



November/December 2009

Dear Parents,

As hard as it is to believe, we are already in the third month of school leaving the first eleven weeks of school behind us. Thus far, the students are adjusting to the routines while keeping up with the year's academic pace. However, if we are going to keep the students on the continuum of success, your help is needed.

- *On a daily basis, encourage your child to display consistent work habits and to take responsibility for his/her learning.*
- *Secondly, assist with the completion of homework nightly and when graded assignments are returned, take a few minutes to sit down and review all misunderstood concepts with your child.*
- *Lastly, ensure that your child is coming to school on time and is prepared for the day with all of his/her necessary supplies.*

Parents, we must work together to keep the students focused on their school work, daily routines, and the rigor of the course work at hand. Here at Highlands, academic excellence is not an unexplained phenomenon, it is an expectation. Your support and encouragement with these endeavors will ensure that your child continues to thrive academically. Thank you in advance for your assistance!

Sincerely,

Dr. Latecha Bogle

Reminders and Upcoming Events:

Thanksgiving Food Drive: It is not too late to support the Student Council's Food Drive for the East Fort Bend Human Needs Ministry. The last day to donate non-perishable food items is Friday, November 20th.

Book Fair: The Book Fair will be held during the week of December 7th. This is a great opportunity for you to get a jump start on the holiday season by purchasing books and posters. There will be a wide selection of paperback books for \$6.00 or less.

Book Fair Evening Event: The Book Fair will be open from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 10th. Afterwards, parents and students are invited to an Ice-cream Social sponsored by the P.T.O. in the school's cafeteria.

(OVER)

Spelling Bee: All grade level Spelling Bees will be held in December in preparation for our annual School Wide Spelling Bee in mid-January. The December schedule is listed below:

2nd Grade (December 1st)

3rd Grade (December 2nd)

4th Grade (December 3rd)

5th Grade (December 4th)

Hot Chocolate and Breakfast Treats: Courtesy of Dr. Bogle and Mr. Bellard, hot chocolate and breakfast treats will be served to our WONDERFUL parent volunteers on Wednesday, December 16th from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Extended Day building. We hope that you can join us.

Parties and Book Exchange: All classes will have holiday parties on Friday, December 18th. Your child's teacher will send home more information about this event in the up-coming weeks.

Vacation: School will be **CLOSED** for students on the following dates:

- Wednesday - Friday November 25th - 27th (Thanksgiving Break) **School will be in session on Monday, November 23rd and Tuesday, November 24th.**
- December 21st - January 4th (Winter Holiday) **Students will return to school on Tuesday, January 5, 2009.**

Excused Absences Reminder: Remember, if your child does not report to school, he/she will be marked absent. However, in order for the absence to be coded "*Excused*", one of the following reasons listed below, **in addition to supporting documentation**, must be present. Otherwise, your child's absence will be coded as "*Unexcused*."

- Sickness
- Funeral
- Religious Holiday
- 5th Grade Middle School Visit