

CHEETA! CHAT



CREEK VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • VOLUME 9, ISSUE 11 • JANUARY 7, 2010

THE PRINCIPAL'S POINT

Dear Creek View Elementary School Families,

Welcome to 2010 and all the wonderful things we have in store for you! I hope you all had a restful Winter break with your family! There are many unique and exciting things to look forward to during second semester. Our annual Shakespeare performance, the Music Department's production, the Fulton County Technology Fair, and the Spelling Bee are just a few examples of the events that we are all looking forward to this winter and spring. I would like to encourage 4th and 5th grade students to come out and support our McTeacher's night event on Tuesday, January 12 from 5:30- 7:30pm. This is a great opportunity to help one of our local business partners while supporting Creek View as well!

In addition, local attorney J. Tom Morgan will be speaking in the auditorium at Alpharetta high school on Tuesday, January 12 at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Morgan is a former district attorney for DeKalb County and is considered an expert on the prosecution of crimes against children. He has written a book entitled *Ignorance is no Defense: A Teenager's Guide to Georgia Law*. His powerful presentation includes real-life examples that address Georgia laws and the potential impact on our students. Mr. Morgan is dedicated to child advocacy and ensuring that students and their families fully understand Georgia's laws and the consequences of breaking any laws. He has lectured across the state of Georgia and has been seen on CNN Talk Back Live, the Oprah Winfrey Show, the Today Show, Court TV, and 48 Hours. He offers an engaging presentation that will surely generate discussion and questions from parents. Mr. Morgan will also be conducting student-oriented sessions at AHS over several class periods on that same day.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Matt Rogers

New Year, New You At Creek View

Here are a few mid-year reminders to help your child's school day go smoothly. If you are ever in doubt about anything, please feel free to contact the front office and speak with Fran or Erika.

- ♥ Would you like for your child to go home carpool instead of the school bus? Make sure you send a written note to school with him/her. The note should include your child's first and last name, as well as the teacher's name. Believe it or not, with over 900+ students in our building, there are many students with the exact same first name as your child.
- ♥ **ALWAYS** be prepared to show identification when you come to school to check your child out. Additionally, in the event that a volunteer or other office personnel is manning the front desk, that person will automatically ask for your identification because he/she is not familiar with you. If you leave your identification in your car, you will be asked to retrieve it. While this may be an inconvenience, please remember, this is for your child's protection.
- ♥ Cell phones and iPods are not permitted at school under any circumstances. Students caught with them will have them confiscated by the teacher and an administrator will call a parent to retrieve it. Cell phone use is also strictly prohibited by visitors in the building.
- ♥ Email is the best way to keep in touch with teachers regarding your child. All email addresses are available on the <http://creekviewinformation.blogspot.com> as well as in the front office. Never email transportation changes, homework requests, or anything that is of an urgent nature, in the event the teacher is absent.
- ♥ Students must ride their assigned bus except in an emergency childcare situation. It is the parent's responsibility to contact North Fulton Transportation in regards to getting authorization to ride another bus home.
- ♥ Start the year off right by labeling your child's jackets, sweaters, lunchbox, and backpack with their name. In December, the local homeless shelter that was the beneficiary of our canned food drive, also received an overwhelming number of our student's belongings, none of which were labeled or claimed. Many personal items look the same as other students' and proper identification is important if you want the item to be returned to your child. Make it a habit to check the Lost and Found periodically. In many instances, students overlook the clothing bin when it is extremely full.

Inclement Weather Alert



The winter weather season is finally upon us. As we begin second semester, it is imperative that we have up-to-date contact information for each of our students. If your contact information has changed, please send in the correct information as soon as possible. All students should have an Emergency School Closing Plan on file with their teacher indicating how they will go home in case of inclement weather. This form would have been completed at

the beginning of the school year or during the registration process for children who began school later in the year. Parents are asked to monitor potentially bad weather situations by listening to radio, television, and/or internet news/weather sites. **Please DO NOT call the school to see if school will be closing.** This clogs the telephone lines and makes it impossible for the school to make emergency phone calls. The decision to close school is made directly from the Superintendent's office, not the local school.

Technology Fair



The 2010 Technology Fair will be held on Saturday, January 30, 2010, at Westlake High School this year. Registration will close on January 15, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. Students interested in participating must fill out the registration form available in the office. This is open to anyone in grades 3-12. Please note all the grades will be competing on the same day this year. There is a limit of two entries per category per school, regardless of the grade levels of those entries, so sign up is on a first come, first served basis. If you have any questions please contact Technology Specialist, **Marty Nation** at NationM@fultonschools.org.

Looking Forward

Thursday, January 7th

Report Cards Sent Home

KK, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd

Monday, January 11th

Reports Sent Home

4th and 5th

Tuesday, January 12th

PTA Board Mtg

9:30 a.m. Science Lab

McTeacher's Night

Grade 4 and 5

5:30—7:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 14th

Volunteer Training

1:00 p.m.

Chorus Resumes After School

Monday, January 18th

MLK Day/Schools Closed

Tuesday, January 19th

Katie Reeves MTG @ Lake Windward

9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, January 20th

PTA Staff Appreciation Lunch

By 3rd grade

Thursday, January 21st

Local LSAC MTG

7:00 a.m. Media Center

Is Your Child Overscheduled?

She has dance on Tuesday and Thursday. Her computer class is on Monday. Basketball is Wednesday and Saturday. Her parents may think they're preparing her for success in later life, but this kind of over scheduling may lead to problems. Brain researchers have learned that too much of anything, even activities like these, can make children feel stressed out. As a result, they don't do as well in school and are more likely to get sick. Ask yourself these four questions:

- Does my child have time to play with friends? Do not count practices that are planned and run by adults. Children need time for relaxation and just "hanging out."
- When does my child do homework? Does he/she work on math in the car as you drive from one activity to the next? School work takes concentration, and that takes time.
- Why is my child in these activities? Sometimes, parents are the ones who want their child in a class or a sport.
- Does my child get enough sleep? Children need between nine and ten hours of sleep each day. Without that sleep, children don't learn as well. They may have problems remembering what they have learned. Remember, **school is your child's most important job.** If too many activities are getting in the way, ask your child to choose only one or two. He/she may be healthier, happier, and may do better in school.

Source: Raleigh, Philip, *Engaging Tweens and Teens*



Monday, January 18th
All Schools Will Be Closed In Honor Of
The Birthday Of
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Equal opportunity employer and service provider.

Cheetah Chat is published every other Thursday. Articles for consideration must be submitted by Friday of the preceding week. Articles submitted after deadline are subject to space availability. All submissions may be edited as space allows. Please send articles for consideration to: Erika Murphy at murphyel@fultonschools.org