

December 4, 2014



## *HAMMOND TIGER TALES*

Hammond Elementary School provides a safe, nurturing learning environment that fosters individual success through academic excellence, and appreciation of diversity, to ensure lifelong learners.

### **Important Dates\***

December 11	Holiday Choral and Advanced Instrumental Concert 7pm
December 12	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter interims go home
December 15	Bill of Rights Day
December 17	Anniversary of the Wright Brothers' flight
December 18	School Spirit Day/Double Tuffy Day
December 21	First Day of Winter
DECEMBER 24-JAN. 2	SCHOOLS & OFFICES CLOSED /WINTER BREAK
January 8	Spirit Day/Pajama Day
JANUARY 19	SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED/MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
JANUARY 22	SCHOOLS CLOSE 3 HRS EARLY/PROFESSIONAL LEARNING
JANUARY 23	SCHOOLS CLOSE 3 HRS EARLY/END OF MARKING PERIOD
January 28	Winter Concert – Beginning Instrumental Concert 7pm
FEBRUARY 6	SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR STUDENTS/PROFESSIONAL DEV.
FEBRUARY 12 & 13	SCHOOLS CLOSE 3HRS EARLY/PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES
March 2 – 6	Kindergarten Registration
March 25	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip /Mt. Vernon 9am – 3pm

### **“PAWS OF PRIDE”**



Please enjoy our new monthly newsletter “Home & School Connection”. It is full of helpful information on guiding your child through elementary school. This month’s newsletter is titled “Raising Respectful Children”. The newsletter is available in English and Spanish. Please see attachments.

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### **"Our Winter Concert"**

is quickly approaching! The date is **Thursday, December 11th at 7 PM**. The concert will take place in the HMS Gym. This concert includes all Chorus students, Advanced Band students, and Advanced Orchestra students. We look forward to seeing many of you there!

### **Volunteer Reading Program**

Mrs. Smith is starting a program for students to work on reading fluency. We are looking for volunteers to read with students one on one. It requires an adult to read aloud with a child for 15 minutes a day to model good fluency. A description/training of the simple research based method will be reviewed with volunteers in advance. We are looking for volunteers who can give an hour of their time one day a week. They will work with four students for fifteen minutes each during this time. Please contact Laura Smith, reading specialist, at

Laura\_M\_Smith@hcpss.org

### **Multicultural Night**

#### **Volunteers Needed**

For several years, Hammond Elementary has enjoyed celebrating the many cultures that comprise our school community. If you are interested in participating in this year's event, or would like to volunteer, please contact Mrs. Armstrong at christinia\_armstrong@hcpss.org

### **Tips from Tuffy**

#### **December Newsletter**

Everyone has good days and bad days. How can you support your child when he/she seems to be struggling? First, share with them your own experiences of difficulties you have had, and how you dealt with them. What did you find helpful? And what would you do differently next time? It is important that children realize that no one is perfect and making mistakes is a normal part of being human - even grown ups have troubles sometimes! Being open about challenges in an age appropriate way and how to face them is one of the most valuable lessons a child can learn. Let them know how proud you are of their attempts, even if they sometimes fall short of the goal. Your support is one of the most important factors in their self-esteem. And feeling good about themselves helps them persevere through tough times.

### **Hammond HS Fundraiser**

The Hammond High School DIAMONDS Scholars will be hosting their annual indoor flea market on Saturday, December 13th from 8am-noon. If you are interested in renting a space please contact raymona\_reid@hcpss.org for a registration form. We will only accept one rep per company, i.e. 31, Avon, Mary Kay, Lia Sophia, Pampered Chef, etc. We are also looking for vendors that sell specialty foods and desserts, crafts, homemade gifts, household products, and gently used items. Get your space reserved today. Not interested in selling...well you are in luck. Come find all the best buys at the event on Saturday, 12/13, and get all of your holiday shopping done!

### **Candle Light Concerts**

Quartetto Gelato, "Love you Forever" "The Cirque du Soleil of classical music." Sunday, December 7, 2pm. Duncan Hall, Room 100, 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia, Md. (On the "Quad" of Howard Community College) [info@candlelightconcerts.org](mailto:info@candlelightconcerts.org) [www.candlelightconcerts.org](http://www.candlelightconcerts.org)