



From the Principal's Desk

Horace Mann Elementary
September 25, 2009

Dear Mann Community,

We have some exciting activities going on at school daily and a lot of this is due to the help of our volunteers and the PTSA.

If you are interested in volunteering, please be sure you complete a volunteer application (clearances are good for 2 years) on LWSD.org or we have copies of the applications in the office. Volunteers help in the health room, on field trips and even read with children. If you are a volunteer who has signed up to help with our Read Naturally program, please note that there is a training on October 6th from 9-10 am in the Library.

The PTSA is currently having a fund raiser called Pass the Hat. Donations are currently being taken to help fund the many PTSA sponsored activities here at Mann. For example, next **Thursday, Oct. 1 the PTSA is sponsoring an all-school assembly and carnival.** The assembly is put on by the very funny Morris Brothers and is on the prevention of bullying. If that is not enough, then that evening from 5:30-8:30 is the school carnival. Please plan on bringing your Mann students and younger siblings to this event (we kindly ask that all older siblings not attend unless they are helping at the carnival).

Thank you so much for your support and involvement! It is so refreshing to work with such committed parents who support and trust the school staff! - Megan Spaulding – Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thurs., Oct. 1 st	Spirit Day – Wear Colt Colors – Black/Red/White 5:30-8:30 p.m. Horace Mann Carnival
Fri., Oct. 2 nd	NO SCHOOL – Learning Enhancement & Academic Planning Day for Teachers (LEAP Day)
Tues., Oct. 6 th	9:00-10:00 a.m. Read Naturally Parent Training - Library
Fri., Oct. 9 th	Service Club Meeting (Grades 4-6) – Morning Recess
Wed., Oct. 14 th	Author/Illustrator Leslie Patricelli (Kndg through 3rd Grade)
Thurs., Oct. 29 th	Picture Retake Day
Wed., Nov. 11 th	NO SCHOOL – Veterans Day
Thurs., Nov. 19 th	7:00 p.m. Band Concert for Beginning and 2nd – RJH Gym
Fri., Nov. 20 th	11:30 Dismissal for All Students – Parent/Teacher Conferences **AM Kindergarten attends – 11:30 Dismissal
Mon., Nov. 23 rd	11:30 Dismissal for All Students – Parent/Teacher Conferences **PM Kindergarten attends in the AM**
Tues., Nov. 24 th	11:30 Dismissal for All Students – Parent/Teacher Conferences **AM Kindergarten attends – 11:30 Dismissal
Wed., Nov. 25 th	11:30 Dismissal for all Students **PM Kindergarten attends – 11:30 Dismissal
Thurs., Nov. 26 & 27 th	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break

Colt Carnival 2009! Next THURSDAY, October 1st from 5:30-8:30 (No school on Friday!)

- **Raffle UPDATE!** – Support Horace Mann and buy a chance to win some great prizes this year! Raffle tickets will be on sale after school next Tuesday and Wednesday for \$1.00 each. Make sure you check out the “**Whistler Getaway**” package – it is a \$600 value!!! We now have **TWO**, 120 GB Microsoft ZUNE video MP3 players for raffle, as well as an 8 GB Zune. And, thanks to yet another generous donation from **Garlic Jim’s**, we are offering one lucky student a chance to **win a pizza party for his/her class!** Go for it! Don’t forget you can win **lunch with Mrs. Spaulding** too! Please see the flyer in today’s Mannager for more info.
- **Punch Cards** – Avoid the lines and purchase your punch cards (\$5.00 each for ten \$.50 punches) next Tuesday (9/29) and Wednesday (9/30) after school. Look for tables set up out in front.
- **Please remember to bring in your cake(s) to the Art/Science room next Thursday!** Thank you in advance for your donations of cakes, books, and stuffed animals!

Carnival is staying open late this year (8:30), so make some time to stop by, have some pizza (or a salad!), visit with your friends and neighbors, and spend some quality time with your family! Let the Good Times Roll!

CHESS CLUB NEWS

Chess Club registration is now closed. We have a very full Chess Club. If you have a child who wanted to participate but was not yet registered, please email me and I will put your child on a wait list. For those who have already sent in your registration, this is a reminder that **Chess Club starts at 7:25 am on Thursday, October 1st.** If you have an advanced chess player (rating of 700 or above) and are interested in additional coaching, please contact me because I now have the information on Redmond Elementary's advanced chess class. My email is avalermms@hotmail.com or call Valerie at 425-861-5696.

PASS THE HAT –

Attention all families. Please turn in your donations so that your kids get credit! We are having a friendly competition between the grades! **It is not about how much you turn in but how many participate.** A family donation of \$50 will help us reach our end of the year fundraising goal of \$20,000. Each child from each family will get credit so there is no need to write multiple checks to the *Horace Mann PTSA*. Just include the names of your children and their teachers on a piece of paper. Most importantly, if your employer has a matching program, please take advantage of it. If you have questions about employer matching, please contact me. What does the grade with the most participation win? Dairy Queen sundaes!!!!

HORACE MANN PTSA PRESENTS – THE 2009-2010 REFLECTIONS ARTS PROGRAM

Theme: “*Beauty is...*” The Reflections Program is a National PTSA and Washington State PTSA cultural arts competition. The purpose of the program is to provide an opportunity for students to use their creative talents by expressing themselves through their own original works, created around a specific theme. This year’s theme is “*Beauty is...*” and you decide what that phrase means to you. General Participation Rules and Entry Forms are available outside of the main office. Please pick up rules sheets for the categories you’d like to participate in from the Reflections information kiosk outside the main office at school. Students can enter up to two works in each of the following arts areas. Only original works of art, created by the artist working alone, for the 2009-2010 theme are accepted.

Arts categories:

- Choreography/Dance – create original choreographed dance and perform it on tape.
- Film/Video – fiction or nonfiction video created as animation, a narrative, documentary, experimental, or music video.
- Literature – works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, prose, drama, short stories, and lyrics.
- Music composition – original musical composition, with or without lyrics.
- Photography – prints up to 11”x14” in color or black and white, including techniques of photogram, retouched, montage, sandwich, and multiple exposures.
- Visual arts – prints, drawings, painting, collages, photographic collages, metal etching, fiber work and computer generated art.

Finished entries should be turned into the main office at school, on or before October 23, 2009, by 3:00 PM. Each entry must be accompanied by an official entry form which includes the student’s name, grade, teacher’s name, and parent’s or guardian’s signature. Be sure you have read the rules and comply with them, paying special attention to the preparation of the artwork prior to submission.

- All entries will receive a certificate and free popcorn at a designated lunchtime following the submittals.
 - Up to four finalists chosen in each art category will go on to compete at the level and up to five finalists in each category will be submitted to the National PTSA competition.
 - All participants will be recognized and artwork will be displayed outside of the library.
- For more information, contact Amanda Fleig at 425-882-0187 or mandyfleig@hotmail.com.**

OCTOBER IS DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

In March, 2008, Governor Christine Gregoire signed a bill declaring October Disability Awareness Month in an effort to acknowledge the challenges and contributions of those in our society with disabilities. This is a great reminder to help our children learn to recognize with dignity all citizens as contributing members of our society, regardless of disability. Below are some resources for helping children to develop an understanding and awareness of disabilities.

Fostering friendships between students with and without disabilities:

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/inclusivecommunities/>

Preschool activity – Blind Painting:

<http://www.storknet.com/cubbies/kidscrafts/blindpainting.htm>

Everyday ways to teach children about respect:

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/inclusivecommunities/>

Book list recommendations for children about disabilities:

http://www.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=ntl_ability_child_booklist

Printable coloring and activities book about children with special needs:

http://www.easterseals.com/site/DocServer/Easter_Seals_Fun.pdf?docID=5743

ARE YOU OR DO YOU KNOW A VETERAN?

Mann Elementary is looking for military veterans and/or men and women in active service in our Armed Forces to be a part of our Veteran’s Day Assembly on Tuesday, Nov. 10th, at 1:30 p.m.

Please call our main office (425-881-9696) if you or someone you know would be interested in either briefly speaking, wearing their uniform or even are willing just to be recognized for their service to our country. – Thank you!

SWAP MEET

Save your stuff and save the date! **Swap Meet Wednesday, November 4th, 4:00p-7:00p**

Horace Mann will sponsor our annual swap meet in November so start saving your clean and usable clothes, toys, books, bikes etc now! Everything will be free and everything must go. This event is sponsored by Transitions. Questions? Call Angie Bateman or Linda Avery.

