this year! Some Heards Ferry families have done this already, adding \$620 to our donation drive!  
--MEGAN GROUT

### **Box Tops for Education**

Start saving your Box Tops which are found on boxes of General Mills products. We will begin collecting the Box Tops at school during the month of October. Last year, HFES families raised \$263. Our goal this year is \$1000!

### **HFE Readers Rock!**

Almost 200 students attended our Summer Reading Parties last week! Students were treated to cupcakes, Chick-fil-A gift certificates and other fun prizes. Great job to everyone who completed the more challenging reading reports this year.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who handled two days of sugar-fueled mayhem with ease: Abby Gunthert, Mary Eberly, Ann Feldman, Angela Cohen, Dollie Dikeman, Rachael Colton, Lynn Brown, Ramona Mills, Suzanne Caruthers and Eric Ross. Big thanks to our custodial staff for helping us with set up and clean up. And a special thank you to the Denny Family for their efforts in making the party such a success. Keep on reading! AR kicks off soon!

Erica Ross & Amy Frederick

### **Calling all 4th grade boys!**

You can still join us in the Cub Scouts. We have begun the Webelos 1 year of Cub Scouts with some exciting activities. At our first meeting, the guys did a good deed for the school by dragging

off a big tree that had fallen on our playground field and putting it back in the wooded area. They also picked up the large number of tree limbs that had broken off as well. After a short snack, we investigated the properties of carbon dioxide in an enclosed state, viewing the nucleation that results when lowering various things (raisins, grapes) into the carbonated liquids. It was interesting to see the science of soda, as well as watching the reaction of mentos and wintergreen life savers in diet coke. Sorry parents for sending home wet kids. Our next Den Meeting is Thursday, September 10 right after school. We meet in the front hall. Our Pack 236 meeting is at Sandy Springs Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 15th. Pack meetings include other Heards Ferry scouts as well as scouts from other schools.

### Reminders

#### **Hoedown Sponsorships: A Perfect Way to Help Heards Ferry**

Sponsor a game or an Inflatable Ride at the Hoedown on Friday, October 2, 2009 and we'll do up a nice poster with your or your company's name proclaiming your generosity. "Big ticket items" such as the Mechanical Bull, Obstacle Course, Slide, Moonwalk go for \$100.00 a sponsor. Bingo, Putt-Putt, Bean Bag Toss, Bowling each go for \$50.00. **Please contact Melanie Sprung ([Melanie.Sprung@comcast.net](mailto:Melanie.Sprung@comcast.net)) if you would like to sponsor a station. The deadline is Friday, September 25, 2009.**

#### **The Mechanical Bull Is Coming to the Hoedown**

Yep, folks the rumor is true. Anyone dare to ride the bull? If so, please join us for a Family Fun Night on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. Heards Ferry family and friends always enjoy this fun event. We'll have plenty of BBQ, hotdogs, popcorn, cotton candy, games and activities for the kids. **Please contact Tricia Andrews ([pka675@comcast.net](mailto:pka675@comcast.net)) to giddy on up and volunteer for a station.**

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
	<b>September</b>
9/7	SCHOOL CLOSED - Labor Day
9/9	Hearing and vision screening- grades k, 3, 5
9/15	Gail Dean's Community meeting-HF 9:30
9/16	Early Release Day- 11:15
9/17	Principal's Coffee (Topic: Testing) 9-10 a.m.
9/17	Family Math Night 6 – 7:30 p.m.
9/21-9/25	Normed Referenced Test, Grades 3 & 5
9/25	Progress Skills Checklists go home
9/30	Picture Day
	<b>October</b>
10/2	School Council-8:00-9:00
10/2	Hoedown 5:30

<b>Dates to Remember</b>	
10/9	Teacher conference day-No school for children

The breakfast and lunch menus for the month are posted on the Heards website / School Information page and can be found on the FCBOE Nutrition website [http://www.fultonschools.org/dept/schoolnutrition/menu\\_cal.shtml](http://www.fultonschools.org/dept/schoolnutrition/menu_cal.shtml)

***Please note that the menu is subject to change***

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Contact 404-763-4585 TTY 1-800-255-0135

**To submit articles for the newsletter**

Please email Ms. Dorenkamp [dorenkamp@fultonschools.org](mailto:dorenkamp@fultonschools.org) with the subject: Newsletter.... by each Wednesday at noon