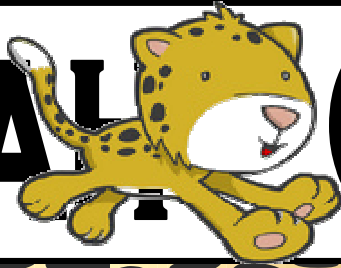


CHEETA! CHAT



CREEK VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • VOLUME 8, ISSUE 5 • SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

THE PRINCIPAL'S POINT

Dear Creek View Elementary School Families,

I am so thankful that the rain has passed, the flood waters have receded and our families are safe. Watching the news on Tuesday certainly reminded me of the many things in life to be thankful for: family, education and community! One of our new staff committees, service learning, will encompass our community service, school beautification and environmental/recycling efforts. In response to the massive flooding that has just occurred in Georgia, this committee will be looking at ways that we may be able to assist with the recovery efforts.

On another note, conference day is two weeks away, **Friday, October 9th**. Your child's teacher(s) has already begun working hard to prepare for this important meeting. The parent-teacher conference will be data-driven based on your child's performance over the past school years, especially with grades three through five. Your child's teacher has worked hard gathering test data, talking with previous years' teachers, and developing instructional goals for you and your child. Educating children is a partnership between home and school, especially during the first six years of elementary school. Your child's teacher will be scheduling two meetings with you; one conference during first semester and one during second semester. If you feel the need for additional conferences, please feel free to call or email your child's teacher. Conference Day is considered a "work day" for school personnel and as such, school will be closed for students. As always, I appreciate the parent support as we continue to make Creek View a great school for children to learn and teachers to teach. When teachers and parents work together in a consistent manner, your child will benefit in so many ways. Creek View is here to support you and your child in building a strong parent-teacher partnership that will achieve the common goal of helping your child reach their highest levels of learning.

Matt Rogers

ABC's of Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conference Day will be held on **Friday, October 9th**. If you have not had a fall conference with your child's teacher, he/she will be in contact with you to schedule this very important opportunity. In some cases, you might be a little nervous. Well, relax. Teachers don't want to put parents on the spot. They just like to meet with parents from time to time to discuss how to help students do their best in school. Teachers need your help to do a first-class job. Working together, you and the teacher can help your child have a successful school year. Here are some things to keep in mind:

- ♥ Start the conference right; be there on time, and plan not to run over the amount of time that has been set aside, usually 20 minutes.
- ♥ If you are a working parent who can't arrange to meet during regular hours, make this clear to the teacher and try to set up a time to meet that is good for both of you.
- ♥ The best conferences are those in which both teachers and parents stay calm and try hard to work together for one purpose and one purpose only: to help your child do well. Arguing, or blaming each other for problems your child is having helps no one, especially your child.
- ♥ Leave your child at home. Oftentimes, the parent/teacher discussion involves sensitive information that should be reserved for adult ears only. Each teacher will come prepared with samples of your child's work and with ideas to help them do even better in school. You should get ready for each conference, too. Talk to your children before the conference. Find out what they think are their best subjects, and what subjects they like the least. Find out why. Also, ask your children if there is anything they would like you to talk about with their teachers. Make sure your children don't worry about the meeting. Help them understand that you and their teacher(s) are meeting together in order to help them be more successful in school.

Before you come to the conference, write notes to yourself about:

- ♥ Things about your child's life at home, personality, problems, habits, and hobbies you feel it's important for the teacher to know;
- ♥ Your concerns about the school's programs or policies;
- ♥ Questions about your child's progress;
- ♥ How you and the school can work together to help your child.



After the Conference, start immediately on the action plan you and teacher worked out together. Discuss the plan with your child. Make sure he or she knows that you and the teacher care. To see if the action plan is working, watch your child's behavior and check your child's class work and homework. Probably the most important part of any teacher-parent conference is to follow through with any action plan that you and the teacher develop.

Clinic News You Can Use

Fulton County Schools funds our clinic aide, Heidi Osthoff. This position comes with much responsibility. Most clinic aides are not L.P.N.'s, R.N.'s, M.D.'s, or other medically-trained personnel. There are things that the school clinic can do for your child and things it cannot do. Despite the name, "clinic," this important office in the school building is essentially for providing a kind and warm place to make children feel comfortable for a few minutes, until a parent can come to school and pick them up. Most will be given an icepack, a band-aid, and a pass to return to their class.

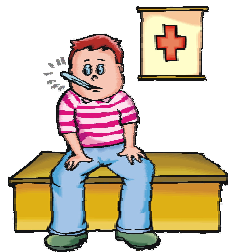
Serious injuries to the head, limbs, or lacerations needing more than a bandage will generate a phone call to the parent. There is not room to have children rest for a few hours because they are not feeling well and the parent is not available to pick up the child until their lunch time. The school clinic is one of the busiest places in our school; seeing an average of 40-50 children on a daily basis. During the winter cold and flu season, that number can climb to 75 children.

What the Creek View Clinic CAN do for your child:

- Provide basic first-aid.
- Coordinate with Cluster Nurse on communicable disease reporting and letters to be sent home to alert parents.
- Dispense daily medication that is needed for medically-fragile children. (as per doctor's orders)
- Dispense over-the-counter medication that the parent has provided.
- Assist with organizing field trip medications.
- Assist in training staff on how to administer medications while on field trips.

What the Creek View Clinic CANNOT do for your child:

- Cannot make diagnosis.
- Cannot give medical advice.
- Cannot assess injuries or illnesses.
- Cannot dispense medication without proper authorization.
- Clinic assistants are not nurses or doctors.



Looking Forward

Monday-Friday
September 21—25
ITBS Testing

Thursday, September 24
1st grade Apple Day
Chorus
Keyboarding N108

Friday, September 25
Principal's Lock-In
5:30-8:00 p.m.

Monday, September 28-October 8
Scholastic Book Fair
Media Center

Monday, September 28
Legos N113
Spanish A153
Cheetah Times

Tuesday, September 29
Chess

Wednesday, September 30
PTA Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

Ready? Set? Go!

The school agenda is the first tool in teaching your child how to plan in advance, keep track of homework, plan projects, and keep up with outside activities and learning 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, family activities and study and project times. 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.

Original Works Art Is Coming



Our school has teamed up, once again with Original Works to offer a very special program that allows you to have student's artwork reproduced into a number of professional, full color products. Students will be creating their artwork in school, using the art curriculum as the basis for their work of art. Look for your child's art work to come home along with an order form and more information for purchasing options.

Orders and the artwork will need to be returned by Oct 16th.

Contact Nancy Reed for any questions ext. 282 or ReedN@fultonschools.org.

Scholastic Book Fair

Scholastic Book Fair returns to Creek View!

The book fair opens October 2nd with our Grandparent's Luncheon. Students are encourage to invite their grandparents or someone special for lunch in the cafeteria and then conclude with a visit to the book fair.

All classes are scheduled during the fair to visit and shop.

Book Fair Family night is Tuesday October 6 from 5:30- 7:30 in the Media Center.

The book fair continues through noon on October 8th. Hope to see you there!

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 (murphyel@fultonschools.org)