

The Primary Press

February 3, 2012

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

Dear Parents,

This month we will conduct Parent-Teacher conferences on Thursday, February 16 and Friday, February 17 on an as needed or request basis. The mail station will be available to send your child a letter through our postal program. Letters can be sent to students throughout the school year. A mailbox is located in the front office to drop off your special notes.

Please note that on Thursday, February 16th the AM Early Childhood students and the AM Kindergarten students will not attend.

**The PM Early Childhood students will attend from 9 - 11:30 a.m.
 The PM Kindergarten students will attend from 9:00 a.m. to noon.
 Bussing information will be sent home with the PM Kindergarten students.**

The Early Childhood students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. The K-4 students will be dismissed around noon and lunch will not be served on this day.

Friday, February 17th is P/T Conferences and Monday, February 20th is President's Day. Both will be non-attendance days for all students.

Sincerely,

Ms. Dawn Smith
 Assistant Principal

Mrs. Christine Arndt
 Principal

Help Wanted

We are looking for lunch/recess/bus monitor substitutes to fill in on an as needed basis. For information on this paid positions please pick up an application or contact the Primary/Elementary office for more information at 847-740-5320.

Spirit Day

Wear your Big Hollow shirt or our school colors blue and white and bring 25¢ for popcorn on Friday, March 2.



Six Flags Reading Program

The deadline to turn in the reading logs for the Six Flags Reading Program is on or before Wednesday, February 22.

Usborne Book Sale

Second Grade will be hosting a Usborne Book Sale February 13-16. Purchases can be made until 6:00 p.m. each day and will be open during conferences. Online shopping is available until February 12th www.Books4OurKids.com, click on Big Hollow, and then select "Send to Organization" for free shipping.



Having Fun at the "Under the Sea" Sock Hop

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration will be held from 6:00-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21 at the Primary School. To qualify, children must be five years old by September 1, 2012. More information is available on the school website or by calling the district office at 847-740-1490.

Reading to Children Offers Big Benefits

Children who have been read to for 30 minutes a day from birth through age five receive over 900 hours of brain food. Children who have been read to for 30 minutes a week from birth through age five receive 130 hours of brain food....which is great....but a 770 hour deficit when compared to the first group. Children who are read to less than 30 minutes weekly enter kindergarten with less than 60 hours of the same brain food. Fewer nursery rhymes, fairy tales, stories, etc. Even the most gifted teacher cannot bridge the gap that exists between the cognitively undernourished and the young minds which have been saturated with literacy. (Iowa Literacy Link Volume 1 Number 8, April 2007) The good news is that reading to your child is powerful, no matter what age they are. Experts recommend that parents read to their children through high school. It is never too late to read to your child, no matter what age they are. So grab the comics, the newspaper, or a really great novel, curl up on the couch...and read!



Important Dates

- 2/6- PTO Bouquet of Box Tops begins until Feb. 29
- PTO Meeting 4 p.m. at Primary Library with childcare
- 2/10- First Grade Field Trip
- ECH Parent Involvement Day-Round Lake Children's Museum 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
- 2/16- Parent-Teacher Conferences
Early Dismissal at Noon K-4
ECH dismissal at 11:30 a.m.
- NO AM Kindergarten or AM Early Childhood attendance**
- PM Kindergarten and PM Early Childhood attend in the morning
- 2/17- Parent-Teacher Conferences
No student attendance
- 2/20- President's Day- No School
- 2/22- Six Flags Reading Logs due
- 2/24- PTO Butterbraid fundraiser begins until March 8
- 2/27- School Board Meeting 7 p.m. At Middle

Character Education Program

Congratulations to Mrs. Vasica and Mrs. Himmelpach's first grade classes and to Mrs. Morrison's Kindergarten class who will be caretakers of our Character Cub mascots for the month of February. The character trait for February is "self-control". Our school-wide activity will be on display in the cafeteria and School Social Worker Ms. Fredrick will meet with each class to do theme related activities. Character Day for "self-control" will be on February 29. Students can participate by wearing the color blue.

Self-Control

Think before you act • Set goals and try your best • Use good manners, not bad language • Be considerate of the feelings of others • Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone • Take care of your body • Follow the rules



December /January T-shirt Winners

Character Winners

Congratulations to the following students who earned good character t-shirts from the December and January SMILE ticket raffle.

ECH- Christian
 KCI- Jimmy
 KE- Johnny
 KL/S- Abby
 KM- Khushi
 1C- Ella
 1E- Jason
 1H- Ryan
 1J- D.J.
 1Lan- Brandon
 1L- Julius
 1R- Tony
 1S- Griffin
 1Sto- Ivan
 1V- Dane
 2S- Mary

Stop and Think Social Skills

The students have learned why it's important to be a good listener and have been working on the skill of following directions. They have learned the following:

- 6.) Ignoring
 - a.) Look away, turn away, or walk away from the person or distraction
 - b.) Close your ears and do not listen
 - c.) Be silent; do not say anything

Ignoring (using the Turtle technique)

- a.) Drop your head like a turtle
- b.) Raise your shoulders and put your hands by your sides
- c.) Focus on your work or activity
- d.) Be quiet; don't say anything to the person distracting you

This technique is not to be used with adults. This skill is taught as a part of the problem solving process before reporting or tattling on another student. If the problem persists get help from an adult.

Elementary Math Tips for Parents

Parents can offer their children support and supplemental help in math.

Help and support from parents is a cornerstone of a successful math experience for elementary students. Parent involvement has been linked with student achievement and aspirations. By following a few simple suggestions and laying down guidelines, you can help your child succeed at math.

Math All Around Us

Help your child apply and demonstrate math concepts in everyday life.. Take your child grocery shopping. Compare value by discussing the volume and price of two different brands. Let your child make the wisest purchase. Ask your child to tell you what time it is or how long until a deadline. Give your child a tape measure and allow him to measure household objects. Involve him any time you measure the length or weight of something. Find math in your world and make your child aware of it.

Math Games

Games are a motivating tool to review and reinforce math skills. Make, purchase and play math games. Practice the same skills equally as efficiently by playing math games instead. Buy games, such as "Connect 4," chess and "Monopoly" or make your own games, based on the math objectives your child is learning. Talk to your child, the teacher or read the class newsletter to find out which math objectives your child is focusing on. Open a math game website and click on your child's grade and corresponding objective. Let the review fun begin.

Homework Help

Talk about the school day and follow through with homework assignments. Help with homework. Check your child's backpack every day. Create a quiet homework space, where all materials needed to complete assignments are easily accessible. Remind your child to complete his homework in that spot, at the same time each day. Monitor the progress your child is making by checking school websites, communicating with teachers and discussing everyday work your child brings home.

Adapted from eHow Contributor Miska Rynsburger,



Dental Screenings

Dental Screenings will be available for students on Thursday, March 24, 2011 during the school day. Pre-registration is required. Please return the forms any time on or before February 25, if you wish your child to participate. Forms were sent out today and extra forms are available in the office and fee waivers can be applied for.

Early Childhood Screening

Screenings will be held on Thursday, February 23, 2012 for children suspected of having delays in one or more of the following areas: speech, motor skills, social/emotional skills, and pre-academic skills. Children ages 2 years, 9 months to 4 years old can be screened. Please call the Primary School at 847-740-5320 for information about scheduling an appointment.

Finance Committee

The Big Hollow School Board has authorized an advisory finance committee and interested Big Hollow community members are invited to apply for committee membership. Applications are due by noon on February 15, 2012. More information and the application form can be found on the school website, www.bighollow.us.


Cook With Your Kids and
You Could Win \$20,000
and Live Healthier Ever After.



\$20,000 in cash,
an appearance on the Rachael Ray Show,
and a \$50,000
cafeteria makeover
for your child's school.

How to Enter:

- Cook a recipe with your child
- Make a fun video
- Upload between January 17th and February 26th, 2012 to facebook.com/unclebens

 Enter beginning January 17th, 2012. Visit us on Facebook for complete rules and tips.



Let's Get Kids Cooking Right from the Beginning!

Dear Parent:

We're on a mission to inspire healthy beginnings in life by encouraging parents and kids to cook together. The Uncle Ben's® Ben's Beginners™ Cooking Contest is our way of making it more fun and rewarding.

Begin with these three steps:



Step 1: Cook a rice-based dish with your child and help inspire healthy choices.



Step 2: Film them sharing their enthusiasm for cooking and the fun things they learned.



Step 3: Upload video to the Uncle Ben's® Facebook page.

Checklist

- Cook a meal the whole family can make together.
- Talk about what everyone did to help.
- Rehearse together.
- Hit record and have fun!
- Make a plan for your video:
 - Introduce yourselves (first names only, please).
 - Tell what you made.
 - Show what you made.
 - How did you help?
 - What part was the most fun?

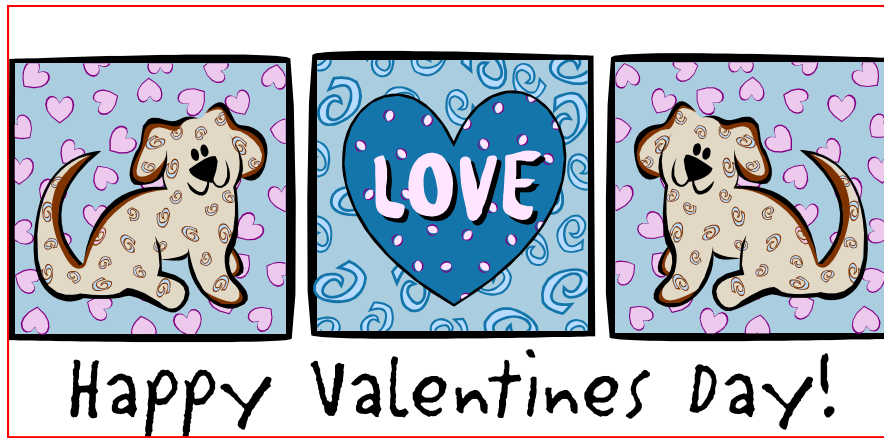
Helpful hints

- Don't forget to only feature one child per video. A family with multiple children may submit more than one video featuring different children (with a limit of five videos).
- Set up a timer so you know how long you have to talk (remember, all videos must be three minutes or less).
- Try writing an outline for your video. It may ease the nerves.
- Making a drawing of your meal may make it easier for children to talk about the experience.
- Are there costumes, intro credits or props you can incorporate? Remember, points go to creativity and fun!

Thanks for your participation. Now's a great time to begin cooking!

The Uncle Ben's® Foodservice Team

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. Entry Period: 01/17/12 9:00:01a.m. PST - 02/26/12 11:59:59p.m. PST. Entrant must be: U.S. resident, above age of majority in resident state, and a parent/legal guardian of a child, also U.S. resident, age 5 - 12 at time of entry through 04/30/12. Parent/Child must be available to travel btw 03/19/12 - 03/30/12 and 04/16/12 - 04/30/12. Employees/representatives/affiliates (including household/family members) ineligible. Four (4) finalists, then one (1) Grand Prize winner selected to win a prize, which will involve travel between dates of 03/19/12 - 03/30/12, and possibly 04/16/12 - 04/30/12. Total ARV of all prizes: \$88,500. Filming and travel dates may change. Odds depend on number of eligible entries received and the skill of the entrants. Limit: five (5) entries per parent, one (1) entry per child. See Official Rules located at <http://www.facebook.com/unclebens> for details. Sponsor: Mars Food US, 2001 E. Cashdan Street, Rancho Dominguez, CA 90220. NOTE: This contest is in no way sponsored, endorsed, or administered by, or associated with Facebook. All contestants are providing their information to Sponsor, and not to Facebook. Any claims, complaints, and concerns should be directed to Sponsor.



Welcome to Doodle 4 Google

Welcome to Doodle 4 Google, a contest where we invite students in the United States to use their artistic talents to think big and redesign Google's homepage logo for millions to see. This year we ask students to exercise their creative imaginations around the theme, "If I could travel in time, I'd visit..." One lucky student artist will see their artwork appear on the Google homepage and take home some [cool prizes](#)--and as a special bonus, the winning artwork will appear on a limited edition of [Crayola's](#) iconic 64 box! Contest entries must be postmarked no later than March 20, 2012. Use the link below to find out more details about this fun contest. <http://www.google.com/doodle4google/info.html>

Doodle 4 Google 2012: If I could travel in time, I'd visit...



Start Doodling!