

Parents/Guardians,

We hope you enjoyed mid-winter break, taking time to recharge before Spring arrives. Our teachers enjoyed two days of professional learning during the break, and were very eager to welcome your student back to school today! As February comes to an end, there are many ways for you to support our school. We hope to see many of you at our Literacy Lunch & Learn this Wednesday, hosted by our district Literacy Coaches. Parents are invited to learn about ways to support your child at home in their literacy development, as well as understanding ways the Common Core State Standards have increased the rigor of reading. We hope to see you there!

Due to the possibility of winter weather early in the morning, Before School Instruction (BSI) will be cancelled tomorrow, February 24th.

February 24th 4:00-7:00 PM - The Marietta Police Athletic League invites youth ages (5-16) to our PAL Grand Opening Event this Tuesday at the Lawrence Street Recreation Center. Please make plans to attend this fun event. Youth will get to meet the Braves' mascot, Homer; participate in a Hawk basketball camp and play with the Braves bat team on a first come first serve basis. Participating youth should dress in athletic attire.

February 25th K-2nd grade 10:30-11:30 AM; 3rd-5th grade 12:00-1:00 PM - Literacy Lunch and Learn for Parents - Hosted by our district Literacy Coaches, parents interested in learning more about how the Common Core State Standards have changed the rigor of reading in the classroom, or if you're looking for ways to help your child at home you should attend these sessions! Don't miss this opportunity!

February 27th - Jump Rope for Heart - Students will participate in Jump Rope for Heart during their PE time, benefiting the American Heart Association. Donation envelopes have been sent home with students and should be returned to school on Friday, February 27th.

We Need Your Help! - Before February 27, we ask that you take 5-10 minutes of your time to go online and take a brief survey. The Georgia Parent Survey has 24 questions. Survey responses are anonymous and will be submitted directly to the Georgia Department of Education for analysis. Survey results are used for us to evaluate our current practices. We need the majority of our parents and guardians to participate for the results to be helpful. The survey works with personal computers, smartphones, or iPads. After you click on the link, you will use a drop-down menu to select Marietta City Schools and Hickory Hills Elementary School. Thank you for your participation!

Georgia Parent Survey: <http://apps.gadoe.org/schoolclimate/parents.nsf/Survey.xsp>

Affordable After-School Dance Classes Begin This Week! Spaces Still Available! - Register now for affordable after-school dance classes at Hickory Hills Elementary! Spaces are available for students interested in hip-hop, jazz, choreography, improvisation and creative movement. All classes are from 3:30-4:30 pm in the Hickory Hills Elementary dance studio and the reduced tuition rate is only \$30 for 8 classes. Come out and explore new ways of moving! If you would

like to register or have any questions, please contact Ms. Dunn at adunn@marietta-city.k12.ga.us.

4th & 5th Grades- Hip Hop with Patrice Bryant - 3:30-4:30 pm - Fridays- February 27, March 6, 20, 27, April 3, 17, 24, May 1

2nd & 3rd Grades- Choreography & Jazz with Christopher Hall - 3:30-4:30 pm - Wednesdays- February 25, March 4, 18, 25, April 1, 15, 22, 29

Kindergarten & 1st Grades- Creative Movement with Makeda Bryce - 3:30-4:30 pm - Thursdays- February 26, March 5, 19, 26, April 2, 16, 23, 30

Afterschool Enrichment Classes - Marietta Community School will be holding several afterschool enrichment classes from March - May. When your student participates in these courses, a portion of the proceeds benefit our school! Courses include tumbling classes, Young Rembrandts, computer programming, Taekwondo, and more!! Please see the attachment for the full course offerings and descriptions.

March 3rd-5th - Super Specials

Messages from our PTA...

Please remember to buy your 2014-2015 Yearbook! They are on sale either online at www.ybpay.lifetouch.com or you can request a form from the front office. The price is \$20 and all checks should be made out to Hickory Hills PTA. All students who pre-order their yearbook are invited to a signing party in May.

PTA is now selling Hickory Hills' Terrvis Tumblers! Support our school and purchase a HH Terrvis Tumbler for \$15.00. They are sold daily in the front office!

Vision: Inspire. Empower. Achieve.

Mission: To prepare students for life success through an academically rigorous environment enhanced with the arts.

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