



The Primary Press

September 02, 2011

Welcome to the 2011 - 2012 school year.

We're off to a great start and we are looking forward to an exciting school year at Big Hollow Primary. In such a short time our students are establishing daily routines and getting to know their new classmates and teachers. The students have completed the first round of AIMSWEB benchmark testing. The information gathered through these checks will help plan reading instruction for our students. It will also help teachers differentiate instruction for students who are above or below in reading abilities.

As soon as school started we began our PBS (Positive Behavior System) initiative. Students are encouraged to be safe, responsible, and respectful learners. Students have been spending time each day learning how to behave on the bus, in the halls, in the lunchroom, on the playground, and in the bathrooms. More information on this initiative will be forthcoming.

Our summer reading program "Catch the Reading Wave" will culminate at the end of September with a week of reading activities and a special family event. Reading logs are due on September 9th.

Thank you for attending Curriculum Night. Regarding classroom issues we would encourage you to contact your child's teacher. Our teachers are a good resource and would be happy to help you. The district website is another good resource for updates, newsletters, the Student Handbook, teacher contact information and their website links. Additionally, if you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Ms. Dawn Smith
Assistant Principal

Mrs. Christine Arndt
Principal

Big Hollow Primary
33335 N. Fish Lake Rd
Ingleside, 60041
847-740-5320

Mrs. Christine Arndt
Principal

Ms. Dawn Smith
Assistant Principal

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District Office
847-740-1490

Durham Bus Services
847-534-9244

Arbor Food Services
847-740-1490
ext. 5024

Important Information from the Office

This year we are happy to have Mrs. Torbik and Mrs. Alonso in the Primary office. If your child will not be attending due to illness, vacation, or appointments, please remember to call your child's absence in to the school office by 9:30 a.m. If we do not receive a call from you, we are required to reach you to verify the absence.

If your child will be leaving school early or if alternate dismissal arrangements are being made, please send a note with your child or notify the office by phone by 3:30 p.m. so that your child can be informed before boarding the busses.

Please Make sure you alert the office of any changes in contact information so we can reach you, if necessary.

School visitors must present a valid driver's license to receive a visitor's badge which must be worn and visible at all times while in the building. Please return the visitors badge when you sign out at the office upon departure.

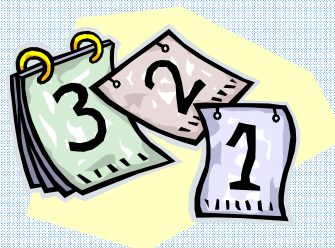
Important Dates

September

5th No School - Labor Day
 6th ELL Night
 7th Market Day Pickup- 5:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.
 @ Middle School
 9th Innisbrook Sale - until September 26
 12th PTO Meeting - 4:00 p.m. Primary Library
 16th Back to School Bingo - 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
 @ Middle School
 19th School Board Meeting @ Middle 7:00 p.m.
 28th Family Reading Night @ Primary 6:00 p.m.
 30th School Picture Day
 Clothing Resale @ Primary 4:00-8:00 p.m.
 Coat Drive September 7-16
 Spirit wear sale now until September 26
 Reading Week Activities September 26 - 30

October

1st Clothing Resale @Primary 8 a.m. to noon
 6th Market Day Pickup- 5:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.
 @ Middle School
 7th First Grade Field Trip
 10th Columbus Day- No School



Student Drop Off and Pick up

Your students safety is a very high priority for us. In order to insure the safety our students there are specific procedures for dropping off your student. Park in the parking lot or pull up to the cross walk on the parking lot side. There is a parent monitor out there to supervise the students as they cross the fire lane and enter the building safely. If you are planning to walk into the building you must park your car in the parking lot.

In the event you are late getting to school or need to pick up your student early you will need to come into the office and sign your student in/out. If you are picking up your student at the end of the day, park in the parking lot and come into the building to sign your student out. No student will be released to walk out to your car alone. At no time is parking in the fire lane permitted even if you are only running in for a minute you must park in the parking lot.

As excited as we are for your children to come to school drop-off can be no earlier than 8:40 a.m. and 12:40 p.m. for afternoon Kindergarten students. All of these procedures are in place to provide a safe environment for all students. We appreciate your cooperation.

Nature Center News

The Big Hollow Nature Center has been getting some extra attention. Baxter Healthcare Corporation has partnered with Big Hollow to provide some support and extra help. In the spring they donated shovels, rakes, hand tools, wagons and much more. They also planned days for their employees to come and do some weeding. Together we have begun the installation of a community garden that will provide vide some vegetables for the food pantry and the district. If you are interested in gardening or would like to get involved we have an adopt-an-island program in the nature center. More information on the nature center can be found under the Activities tab at www.bighollow.us.



PBS at Big Hollow Schools– SAFE, RESPECTFUL, AND RESPONSIBLE

The boys and girls have done a fantastic job learning new routines and behaviors. Each month the newsletters will highlight some of expectations and character traits that have been taught to the students through our *Stop and Think* and Character Education training. "SMILE" tickets are given by various staff members as individual recognition for positive behavior displayed. Students who earn a SMILE will be recognized in the main hallway ocean display. Each month we will combine all the "SMILES" earned and raffle "Good Character" t-shirts to a lucky winner in each classroom.

The PBS philosophy at Big Hollow is to:

Teach and reinforce positive school behavior to follow school rules.

Create a predictable environment and use consistent language, interventions, and consequences.

Promote a positive school climate with a shared responsibility of all staff.

Develop the relationship between our school, parents, and community.

Promote a safe environment, responsible learners, and respectful students.



Be Safe --- Be Respectful --- Be Responsible

These are the three major school wide expectations in which we have developed. As parents, you can reinforce these lessons at home. Remind your child what it looks like to be SAFE, RESPECTFUL, and RESPONSIBLE at the dinner table, playing with his or her siblings, or while caring for his or her belongings. Help your child learn to be responsible by ensuring their homework is completed every night and they return it to school in their back pack each morning.

From the Health Office

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING HEALTH POLICIES:

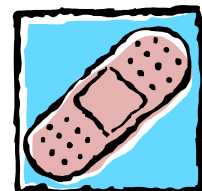
Students should be free from symptoms of fever (without the aid of a fever reducing medication), vomiting and diarrhea for at least 24 hours before returning to school. A temperature of 100 degrees or above is considered a fever.

Students exhibiting undiagnosed rashes will be sent home and excluded from school until the rash is cleared or a doctor's release to return to school is presented to the nurse's office.

Students with pediculosis (head lice) may return to school after the first treatment and when the hair is free of lice and their nits (eggs). Students must be checked by the school nurse before returning to the classroom.

Students with conjunctivitis or "pinkeye" may not return to school until the eyes are clear and without drainage or a doctor's release to return to school is presented in the nurse's office.

District #38 requires a doctor's note after a prolonged absence (generally 3 or more days). Also, a physician's note must be provided releasing a student to return to school with a cast, splint, crutches or wheelchair, or from a recent surgery. A release from the physician is required to return to normal activity (ex: physical education, recess).



Students are allowed to stay inside during recess for one day with a parent note, after one day a doctor's note must be on file in the health office. Students are allowed to be excused from PE for one day with a parent note, after one day a doctor's note must be on file in the health office.

Hot Lunch Program

The August/September lunch menu is located on the school website along with the lunch deposit forms. Hot lunch will be \$2.50 and milk will be 50 cents. Please call Arbor Services at 847-740-1490 ext.5024 for questions regarding the lunch program.

Reading Week

This year's reading theme is "Catch the Reading Wave". If you join us for Meet and Greet or Curriculum Night you will have the opportunity to see for your self the hard work that our staff puts into decorating the building for the students. We are surrounded by very creative, caring people. Reading week is also filled with creative ideas the staff have designed to promote reading. Reading is the foundation of education; we encourage students to read at every opportunity.

Monday, September 26- D.E.A.R (Drop Every-thing and Read). On this day announcements will be made through out the day and students will stop what they are doing and begin reading. Bring your favorite books.

Tuesday, September 27- School of Fish day, because our theme is ocean related, all students will be designing a fish and will be displaying it on a school wide banner to show that they are part of our Big Hollow Community of Learners.

Wednesday, September 28- will bring families and students to school for an evening of reading activities. This celebration of reading attracts more people every year.

Thursday, September 29- will find us listening to a story over the intercom in the old radio story format.

Friday, September 30- is the culminating activity of the week. Classes will go on a treasure hunt following clues to find a class book.

A very important thing a parent can do is to encourage their student to read. Let your child see you reading to yourself and to them. This shows kids how important reading is to you. The other benefit is that it is a very positive time to spend one on one with your child making a memory.



Helping your Child Become a Better Reader

Reading is a critical skill that children will need their whole life. Here are a few tips for helping your child become a successful reader.

Read to and with your children for 30 minutes every day. It is very important to read out loud to your children before they start school. Help your children to read with you. Ask them to find letters and words on the page and talk with your children about the story.

Talk with infants and young children before they learn to read. Talk with your children all day long, using short, simple sentences. Talking with them even before they can speak will help them later when they learn to read and write.

Help your children to read on their own. Reading at home helps children do better in school. Have lots of children's books in your home and visit the library every week. Help your children get their own library cards and let them pick out their own books.

If your child has a developmental delay, your child may find reading frustrating. Have books on tape in your home. Borrow or buy a tape player that is easy to work. If you cannot find recordings

of your child's favorite books, you or a family member could make recordings of them for your child to listen to while looking at the books.

Help your child to see that reading is important. Suggest reading as a free-time activity. Make sure your children have time in their day to read. Set a good example for your children by reading newspapers, magazines, and books.



PTO News

Upcoming PTO Events for September

Market Day-Wednesday, September 7- 5:00-6:00 p.m. @ Middle School

Innisbrook Sale- Friday, September 9 to Monday, September 26

Spirit wear Sale-Now until Monday, September 26

PTO Meeting-Monday, September 12- 4:00 p.m. @ Primary Library

Back To School Bingo-Friday, September 16- 7:00-8:30 p.m. @ Middle School

It's Time to Clean Out The Basement!

Event: The Big Hollow Fall/ Winter Clothing Resale Infant/ Toddler/Children's clothing (sizes 0-5T and 4-16), shoes, accessories, toys, games, books, children's electronics, maternity clothes, and more!

Location: Big Hollow Primary School Gym

Dates:

Wednesday, September 28- Resale Set Up, 4:00-7:00 p.m. (set up only, no clothing)

Thursday, September 29- Clothing Drop Off, 8:30 a.m.- 8:00 p.m. (check in through front office if dropping off during school hours- ID required) Those who volunteer during this day may also "shop" but must check out at the end of their shift.

Friday, September 30-Clothing Preview Sale, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (preview sale open to volunteers, and staff)

Friday, September 30-Clothing Sale (Open to Public), 3:45-8 p.m.

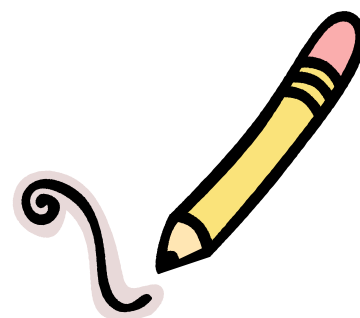
Saturday, October 1- Clothing Sale (Half-Price on Red Tags), 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Saturday, October 1- Clothing Pick Up, 1:00-2:30 pm (All unsold items must be picked up by 2:30 pm or they will be donated to charity!)

Please note there is a percentage sharing between sellers and the PTO.

Volunteer Shifts, Seller Sign Up and more Information can be found on the Big Hollow School PTO website or contact Kim Christesen at 847-740-0025 or kchristesen@hotmail.com

*Big Hollow School District's Mission Statement
The District will provide a strong educational foundation that empowers students to excel and instills the desire for life-long learning.*



*SEDOL's Community Life Skills Program and
the Parent Mentor Project present . . .*

Internet Safety for the Digital Highway: Navigating our Youth around Common Digital Potholes

Presented by Sarah Migas, MSW
Internet Safety Specialist, Illinois Attorney General's Office



Thursday, September 15, 2011 * 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

College of Lake County - South Lake Campus
Third Floor - Room V-340
1120 S. Milwaukee Ave. Vernon Hills, IL
(Directions on Back)



Sarah Migas is a fourteen-year veteran in the field of social work. In addition to her current role at the Illinois Attorney General's Office, she is an adjunct professor in the Graduate School of Social Work, Dominican University and has worked on behalf of children both locally and globally in a variety of roles and settings. This presentation will examine some of the most common pitfalls youth encounter while using digital technology and will specifically address:

Cyber Bullying * Cyber Stalking * Sexting * Digital Citizenship * Online "Branding"

Bring a snack or dessert to share if you'd like!

This program is free of charge and is open to all parents and educators from SEDOL and member districts. We hope you can join us!

Contact Information

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