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From The Desk Of The Principal...

Next year school will start at 7:45 a.m. and end at 2:25 p.m. Banking time/staff development days will continue for next year. These days of no pupil attendance are used for staff planning and development. Our goal is to provide a better educational program for your children. Camp Honey Creek services will be offered on those days if enough parents express an interest in this service.

Honey Creek will partake in the Federal Title I Grant moneys to supplement the educational programming of our children. It is important that families apply for free and reduced breakfast/lunch to make these funds available to the children at Honey Creek. This is your contribution to help bring funds into the school. It is like a fundraiser and it costs you nothing!

The music grant which assists families with the cost of music lessons and instruments for our children will continue. Nursing services will continue. This service is vital to meet the health needs of our children and their families.

Camp Honey Creek will offer childcare services to families beginning at 6:45 a.m. and right after school until 6:00 p.m. The mid day program for four year old children who attend a half-day program, will begin at 11:15 a.m.

Delicious breakfasts and hot lunches will continue to be served at Honey Creek School. The lunch schedules for next year are as follows:

Primary lunch (K4-CP1) for rooms 116, 117, 118, 120, 121, and 122 will begin at 11:15 a.m. then go outside when they are finished eating, until 12:00 p.m. These children can take the entire 45 minutes to eat lunch if necessary. The intermediate students from rooms 111, 112, 113, 115, 124, and 125 will have recess from 11:15 a.m. and then come in for lunch at 11:35 a.m. Our lunch program ends at 12:00 p.m.

Due to the limited capacity and high parent choice at Honey Creek CP School, I strongly encourage you to please send your child to school on the first day. Any student who reports to school later than the first day is not guaranteed a seat for the 2008/09 school year. Please notify the school if your child is unable to attend due to a family emergency or is ill. Our office phone number is 604-7900.

The summer slide is well documented by research. Unless students read regularly during the summer break, they fall behind about three months in their reading achievement. By middle school, that produces a cumulative lag of two or more years. Please encourage your children to read regularly this summer.

Thank you Honey Creek Families for a most successful school year. It is my pleasure to serve your children as Principal of Honey Creek School. I look forward to seeing you in the fall. Have a wonderfully enjoyable yet safe summer.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Spring Open House
Thursday, May 1, 2008

Teacher Appreciation Week
May 5-9, 2008

No Student Attendance - Room 119pm ONLY
May 5 and June 2, 2008

Memorial Day
No Student Attendance
Friday, May 23, 2008
Monday, May 26, 2008

R.I.F. Reading Is Fundamental

The last RIF giveaway of books will take place on the week of **May 12-16, 2008**. Students will receive one free book for his/her personal home library. Thank you letters were sent to contributors who have made this program possible. We are fortunate to be a school that can benefit from their generosity. Thank you to our PAC, who sent a donation to this worthy cause.

Accelerated Reading News

Our Accelerated Reading Program is a continuing success this year... we have reached the 6,500 mark for number of tests - let us try to reach 8,000!

We currently have 7 students who have earned over 100 points and will be joining Ms. Chawla at Old Country Buffet on May 29th for "Lunch with the Principal". They are: Maia Doyle, Dylan Drover, Raven Medrano, Rianna Dockerty, Kelly Sandner, Maya Stites, Ariana Soto, and Autumn Schubich. Congratulations to these students, hopefully we can increase this number. Students still have another month to earn points. Please encourage your children to set a reading goal and help them achieve it. We will be celebrating our successful year at the Spring Picnic. All of the Accelerated Reading students that have successfully passed ten tests between March 1 and May 14 will be invited to join our picnic. Because of the large number of children that are eligible to attend the picnic, half of the children will attend a picnic on **May 15th** - (Rooms 111, 112, & 124) and the other half will attend on **May 22nd** (Rooms 113, 115, 117, 118, and 125). **We are in need of parent help** to make our picnic a success. Please volunteer a few hours of your time, 10:45-12:30 on Thursday, May 15th or Thursday, May 22nd. Our picnic is loads of FUN... lunch in the Honey Creek Environmental Center, followed by a treat and group games... ***please help us!!!!*** Call Pat Larsen at 604-7924 to volunteer.

DONALD GRINDROD TRACK MEET

Monday, May 19, 2008 **PULASKI STADIUM** 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

If you like to run, jump, and/or throw, then you might be interested in trying out for the annual Donald Grindrod Elementary School Track Meet. It will be Monday, May 19, 2008, at Pulaski Stadium (25th and Oklahoma Ave.). It runs from 10:00 a.m. to about 12:15. Transportation is provided by MPS. Bus will leave at 9:30 a.m. Students will run short, middle, and long distance races, two relay races, jump for distance, boys will throw a football and girls will throw a softball. We will be taking two students for each event.

We always have a good time at the track meet. Parents are welcome and encouraged to please come and watch your child compete.

"BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION"

Honey Creek is delighted to say it has earned over \$500 from the proceeds of Box tops for Education!! This could not have been possible without the help of all those that participated in this fundraiser. Everyone's support helps make Honey Creek an even better school for our children!

Spring Open House and Book Fair

Honey Creek's Spring Open House will be held on Thursday, May 1st. The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a social and volunteer recognition program, complete with dessert and beverage. There will be interactive science presentations in the gym from 7:00-8:00 pm for students to participate in. The Book Fair will be open from 6:45 - 8:00pm.

MUSIC RECITAL

The students of Mrs. Holterman's piano classes, and Mr. Caruther's string classes will be having a recital in Honey Creek's gymnasium on Thursday, May 22, 2008, at 9:30 am. Parents, friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Volunteer of the Month

We are proud to recognize our PAC Volunteers of the Month for April, Barbara Kowalski and Maggie Cary . Barbara and Maggie have been volunteering at Honey Creek for many years. Students from Ms. Michalak's classes have benefitted from their patient assistance. A big thank you to Barbara and Maggie and all who volunteer at Honey Creek. Without the assistance of our volunteers, our efforts to serve the students, your children, would not be as effective. Anyone interested in volunteering, please contact our Parent Coordinator, Christine Feldmann at 604-7921.

Showcase

Room 124 will be decorating the front foyer showcase with an "Olympic" theme. Check it out!!!

Spring Book Fair at Honey Creek

Our annual Spring Book Fair will be held in the Library/Media Center on Tuesday , **April 29**, Wednesday, **April 30**, and Thursday, **May 1** from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., and during the Open House on Thursday evening from 6:45-8:00pm. Please help us earn money for new books for our library. The Teacher Wish List will be posted for those wishing to purchase a book or a gift certificate for their teacher(s). Thank you for your support!

PEE WEE/YOUTH SOCCER

Ms. Fraundorf and Ms. Kirkish will be the co-coaches of our Youth Soccer Team. Mr. Milinski & Mr. Sellers will be coaching our Pee Wee Soccer Team. Our soccer team will **practice** on Wednesdays after school on our sodded area outside of our library. Games will be played on Saturdays beginning April 26th on the field at Academy of Accelerated Learning at 3771 S. 78th. Please see the calendar pages or Honey Creek's website for specific dates. Please come and root for our team.

Go Honey Creek Gophers Go!!!

LIBRARY BOOKS DUE

All student library books will be due the week of May 12th. The library will be closed May 16th - June 2nd for the inventory. Thank you for a successful year! Visit your local library to continue reading throughout the summer.

Milwaukee Public Schools 42nd Biennial Music Festival

The 42nd Biennial Music Festival is at the U.S. Cellular Arena (formerly MECCA Arena) on Thursday, **May 8, 2008 at 6:30 pm** (students should arrive at 5:30pm). Honey Creek is very proud that we have 40 students participating. Parents make sure you get your tickets early, the show usually sells out - it's going to be a great show!

"MagNet" Magazine Promotion

Thank you to all of the families who returned their "MagNet" magazine packets. Because of your support we raised approximately \$900, which we will use toward the purchase of computer software/equipment. The Honey Creek classes with the most addresses per student were Rooms 116 and 122. If your child's notes result in two magazine orders, he/she will receive a "Flying

Clucking Chicken". Please be reassured the names that you submitted are NOT sold to other solicitors; they only are used for the purpose of sending the one time magazine promotion. The toys will be given to those students that earned them sometime before the end of the school year. Thanks for supporting Honey Creek!!!

Recycle your Printer Ink Cartridges and Cell Phones!!

Thank you to all who sent cell phones during our recent Cell Phone Collection Drive. Room 111 won the contest bringing in 27 phones, students will receive free movie passes. Please continue to recycle your cell phones by sending them to school, we will receive cash and they will be disposed of in environmentally friendly way. The Honey Creek program for recycling computer/copier print cartridges and cell phones is going well. Honey Creek has earned over \$500.00 this year!! Thanks to all who have been sending in their cartridges, especially to those students who carry them to school on the bus for us. We are also accepting certain NEW OR USED CELL PHONES, LAPTOPS, AND PDAS!! If you have any questions, call Pat Larsen at 604-7924 or stop in and check out the information on the drop off box across from the school office. Please consider giving your personal empty ink cartridges and cell phones and contact your friends or employers about recycling them too!!! Many companies just throw them away or return them to the manufacturer for no reimbursement....but Honey Creek could be turning them into CASH!!! By participating we benefit by earning extra cash for our school and by keeping these cartridges and phones out of our landfills!! **Remember you may collect them during the summer months and drop them off in the engineer's room.**

CP5 Completion Ceremony June 12, 2008

CP5 students will participate in a Completion Ceremony on **Thursday, June 12th**. This important ceremony marks the transition from elementary school to middle school. It will begin at 1:00 p.m. in our school gym.

Parents, relatives, and friends are invited to attend this special event. A social for those attending will follow the ceremony. Flowers and refreshments are provided by the PAC.

RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

The final recognition programs for the 2007-2008 school year will be held on **Tuesday, June 10th**. Students will receive certificates for services to the school and for accomplishments attained during the school year. All programs will take place in the gym.

8:45 a.m. Rooms: 117, 118, 119, 120, & 121 (K4 only)

9:30 a.m. Rooms 111, 112, 113, 115, & 124 (CP4 only)

K-5 Completion Ceremony June 13, 2008

Honey Creek's K-5 Completion Ceremony will be held on **Friday, June 13, 2008**. We will recognize the students in Rooms 116, 121, and 122 for the completion of their kindergarten studies.

This ceremony marks the transition to the primary level of elementary school. The students will receive certificates for their accomplishments this year.

The ceremony will begin at 9:00 a.m. in our school gym. Parents, relatives, and friends are invited to attend. Reception will follow in the Environmental Center (weather permitting) with snacks provided by the PAC.

Basketball Update...

Congratulations to the Honey Creek Basketball Team on a successful season...and thank you to their coaches, Devon Dent and Brandon Washington and recreation director, Mr. Marx.

The following players received trophies:

Most Valuable Player - Tre Borland

Most Improved Player - Mason Croft-Johnson

Hustle Award - Robert Langoehr

Team Award - Jeremy Swider
Best Defense - Kelly Sandner
Gopher Award - Maya Stites

Honey Creek Summer School

Honey Creek will have summer school from June 30th - July 31st, 2008. We will also have Summer Recreation Enrichment Camp (SREC) before and after Summer School hours. Summer School will take place from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. It is an opportunity for additional academic support in Reading. **This year summer school is limited to students identified by the school using district criteria. If your child is eligible you received notification earlier this year.** There will be a charge to attend the Summer Recreation Enrichment Camp (SREC). its hours are from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; with early drop-off from 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. and late pickup from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Forms are provided in the school office. Please do not delay in signing your child up for Honey Creek Summer School if legible or Honey Creek SREC; seats will be limited and filled on a first-come first-serve basis.

SURVEY ALERT

In May be on the lookout for the Spring Parent Satisfaction Survey. Watch your child's red folder for the survey. We are asking you to complete the survey so we are able to receive an accurate representation of the entire student body. Thank you in advance for your time and energy with completing the survey.

Honey Creek School Kick Ball Game May 29, 2008

The CP5 students and staff will be participating in the annual Kick Ball game on Thursday, May 29th at 1:30 p.m. on Honey Creek's playground.

REPORT CARDS

Parents, please watch for your child's report card #4. It will be sent home on **June 13, 2008.**

SCHOOL VISITATION and VOLUNTEER SIGN-IN

At Honey Creek Continuous Progress School we are concerned about building security and the safety of all children. A buzzer/intercom system has been installed at the school's front door for security. You must push the buzzer located to the right of the doors and state your reason for entry. Then the door will be released for you to enter. No visitors will be allowed to walk through the building without a pass. Passes are available in the office and must be visible when you are in the building. If you are coming to school to volunteer, it is important to please register in the office, so we can keep an accurate log of our volunteer hours.

Substitute Teacher for a Day by Grace Lozada - Room 113

"What?! My Teacher's gone!" Suddenly, I hear footsteps down the hallway and Ms. Fraundorf, our reading teacher, comes into the classroom. "Now boys and girls, you all know that Ms. Milani is gone and so is the sub teacher. So, I will pick one of you to be the substitute teacher today!"

So Ms. Fraudorf put all of our names into a tall, shimmering black hat and mixed them up really good. Then, she dug her hand and picked a name from the hat. Could it be...Yes! She picked my name out of the hat!

At school in the morning, our fist assignment was to study our multiplication facts. We had to do things like anything times 1, 0, or 2. Then we had spelling. We had to do our spelling in abc order but, by the last letter of the word!

After that we worked on drawing our creative, black and white pictures. We had to draw black and white pictures of our pet. We also finished our dino project. We finished by adding the last colors to our dinosaurs.

Close to 11:30, we had a scrumptious lunch! Lunch was delicious! We had alfredo noodles with a delicious five cheese sauce, mini corn dogs with ketchup, extreme hot chocolate, and sweet apple crisp! ("Yum!")

Then we had reading. When we do reading, we read from a large book that has tons of stories in it. Today's story was about a boy named Lenord and he wanted to be an inventor.

Then, at 2:15, we went home.

Calling all Talents for Honey Creek's Talent Show

Students who would like to share their talents with all their friends can audition for Honey Creek's Talent Show. We are looking for student performers who would like to entertain our school...acts can be alone or with a group...sharing dancing, singing, musical instruments, martial arts, comedy, or any unique talent! Auditions will be held on Thursday, May 15th at 11:15 and for Rooms 113, 115, 117, 118, & 125 students and on Thursday, May 22nd at 11:15 for students in Rooms 111, 112, & 124. Please come to the auditions prepared to present your talent to a panel of judges. The talent show will be held on Tuesday, June 3rd at 1:00 pm. Parents and families are welcome.

CHARACTER BUILDING - MAY AND JUNE THEMES ARE RESPONSIBILITY AND CARING

At Honey Creek we are continuing to instill and reinforce the character qualities you are teaching your children at home through our Character Building Program. Please work together with us by reinforcing the character qualities for May, *RESPONSIBILITY*, and June, *CARING*.

Some of the ideas we will focus on to highlight responsibility include: knowing and doing what is expected of me, doing all my work to the best of my ability, not making excuses, and making things right when I do wrong. To highlight caring our focus will be: understanding the feelings and perspectives of others, and helping others. Caring for a pet, if you have one, would be an excellent way to emphasize caring at home.

Please talk to your children about our themes. We would like to hear from you about your experiences.

Thank you. Ms. Chawla and Ms. Miller, School Psychologist

Thank You to our Gopher Tales Newspaper Sponsors, their donation of \$35.00 each school year has helped defray the cost of printing: Omega Restaurant, 3473 S. 27th Street, River Falls Recreation in Greenfield, Megan's Enchanted Forest Tea Room in Brookfield, Cho's Martial Arts 6163 W. Forest Home, R.B. Automotive Center at 4805 W. Forest Home Avenue, The Party Spot in Franklin, Kind Optical at 3925 S. 76th Street, and Wedgewood Park International School. If you would like to advertise in our newspaper please contact Ms. Biesterveld at 604-7906.