

News . . .

September 2008
Volume 1 Issue 1



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International Marketplace Dinner & Auction

Invitations will soon be in your mailbox for the annual auction and dinner event. This year's International Marketplace theme is sure to delight everyone in attendance at this important fundraiser for Hickory Day School. The event is to be held at 6 p.m. Saturday, November 1, 2008, at the Lake Hickory Country Club.

A catalog of auction items is to be sent via e-mail about one or two weeks prior to the event. A fabulous trip to Peru which includes a visit to Machu Picchu, several excursions to Mexico, a sojourn on the Orient Express, a New York City jaunt and a vacation to Disney World are to be featured along with many international items. Please contact Amy Chang if you know of anyone who may be willing to donate even more great items--particularly international things--to be sold in the live and silent auctions.

Dinner is to be served at four stations, each representing a different ethnicity. Entertainment for the event is to include performances by a bagpipe player, a belly dancer and tunes from our own Brian Adair, Alan Finley and Trey Oursler's band, 20/20.

Families of students can help out *by bringing friends* with them to the event. Bringing friends helps spread the word about the school as well as gives your friends a great opportunity to bid on exclusive deals. Family members would also be of great help in volunteering for set-up or clean-up committees. Amy Chang can be contacted at 256-0257 or achang32@charter.net.

Hickory Day School Needs . . .

Hickory Day School needs the following items or assistance with the listed projects. If you are able to help out with either a donation or time, please let Sharon Whitener in the office know:

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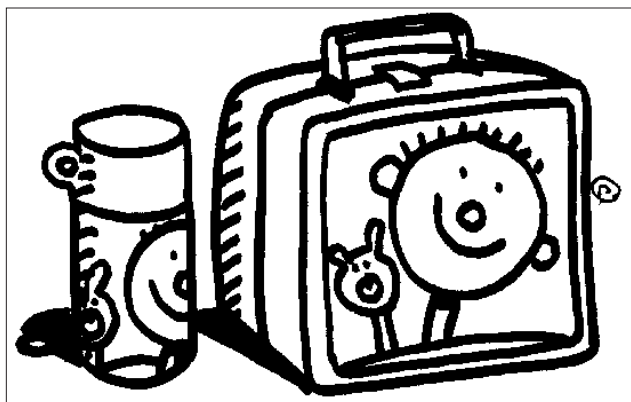
- ❖ Riding Lawnmower - the current lawn mower is no longer usable. We are unable to mow until we get a new machine.
- ❖ Help painting the exterior - there are still parts of the building that have not received a fresh coat of paint from the summer painting project.

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Easy Guide to No Trash Lunches



The thought of creating a packed lunch for your kid can be a daunting task at 6 a.m. and now Hickory Day is suggesting that what you pack shouldn't have anything in it that becomes trash after the kid eats??? What is up with that? "Environment, shmiroment," you may be thinking But, with a few helpful hints you can produce a trash free lunch for your kid. Here's how--

Most people use lunchboxes these days. If you are still brown-paper-bagging-it, however, you may consider purchasing a reusable lunchbox. Keep in mind that your retro Strawberry Shortcake or Transformers lunchbox stored in the attic may actually be back in style by now . . .

Sending juice boxes, soft drinks or even bottled water creates trash. Consider purchasing a reusable plastic or metal water bottle for your child. Make sure that if you get a plastic one that you get one that is numbered 1, 2, 4 or 5 (the other types leach more).

A thermos is great for sending soups, Bernie O's or warmed-up leftovers from the night before. Although, it may be a little difficult to stuff meatloaf (or in my family's case, veggie loaf) in there, but squirt a little ketchup on it -- it'll be fine.

Instead of using zippered or other disposable containers, get sets of reusable containers for sandwiches, side dishes and snacks. This means, of course, that the days of individually wrapped servings of chips, cookies, and other snackables are o-ver. But, guess what, if you buy in bulk not only do you reduce your trash footprint on the planet, but you also save money!

Purchase an extra set of tableware that is just for your child's lunchbox. You could even get two sets so that you have a day in between to clean them. For fun you could let your kid pick out the gaudiest ones at the store that you would never allow on your dining room table.

Get six cloth napkins, one for each day plus an extra (you know, for the next Monday when you've forgotten to wash the five over the weekend . . .).

To add interest to the lunch, write notes to your child or fun menus on scrap paper. Yeah, really, you have time to do that since you don't have to take out the trash . . .

Website Resources

for More Info & Products:

<http://www.wastefreelunches.org/>

<http://www.laptoplunches.com/products.html>

<http://www.greenflagschools.org/>

<http://www.wastefreeschools.org/>

<http://www.ecocycle.org/atschool/greenstarschools.cfm>

<http://www.ecoliteracy.org/rethinking/rsl.html>

<http://www.greenmatters.com>

<http://earth911.org/blog/2007/09/26/todays-lunch-special/>

http://www.modernmom.com/love_wellness/article/1744

Annual Fund Update

This year's annual fund drive is in full swing. The fund was announced at the September 11 dinner at Hickory Day School by Ray Pate. Mr. Pate gave an overview of the history of the annual fund as well as offering encouragement to all families and staff to participate this year. Participation can be as little as \$1, but all amounts are, of course, accepted.

When the school writes grant applications, it looks favorably on the school to have a high participation rate from all its constituencies. Grant makers do not care at what levels individuals give to the school, only that they do so.

For any questions about this year's fund drive or to make a donation, contact Sharon Whitener in the front office and she will connect you with the appropriate person.

Parents' Association Update

The Parents' Association has many projects going at the present time. Plans for Grandparents' Day, on-campus lunch options and painting the exterior of the school are currently underway. The coupon book fundraiser was a great success and our next fundraiser is upcoming. There are also exciting plans underway for our own Day of Thanks/Field Day celebration.

Grandparents' Day, scheduled for Friday, October 3, is to be a memorable event with entertainment by the students. Teachers have been working with the students on dance, vocal and musical presentations for the past several weeks. There is a lunch of egg salad, chicken salad or roast beef sandwiches to follow the program. The book fair will also be open after the program so that families can take advantage of the excellent offers from Scholastic Books.

Trying to think of ideas for your child's lunch can be more daunting than the actual packing of those meals. To help combat this lunch packing fatigue, the Parents' Association is investigating options for local restaurants to provide boxed lunches once or twice a week for those who are interested. If it comes to fruition, this option is certainly not mandatory. But for those who struggle with time management or menu ideas it may be a welcome help.

A good portion of the exterior of the school has been painted, but there is more yet to do. The Parents' Association would like to thank all the parents who have given of their time to help with this project. If you have some time to help with finishing this project, please contact Leslie Davidson at 704-902-4361. She will show you where the rollers and paint are located. There is also an effort to have a big paint day to finish this project which is yet to be scheduled.

The coupon book fundraiser was a great success with 83 books sold to date. The money for a few books is still outstanding, but should be in soon. The next fundraiser is to be the Lowe's Foods gift cards as were sold last year. These gift cards make wonderful Holiday gifts and/or great thank you gifts for faculty. The cards can be used for purchase of groceries or gas or can even be exchanged for the gift cards to various restaurants or other businesses that are available in the Lowe's Foods checkout area. Christine Getty, mom of Maya in TK, is heading up this fundraiser which starts on September 29.

The Day of Thanks and Field Day is to be on Tuesday, November 25. A chairperson to head the planning committee for this event is needed. The event can be celebrated in any way and can be as low-key as the chairperson wishes. If you are interested in heading this committee, please contact Kate Adair at 328-3309 or kateadair@hickoryday.org.

The next Parents' Association meeting is to be on Wednesday, October 8 at 7:45 a.m. at Hickory Day School.

Staff Profile

Beth Harbison teaches language arts at Hickory Day School. While it is her first year here, she has been teaching since 1988. She has taught not only in K-12 classrooms, but also on a collegiate level.



Ms. Harbison has taught various subjects including American government, Western civilization, women writers, as well as diversity issues.

At HDS, Ms. Harbison is taking a multigenre approach to literature. She teaches reading and writing in a workshop style which helps prepare students to think critically about both their and others' writing. She insists that students keep a writer's notebook and response journal so that they can, "tap into what they feel." The students are given writing prompts and assignments, but also have opportunities to write on subjects that appeal to them.

Cooking and ballet are two of Ms. Harbison's favorite activities when she is not teaching. She loves international cuisine and studied ballet for many years while growing up.

She has spent time living and traveling abroad, including spending time in a Kibbutz in Israel. Her father was a surgeon. She says that the most important thing she learned from him was that everyone looks the same on the inside.