

the TIGER TIMES

A Publication of the East Side Elementary School PTA

February 4, 2011
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Note from the Principal

Dear Parents,

East Side Recognized by State for Achievement

Thirty-five Cobb County schools have been honored for academic success by the Georgia Department of Education and the Governor's Office of Student Achievement. The awards are based on student performance on the 2009-10 Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests (CRCT, for elementary and middle schools) and the Georgia High School Graduation Tests (GHSGT, for high schools). These state assessments help determine a school's status under federal No Child Left Behind. Each award has four honor levels - Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze - that correspond to a school's consistent performance and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) status.

The Highest Performance award is given to schools that have a very high percentage of students meeting test standards. The Cobb County winners are:

PLATINUM: Garrison Mill, Mt. Bethel, Murdock, Timber Ridge elementary schools; Dickerson Middle; Lassiter, Pope, Walton high schools

GOLD: Davis, East Side, Mountain View, Rocky Mount, Shallowford Falls, Tritt elementary schools; Dodgen, Hightower Trail middle schools; Hillgrove High

SILVER: Due West, Ford, Kemp, Sope Creek, Vaughan elementary schools; Simpson Middle; Harrison High

BRONZE: Addison, Bullard, Keheley, Kincaid, Pickett's Mill elementary schools; Mabry Middle, Allatoona High

Other News:

LICE: Please see our website for a letter from me outlining Cobb's lice policy, treatments, and preventatives. Please understand that parents must report cases to teachers and our school nurse so that we can know the true number of cases and act accordingly. Our school nurse is Tina Mansperger. Her e-mail address is tina.mansperger@cobbk12.org.

Cobb Schools Make Up For Inclement Weather Days Feb. 2, Mar. 18

Cobb County schools will make up for lost instructional time due to inclement weather by making two changes to the spring semester calendar. **Wednesday, Feb. 2**, previously an early release day, will now be a full school day for students. Additionally, **Friday, March 18**, previously a teacher workday, will now be a full school day for students. If additional weather events should result in more missed school days, other make-up options will have to be considered. (continued on page 2)



Principal: Elizabeth Mavity
Assistant: Diane Gurr
Assistant Administrator:
Kristen Erbskorn
Secretary: Pat Mabry

By addressing the needs of all children, East Side's community is committed to empowering our children to excel academically and become respectful, productive members of a global society.

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Note from the Principal cont.

New School Update

Work on the new school is proceeding pretty much on schedule. The recent weather delays have slowed things down but the contractor is working hard to make up the time. The structure is topped out, the exterior block masonry is over 70% complete and the brick masonry is about to begin in earnest. They are still on schedule to be complete with the construction of the new school by June so demolition of the existing buildings can take place this summer.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth J. Mavity

From the Co-Presidents...

Please join us in expressing our gratitude this week during Teacher Appreciation Week. The wonderful teachers at East Side contribute so much to the education, growth, and character development of our children. We are blessed to have men and women who are so willing to go above and beyond our expectations every day of the school year. Activities are planned each day to honor our teachers this week, but sometimes a simple "Thank you" goes a long way!

Our annual Science Fair begins on March 17th, so it's not too soon to start thinking of great ideas. Each year our Science Fair draws more and more entries, and this year will be no different. If your child would like to participate, our teachers and Mrs. Ranger can offer good advice and help with ideas. The Science Fair helps children develop critical thinking and research skills, and helps to awaken the interest of budding scientists and engineers.

Did you know our cafeteria serves breakfast one day a month? All Pro Dad is new to East Side this year and we have had over 100 fathers and children at each monthly

breakfast. All Pro Dad was started by Coach Tony Dungy to promote healthy families and relationships. The goal is to encourage fathers to take an active role in the lives of their children so that they will learn self-discipline, self-worth, and develop positive life skills. Join us for a great time of fellowship with other East Side families on the first Friday of every month at 7 am in the cafeteria.

We would like to remind you about PTA Day at the State Capitol on March 2nd. This special event is open to everyone. It's a unique opportunity to become more familiar with the legislative process and to speak with state legislators about issues concerning your child's education, health and safety. Wear red and let your voice be heard!

Toria Peterson and Jill Butler, PTA Co-Presidents



Jingle Jog 2010

East Side's annual Jingle Jog run was held December 4th, 2010. It was a HUGE success. We had over 650 participants and raised over \$5,000 for the PE Department. Thank you to all participants, sponsors, and volunteers, especially Amy DeMoss and the Jingle Jog committee. We greatly appreciate your support!



These Reindeer are ready to run on this cold day! Mrs. Stephen's Kindergarten Spunky Monkeys won a pizza party for having the highest participation of any class.



The Tiger greets the runners before the race. Clay Youngblood submitted the winning t-shirt design which featured a distinctive Tiger on a Wheaties box. Eating breakfast each day can help you "Be a Champion"!

Teacher Appreciation Day

Don't forget that this week is **Teacher Appreciation Week (February 7-11)**. The PTA has fun treats and events planned for the teachers throughout the week, and we couldn't make this happen without the help of our wonderful room reps and all of our parents. Thanks for all you are doing (and for your donations of time and materials this week). Please remind your kids that we have a "High Five" theme this year, so have them give a big high five to their teachers Monday morning to thank them for all the wonderful things they do for East Side every day!



Cafeteria Staff Appreciation Day

Wednesday, February 9 is Cafeteria Staff Appreciation Day. This great group of individuals works so hard to keep our children well fed and cared for in the lunch room each day. Please remind your children to give a big "high five" to these individuals on Wednesday (or a big thank you to those actually handling the food behind the glass!) for all that they do for East Side Elementary!

Environmental Education Committee:

Planet Patrol has been launched!! We had our first meeting where we discussed all sorts of environmental issues, from protecting animals' natural habitats to turning "trash" into art projects. Our second meeting will be **February 15** at 7:00 am and we're planning some fun activities in the next couple of months. Check out what we're doing on our blog! <http://www.eastsideplanetpatrol.blogspot.com>



Waste Free Lunch Day is Wednesday, February 16!

Planet Patrollers will be raiding the cafeteria to award prizes to the best examples of a Waste Free Lunch! Hey girls--almost all the winners last time were boys! Let's make it even this time!! Even if the raid isn't happening during your lunch period, packing a Waste Free Lunch is a good idea every day, even if you don't win a prize!



Gardeners and Green Thumbs Needed!

We need someone to take the lead on beautification and plantings at the new school next year! If you love digging in the dirt, please consider joining the Environmental Education Committee and helping to make East Side pretty from the outside. Contact Cristin Zegers at environmentaleducation@eastsideelementary.com.



International Festival: Saturday, March 26, 2011

Travel Around the World without a Passport or a Visa!

This fantastic event begins with food from around the world and a fashion show; followed by music, dance and other performing arts representing various parts of the world.

International Festival has been received with enthusiasm in the past and the PTA looks forward to presenting one for current school year. It typically lasts for 2-3 hours. Ticket information will be provided in March.

We would love to have more countries to be represented. Main responsibilities of the Country Leader include taking entries and coordinating for the event from participants for your country. For more information or to volunteer,



please contact Ram Mallappa at: InternationalFestival@eastsideelementary.com or Jayshree Sawant at CoFirstVicePresident@eastsideelementary.com

East Side Science Fair 2011

Every year, we invite students from grade K-5 to participate in East Side Science Fair. This year, the Science Fair will be held on **Thursday, March 17th, 2011** at East Side. To encourage more participation, we will have displays available for viewing during school hours and will provide opportunity to every child to enjoy the event.

All Students grades K-5 are invited and encouraged to participate in the upcoming East Side Science Fair! All participants will receive ribbons for their hard work in the science field. In order to accommodate all participating scientists for the event, we will be taking a preliminary count of the expected number of display areas needed. Grade level guidelines for the projects along with informational resources will be made available to all interested “scientists” and parents of all participants. These guidelines will provide appropriate scientific language and other resources for students. Placement assignments will be sent home prior to the event.

Here are few resources for you to get started

<http://www.sciencebob.com/>

<http://school.discovery.com/sciencefaircentral/scifairstudio/>

<http://www.scifair.org/http://www.ipl.org/youth/projectguide/>

<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/fair.html>

<http://homeworkspot.com/sciencefair/>

<http://webtech.kennesaw.edu/tbrown/Default.htm>

Guidelines for participants can be found at:

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=explorer&srcid=0B3Vf-7pj4m90MzRkMjVjZTItY2U4ZS00NjQ1LTlkMzQtZDBjNGNlN2YzYTlm&hl=en&authkey=CL7Ko0g>

Enrollment for participants can be found at:

<https://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dFdVSWRQZTA1aUNmT3dOVUxteGt4V2c6MQ>

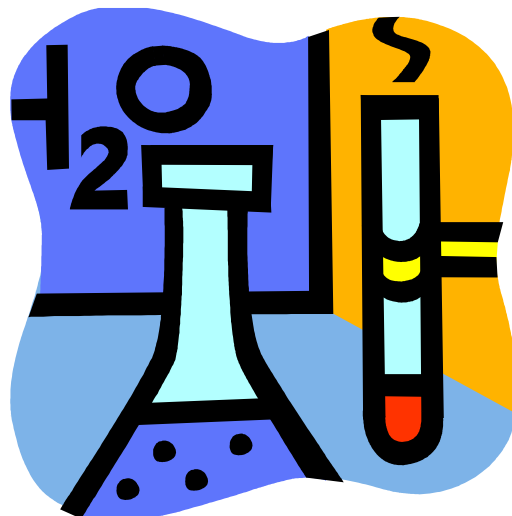
We need parent volunteers to help us out with this event. If you would like to volunteer for this, please indicate so in enrollment form or email your name and contact phone number to the Science Committee members with “East Side Science Fair” in the subject line.

East Side PTA Science Committee

Jigar Desai: jdesai@gmail.com, 678-571-8452

Rajesh Singi: rajesh.singi@comcast.net, 770-977-9451

Rajiv Virmani: rvirmani@yahoo.com, 770-578-0837



Fit Program Update

What are Fit Programs?

Fit in Fifth is a fitness and nutrition program just for fifth graders, that was adapted by an East Side parent volunteer and has been offered since 2004-05.

Fit in Third, added in 2008-09, was developed by a team of parents including nutrition experts, yoga instructors, and personal trainers.

Fit in First was added this fall. It was developed by an East Side parent with input from several teachers to make early awareness of healthy foods and exercise appropriate to this grade level.

How do the programs work?

A parent volunteer comes into the classroom to teach once per month for 5 or 6 months during the school year, much like Adventures in Art, but the subject is nutrition and fitness. The curriculum is spelled out in binders that include all the information and handouts needed to teach the class, and other special supplies needed are held in a central location. Volunteers can plan to spend a 2-3 hours each lesson to review the lesson, assemble handouts and materials needed and give the lesson to the class. Volunteers also coordinate with the teacher to schedule the lessons during the school day. Volunteers do not need to be trained in fitness, although some personal experience or interest is helpful. Most classes have one or two parent volunteers for these programs.

Why aren't there programs for K, 2nd and 4th grades?

Each of our programs has been put together by a parent volunteer or group of volunteers. If you would like to develop a Fitness program, please contact the Health and Wellness committee co-chairs healthandwellness@eastsideelementary.com



How do I sign up for this program?

These programs are initiated each year by a volunteer coordinator who lines up volunteers for each classroom. The coordinator works with the dozen or so volunteers at that grade level to make sure they are prepared.



The volunteer coordinator's duties are:

- Recruit parents from each class by September or October
- Educate them on the program
- Order/restock any materials needed
- Put together notebooks with materials
- Hold initial meeting to distribute notebooks & explain program
- Pass along all materials and information to next year's coordinator



Currently we have volunteer coordinators covering the 3 grades. Next year we need coordinators for Fit in 3rd and Fit in 5th, and planning begins now. If you have an interest in coordinating Fit Programs for 3rd and 5th grade for 2010-11, please contact April Lyerly at tilyerly@bellsouth.net or Shelle Roma at exercise@romatech.com

East Side Students have Fun at Clay Play Summer Arts Camp

According to Cathy Hightower (K Para), kids from East Side had a special time at her Summer Art Camp held in her studio at home. But no one enjoyed it more than she did. They listened to children's poetry, literature and music that opened their minds to their own gift of imagination, and gave them time to develop that gift before going to the table to work in clay. During the three and a half hours the children took activity breaks and stretched out on yoga mats to do "animal yoga" in the morning, then later practiced their jump rope skills, and had jump rope and hoola- hoop competitions. The fiercest one was put on by Lauren Warnke and Marilyn Walker....complete with awards! They surely worked hard. Cathy even received an award from them.... "Best Clay Teacher."

The highlight of all the six weeks of camps was the time when 9 year old Jenna Lief, forgot her snack/lunch bag in the play area....Cathy saw it laying on the ground and brought it in (but someone else had seen it before her). At lunch time Jenna exclaimed in dismay, "where's my bagel?" A few decided to go with her to see if it was still outside, and while standing there looking at the area, the bagel plops down in front of her from a limb about 15 feet above. It was then we discovered the culprit, a chipmunk. He had graciously helped himself to Jenna's lunch, leaving little bite holes around the edge. Everyone had a good laugh over that and Cathy calls Jenna, "my friend of the chipmunks."

Overall, it was an opportunity for the children to develop their imagination, creative skills, and self confidence. She encouraged the children to explore different ways of creating in clay and to go beyond making one object....to



enjoy the process with less emphasis on the product.

This coming Summer Art Camp is adding a two hour painting class in the afternoon. Children may choose to do either clay camp or painting camp or both.

On Thursdays from 4-5:30 after school, Cathy offers a 1 ½ hour class in pottery (Forms in Nature, celebrating plants and animals) where students learn many handbuilding skills and get in the creative flow in a very small group setting. For inquiries please email her at chighatl@aol.com.

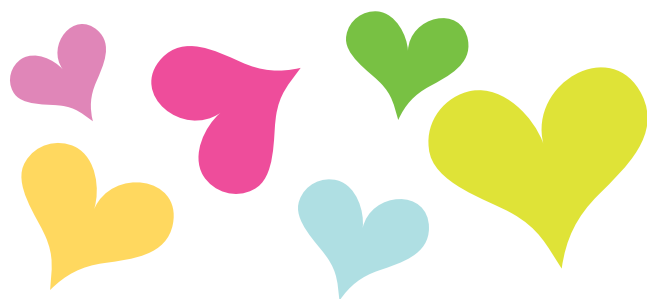




Important Dates to Remember

February

Monday, 7th-11th: Teacher appreciation week!
 Tuesday, 8th: Willy's Eat Out Night 5-8 p.m.
 Wednesday, 9th: Cafeteria Staff Appreciation Day
 Saturday, 12th: Cub Scout Blue and Gold Banquet
 Monday, 14th: Valentine's Day
 Wednesday, 16th: Waste Free Lunch Day
 9:45 am - PTA Executive Committee Meeting
 Monday, 21st-25th: February Break - No School!



March

Thursday, 2nd: PTA Day at the Capitol
 Thursday, 3rd: 1st Grade Music Program
 PTA Meeting/Art Show 6:30 pm
 Friday, 4th: All Pro Dads Cafeteria 7:00 am
 Tiger Times Submissions Due
 Monday 7th-11th: Jump Rope for Heart Week
 Tuesday, 8th: Willy's Eat Out Night 5-8 p.m.
 Wednesday, 9th: Ash Wednesday
 Friday, 11th: Cub Scout Pack 744
 Crossover Meeting
 Sunday, 13th: Daylight Savings Time Begins
 Wednesday, 16th: 9:45 am - PTA Executive
 Committee Meeting
 Thursday, 17th: Science Fair
 St. Patricks Day
 Friday, 18th: Make up Snow Day
 Monday, 21st: Tiger Times Distributed

Tigers Cage

The Tigers Cage School Supply Store is open for business in the cafeteria on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7:30 AM to 7:50 AM each week! Students love to shop for fun pencils, sharpeners, erasers, etc. It's a great way for them to learn how to budget their money for a special item. Items are priced from 5-cents to \$2.00. Please remind your child to check in with their teacher before coming to the Tigers Cage. (Fourth graders can shop first, but need to leave in time to make it to class before the 7:50 bell!)

Classes can shop as follows:

Tues. - K & 3rd
 Wed. - 2nd & 4th
 Thurs. - 1st & 5th


Parents -- Also available are the handy Dismissal Change pads and Absentee pads available for \$1 each. They are a great way to get important easy-to-read information to the teachers!

Show your East Side Pride we also have East Side Elementary car magnets (\$2) and bumper stickers (\$1).



Don't forget to submit your articles!

Please submit your articles for the next issue of the Tiger Times no later than Friday, March 4th to tigertimes@eastsideelementary.com.



The Tiger Times is a publication of the East Side PTA.
 The Tiger Times is designed and edited by Tabitha Varma
 E-mail: tigertimes@eastsideelementary.com
 Distributed by Laura Stokes
 E-mail: lcstokes@bellsouth.net

East Side Elementary School
 3850 Roswell Road
 Marietta, GA 30062
www.eastsideelementary.com
 Phone: 770-578-7100
 Fax: 770-578-7202