

Horizon Honors Primary School News

September 2010

A NOTE FROM PRINCIPAL LAURA WANSTREET

Thank you all for your participation in our first quarter ILP Conferences. If you have been to an ILP Conference in the past, you may have noticed a change in our conference structure this quarter. We were excited to try out this new format designed to encourage more parent and student participation in developing ILP goals. This idea came from feedback shared in last year's Curriculum Survey results.

We heard parents expressing the desire for more input into the development of their child's ILP and the teachers and I agreed. By providing families time prior to meeting with the teacher to review work samples and pre-assessments, along with a guide for feedback on the child's strengths and areas for growth, the conference with the teacher became more individualized and centered specifically on the student's needs.

As with any new process, there are some things to improve. We are working out a few scheduling bugs on our end and can use your help. If you have more than one child, please allow sufficient time between your ILP Conferences. For Kindergarten – 4th Grade, please allow 30-40 minutes for each conference; 15-20 minutes to review the portfolio work and pre-assessments and draft ideas for goals, then 20 minutes to conference with the teacher. If you have a child in 5-6, the conference may take longer. The time frame will depend on how many 5-6 teachers you and your child sign up to meet and could take up to an hour to complete.

As you are reviewing your child's portfolio, look for strengths in each piece and a specific area of growth. This will help you develop ideas for academic goals as you compare the ILP goal sheet to your child's work samples. Also take into consideration what you see at home when thinking of your child's strengths and possible areas for growth. Many teachers will have pre-assessments for you and your child to review. Pre-assessments are not graded assessments, but give you and the teacher information about what your child already knows and what they will focus on for the quarter. Students typically do not score well on pre-assessments as the content has not been covered yet.

Your input in setting your child's goals for the quarter has been very valuable and the teachers were impressed by how involved the students were in developing their own academic and social goals. This is a format we will continue to develop and your feedback and patience with the process is greatly appreciated. I would love to hear your thoughts!

Laura Wanstreet
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Upcoming Events

Skateland Grades K-4:
September 2 @ 5:30 p.m.

Labor Day (NO SCHOOL):
September 6

3-4 Field Trip – Heard Museum:
Blue - September 7
Black - September 8
White - September 9
Silver - September 10

1-2 Field Trip - Childsplay
"Frog & Toad All Year:"
Blue & Silver - September 15
Black & White - September 17

Book Fair:
September 20-24 in Media Ctr.

School Improvement Team:
September 20 @ 1 p.m. in
Media Center Conference Rm.

1-2 Summative:
September 21

Picture Day Retakes:
September 23

3-4 Summative:
September 23

Kindergarten Summative:
September 24

Fall Break Begins (NO SCHOOL):
September 27

School Values Schedule

Week of September 6:
Courage

Week of September 13:
Self Discipline

Week of September 20:
Trustworthiness

WELCOME HEATHER COLE!

We would like to give a warm welcome to Heather Cole, the new Administrative Assistant in the Elementary Office. Heather has had three children attend HCLC, with Hannah being her last in 5-6. She has been a volunteer on the Staff Appreciation Committee, Eagle Day Committee, attended many field trips and taught Art Master-piece for many years.

Next time you are in the Elementary Office, please say hello to Mrs. Cole!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN KINDERGARTEN?

Welcome to a new year in Kindergarten! We have spent the last few weeks learning about each other and creating our classroom community. We have so many new and exciting things to learn and are eager to experience everything.

This quarter in Project Group, we are literally creating a community from the ground up. We have studied the land and maps to explore the world around us. We chose a piece of land to plan our community and we are in the planning stages. Learning that wants are different than needs has helped us create a community where families can come together and celebrate our similarities and differences. As we move through the stages from community planner to engineers and builders, we have learned the value of communication and compromise. Becoming a team has taught us perseverance and responsibility. We look forward to presenting our Kindergarten community to our family and friends at our first Summative on September 24th.



WHAT IS A SUMMATIVE?

At the end of each quarter, students celebrate what they have learned in Project Group in the form of a Summative. A Summative is an academic performance where students present to families and friends their new learning. At the completion of a Social Studies or Science unit, teachers and students collaborate to decide how to showcase their Project Group experience. Summatives allow for the creative juices to flow and may be presented in the form of a dramatic play, science fair, museum, slideshow, etc. This is a special evening for your student and your parental involvement supports their academic journey. Summatives are generally presented in the evening, with the exception of Kindergarten, which is held during the school day in the first and second quarters. Information regarding your scheduled Summative day and time will be sent home in your child's folder towards the end of the quarter. Parent volunteers are appreciated and welcomed in the classroom when the preparation for Summative begins.

MUSIC NOTES

This quarter in Music, it's all about reading standard musical notation for 1-2 and 3-4. In 1-2 Music, we are learning to read musical notation, clap simple rhythms, and use those rhythms to accompany songs in class. We will use various instruments to perform the rhythms, and utilize terms like echo, beat and rhythm each day in class. In 3-4 Music, we expand on student knowledge of basic notes and rests by adding a composition element. Students gain knowledge in standard musical notation and use this knowledge to play games, do music math, and then ultimately compose a group rhythmic piece that is performed using 'found' instruments around the room.



EARLY PICK UP

The end of the school day is an important time for teachers and students to have closure on their day. They spend time wrapping up the day and packing up so they can leave their classrooms in an orderly and timely fashion with a smooth and structured end to their school day.

If you have an appointment right at the end of school day, please plan to pick up your child at least 30 minutes early so that we have enough time to get them packed up and into the office for you. If you come during the last 20 minutes of class it is difficult to disrupt the end of the day routine in the classroom and we may not be able to get them to you any faster than you would by just picking them up at their regular dismissal time. If there are emergencies, we understand and will do our best to have your child ready for you when you need them. We love to accommodate families and their individual needs, but please allow for your child, the classroom teachers, and office staff to complete their end of the day routines with minimal disruptions.

REPORTING ABSENCES

When a student needs to be absent, parents must call the Attendance Line at (480) 659-3062 before 9 a.m. each day the student is absent. State law mandates that the school record a reason for all student absences. This greatly reduces the need to call you at work or home to confirm the absence. The absence will be unexcused if no reason is given. When calling, please leave the child's name (with spelling), date of absence, grade level, reason for absence, and a telephone number where you can be reached in case of questions.

YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW

Don't miss out on purchasing your Yearbook! This year the Yearbooks can ONLY be purchased online, so no order form is available. Please visit <http://www.horizonclc.org/yearbooks> to order yours today!

The PreK-6 Yearbook is a 48-page, black and white, hard cover book that includes special events and classroom moments. All students photographed during Fall Photo Days are included.

If you have any questions, please contact the Main Office at (480) 659-3000.

FROM STUDENT ADVISOR MS. K

Every quarter I have the opportunity to visit your child's classroom to present lessons. I refer to our leadership standards as a foundation for our talks and utilize various picture books to bring these topics to life.

For Kindergarten through 2nd Grade, the leadership standard we will be focusing on states that the student will describe himself or herself. The objectives for this standard are as follows:

- students will identify personal roles in the family, class, and school
- describe personal views of self, such as strengths and weaknesses
- explore influences on self, such as family and community customs and traditions

For our 3-4 students, the leadership standard states that the student will examine his or her own self-image. The objectives for this standard state:

- students will identify factors that contribute to self-image, such as success and failure or acceptance and rejection
- investigate outside factors that may influence self-image, such as others' opinions in certain situations
- recognize that self-image may change over time and in different situations
- recognize that our actions and choices influence others

Some of my book selections include:

["The Brand New Kid" by Katie Couric](#)

["Enemy Pie" by Derek Munson](#)

["The Recess Queen" by Alesix O'Neil](#)

["Yes We Can!" by Sam McBratney](#)

["For Every Child" by Carole Castle](#)

["Only One You" by Linda Kranz](#)

["You are Special" by Max Lucado](#)

I have listed a few resources for you to view to help with some conversation starters for your child to further explore and help to improve their self-image. Please ask them about our visits and ask the students to tell you about how they "see themselves!" Check out these Web sites:

<http://childparenting.about.com/cs/behaviorproblems/a/childselfimage.htm>

<http://www.askdrsears.com/html/6/t061500.asp>

<http://www.ces.purdue.edu/new/CFS-735-W.pdf>

<http://mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/publications/allpubs/Ca-0034/default.asp>

Kelly Kowalczyk

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JOIN CLUB HORIZON!

Club Horizon is HCLC's before/after school program. We are open in the mornings from 6:15 to 8 a.m. and in the afternoon from 3 to 6 p.m. Our prices range from \$6 for the morning to \$12 for the afternoon. We also run a full-day program during the HCLC breaks, and the price per day is \$30. All of our programs are available to HCLC students in Grades K-6. We would love to have you join the Club Horizon family! Enroll your child today and join us for a great time!

If you have any further questions about enrollment or Club Horizon in general, please contact Club Horizon Director Sal Aguilar at (480) 659-3182 or [by e-mail](#).

HORIZON HONORS PRIMARY SCHOOL GOALS

Each year we analyze our data from the AIMS and Stanford 10 tests the students took in the Spring to determine our focus for teacher development and a goal for our teachers and students to focus on throughout the year. This year, we plan to focus on creative, analytical and practical thinking. We will begin with creative thinking. This is where we are asked to create, design, imagine or suppose. Creativity is the ability to see things in a new and unusual light, to see problems that no one else may even realize exist, and then come up with new, unusual, and effective solutions to these problems. How can you help foster and develop creative thinking at home?

- Play creative games (using props to tell a made up story, acting out a story and changing parts, pretending to be a person, place or thing, free time to explore dramatic play of their own creation)
- Build (Legos, blocks, sand, mud, clay, suds)
- Use creative questioning (How many different ways can a spoon be used? What would happen if you could fly? What are some different uses for this? What would happen if this were larger, smaller, softer?)

This may require a parent (or a child) to relax controls in some situations and have a tolerance for offbeat or unusual ideas. Have fun with it. You will be surprised how your creative thinking develops and flourishes along with your child's!

THE BOOK FAIR IS COMING

The Media Center Fall Book Fair is September 20-24. The fair is designed to help kids and parents find age-appropriate books. Proceeds from the fair provide new books to the Media Center, classrooms, and teacher resources.

The Fall Book Fair will be open the following dates and times. Please note we are also open during evening Summatives:

September 20-24 - 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.
AND

September 20 - 5 to 8 p.m. (5-6 Summative)
September 21 - 5 to 8 p.m. (1-2 Summative)
September 23 - 5 to 8 p.m. (3-4 Summative)

Elementary classes will be visiting the Book Fair during their regularly scheduled Media Center time. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please [contact Mindy Duet](#).

SAVE THE DATES FOR UPCOMING HCLC DRAMA PRODUCTIONS!

"Arsenic and Old Lace"

November 5th @ 3:30 p.m. & 7 p.m. in MPR
November 6th @ 7 p.m. in MPR
November 12th @ 3:30 p.m. & 7 p.m. in MPR
November 13th @ 7 p.m. in MPR

"Bye Bye Birdie"

April 8th @ 3:30 p.m. & 7 p.m. in MPR
April 9th @ 7 p.m. in MPR
April 15th @ 3:30 p.m. & 7 p.m. in MPR
April 16th @ 7 p.m. in MPR

CURRICULUM NIGHT RECAP

Thank you to all the parents who came out for our inaugural PreK-6th Grade Curriculum Night. We had over 200 parents attend the event and we heard so much positive feedback. Everyone from new families to those who have been here for several years all felt they learned a great deal by experiencing "A Day in the Life" of their child. Some families with multiple children expressed the need for more time or multiple evenings so they would be able to have this experience for all of their children. We thought this might happen, but felt strongly opposed to teachers and/or parents having to be at school late in the evening on multiple nights and chose to move ahead with the one night format. Now that you have experienced what the event is all about, we would like to hear from you so we can continue to improve this event for the future. To those of you who already gave feedback to your classroom teachers – thank you. The teachers already shared the input they received with Mrs. Wanstreet. If you have not or would like to add to what you shared with the teachers, [feel free to e-mail](#), call at (480) 659-3100 or come by to see Mrs. Wanstreet. She would love to hear from you.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



**DINNER, SILENT AUCTION, & GOLF
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH**

AT



**ARIZONA GRAND
RESORT®**

**Register by September 24th for the best pricing!
This event will sell out so register today!**


Enjoy an evening of dinner, dancing and silent auction or make a day of it and also play a round of golf! There is something for everyone to enjoy! Proceeds benefit HCLC's Digital Excellence Campaign, which raises fund to increase the level of technology at all grade levels.

Registration brochures will be mailed to HCLC parents on Monday, August 30th and are available in either office or on our Web site.

Interested in a tax deduction?

Sponsorships are a big part of the success of our event.

Sponsorships currently available:

Tournament Sponsor - 

Dinner Sponsor - \$2,000

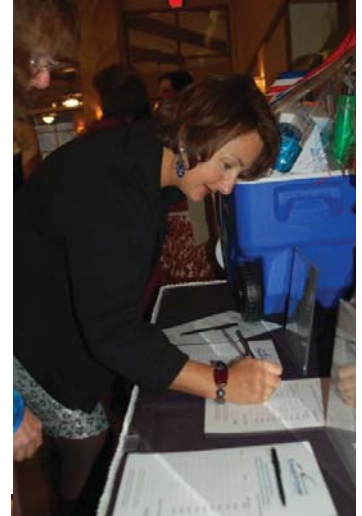
Tee Sponsor -



Hole Sponsors - \$250

Have questions? Interested in getting involved?

Contact Mona Volden, Parent Partnership Director,
at (480) 659-3098 or at mona.volden@horizonclc.org.



THANK YOU!

The Parent Partnership Office has been a buzz of activity. Our tireless volunteers have been very busy organizing the lunch program, starting our various committees, and helping out in the classroom. It's an amazing place to be anytime of year! Stop by the office, located in the Elementary Offices, and see what the buzz is all about! We'd love you to get involved. Thanks to each and every person who has and will continue to be such an important part of your child's school - A VOLUNTEER !

SECOND QUARTER LUNCH FORMS

The second quarter lunch order form will be sent home with your child on Thursday, September 2nd. The form is also available online. Deadline to order is Thursday, September 16th.



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAM

Congratulations to the following parent volunteers on the 2010-2011 School Improvement Team (S.I.T.):
Horizon Honors Primary School - Brenda Covarrubias & Ranee Fear (Alternate)
Horizon Honors Intermediate School - Regina Anderson
Horizon Honors Middle School - Teri Engelbrecht
Horizon Honors High School - Jessica Hernandez & Hilda Quintanilla (Alternate)

The School Improvement Team (S.I.T.) is a group of parents, teachers, students, and administrators that make recommendations to the Leadership Team and School Board. This year, the team will discuss and create solutions for increasing parent involvement at HCLC. Members were chosen by lottery on August 18. All parents are welcome to attend these meetings. Check the Event Calendar on the Web site for meetings dates and times.

ART MASTERPIECE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Do you enjoy art? Do you have a favorite painting or sculpture? Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity that happens only one or two times a month? Then Art Masterpiece is the place to be! Art Masterpiece runs during the second and third quarters. Time, length and frequency vary. You don't need an art degree; all you need is an interest in art! Our first Art Masterpiece Meeting is September 1st at 8:40 a.m.

LUNCH PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

Thank you lunch volunteers, we couldn't do it without you !

Gayle Gaine	Sheryl Houle	Barb Brady	Melissa Lemme
Donna Drake	Stephanie McNally	Dave Heiberger	Karin LaScola
Barbara Weeman	Gail Lesio	Peggy Johnson	Martina Allen
Valerie Romano	Angelique Blanco	Wendy Fitzgerald	Erin Villani
Tami Jackson	Tracy Rao	Kathy Lundine	Angie Gunderson
Karen Vigesaa	Janice Ertle	Laurie VanHook	Regina Anderson
Christine Grayson	Lisa Derr	Rachea Reece-Pepplez	

September 2010 Volunteer of the Month:
NATASHA PIZORNO
Congratulations and thank you!