

Red, White, and Blue
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www.shilohes.org



Strong Minds,
Strong Hearts,
Strong Communities

February 2010

Black History Month

Monday, February 1

Tuesday, February 2— Ground Hog Day

Wednesday, February 3— No Afterschool program

Early Release-12:00 student dismissal/Parent Conferences
1:00-6:00- Gold Fund Raiser in conference room

Thursday, February 4—No Math Help in morning

No Afterschool program

Early Release-12:00 student dismissal/Parent Conferences
1:00-6:00— Gold Fund Raiser in conference room

Friday, February 5—IgPro Reports for missing assignments only if not given at conferences

Monday, February 8

Tuesday, February 9

Wednesday, February 10—Afterschool Program

Thursday, February 11—7:15AM-Math Help

Picture Day, Afterschool Program

Friday, February 12—Make-up Day for 9-21-09

Monday, February 15—Snow make up day 1-8-10

Tuesday, February 16—Buck's Pizza Night

Wednesday, February 17—Afterschool Program

Thursday, February 18—7:15 Math Help

Afterschool Program

Friday, February 19— 6:00-9:00-Winter Dance in cafe

Saturday, February 20—9 :00AM-Readers Rally @ Berkmar High School

Monday, February 22—Pennies for Patriots begins

Tuesday, February 23

Wednesday, February 24—Afterschool Program

Thursday, February 25—7:15- Math Help

Afterschool Program

Friday, February 26—IgPro Reports go home for missing assignments only

RWB goes home

Lost and Found

Parents please check the lost and found during conference week. We will donate items left after Friday, Feb. 5. If children come home with clothes from the clinic please wash and return them. We always need girl/ boy donations of pants and underwear. With all the rain we give out lots of dry clothes. Thank you.

Calendar Reminders

No Math Morning Help on **Feb. 4** due to early release conferences.

Parents, please do not come for lunch on either **Feb. 3 or 4** as students will be eating in their classrooms due to Early Release Conferences.

Feb. 12- Friday- regular school day due to flood make up day from September.

Feb. 15- Monday, regular school day due to snow day in January.

Please keep the following dates on your calendar as being present on these is crucial for your students.

Note, the Math Reasoning Test for 4th grade has been cancelled for this year.

◆ **March 3**- Grade 5 Writing test- Grade 5

◆ **April 14, 15, 16**, -CRCT-Grades 1,2.

◆ **April 19, 20, 21, 22, 23** -CRCT= Grades 3,4,5.

◆ **May 4**- Social Studies Field Test-Grade 4 ONLY.

◆

Transportation

It is very confusing for young children as well as our teachers to alternate between daycare, parent pick-up and buses. Additionally, accepting changes by telephone does not allow us to provide maximum safety measures for students. Therefore, should you need to change transportation arrangements, a written note with a phone number for the child's parent or guardian indicating the change in his/her transportation home is required on the morning of the change. This note should be brought to the front office by the child to be signed and verified by phone by the school official. **No changes will be made after 2:00 or on a day-to-day basis. There will be no checkout after 2:15.** In order to ensure the safety and security of your child, **verbal permission will not be granted for any change. In the absence of a note from you, your child will be placed on his/her usual mode of transportation.**

Parent Teacher Conferences

Please make every effort to attend our Parent-Teacher Conferences on Feb. 3 and 4. (Some may be scheduled on other days if you requested). **On these 2 days, students will be released from school at 12:00 noon, so make sure you have made arrangements at home for your child's early release.** At these conferences, you will learn important information about your child's progress and areas of strengths and weaknesses. It is only by working together with you, the parents, that we can help your child be the most successful. Thank you in advance for taking the time to meet with your child's teacher. Due to tight scheduling, please arrive on time. If you do not, teachers will likely have to reschedule.

Reading Round-Up

Our theme for this year's Literacy Night is "Reading Round-Up". Grab your partners (your family) and join us on Thursday, March 18th for a fun-filled evening of Literacy Activities.

Here are the highlights for the evening:

- 6:00 Pizza and drink for \$2.00
- 6:30 Reading Round-up Sessions begin (you can attend 3 during the evening)
- Each elementary-age child will receive a FREE book.
- In addition to grade level activities, we will have books for sale (\$2 each), a Bookwalk, a storyteller, and the computer labs open to learn about great literacy websites. The public library will also be on hand to register students for library cards. Several door prizes will be given at the end of the evening.

Everyone is encouraged to dress up in Western gear for the evening and enjoy a great night out with your family while learning some great Reading activities. Be on the lookout for a flier with more details coming in the weeks ahead. We will also have information posted on our Shiloh website.

Early Check-Out of Students

Children will not be released from school at any unscheduled time without written explanation from a parent. A parent wishing his or her child be released from school must come into the office. For security reasons anyone checking out a student must be listed by the parent on the child's green card and they will be required to show a Driver's License or an official State of Georgia picture ID prior to having a child released to exit the building with him/her. Students will not be allowed to check out after 2:15 except in the case of emergency. **Children are released only from the office and only to parents or adults designated by parents on the green card. Please do not go to your child's classroom to check him/her out.** Your cooperation is appreciated and expected as a safeguard to ALL our children. We are keeping a record of early checkouts to document progress.

Spelling Bee

Our Spelling Bee Winner, Carina Poteau, a 5th grader from Ms. Peterson's class, will be representing Shiloh on Saturday, January 30 at the county spelling bee. Carina was crowned our winner earlier this month in a close competition. Our runner up is Sage Lika, 4th grader, from Ms. Reynolds' class.

Gold Fundraiser

This is your chance to turn your unwanted gold and silver into cash. You will be given a cash quote for your gold and silver. This quote is 10 to 15% more than a local jeweler would pay and two to three times more than is paid by any company seen on TV. You leave with cash and on top of that MWGX matches an additional 20% donation to Shiloh ES which is above and beyond what you have already been paid. MWGX will be in the conference room at Shiloh ES both Feb. 3rd and 4th from 1:00-6:00PM.

After School Program

A Shiloh ES dream is coming true. Due to funds collected from our Avon fundraiser and from the MWGX gold fundraiser with the staff, we raised enough money to fund a limited after school program to help support some of our most at risk students in grades 2 through 5. The program will meet every Wednesday and Thursday from 3:00-4:00PM through the end of March. The program is by invitation only and parents must provide transportation home. Hopefully, with an excellent parent response to the MWGX fundraiser during early release we will be able to expand our afterschool program for the 2010-2011 school year.

Breakfast

Parents, our students are offered a wonderful breakfast from our school cafe. We encourage students to ride the bus and eat breakfast at school since all buses arrive by 8 and our school day officially begins at 8:15. If you have a student eat breakfast at home or bring their breakfast (no fast food please) be sure students can eat in a timely manner so they are ready to learn by 8:15.

Parent Portal

The Parent Portal is up and running and we are encouraged by the number of parents who have signed up for this valuable communication tool. We have decided to continue with our three week missing assignment reports to go home to parents as previously scheduled. This will insure that families, students and teachers are all aware of the current grades and missing assignments that may be made up on the following Thursday. During February, parents will receive our first 3 week report during parent conferences or on Friday, Feb 5. On Feb 26, the second three week report will go home. Please take advantage of all of these opportunities to stay informed about your child's progress.

Granny Update

Many of you have asked how our dear Granny, Martha Strickland, who works in our cafe is recovering from her fall. She is still at home and hopes to visit us soon. She misses being with all of us and loves cards and notes from students so feel free to send in any to our school and we will deliver them to her.

SuccessMaker At Home Users

As we begin a new year, this is a great time to use SuccessMaker at Home in new ways. We know that students who regularly use the SuccessMaker at Home program, at least twice a week, improve in reading, math, or both. Therefore, we want to help your child get the most benefit from this program by supporting you in the following ways: First, please check to make sure your computer is compatible with the software. Your computer must have the following for the software to work: a DVD player, 512 MB RAM memory or higher, Internet Explorer, and Windows 2000, XP, or Vista.

1) Online installation guides, troubleshooting guides, and how to videos. (These resources can be found at http://www.shilohes.org/EW_successmaker.html)

2) Continued Pearson technical support -If you experience difficulty installing SuccessMaker on your home computer or have other technical questions please call our Technical Support line at: 1-888-977-7100 Option 2, then Option 1
8AM - Midnight ET Monday – Thursday, 8AM – 10PM ET Friday
If you have more questions or need general help, please contact Pearson at 678-714-3655 or via email at SuccessMakerAtHome@shilohes.com

3) Parent Orientation Meeting - Every Tuesday from 5:30pm - 6:15pm.
You do not have to sign up for the meeting. You are welcome to join on any Tuesday. During the meeting we discuss installing and using the software.

Working together, we can truly use the Successmaker at Home program as a tool to improve your child's achievement in math, reading, or both.

Camp Invention

Camp Invention is a wonderful kids camp that focuses on hands science projects that relate to real life experiences. This year Camp Invention is proud to announce a new camp, “The Create Program”. This camp will feature a new curriculum which includes Imagination Point: Ride Physics, in which students design cool rides for an amusement park and discover the science behind your very own model roller coasters and daredevil rides. There is a special online registration for \$175.00 which expires on February 28 or you can make monthly installment payments for all registration received by March 31. To receive the special online discount go to www.campinvention.org and enter the promotional code (PROMO:AERD). Fliers on Camp Invention will be handed out to all parents during Early Release conferences. Please contact Dr. Gloria Elliott with any questions you may have at gloria_elliott@gwinnett.k12.ga.us.



February

Black History Month



We are excited about celebrating Black History Month at Shiloh Elementary. During the 1920's an African American named Dr. Carter G. Woodson created and promoted Negro History Week. This period in February was chosen because it included the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. In 1976 the month-long celebrations was implemented, and is a time for Americans to reflect on both the history and the extraordinary accomplishments of African Americans.

Shiloh Elementary will celebrate Black History Month with a number of events and activities. Here is the schedule of February's activities:

Black History Month webpage:

Explore the many achievements and history of African-Americans with your child by clicking on the black history button on the Shiloh Elementary home page: <http://www.shilohes.org/home.html>

You will find biographies, coloring pages, videos, online quizzes, games, puzzles, and more!

Essay Contest:

All students, K – 5th grade, may enter an essay in the Black History Month Essay Contest. Almost all of the students will be given the opportunity to write their essay in school during writer's workshop because it aligns with our AKS, but feel free to do research and planning as a family outside of school to enhance your child's essay. Essays are due on February 18th. One winner and one runner up will be selected at each grade level. Winners will be announced on February 22nd. You can find more details on our black history month webpage.

Classroom Presentations:

Students in Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades will perform poems, songs, and plays. These performances will be broadcast on the Shiloh Elementary morning show and on our black history month webpage.

Wax Museum:

Students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades will have the opportunity to present information they have learned about an influential African American in the form of a wax museum. After researching information about a person, students will "become" that person by dressing in a costume like that person. Visitors to the museum will press a student-made button to "activate" the statues and hear their biographies. Parents may visit the Wax Museum on February 24th from 8:30am – 10:30am. You can find more details on our black history month webpage.

Quiz Bowl:

Students in 1st – 5th grades may participate in Shiloh's first Black History Month Quiz Bowl. A quiz bowl is a game where students compete against other players in answering trivia questions. To qualify, students must win the classroom and grade level competitions. Two teams will be created from the list of grade level winners. Each team will have one 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade student. These teams will compete in the Black History Quiz Bowl on March 1, 2010 at 9:30am. Parents are invited to attend. The Quiz Bowl will be broadcast at the school and on the black history month webpage. You can help your child prepare for the quiz bowl by downloading the Quiz Bowl Study Guide from our black history month webpage.