



HEATHER BYERS, PRINCIPAL • KARLA CURRY, ASST. PRINCIPAL • TAMMY COVIL, PTA PRESIDENT

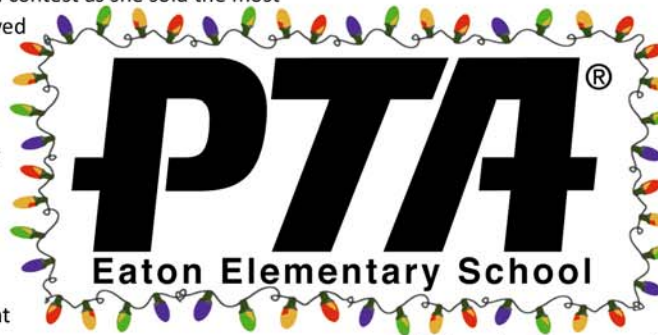
December/January

Dear Parents and Staff,

Once again we were blessed with perfect weather for our annual Fall Festival and Silent Auction, which was held on Saturday, October 23rd. We would like to thank Christy Hicks, our Fall Festival Chair, and all the parent and staff volunteers who helped make the event a success. Special recognition goes to Lynn Berg, Sarah Carroll, Heather Byers, and Karla Curry who graciously volunteered to be dunked in the dunk tank. A final count of ticket sales for each "dunkee" crowned Ms. Carroll the winner of our unofficial contest as she sold the most tickets during her time slot. She received an Eaton t-shirt for her efforts. I must say, it is very humbling when a staff member is willing to brave some very frigid water in an effort to raise money for the school. Their dedication to education and Eaton school spirit are commendable. Also, we'd like to recognize all of the businesses who generously donated items for our Silent Auction. A complete list of donors is included in this newsletter. If you happen to visit one of these businesses in the near future, please be sure to thank them for their support of our school.

Donuts with Dads was so successful that, unfortunately, we ran out of doughnuts on the first day! Donuts with Dads and Muffins with Moms have become two of our most popular and well attended events. As a result, it can be difficult to estimate the amount of food to have on hand. We apologize for any inconvenience to our Eaton families. The main purpose of the event is to give you an opportunity to enjoy some quality time with your child before sending him or her off to school. Hopefully you were able to do that with a bagel instead of a doughnut. Thanks to Mike Messineo, our Hospitality Chair, for organizing the event and to all the "mom" volunteers who got up early to help out.

Our 3rd Annual Holiday Bazaar was jam-packed with a variety of specialty vendors and there were plenty of unique items to choose from to fill your holiday shopping list. Tracy Willis put together a wonderful event and she is commended for her hard work. Thank you to all who helped with set-up and clean-up and to all who came out and supported the event by purchasing something special from a vendor. We can't wait for next year!

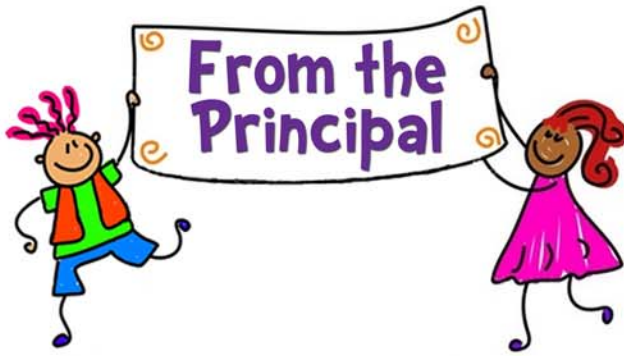


The holidays can be a stressful, frenetic time of year. Therefore, as the Christmas Season draws near, it is all the more important to continue to support your child's education by keeping as normal a routine as possible. We are very fortunate to have parents who are willing and able to volunteer their spare time in the classroom. However, there are many ways in which you can support your child's academic success without setting foot on school grounds. The most important "gift" you can give your child this holiday season is a stable, loving home environment that fosters learning. Please don't forget to: check to see if homework assignments are being done correctly and turned in on time; read with your child each night and ask questions to see if he/she understands what they are reading; keep track of testing dates and help your child study; and make an appointment with your child's teacher(s) to discuss his or her progress, especially if you feel there are potential problems. These are all things you can do to reinforce what is being taught during the day and are crucial to a productive student-parent-teacher partnership.

On behalf of the Eaton Elementary PTA, I wish you all peace and happiness this Holiday Season.

Tammy Covil

Eaton PTA President



We started the 2nd nine weeks off running. The students came back well rested and ready to learn. During this busy time of year with Thanksgiving and Christmas right around the corner, it's important to maintain routines for your child.

Here are a few tips to help you stay on track...

1. **Stay energized** – Make sure your child starts the day with a good breakfast. A nutritious breakfast increases concentration. Try a whole-wheat bagel with peanut butter, orange juice and yogurt. Students can always eat breakfast in the school cafeteria. Mrs. Carmen and her staff do an excellent job at providing a good nutritious breakfast.
2. **Stay connected** – Talking about the school day lets your child know you care. Ask him/her to share two good things that happened during the day.
3. **Come prepared** – Studying a little every day is the best way to learn new material. Help your child choose a time for homework and try not to change this time. Also, have their clothes, book bag and snack packed and ready to go the night before.
4. **Come rested** – A set bedtime helps kids fall asleep more quickly. Have your child in bed 15 minutes early to read, snuggle or talk quietly with you.

Tardies: We have begun our new tardy policy and student tardies have improved. Being on time helps your child begin their day in a positive way. Thanks for your support with this new policy.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

Heather L. Byers

Principal

THANK YOU!!! Fall Festival Silent Auction Contributors






Thank you so much for all that you did to make this year's Silent Auction such a great success! We could not have done it without you. Thanks also to the volunteers who helped in collecting items, setting up, breaking down and helping in any way necessary!!

Alamance Window Cleaners
 Ali Allison-Wine Cakes
 All Way Graphics
 Angie's Bed & Breakfast
 Atlantic Audio
 Atlantic Dermatology
 Auction Orange
 Aussie Island
 Behind Bars Apparel
 Big South Auction
 Bonefish Grill
 Cape Fear Soccer
 Coastal Athletics
 Cold Stone
 Danette Brown-Pampered Chef
 DanzQuest Dance Studio
 Diane Wilcox-The Wellness Centre
 Dicks Sporting Goods
 Ed Mondello
 Fitness Together-Justin Vida
 Flow Fitness
 Fonda Dickens
 Gold's Gym
 Green Clean of Wilmington
 Gymnastics Unlimited
 Harris Teeter
 HeadStrong Athletics
 Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort
 J Crew
 JellyBeans Skating
 Jennifer Wilson-Mary Kay
 Kelly's Cakes
 Kim Joy-Gifts of Joy
 KnuckleBonz
 La Bella Forma
 Learning Express
 Liquid Peace
 Lisa's Nails
 Lundies Photography
 Matthew Gordon
 Me-n-Bre Designs
 Mr. Sudzy Car Wash
 Mrs. Fields
 Mrs. Pair
 Neil Johnson Photography
 New Hanover Regional Medical Center Foundation
 Ocean Ridge Plantation
 Old Sew and Sew
 On the Border
 Panda Chinese Restaurant
 Port City Gymnastics
 Portrait Innovations
 Power of Play
 Red Robin
 Rhyne Family
 Rippy Automotive
 Salon Beyond Basics
 Salon O2
 Sassy Shoes Artwork
 Stadium Athletics
 Starbucks @ Longleaf Harris Teeter
 Subway
 Sun Rayz Tanning
 Sunrise Broadcasting
 Sweet & Sassy
 Tarheel Solid Surface
 WECT
 Wilmington CBS TV Station
 Wilmington School of Ballet
 Wilmington Sea Dawgs
 Wrightsville Beach Surf Camp
 Wrightsville Bean Co. & Café
 WFSX Fox TV Station

Happy Holidays Eaton Families!

Eaton Families,

As we return from a very special Thanksgiving Holiday, I want to say a special thank you for what I observe at Eaton Elementary School every day.

-  Dedicated staff that spends multiple hours meeting the academic and emotional needs of our students.
-  An active, involved group of PTA who will do anything to support our students, staff and families.
-  Students who are respectful and put great effort toward their learning.
-  An office staff that is friendly, efficient, and willing to help.
-  A supportive and involved community of Eaton families.

I hope you all had a safe and relaxing holiday break. Happy Thanksgiving!

Karla Curry

Assistant Principal



Great Job Safety Patrol!



5th grade students, **Sara Matney** and **Carli Batson** were selected to participate in the North Carolina 2010 Elementary Honors Chorus November 6-7 at the North Carolina School of the Arts, Steven Center in Winston-Salem, NC. They auditioned and were selected to be a part of the 150 member chorus out of over 500 NC students. Dr. Sandra Snow from Michigan State University was the guest clinician. Having these Eaton students participate was truly an honor!



- * Relay for Life 50/50 **Holiday Raffle**
(50% of proceeds to RFL; 50% to one lucky winner)
- * Tickets \$2/each OR 3 for \$5 – available in Eaton office
- * Prize drawing will be held at 12/14 PTA meeting;
you do NOT need to be present to win

MUSIC NOTES

FROM MRS. KANZLER

Students in kindergarten – 5th grades have been learning about composers of the month. Our November composer was Wynton Marsalis (1961-) and the December composer will be Gian Carlo Menotti (1911-2007) who wrote “Amahl and the Night Visitors.” For more information on these composers, see my ‘Composer of the Month’ page on my teacher website.



Kindergarten

Kindergarteners have begun learning correct playing positions for holding mallets and playing the big xylophones and metallophones in the music room. Students learned about how size of the instrument relates to the sound it makes and experimented with improvisation on these instruments using the story, “Goldilocks and the Three Bears.”

1st Grade

1st grade has been learning musical concepts through integrating children’s books and seasonal songs and activities. 1st graders have also been learning how 2 or more notes build a chord and have been playing chords with our hand bells. We have also been reviewing reading our level 3 and 4 rhythm cards that include half and whole notes, in addition to quarter notes, quarter rests, and eighth notes.

2nd Grade

2nd graders have been reviewing reading musical notation and rhythms through seasonal and holiday songs and activities. Students have also learned and played independent and interconnected musical parts on our Orff xylophone, metallophone, and glockenspiel instruments. 2nd graders have also been learning about ABA form in music.

3rd Grade

3rd grade has been busy with learning about movement to music, listening, and the fun benefits of social interaction through an autumn square dancing unit. Students learned circle dances, line dances, the Virginia reel, and basic square dances.

4th Grade

4th grade students are busy learning ever-increasingly challenging music on the recorder. Students earn “recorder karate belts” for their recorder for successfully playing the music matching that colored belt. This year, in an effort to make technology more relevant to students, I am posting all the music for the Recorder Karate belts in music on my teacher website. Students know how to access this site from the Eaton homepage and to click on my recorder page. From there students can download, print the music, and write in their note letter name on the page. If for some reason, a student does not have access to a computer or printer at home, please let me know and we will arrange an alternate plan or paper copies for your child to use in class. caroline.kanzler@nhcs.net or (910) 397-1544 ext. 214

5th Grade

Students in 5th grade have been adding to their knowledge of ukulele chords and songs. Students can play the chords C, C7, F, G7 and have been implementing this muscle memory learning by playing holiday songs such as “Over the River and Through the Woods,” and “Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer.” These songs and more are all accessible through the ukulele page on my website. Students can download, print the music, and practice from home! I hope parents are enjoying how students are truly becoming independent music-makers as they play and sing along!

TECH CORNER

Kellie Shanahan
CRT

Heidi Mazzocco
Technology Assistant



Students have been busy in the computer lab. Grades 2-5 have been conducting research, creating databases, and exploring science concepts. Kindergarten and 1st grade have learned to use the draw tools in Microsoft Word and interacted with online books.

Parents please utilize our Eaton homepage to discover the resources available to keep you informed about all that is happening at Eaton as well as with New Hanover County Schools. They publish a monthly e-newsletter that reports current points of interest within NHCS.

Help your child become a better typist. This will help with all computer activities. Here is a fun website for online typing practice:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/>





About Us!!!

The Kindergarten classes have been so busy this month learning about fall and watching for signs that the seasons have changed. They learned about the first Thanksgiving and were very excited to participate in our breakfast feast. Each kindergartener took a turkey home to disguise so that it would not be eaten for Thanksgiving dinner. We had Santa turkeys, Cheerleader turkeys, Football Player turkeys and many other very well disguised turkeys. Thanks to all the parents who helped with this "Family Homework Project".



Eaton's first graders are reading and writing up a storm. Flexible reading groups allow teachers to meet the needs of the different levels of readers. Check out the work on the walls in the hall to see the good writing that is going on! In math, we are working on memorizing addition facts, probability, and shapes. In December, our social studies focus will be Holiday Traditions Around the World. First graders will learn how other countries celebrate the holidays. We hope you have a happy holiday.

What's happening with the weather? Second grade will be learning about weather this 9 weeks. Students will be reporting, predicting and doing data collection. Students will be working on special weather projects to share. This will be an exciting unit that will end with a visit from a meteorologist from the National Weather service. With the Holidays quickly approaching, we would like to take time to thank all of our Eaton families for their support over the year. We hope you have a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year and know one thing...your children are a gift to us here each and every day of the year.



We hope this finds everyone enjoying the holiday season! We have been busy, busy, busy this quarter, and we can hardly believe that the quarter is almost over! In science, we continue to learn about the human body. We began this unit with a field trip to see Mr. Slim Goodbody in October. We learned so much from him and had a great time! We will continue to learn about all of the different systems of our body through the end of 2nd quarter. When we return in January, we will begin investigating types of soils. Multiplication has been our main focus for math this quarter. Please continue to help your child practice and memorize their math facts. This is a lifelong skill students need to learn. There are so many different ways that you can practice these: flash cards, computer games, calling them out, etc. Try to practice them every night even if it's just for a few minutes! Have a wonderful, safe holiday season!

We begin the second half of the nine weeks with our Science Animal Adaptation Unit. Ask your child about dissecting owl pellets. We are also working on imaginative narrative writing and Social Studies content writing on Blackbeard, the famous NC pirate. We look forward to sharing some of our pieces with you in the near future. We can't emphasize enough the importance of your child memorizing their multiplication facts. It is essential to your child's math success. We hope you have a wonderful holiday season and thank you for trusting us with your most prized possession.



The fifth grade is very excited about our week-long STARBASE field trip in December. We will be traveling to Fort Fisher for 2 days and the STARBASE crew will come to Eaton for 3 days. STARBASE helps generate students' interest in science, math and technology through experiential learning, simulations, and experiments in aviation and space-related fields. Students also work on setting goals and learn first-hand how to apply their knowledge to real world situations. To make sure we end our five day adventure with a bang, we culminate the week's activities with a rocket launch at Eaton!