



# Merrol Hyde Magnet School HAWK TALK



Vol. 2 No. 3

128 Township Drive—Hendersonville, TN 37075 615-264-6543

November 1, 2004

## Principal's Pen

Dear Parents,

Thanks to all who participated in our Country Fair and BBQ. It was great to see parents getting to know other parents on a beautiful Saturday as our children played games and socialized. I appreciate the efforts of so many to make the day a success.

We are again looking for a parent to supervise our computer lab each morning from 7:00 am to 8:00 am. This is a paid position and our students would benefit from having 25 computers available before school to complete projects, do research, and type papers. Please call or email me if you are interested.

We were glad to see so many at conferences. It's wonderful to visit with parents as we discuss your child's progress. We appreciate your attendance.

Sincerely,  
Brad Schreiner

## Country Fair and BBQ a HAWK SIZE Success!!!

Wow! The Second Annual Fair could not have had a better result. Whew! The result? We raised over **\$30,000** for our school's needs! It took a lot of support from businesses around town! And it took a lot of support from our parents, students, and faculty. Everyone's efforts allowed us to serve hundreds of BBQ meals, have 16 different carnival activities, host a 50 vendor craft fair, auction over 140 goodies, sell mums, pumpkins, playground tiles and MHMS merchandise!

### A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to the parent leaders, organizers & helpers:

- **Janie Pearson** for decorating and setting up the fair areas
- **Netha Larsen-Schrimpf** who made sure our Country Fair was well advertised
- **Mary Jo Mummert** and **Shari Campbell** for getting the games organized
- **Beth Pickel** and **Gail Wilson** for organizing our craft vendors
- **Betty VanEs** for getting our concession yummys
- **Mike and Kat Carter**, who managed the kitchen and **Melanie Miller** who called volunteers
- **Julia and Michael Proctor** for getting those ticket sales completed
- **Jane Rife** for taking care of the cakes at Cake Walk
- **Lori Lyons** for chairing the Desserts with aid from the **Hospitality Committee**
- **Sharon Lewis and Susie Driver** for heading up the silent auction
- **Kym Sims** for taking care of Theme Baskets and Live Auction
- **All Parents and students** who worked a shift, baked a cake, or sent in an item for a basket
- **Ms. Schreiner** for her support and working with us through it all
- For **every teacher** who organized volunteers for their class game
- **June Moon and Betsy Hawkins** who accounted for every penny
- **Parent Grade Reps** for designing flyers, emailing, making phone calls to organize volunteers, etc...lots of etc.!
- The **Football team, Cross Country Team, and Culinary Club** for helping with set up and clean up.
- **Girls Basketball and Cheerleaders** for doing their own activity/game!
- To **Shari Campbell and Dana Hargis** for essentially organizing and overseeing the entire event!

### Financial Support for the Event

**American Security Bank and Trust**  
**Summit Mortgage**  
**Fairvue Plantation**  
**Craig Hayes, State Farm Insurance**  
**Airport Self Storage**  
**Angela Templeton, DDS**  
**Affordable Towing, Kenny Nolen**  
**Kumon of Hendersonville, Math & Reading Center**

### Retailers who Provided Food/Candy

**Piggy Wiggly**  
**Food Lion**  
**Kroger**  
**Publix**  
**Associated Wholesale Grocers**  
**Hendersonville Hospital**

Thank you and God Bless you for the investment and energy you continue to provide for our new magnet school.



## Holiday Shopping with SCRIP Cards

Christmas will be here before you know it! What could be better than getting your shopping done early and making money for MHMS at the same time? Use Scrip gift cards to purchase presents for family and friends. You can GIVE gift cards to those who are hard to buy for. Don't forget teachers, coaches, scout leaders, etc. Remember that you can turn in a scrip order on any Monday morning and get your gift cards back on Thursday of that same week. Place orders EARLY to avoid the possibility of backorders. Contact Beth Welch with questions at 822-9360 or [bethwelchmhms@yahoo.com](mailto:bethwelchmhms@yahoo.com)

## Reminder to Parents

Please mark all cool weather uniform sweaters and coats with your child's name, so they can be returned to your child if misplaced or lost.

## DON'T FORGET!

- ✓ **PTO Meeting Tuesday, November 9th 6:30 p.m.** *College Saving Options with Don Claussen, Financial Planner*
- ✓ **Student Directories Now Available**— One Free directory per PTO Family or \$3.00 for non-members or for additional copies. Directories will be available at PTO meetings or on Wednesdays throughout November before school or at lunch in the school cafeteria. If you need to check your PTO membership status, please contact Christa Poe at [dcbjgpoe@comcast.net](mailto:dcbjgpoe@comcast.net)

## Family Donations Campaign Results

Congratulations elementary families for reaching the 80% participation goal for 2004-2005 Family Donations Campaign at MHMS! Currently, 67% of our middle school and high school families participated in this alternative fundraising effort. Remember, this family donation effort replaces any sales fundraisers of gift wrap, magazines, etc. sponsored by the PTO.

We have collected \$24,470 in donations with a promise of \$8,625 in pledges for next semester. We are \$6,500 short of our goal to cover financial needs for classroom resources and technology this year.

Thanks to everyone who participated. Contributions ranged from \$1 to several hundred. We value every contribution equally! We are happy to accept donations/pledges from those families still planning to participate.

The entire elementary school will celebrate the 80% participation goal with a pajama party day for grades K-4 and a jean day for 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Invitations and details will be sent home. For those families participating before October 4<sup>th</sup>, the winners of our class-wide awards program include the following.

- Three elementary classes had 90% participation! Ms. Arwood, Ms. Ryckley, and Ms. Skeith will enjoy a Magician Party.
- Ms. Howard's 1<sup>st</sup> period 6<sup>th</sup> grade class will enjoy an "Out to Breakfast Party" and a jean day for achieving the highest participation at 88% for middle school/high school.
- Ms. Watts 1<sup>st</sup> period 7<sup>th</sup> grade and Ms. Skeith's 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes raised the most donation dollars received and will enjoy Hendersonville YMCA Parties. Invitations will be sent home.
- Teachers receiving a \$25.00 gift certificate to Olive Garden Restaurant are Ms. Howard (1<sup>st</sup> period social studies class) and Ms. Skeith (5<sup>th</sup> grade class) whose classes achieved the highest percent participation. Way to go!



### **LIBRARY FAIR ... "Read, White & Blue"!**

We will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair from November 9<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup>. The theme "Read, White & Blue" celebrates America's heritage; on Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30-7:00, the public is invited to browse the Book Fair, located in the new elementary wing, and greet several Sumner County military veterans, firefighters and members of the police force, who will share stories about their service to our country. At 6:00 and 6:45, noted Abraham Lincoln interpreter Dennis Boggs will present an enlightening, informative, and educational look at the life of the 16<sup>th</sup> President as it might have been told by Lincoln himself.

Our Book Fair will be open each weekday from 7:45 to 8:45 and from 2:45 until 3:30. We will open the Book Fair on November 16<sup>th</sup> for parents of kindergarten students from 1:15 to 3:45. Additionally, the Fair will be open on Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, from 4:30-6:30. If you would like to volunteer to help work the Fair, please contact Joyce Shown at [joshown@att.net](mailto:joshown@att.net) or 822-3861. For questions concerning the Fair, please contact our Book Fair Chairperson, Rebecca Gailmard at 451-0086, or Ms. White at [whitek5@k12tn.net](mailto:whitek5@k12tn.net).

### **More Library News...**

The 6<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> grade Library (upstairs) is open to 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 10<sup>th</sup> grade on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday until 4:00 pm. On Thursdays, fifth grade students may attend. Please pick up students promptly at 4:00 at the main school entrance. The upstairs library will be open on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday during the second semester. The elementary library (new wing) is open to 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders everyday until 3:30 pm. Students will be dismissed from the elementary entrance at 3:30. Please pick up students promptly. *Elementary Library* Students may check-out or renew books each morning between 7:45 and 8:00. The elementary library will be open until 3:30 each day for students to work on homework, research projects, check-out and read. Parents need to pick up their children at the Elementary Library.

## **Spotlight on MHMS Staff**

**Erin Stocco** is our Latin Teacher and Swim Coach. She is originally from Houston, and came to Tennessee to study at The University of the South. Erin comes from a big family that is spread all over the world. She loves to travel, read, do crafts, and play sports. She chose to teach at Merrol Hyde Magnet School because it allowed her the opportunity to teach a diverse age group.

### ***8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social***

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social will be on Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Morgan Jones. There will be a bonfire with plenty of sticks for marshmallows, games, music, and food. Come and enjoy a relaxing evening to hang out with friends. Please check your email and/or handouts for more information closer to the event. If you have any questions please contact your grade representatives Lisa Hartman @ 230-6755 or Lori Lyons @ 824-9049.

## **Third Grade News**

Last month the third graders had an exciting time in science! They made food models of plant and animal cells. As they grew, students measured, observed, and made predictions. Our friendships are growing stronger as we work in teams and groups during class time and recess. The third graders have paired with the Kindergarten class to be book buddies.

## **Basketball**



Coach Coley says come out and support the Hawks and Lady Hawks basketball teams! Our first game is Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> at Hunter Middle School and our first High School JV game is at Portland High School on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## Cross Country News

The middle school just went to the Midstate Championships in Lafayette where our boys' team placed 9th out of 15 teams. We do not have a full girls' team, but two 8th graders, Elise Barreiro and Sarah Thompson placed in the top 25 individually out of 114 runners. Our varsity boys and girls have their regional meet at Moss Wright Park on Thursday, Oct. 28. Boys run at 2:15 and girls at 3:45. Admission to the meet is \$2.00.

## PTO Works to Meet Student and School Needs

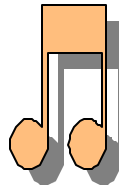
MHMS PTO Board members take their role seriously to build a strong sense of community and provide a strong foundation of support to MHMS. The following list shows where the PTO is focusing time, energy and resources so far this year. Stay tuned for updates!

### Educational Resources

- Classroom computers for our new faculty grades K-10.
- Classroom supplies and materials for all grades K-10.
- Additional landscaping at our school entrance. Thanks for the labor and handi-work of several MHMS parents and students.
- Classroom white boards to increase visibility and reduce glare for students.
- Supporting elementary playground fundraising efforts.
- High school lounge renovation

### Communication & Community Building

- Publishing Student Directory
- Sponsoring student socials organized by our Grade Reps.
- Sponsoring community and educational events including the ice cream social and PTO meeting programs.
- Assisting with computer lab maintenance.
- Arranging snacks during staff meetings & conferences.



## Instrumental Music News

The MHMS Middle School Band will perform at the November 16th Instrumental Music Boosters Association (IMBA) meeting at 6:30 p.m. The group will perform patriotic music in honor of Veterans' Day. All are welcome to celebrate and remember the sacrifices made by men and women in order for us to enjoy the freedom we enjoy today.

All instrumental music groups will perform at the PTO meeting on December 7th at 6:30 p.m. This concert will feature a variety of music and styles, from the beginning band playing their first public concert of holiday favorites with a sing-a-long to a powerful orchestral transcription of Gustav Holst's "The Planets", performed by the High School Band.

MHMS will be proudly represented December 5 at Rock Castle, as some of our string players will perform at 2:00 p.m. Several MHMS instrumental music students will be auditioning for All Mid-State Band and Orchestra December 4 and December 11 at McGavock High School. We wish all these talented students well!

### MHMS Presents Children's Play Rapunzel



Merrol Hyde Magnet School's sophomore theatre students will perform Rapunzel by Karen Boettcher-Tate. The evening show for the public is Thursday, November 18, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. in the school's auditorium. Admission is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children. For more information email Ms. Spears at [spearsc@k12tn.net](mailto:spearsc@k12tn.net).

## Student Directory Correction

Please make the following changes to your MHMS Student Directory.

Billy Wilson (7th)  
Don & Vickie Wilson  
290 Harris Lane  
Gallatin, TN 37075  
(615) 452-2589

Daniel Wilson (10th) is the son of Bill and Gail Wilson.

## School Trips

The following class trips are approved for Merrol Hyde Magnet School middle and high school students for the 2004/2005 school year. Cost is approximate and will depend on the number of students participating.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

September 20-24, 2004  
Institute at Tremont in Great Smokey Mountain Park, TN  
Student Cost: \$225.00

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

May 2-4, 2005 Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama  
Student Cost: Approx \$175

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

May 9-13, 2005 Washington, DC  
Student Cost: \$495-\$525

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

May 16-20, 2005 New York City  
Student Cost: \$615-\$705

### 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

May 17-20, 2005 Chicago, Ill  
Student Cost: \$475-\$530

## Reading Tips For Families

Parents! Take advantage of real life opportunities to foster the love of reading in your child. Promoting literacy in your home does not mean that you must create an academic setting and formally teach your child how to read. Here are some helpful suggestions:

- ? Establish a daily "Drop Everything and Read" time for your family when the television is turned off and everyone reads for 15 minutes. When your DEAR time is over, each family member can briefly summarize what he/she read, talk about a favorite part, or share new and interesting facts. Other members of the family can ask questions if they like. Learning to talk about books will improve your child's reading comprehension.
- ? Read aloud together every day. Make it fun by reading outdoors in the backyard, at the park, or at the beach. Some parents with older children read the same story aloud to everyone at the dinner table or before bedtime. A family book discussion over the same book is an excellent enrichment. Parents should also allow children to read to them.
- ? Read and enjoy the same books, magazines, and newspapers. Talk about how these readings remind you of something in your life. Ask your child to make connections to the book as well.
- ? Show your child that reading is fun! Laugh out loud, make comments, and share what you read.
- ? Buy books on tape, and listen to them in the car together. Or better yet, turn off the television and listen to them as a family.
- ? Give a gift subscription to a magazine that holds lots of interest, one that your child wants to read cover to cover.
- ? Visit the library together. Apply for a library card. Ask your librarian about special materials and reading programs that are available for your child's interests and needs.
- ? Create your own mini-library at home with your family's favorite books.
- ? When your child is reading a difficult book, read the text aloud or read together. Go back and re-read for better understanding. Talk about what parts are hard to understand and encourage your child to ask for help.
- ? Make trips a way to encourage reading. Read aloud traffic signs and billboards. Show your children how to read a road map and let them help navigate. Select books together that you will take along on the trip.
- ? Celebrate reading! Give your child a book to celebrate a birthday or special occasion.
- ? Take your child to the bookstore to look at books about their favorite topics. Make a list of books you and your child would like to read.
- ? Computer time can be reading time. There are many programs for children that build reading skills. Let your child help you "surf the Internet." Send letters via email to family or friends who are out of town.
- ? Provide your child with a reliable home dictionary and encyclopedia. Encourage children to look up subjects that puzzle or interest them.
- ? Catch each other reading! Reading is everywhere; and the more we practice, the better readers we all become.

Adapted from [www.JUSTREADNOW.com](http://www.JUSTREADNOW.com)