

# HICKORY'S HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

MRS. SCHUMACHER, PRINCIPAL

DECEMBER 2009



## HICKORY HAPPENINGS...

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009, the federal stimulus package approved by Congress earlier this year, created the new Build America Bond program. Under this program, local government agencies like TUSD can issue bonds to fund construction and renovation projects at a reduced cost to local tax payers.

This program has allowed TUSD to accelerate approximately \$70 million in Bond sales without increasing the tax rate beyond the current rate. This will allow TUSD to design and move forward with additional school renovations. Hickory will benefit directly from this acceleration and beginning in December our Site Team will be meeting weekly to discuss and prioritize much needed renovations to the school.

## STANDARDS BASED REPORT CARDS...

Report Cards will be sent home on December 11! As I mentioned last month the SBRC will have a new format. It is still Standards Based and marked on student Proficiency levels 1-4. It will be a bit more general in its presentation however; the teachers are still assessing and addressing individual standards. The report card is divided into academic strands that match the grade level content. Parent Conference week will take place

December 3 2009

### Upcoming Events:

- 11/30 Angel Tree Project
- 12/4 Book Fair Kick-Off
- 7-11 Book Fair Mod F
- 12/10 FAMILY FUN NIGHT  
"GAME NIGHT"
- 12/11 Report Cards sent home
- 12/14-18 Parent Conferences
- \*\*\* 2:12 Dismissal!!!
- 12/21-1/4 Winter Break
- 1/5 RETURN TO SCHOOL

December 14-18. Teachers will schedule conferences before school and after school. Students will be dismissed at 2:12 the entire week in order to provide more time for conferences. Every parent in TUSD has the opportunity to meet with their child's teacher at least once a year. Hickory teachers encourage parents to meet with their child's teacher whenever a concern arises. Because of class sizes this year, your teacher may suggest that no conference is needed at this time and ask you to schedule a conference in January when we return from Winter Break. This should not be taken as reluctance to meet with you, but rather that your child is doing well and a conference in January would be just as effective.

Look for information from your child's teacher and visit the TUSD website for more information on the SBRC.



## CONFERRING TIPS!

Parent-teacher conferences present an excellent opportunity to find out how your child is adjusting to the new school year.

Here are some general hints on how to have a successful conference:

1. Ask your child if there is anything that he would like you to discuss with the teacher.
2. Jot down everything that you want to talk about at the conference.
3. Arrive promptly or a few minutes early.
4. Begin with positive comments about the teacher or classroom.
5. Avoid lengthy discussions of topics that are not related to the purpose of the conference.
6. Be open-minded to suggestions from the teacher.
7. Keep your emotions under control.
8. Take notes about what has been discussed to share with your child.
9. Ask questions about what the class will be studying and how you can help your student at home
10. Do not stay beyond your allotted time.

## STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

The student council will again be participating in the Salvation Army' Angel Tree project. This program is designed to help make the holidays special for those children who are less fortunate than we are. The student council will be collecting money from

Nov. 30- through Dec. 11. Once the money is totaled, members of the student council will visit a local toy store and shop for items that boys and girls have listed on their "wish list". It is a terrific program that our students look forward to supporting each year.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE NEWS...

It is exciting to be a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader! All of the 2<sup>nd</sup> graders attended an owl assembly sponsored by the Hickory PTA. The South Bay Wildlife Association, a rescue organization, brought in various birds and discussed their habitats and lifestyles. This ties into our science curriculum perfectly. Each class was also given a set of owl pellets. What is an owl pellet? It is the regurgitated mass that owls can't digest. So, each class will dissect these pellets and examine the bones and hair inside, this will tell us exactly what that owl has eaten! Super cool!

We are also continuing to work on those basic math facts so that when we get to double-digit addition and subtraction we will be successful. We will continue to work on counting money too!

Second grade has completed Theme One in our Language Arts series, which was entitled "Silly Stories". Now we are working on Theme Two, "Nature Walk". Some of the concepts we've practiced since September have included reviewing all short and long vowel sounds, identifying the parts of a sentence, identifying synonyms, and writing in complete sentences. We've also worked on recognizing the parts of a story, fantasy and realism in stories, predicting outcomes, and comparing/contrasting story elements. It is great to see the students so engaged in their reading! We hope that you will continue to encourage reading with your child at home.



## HITACHI HOLIDAY CARD CONTEST WINNERS!

The following students' card designs have been selected by a committee from Hitachi Automotive Parts, USA to be featured on their holiday cards.

### *Congratulations!*

- K- Amy Saruwatari K-2  
Sona Nair**
- 1<sup>st</sup>: Taylor Marin Mod. J  
Luke Kim Mod. D**
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tomoko Oyama Rm. 9  
Kelly Ha Mod. B**
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Klee Ando Rm. 30  
Jennifer Paul Rm 21**
- 4<sup>th</sup>: Anita Wong Rm. 17  
Miguel Tan Rm. 20**
- 5<sup>th</sup>: Cindy Takigawa Rm: 13  
Ashley Sasaki Rm. 13**

## HICKORY TEACHERS WIN PEGASUS AWARDS!

Congratulations Hickory Teachers! Each year ExxonMobil sponsors the "Pegasus Awards" program. These are classroom or school wide grants that teachers can supply for by submitting a written application and description of a project that will enhance student learning. There are two categories of grants teachers can apply for, a \$200.00 classroom supplementary grant, and General Academic grant for up to several thousand dollars. This is wonderful program for Torrance teachers. The following teachers from Hickory are among this year's recipients:

General Academic Grants:

**Melissa Tyrrell-** Reading and Oral Language Fluency Station

**Holly Evans-** Read and Write On!

Supplemental Classroom Grants:

**Debra Owens, Holly Evans, Kelli Hammond, Dori Yamamoto, Melissa Tyrrell, Amanda Leyland**

## \$\$\$ ATTENDANCE \$\$\$

Attendance is IMPORTANT to your child's learning BUT it is also important to the district in terms of funding. The state of California provides TUSD with \$33.14 per student for each day they are in school. This money helps run the day-to-day operation of the schools. If your child is absent from school for **any** reason, the District is **not** paid by the State of California.

TUSD considers more than 10 days of absences and/or tardies in a school year to be excessive (unless there is a doctor's note verifying an illness). If a student exceeds the 10 days or the school feels the student is in danger of exceeding the 10 days, you may receive written notice and/or you may be required to attend a meeting to address the absences/tardies.

As you know, our district is in a severe budget crisis. We appreciate your assistance in having your child/children in school every day that they are not ill. Thank you for your help as we continue our goal of providing the best education for your children.



## READ TO ACHIEVE....

**Beginning Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> through Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, Hickory Elementary School students in grades Kindergarten**

through 5<sup>th</sup> grade began tracking their reading minutes, both at home and at school, with the hopes of gaining recognition through the Clippers Basketball Team's *"Read To Achieve Program."*

The results have been quite remarkable! Hickory students have read a total of 266,733 minutes in just three weeks. We want to acknowledge our wonderful and dedicated librarian, Laura Fischer, and her team of library volunteers who have been calculating our students' weekly reading minutes, we could not do this without their help.

Top readers, top classes, and top grade levels are recognized each week at our weekly FLAG Assembly. In addition, Hickory students, teachers, administrators, and parents are all hopeful that our school will be awarded the top reading award – a visit from a Clippers Basketball player!

Most importantly, our students are increasing their love of reading through the *Read To Achieve Program*. Reading is the key to academic success and Hickory Elementary School students are unlocking the door to their future academic achievement by reading and learning each day.

Thank you so much for your support at home. *Mrs. Williams*

## **TORRANCE ELKS LODGE #1948 DONATES DICTIONARIES**

As part of their community service, the Torrance Elks again donated dictionaries to every 3<sup>rd</sup> grader at Hickory! The Dictionary Project has a goal to assist as many students as possible to complete the school year as good writers, active readers, and creative thinkers by providing the students with their own personal dictionary.

Thank you again to Elks Lodge #1948!



## **KINDER REMINDERS!**

It is nice to see our kindergarteners using the Hickory Valet service in the mornings for drop-off. The older students and Mrs. Paul are doing a great job assisting them to their playground. **We still ask that you plan on arriving to school around 8:45 because the kinder yard will not have supervision until that time.**

Recently, kinder pickup has become a problem. The STAFF PARKING LOT is closed to all parents, visitors etc. during the school hours of 7:30-4:30. This includes double parking and waiting for your kinder to be dismissed, waiting in the car while it is running...Do Not Pull into the Staff Lot for Any Reason. This is a school policy and we appreciate your cooperation.

## GREETINGS FROM FOOD SERVICES...

Monitoring your child's account has just gotten easier! Set up a free account for your child (ren) on [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com) Once the account is set up, you can view your child's meal purchases, balances, and set up an automated email notice that will let you know when your child's meal account falls below a dollar amount you specify. You can also add money to your child's account directly at the school site cafeteria or for a small fee you can pay on-line.

The monthly lunch menu is on line at <http://foodservices.tusd.org/>.

## LOST AND FOUND

Although this year has been better than last year, students should continue to check the Lost and Found for their lost articles of clothing. It helps in identifying articles if parents put names on sweatshirts, sweaters, and lunch boxes. Items will be placed in the donation bin Dec.18. Please make a point to stop by Rm. 31 and check for your lost items.

## READING AT HOME!

- ❖ **Build on Success.** If your child loved one book by an author, suggest trying another book by the same author.
- ❖ **Ask an expert.** Have your child ask the librarian to recommend books.
- ❖ **Look at lists.** Check our various reading lists sent home by school or at the library or [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org)
- ❖ **Read Together.** Find a chapter books that appeal to your child. Read a chapter together each night. A good mystery might be a great first choice.

## GATE TESTING...

During the month of December, students in grades 3 through 7 may be recommended for GATE testing. Schools are specifically focusing on students with California Standards Test (CST) scaled scores of 440 - 600 in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics.

During school conferences, parents and teachers may wish to discuss the GATE referral process for students who have exhibited creative ways of thinking, have achieved exemplary work in the classroom, and have strong CST scaled scores near the 440 level in both English/Languages Arts and Mathematics. All recommended students will be administered a GATE identification standardized test at their school site during the months of February and March.

## HEALTH ROOM NEWS:

The Health Office is in need of clothes. Our students sometimes need a change of clothes (including underwear and socks) and we are happy to loan them clothes that have been donated. If you have any clothes that your child doesn't wear anymore, and would like to donate them to the Health Office we would greatly appreciate it.



December 3, 2009

Dear Parents,

As many of us know, the State of California continues to experience a serious budget crisis. Last year Torrance Unified had to cut over 8 million from our budget. It looks like the January 2010 budget will force TUSD to make even more cuts to an already bare bones budget. Clearly, these cuts will have a direct impact on our programs here at Hickory. Please continue to follow the TUSD Community News for more information.

We need to stay positive and be proactive in ensuring that the quality education your child receives at Hickory continues. This can only happen with the support of our dedicated teachers, experienced staff and supportive parents and community. ***How can you help?***

One way you can greatly help support our programs is by purchasing Scrip from our PTA. Details on how to purchase scrip can be found on our website at [www.hickoryelementary.com](http://www.hickoryelementary.com). What you spend weekly in groceries, clothing, entertainment and eating out could go towards our wonderful academic programs at Hickory.

In addition, one of our biggest expenses at school is paper. We would enthusiastically accept donations of sealed reams of copy paper. Our primary color is white, but other nonfluorescent colors would be appreciated as well. When shopping at Office Depot, use the school's **Member I.D# 70015848** and school receives 5% back to spend on supplies. We also recycle printer ink cartridges at Office Depot and Staples to earn credit towards school supplies. Both these programs really help in our day to day operations.

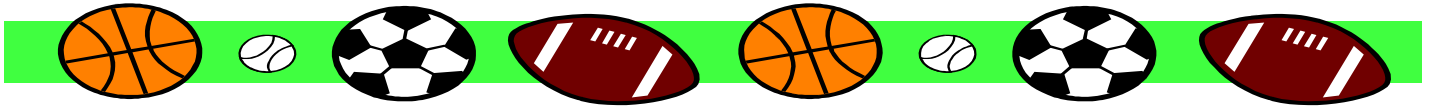
Hickory families can also make tax-deductible donations to Hickory Elementary School. In addition, many corporations offer their employees gift matching programs to schools. Please check with your employer about their school donation programs. Do know that all money will go towards implementing our Single Site Plan for Student Achievement. This would include purchasing new technologies, providing for After School Intervention and Enrichment classes, and other programs that make our school truly distinguished.

Thanks to all our Hickory families who continue to support our school by participating in our Family Portrait Event, our restaurant nights, and the upcoming Book Fair.

I hope you have a nice holiday season with your family and friends. I look forward to seeing you back at school on January 5, 2010.

Sincerely,

Edna J. Schumacher, Principal



## From the Desk of the President.....

Dear Hickory Parents:

I can't believe that Thanksgiving has zoomed past and we are quickly approaching the holidays. We couldn't have gotten so far this year without the hard work of the following people:

**Jenny Whang and Korean Family garage sale team**-they are always are so generous with their time to help the PTA.

**Traci Sell**-For heading up our Spirit wear Sales. Early reports show that once again, our parents have stepped up and supported us above and beyond.

**The Scrip crew**-who make themselves available twice a week for our parents to purchase Scrip as one more way to support Hickory.

**Caitlin Leivers**-For all the work you do to make sure our Calendar is updated and current and for all you do to make sure the Communicator is ready on time.

**Rhonda Carroll**-For the fantastic South Bay Wildlife Rescue Assembly-otherwise known as the "Owl Assembly" for the entire 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

**Karen Brunan and the Spring Carnival team**-For all the work you've done already to make this an event to remember.

**Alissa Materman**-For running the Tanaka Farms fundraiser and making sure we all eat our fruits and vegetables.

**Grace Gee & Mary Ellen Nobuhara**-For going above and beyond the call of duty.

### **And most of all, My Executive Board:**

Susan Lopez, Rhonda Carroll, Grace Gee, Mary Ellen Nobuhara, Lani Almero, Roxanne Arroues, Leslie Grange, Mylee Tynen, Sandra Mukogawa, and Cindy Gottschalk-you guys truly lift me up and are the wind beneath my wings. You make me look good and make my job so easy. We are truly one team and I am honored to work with you guys.

There was also a bit of history made this month in Torrance, for the first time in over 30 years, the TUSD and City Council held a joint board meeting. What a perfect example of teamwork!

Brought to you by your PTA this month:

- Family Game Night
- Reading Under the Stars and Bookfair
- Adventures in Art
- Kids Into Science
- Library
- Copy Center
- Class field trips
- Website

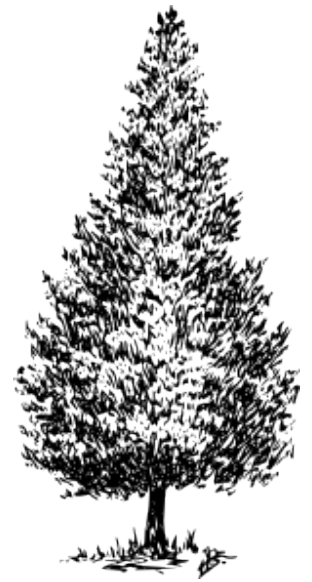
May this Holiday season bring you all joy, laughter and memories that you and your loved ones will share forever. Have a great vacation and may you bring in the New Year with fun filled resolutions and a happy heart!

From all of us here at Hickory PTA,  
Happy Holidays!

Kelly Gottlieb  
Hickory PTA, President  
"All Parents.....One Team"



Hickory Elementary School  
2800 W. 227th St.  
Torrance, CA 90505  
(310) 533-4672  
[www.hickoryelementary.com](http://www.hickoryelementary.com)



## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 3, 2009

DATE		UPCOMING ACTIVITIES
Fri	December 4	Book Fair Kick-Off: Reading Under the Stars 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm
M-F	December 7 thru Dec 11	Book Fair, located in Mod F Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri – 9 am to 3:45 pm Wed - 9 am to 3:00 pm
Thurs	December 10	Family Fun Game Night, 6:30 pm in Cafeteria PTA Association Meeting
Fri	December 11	Report Cards go home
M-F	December 14 thru Dec 18	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Fri	December 18	Last day of school
	December 21 thru Jan 4	Winter Break





# PTA BITS & PIECES



## PTA MEETING

The next PTA Association Meeting is on December 10 at 6:30 in the Cafeteria (held during Game Night). The agenda will be posted in Rm 31 on Monday, December 7th for review.

## SPIRITWEAR

Spiritwear was sent home last week with your student. If you didn't receive your order, please contact Grace Gee at [grace\\_e\\_gee@yahoo.com](mailto:grace_e_gee@yahoo.com).

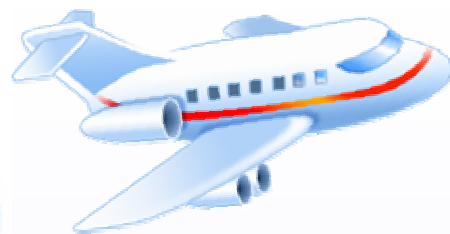
## DIRECTORIES

**Back by popular demand, PTA directories will be sent home with students this week. This tells you everything you wanted to know about Hickory but were afraid to ask.**

Please make the following correction in your directory:

Mrs. Lorrie Spears Room 29, extension 3129

# Destination BOOK FAIR



Come join us on a reading adventure...

**Monday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> thru Friday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>**

## **Hickory Cafeteria**

### *Hickory Book Fair Hours:*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Classroom Visits 9 a.m.—3:12 p.m.	Classroom Visits 9 a.m.—3:12 p.m.	Classroom Visits 9 a.m.—2:00 p.m.	Classroom Visits 9 a.m.—3:12 p.m.	Classroom Visits 9 a.m.—3:12 p.m.
After School 3:12 -3:45 p.m.	After School 3:12 -3:45 p.m.	Kinder Preview 2:00—2:27 p.m.	After School 3:12 -3:45 p.m.	After School 3:12 -3:45 p.m.
		After School 2:27—3:00 p.m.		

*We are open to students during lunch from 12:00 —1:15 p.m.*

*Please note the change in location...*

*we are in the CAFETERIA.*

*(not in Mod F)*

If you have any questions regarding the Book Fair, please call:

Mary Ellen Nobuhara  
(310) 530-3612

Alice Davis  
(310) 534-5041

# HICKORY'S "DESTINATION BOOK FAIR" SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 7th - 11th, 2009

\*\*\*\*\*LOCATION CHANGE CAFETERIA (not Mod F)\*\*\*\*\*

Times	Monday 12/7 Open 9:00 - 3:45	Tuesday 12/8 Open 9:00 - 3:45	Wednesday 12/9 Open 9:00 - 3:00	Thursday 12/10 Open 9:00 - 3:45	Friday 12/11 Open 9:00 - 3:45
9:05 - 9:35	Evans (K)	Sibley (4)	Gottschalk (5)	Ondo (2)	Hernandez (5)
9:40 - 10:10	Faherty (K, 1)	Poling (K)		Risk (2)	Imatani (3)
10:15 - 10:45		Clark (5)	Benedetti (4)	Kasper (4)	Nagaoka (4)
10:55 - 11:25	Grace (2)	Tabush (3)	Tynen (K)	Di Prete (K)	Shirai/Owens (3)
11:30 - 11:55			Hunt Russell (2)	Spears (3)	
12:00 - 1:10	Open to Students	Open to Students	Open to Students	Open to Students	Open to Students
1:25 - 1:55	Yamamoto (1)	Bond (1)	Erving (2)	Leyland (1)	Barteau (2)
2:05 - 2:35	Oden (1)	Tabellion (3)	Kindergarten Preview 2:00 - 2:30	Davis (3)	Hammond (1)
2:40 - 3:12	Tyrrell (1)	Barbanti (5)	Early dismissal	Shiga (3)	
3:12 - 3:45	Close 3:45	Close 3:45	Close 3:00	Close 3:45	Close 3:45

Kinder. Recess  
10:30 - 10:45  
1:10 - 1:20

Grades 1, 2, 3 Recess  
10:30 - 10:45  
1:55 - 2:05

Grades 4 & 5 Recess  
10:50 - 11:05  
2:10 - 2:20

Kindergarten Preview  
2:00 - 2:30  
  
Wed Early Dismissal  
2:27pm

Lunches  
K 11:30 - 12:20  
1st 11:45 - 12:30  
2nd & 3rd 12:05 - 12:50  
4th & 5th 12:25 - 1:10

Join us for a fun-filled evening at...

# Reading Under the Stars

Friday, December 4th

5:30—8:00 p.m.

Hickory Cafeteria

*Scholastic's Destination Book Fair* kicks off this Friday!

Our wonderful Hickory teachers will be reading to the children while the adults will have an opportunity to do their shopping at the Book Fair!

Your family won't want to miss out!!

**Hot Fresh Pizza  
and drinks!**

**Raffle Drawings!**

Shop early for the BEST selection!

Questions? Interested in helping with the Book Fair?

Please contact:

Mary Ellen Nobuhara  
(310) 530-3612  
mnobuhara@aol.com

Alice Davis  
(310) 534-5041  
adavis828@gmail.com

# Family Fun Game Night

Thursday Dec. 10th



6:30pm



Hickory Fundraiser, try a game before you buy it

Bring your family

Bring your own favorite board game

Wear your **pajamas**? Yes, wear your **pajamas**

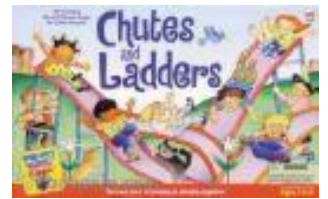
Trade your old board game with another family



There will be



and other activities for everyone



**Games will be available for purchase**



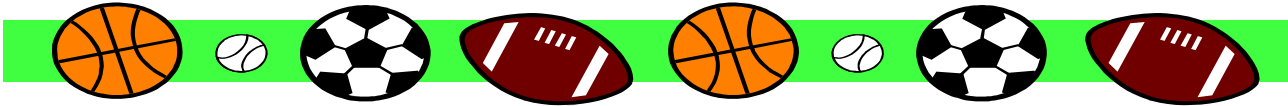
Spirit Wear was delivered to your child  
on Monday, November 23, 2009.

Thank you to *Kelly Gottlieb, Patty Lopez,  
Anh Ng, Mary Ellen Nobuhara, Sharyl Oda,  
Tosh Song, Tracie Yamasaki, Jenny Whang, &  
Grace Gee* for sorting and delivering  
the Spirit Wear on Monday.

Thank you to *Traci Sell* for  
coordinating Spirit Wear sales.

Thank you to *Glenn Sakamoto* for  
the new Spirit Wear design.

Any questions about Spirit Wear,  
email [ctksell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ctksell@sbcglobal.net) or [grace\\_e\\_gee@yahoo.com](mailto:grace_e_gee@yahoo.com)



# Hickory PTA

## All Parents...One Team

### Honorary Service Awards

It is time to nominate those outstanding volunteers who contribute to our students here at Hickory. "The Honorary Service Award (HSA) program seeks to honor and recognize deserving PTA, school and community volunteers for outstanding service to children and youth." Hickory is well known for its many dedicated volunteers, please take a moment to consider nominating a fellow volunteer who has gone above and beyond and thus deserves our recognition.

Good luck to all and thank you for your nominations!

*Malaea F. T. Coleman*  
*HSA Chairperson*

### *Honorary Service Awards*

### *2009-2010*

Please complete this form and return to the drop box in the Hickory School office or to your teacher in a sealed envelope by **January 15!**

I would like to nominate: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons this person deserves special recognition:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

...use backside if you need more space to write...

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

# It's that time again!

## Hickory's Student Talent Show!



### What's your talent?



singing?

dancing?

acting?

making music?

telling jokes?

performing magic?

reciting poetry?

being artistic?

### We want YOU to be a part of our fantabulous show!

Use time over the winter break to plan your act!  
Auditions will be January 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> after school.

All participants must complete an entry form! (available in front office)

The Talent Show will be **March 5<sup>th</sup>** Mark your calendar!

Please see reverse side for more info!

Please contact Samantha Atkinson @ 920-1034 or [ilive4mykids@gmail.com](mailto:ilive4mykids@gmail.com) with questions.

## Important Information:

- All students must audition. Acts should be “performance ready” at the time of auditions.
  - Even those who've been in the show previous years are expected to audition.
  - Students will be seen on a first come, first served basis (Sorry, no exceptions). Students will sign in when they arrive at the cafeteria.
  - Audition dates are **Monday , January 11<sup>th</sup> OR Tuesday , January 12<sup>th</sup>** at 3:15 in the cafeteria. Please come to ONE of these.
- Each participant must bring a completed entry form (available in the front office) with parent's signature to the audition. If the act is a group number, please staple all forms together.
- Don't let the phrase “audition” intimidate you. We gladly welcome all acts that are well rehearsed and prepared.
- Students who wish to sing must provide their own accompaniment, either live or recorded. **Students may not sing along with the recording artist (a cappella is not recommended).**
  - Please choose a song that is appropriate for elementary age kids. Songs about relationships, break-ups, etc. are **not** considered appropriate.
  - Lyrics must be submitted with entry form.

*Some sources for accompaniment are:*

- iTunes (download program for free – songs are only 99 cents)
- acekaraoke.com, totalkarake.com
- Sing Along Center (corner of Carson St. and Figueroa)
- Students performing a dance must choose music and choreography that is appropriate for elementary age kids. **Dances should be choreographed in advance, not improvised.**
  - Lyrics must be submitted with the entry form.
- **All acts must be under 2 minutes.**
- All participants in the Talent Show are invited to be a part of our grand finale number. Students must memorize the lyrics and choreography. Rehearsals for the finale number will be on Mondays: 1/25, 2/1, (Tuesday) 2/9, 2/15 and 2/22. Only those who attend the rehearsals will be allowed to participate in the finale number. Students in the finale number are expected to attend all rehearsals so the act runs smoothly and the kids do an excellent job representing Hickory Elementary.
- **A dress rehearsal will be held at THS on Thursday 3/4 from 3:45 – 6:30 pm. This is mandatory for all talent show participants (whether or not you're in the finale number).**
- Parents are encouraged to help their child polish his/her act. It is important that the students feel confident and prepared when they perform in front of an audience. Our Thursday rehearsals are not for individual acts. They are for learning and polishing the finale.
- **The Talent Show will be at Torrance High on Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.**

# **Hickory Elementary School**

## *Science Fair 2010*

The Hickory Science Fair will be held on Thursday, March 25, 2010 in the cafeteria from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. The purpose of the Science Fair is to encourage 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students (Kindergarten is also welcomed) to develop a greater interest in science and technology and to develop skills in critical thinking, research, problem solving, and use of the scientific method.

While teachers will be available to advise students, the initiative and responsibility belongs to the students.

- Parents may assist their children with their projects.
- Parent participation should be limited to that which assists the child's mastery of the concepts of his/her project and should encourage their child to work on their project as much as they can on their own.
- Each student must be able to demonstrate and explain what he/she has done.

In order to participate, a science fair entry form needs to be turned in to your teacher and approved prior to starting the project. Applications are available on Hickory's website [www.hickoryelementary.com/sciencefair2010.pdf](http://www.hickoryelementary.com/sciencefair2010.pdf), the school office, or Room 14.

Please contact Mrs. Benedetti if you have any questions.

email: [fbenedetti@etusd.org](mailto:fbenedetti@etusd.org)

phone: (310) 533-4672 x3114

### Science Fair Timeline

Dec. 1 – Jan. 7	Choose a project to do.
January 8	Applications are due for project.
Jan. 11 - Mar. 17	Work on project.
March 18 – 24	Bring project to school to present to class.
March 25	Science Fair open to the public 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
March 26	Take project home.
March 29	Science Fair winners announced at flag assembly.
April 1	Winners go to District Science Fair.