



Hembree Highlights

From the Desk of Kalpana Raju, Principal

September 4, 2009

Dear Parents,

I hope we will be able to enjoy this beautiful weather a little while longer! I'm glad to see so many students bringing their sweaters to school. The building can get quite chilly at times! Our Lost and Found pile is also growing fast! Please write the name of your child in his/her belongings for easy identification. Please remind your little ones to check for lost items in the rotunda outside the cafeteria.

I've started planning with Vernon, our coordinator from Hands on Atlanta! We are planning quite a few projects around the campus ranging from painting to landscaping! Our community has always been so supportive of these projects. Please mark your calendars for October 3, from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. I'm hoping to see all of you here to lend us a hand! All we need is your energy and support!

Our students in the third and fifth grades will take the ITBS the week of September 21-25. Please do not plan any vacations or trips during this week. It is very important that your child is present and on time to school during the testing week. Testing will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m. and will last approximately 2.5 hours. Although we provide make-up sessions for those students who miss a test, please be aware that these sessions will be in the afternoon after the student has completed the morning session of the test. This usually makes for a very long testing block for any child. Students who are tardy will not be allowed to enter the classroom after 8:15 a.m. They will remain in the Media Center and will take the test in the make-up session.

Sincerely, Kali Raju

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 4	Sally Foster Begins
September 7	Labor Day – No School
September 8	Food Drive Begins
September 11	Tanner Photography; 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.
September 12	Tanner Photography; 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
September 15	Linda Schultz Community Mtg @ Crabapple Middle School; 9:30 a.m.
September 16	Early Release Day – Students Dismissed at 11:15 a.m. Cici's Pizza Family Night; 3 p.m. – 8 p.m.

HEARING/VISION SCREENING VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all of our vision and hearing volunteers. We had more volunteers than we needed! Volunteers, we could not have done this without you.

Bahar Mohajeri, Claire Snedeker, Krissy Haney, Marian Andeweg, Jean Champ, Sue Brown, Teri Fezza, Kara Gheesling, Nancy Spix, Julie Rhinehart, Denise Jobe

We were extremely pleased to have more parents volunteer for this event than were needed. That clearly shows what a strong and committed parent community we have here at Hembree.

FIRST FAMILY NIGHT

Please join us at CiCi's Pizza in Roswell for our first family night on Wednesday, September 16, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. A percentage of all funds goes to our PTA for school enrichment.

A NOTE FROM THE TAG PROGRAM

If your child is currently in the TAG program, and you have not received e-mail communications from the TAG department, please send your current e-mail address to Tom LaPorte at laporte@fultonschools.org.

SALLY FOSTER BEGINS TODAY

Get Ready for Sally! 50% of every purchase goes directly to our schools! Our fundraiser, featuring Sally Foster® gift-wrap and gift products begins today! You will find:

- Premium gift-wrap, value-priced
- Gifts for everyone
- Chocolates so good they have been served at the White House

In addition, everything is \$20 or less! Ask your student about the Sally Foster kick-off assembly they attended today and look for the Sally Foster catalog coming home today, Friday, September 4, 2009.

FOOD DRIVE BEGINS SEPTEMBER 8

Today, your child brought home a grocery bag with a flyer attached. Please read the flyer, fill the bag, and send it back to school starting Tuesday, September 8. The last day for donations is Friday, September 18. Please encourage your children to get involved and make a difference for families right here in our community.

If you would like to help pick up the bags in the afternoon from school and deliver them to NFCC, please contact Canita Flint at 770-992-8964. Thank you for making our Hembree Springs food drive a HUGE success!

TANNER FAMILY PORTRAITS

Friday, September 11 and Saturday, September 12

For only \$20, you will receive an 11x14 professional black and white or color family portrait. Please complete the form that was sent home with your child. Send in cash/check of \$20 to reserve your spot. Questions? Call Dee Duzak at 770-667-2902.

**School
Closed
September 7
Labor Day**

Working together to learn and grow beyond our dreams!

READY GEORGIA

Ready Georgia is holding an art and essay contest for fifth graders across the state in recognition of National Preparedness Month in September. The theme, "Get Ready Georgia," is an important message for students and their parents, since 79 percent of Georgians are not prepared for emergencies.

- What items should you keep in a Ready Kit?
- How long should you be prepared to make it on your own following a disaster?
- How would your family reconnect if you were not together during an emergency?

Being prepared for an emergency means knowing answers to these questions and a lot more. Help your student and your family get ready by encouraging them to participate in the "Get Ready Georgia" contest.

We also invite you to visit <http://ready.ga.gov/Get-Involved/ReadyKids>, a new section on the Ready Georgia Web site designed just for kids. Fun games and easy-to-understand materials educate kids on emergency preparedness and help them take an active role in making sure their families are ready.

All contest entries must be postmarked or submitted via e-mail by September 30, 2009. Mail your contest entry and completed entry form to: Ready Georgia Contest, c/o Cookerly Public Relations, 3500 Lenox Rd., Suite 510, Atlanta, GA, 30326. Artwork must be mailed in a flat envelope no larger than 11" x 13". Essay contest entries may also be e-mailed to contest@ready.ga.gov.

If you have questions about the contest, please respond via e-mail at contest@ready.ga.gov. The winning entries will be selected, and the winners notified in October. Winning entries will be featured on the Ready Georgia website and first, second, and third-place winners will receive prize packages including a Ready Kit, donated by The Home Depot.

All entries become the property of Ready Georgia and will not be returned. Entries may be used to promote emergency preparedness in various media including, but not limited to, the Ready Georgia website.



BOX TOPS AND TYSON PROJECT A+ CONTEST

It is time to turn in your Box Top\$! Just clip the label from your favorite cereals, snacks, Ziploc items, and hundreds of other participating products! Box Top\$ are worth 10¢ each when our school redeems them.

We are also participating in the Tyson Project A+ program. In your grocer's freezer section, look for Tyson Products that display the Tyson Project A+™ logo. The label you save is easily identified by looking for the simple 1, 2, 3 program steps. Each label is worth 24¢.

Turn in your Box Top\$ and Project A+ labels now in the box in the lobby. **All labels must be turned in by October 15.** Put your child's teacher's name on your Box Top\$ and Project A+ labels to ensure that your class gets credit! The class that earns the most money for our school will win a prize! Please e-mail boxtops@hembreespringspta.org with any questions.

READY. SET. GO! Starting the School Year Off Right!

Starting the year off right is a goal every child and parent sets for themselves. Achieving that yearly goal is as simple as looking at four areas that make a big impact on how the rest of the year will go.

Area 1: Agendas and Advance Planning. The school agenda is the first tool in teaching your child how to plan in advance, keep track of homework, plan projects, keep up with outside activities and learn time management skills.

Set 10-15 minutes aside on Sunday nights and have your child open their agenda to the coming week. Use the blank spaces at the end of the day to write in outside activities, homework and study times, projects, and family activities. Don't forget to include the times when these things will take place. Don't forget the weekends.

You are teaching them to start seeing the bigger picture; to anticipate what is coming up, set goals, prioritize and plan their own schedule. They are also learning how to manage their time on a day-to-day basis and do long term planning for projects, tests and other activities.

Notable News from KnowledgePoints, your Partner in Education

"A FAMILY AFFAIR" CONSIGNMENT SALE at Elkins Pointe Middle School October 9-10



Elkins Pointe warmly welcomes Hembree Springs families to join them in their first ever "A Family Affair" Consignment Sale! The sale begins on Friday, October 9, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on Saturday, October 10, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Elkins Pointe PTA school enrichment programs.

The school gym will be bursting with bargains on children to adult size clothing, shoes, electronics, toys, furniture, books and more. Our items are all in excellent working quality. Our team of past and present Hembree Springs' parents will be there to make this a fun and well-organized event for the whole family! Please join us as a seller or buyer!

If you are interested in becoming a seller, buyer, or to find out more please go to the Elkins Pointe Website at <http://www.elkinspointe.com/>. Once there, click on to the PTA Consignment Sale Link.

YOUTH DAY PARADE FLOAT

Would you like to help build the Youth Day Parade Float? The Youth Day Parade is scheduled for Saturday, October 10, 2009, 10 a.m. The theme this year is "Our Heroes." If you would like to be part of the Youth Day committee, please contact Lisa Cowles at cowlesfamily@bellsouth.net or call 678-358-6545. If you can draw, paint, use a jig saw, hold a hammer, etc., we need your expertise. Come help our school build a float that will be "out of this world!"

*Equal opportunity employer and service provider.
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404-763-4585 TTY 1-800-255-0135*

Working together to learn and grow beyond our dreams!