

Big Hollow Primary School

www.bighollow.us

December 11, 2009



School Visitors

Just a reminder that visitors to all the Big Hollow Schools are required to stop in the school office and present a valid driver's license to obtain a visitors pass.

Character Day

The Primary School students will be collecting pop tabs to teach students about the importance of recycling and to raise funds to help children and families at the same time. Some of the Ronald McDonald House Charity Chapters raise thousands of dollars with their pop tab collections.

Friday, December 18 will be our celebration day for "Caring". Students are encouraged to wear red that day. The January caretakers of the Character Cubs and the t-shirt winners will be announced.

Children's Safety

Parents, just a reminder that we have children walking through our front parking lot area when they are being dropped off in the morning and during the lunch hour. Please take extra caution when driving through the parking lot area, for the safety of our children. Please park in designated parking spaces, rather than along the curb when walking your child in. Thank you.

Winter Weather is Here

Weather permitting the students will go out for recess daily. Please send your child with appropriate outerwear.



Yearbooks

Order forms for the 2009 - 2010 Big Hollow Primary/Elementary School yearbook were sent out. Please return your payment envelope and check for \$18.00 by December 18, 2009.

Important Dates:

Saturday, December 12

Holiday Breakfast
8 - 11 a.m. at Middle
Pajama Drive ends

Tuesday, December 15

"Jungle Book" performance
6:00 p.m. green cast
7:30 p.m. yellow cast
at Middle School

Wednesday, December 16

"Jungle Book" at Middle
6:00 p.m.- yellow cast
7:30 p.m.- green cast

Friday, December 18

Yearbook orders due

Wear red day

Early Dismissal
approximately at 2:25 p.m.

Monday, December 21

School Board Meeting
7 p.m. at Middle

December 21 - January 3

Winter break

Monday, January 4

School resumes

Social Work Corner:

Four Steps to Help Parents Reduce Holiday Stress by Dr. Phelan (author of 1,2,3 Magic)

1. HELP KIDS PLAN OR STRUCTURE PART OF EACH DAY

With school-age kids, help them plan or structure part of each day, then let the youngsters figure out what they are going to do to entertain themselves for the rest of that day. Do not fall into the trap of seeing yourself as the resident entertainment committee! You might help Emily by allowing her to have a friend over to eat dinner, watch a video and then sleep overnight. The rest of the day your daughter decides for herself what she'll do. Or you might take Ryan out to lunch and then to a movie, but the rest of the day he entertains himself.

2. BE CLEAR ABOUT THE RULES FROM THE START

Make the above rules clear as soon as the vacation starts, so when the kids come up to you and say, "There's nothing to do," you can reply, "You and I will be going out at 4, but in the meantime I'm sure you can think of something." Above all, don't keep making suggestion after suggestion, only to have a child shoot down each idea as soon as it's out of your mouth. Making a lot of suggestions to your children for what they can do implies that you are responsible for their keeping busy and feeling entertained.

3. PLAN LOTS OF ONE ON ONE FUN

Plan lots of activities one on one with your children. Just you and one child—no spouse or siblings. Not only does this eliminate the fighting, it offers the opportunity for real closeness and bonding. Most parents find that it's a lot easier to have fun when it's just you and one child, rather than the whole family together. This may sound funny, but family fun is overrated! Kids love having a parent all to themselves, and under these circumstances each youngster is usually much easier to get along with.

4. AVOID FEELING GUILTY

Don't feel guilty if—two days before December 25—you find yourself wishing the kids were back in school already. You have lots of company! It's not easy having a lot of wound-up little ones chasing each other around the house.

From the Primary Office

Please alert the office with any changes in phone numbers, daycare arrangements, or emergency contacts for your child.

There is no supervision before 8:25 a.m. Thank you for dropping your child off after this time.

If you are picking up your child from school, please send a note or call the office before 3 p.m. so we can inform your child not go on the bus.

It is important to call the school office if your child will be absent from school. We are required to call to verify your child's absence if we do not receive a call from you.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Character Counts

The trait for December is:



CARING

- *Be Kind
- *Express Gratitude
- *Forgive Others
- *Help People in Need
- *Be Compassionate and show you care