



The Weekly Pellet

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Eastminster School

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APPLE FUN IN KINDERGARTEN

On Wednesday, September 26th, Mrs. Dye's and Mrs. Roger's Kindergarten class celebrated Johnny Appleseed's birthday. We learned many fun facts about Johnny Appleseed. His real name was John Chapman. He walked fields with bare feet, and he wore a pot on his head for a hat. John became Johnny Appleseed because he spread apple seeds wherever he traveled. In honor of Johnny Appleseed's birthday, Kindergarten made homemade applesauce and edible apple trees. We also used apples to make beautiful apple prints with paint. Finally, we tasted green, yellow, and red apples. We graphed our favorite type of apple. We found that our class likes green and yellow apples the best.

-Christy Dye and Amy Rogers

THIRD AND FOURTH GRADE NEWS

How do you make green slime? Can we blow up a container? What is a beaker? These questions will be answered for the third and fourth grade students on October 2 when we are visited by two chemists from Georgia Pacific Chemical. Scott Johnson and Randall White will be at Eastminster next Tuesday, lab coats and all, ready to perform a series of experiments for the combination classroom. The students have been learning the Scientific Process and the manner in which scientists discover new things through experiments. We are very excited to see these processes come to life through graduated cylinders and chemical reactions!

WEDNESDAY CHAPEL

Wednesday Chapel is a meaningful part of education at Eastminster School. Since our first chapel service of this year, eight Middle School students have participated as readers: Ray Brown, Zenobia DeCoteau, Jake Diaz, Sarah Jarwar, Sarah Myers, Kil-hwan Pyun, Reynolds Rogers and Sarah Catherine Rogers. Every Eastminster student will have the opportunity to do at least one reading during the school year. Our first homily from Dr. Pascavage, "If it is to be, it is up to me," gave students, teachers and parents a message to think about all year. During the past three weeks, Mrs. Troff, Mrs. Hill and Mr. Huebsch have talked about the meaning of the Eastminster crest and motto, "Excellentia Mentis, Corpus, Animus". Spiritual leaders of all faiths are invited to share a 5-10 minute homily at Wednesday Chapel. Contact Sue Troff at stroff@eastminsterschool.org with the name and contact information of yours and she will do the rest!

MAD CACTUS MEALS ON MONDAYS!

Starting Monday, October 8th Mad Cactus will be providing lunch for the students, but ONLY on Mondays. Options include burritos (chicken, ground beef, or fajita veggie) or quesadillas (cheese, chicken, or ground beef). As of now each order will also include chips and a yogurt, but these two items are subject to change. The prices range from \$2.50 to \$3.00. This is how it works. Each Tuesday (starting October 2nd) a lunch order form will go home with your child. Money and order forms are to be returned by Wednesday, and the food will be delivered the following Monday.

On October 2nd you will receive a flyer along with your order form to explain the process to you again. Hopefully this is just the start to a meal plan here at Eastminster!

TELL ME SOMETHING INTERESTING ABOUT YOU - PART 2

Did you know that Mrs. O'Loughlin, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Howell, Ms. Evans and Mrs. Christopher ALL grew up right here in Conyers, Georgia? Mrs. Troff is sure that more than one of our Rockdale County natives can remember spending their allowance at Almand's Variety Store! Another interesting "tidbit" about the Eastminster faculty is that they are *active*- Gail Hardwick likes to run early in the morning and play tennis whenever she has the chance. Since she was seven years old, Ansley Evans has been off to Vail, Colorado for ski and snowboarding vacations with her family. Ansley and Mollie Roberts both like to go biking. One last interesting thing about our faculty that might interest our EPTF - If they are looking for a special guest (think STAR) for the annual Casino Night in March, Gail Hardwick may be able to help out! Her brother-in-law is a HOLLYWOOD MOVIE STAR who is currently involved in the taping of four movies! In the front office, Mrs. Jones is the President of the Rockdale County Historical Society and encourages you to become a member of this non-profit organization. We will be opening up the Old Jail on Milstead Avenue to the public in early December as an Old Jail Museum. This has been a long-awaited goal of the Historical Society. She is the Festival Coordinator & Exhibitor Coordinator of the 27th Annual Olde Towne Fall Festival which takes place on Saturday, October 20th in the streets of Olde Town Conyers. Be sure to bring your family for a fun-filled day full of entertainment, children's activities, food, along with a variety of vendors selling their wares.

TRY ONE FREE STARBOUND DANCE CLASS!

Starbound will be holding one free Jazz/Hip Hop/Tumble dance class at Eastminster on Tuesday, Oct 2nd, 2007 from 2:45-3:30pm. All ages welcome. Registration information will be sent home with the students at the free trial class. Classes can be added based on registration. Please e-mail Tiffany at tiffanystarbound@yahoo.com or call her at 404-406-8864 to arrange for your child to participate in the free dance class.

NOTICIAS DE LA CLASE DE ESPAÑOL - NEWS FROM SPANISH CLASS

¡Hola! What a terrific start to our school year we are having in Spanish! The students are all very enthusiastic Spanish speakers, and the returning students have a very impressive memory of all they learned in Spanish last year. We have been reviewing songs, colors, shapes, and numbers (ask them to sing you the colors or shapes songs) and the alphabet in Spanish since school started. The lower school students have been practicing using the alphabet to spell words in Spanish (ask them to sing you the alphabet song in Spanish!) and are getting very good at spelling words they don't even know yet!

The kindergarteners have been learning colors, numbers, and how to greet each other in Spanish, and have also been learning some fun songs. They are so fun and interested in Spanish, and are all doing a great job of listening and learning!

The Middle School students have learned how to greet each other, talk about the date, tell time and count. Soon we will be jumping in deeper as we learn to speak, listen, read and write in Spanish. What a great group of students they are!

While at home, encourage your children to "teach" you what they're learning in class. Check the Spanish section of their notebooks for vocabulary lists and other items I will send home, so you will have a good idea of what topics we are covering. And as always, feel free to email me with any questions you may have... aappleby@eastminsterschool.org.

JUNIOR GREAT BOOKS

Great Books is moving into new adventures. The Kindergarteners have met a frog who is proud to say that she is the first frog to invent "travel by ducks", and the second graders have finally met the famous Squirrel Nutkin who left nuts all over the hallways of the lower school.

Middle School Students have also begun a new story about a man who chooses not to share his fortune with a village full of people.

Parents,

You can help your child excel with Great Books by asking the following questions:

Can you tell me about the story? And what happened then?

Who is your favorite character? Why?

What do you like about the story? What don't you like about it?

Does the story remind you of anything you've done or seen? Does it remind you of another story you've heard or read?

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Important Dates

October 1, 2007

Pizza at Cici's

October 2, 2007

*Independent School 101
Workshop (7:00 p.m.)*

October 5, 2007

Fall Break-School closed

October 11, 2007

Open House 7 p.m.

October 17, 2007

Picture Day

This week we celebrated the unveiling of the official Eastminster Ice Cream offered at Cold Stone Creamery. The Blue Team's concoction of Eastminster Chocolate Cake Mix narrowly edged out the Gold Team's offering of Eastminster Owl Supreme to become our official flavor. Be sure to ask for it the next time you visit Cold Stone.

Ray Brown offered a special prayer at chapel this week to help bring attention to one of our many good fortunes here at Eastminster. National Meet at the Pole Day was Wednesday, September 26. Ray did a nice job of reminding us how fortunate we are to be able to pray in school and not have the need to meet at the pole other than to greet our friends. Ray was very busy this week as she also handed off the Golden Shovel to Jake Diaz. Jake's efforts to help others by carrying books, opening doors and simply being a gentleman have not gone unnoticed. Thank you Jake for "digging in" to help promote a culture of helping one another. Jake was also busy reading, along with Kil-Hwan Pyun, at our weekly chapel. Thanks to both of these young men for their contributions to our service.

This week the Middle School visited Johnson Park where they showed off their aquatic abilities. Rumor has it that some of our kids have scales and fins! A good time was had by all. The Middle School is also getting better at managing our recycling program and sprucing up the commons. We are trying to emphasize Leave No Trace principles of back country etiquette in how we share our space on Eastminster campus and Earth campus. Currently, the students are building a rocking chair to help warm up their space.

Progress reports will go home with students on Friday. Please keep one copy and return the other signed copy to school with your child. The reports do not include grades, only comments regarding effort, participation, attitude and honor code. We are happy to be learning more about each other each day!

REMINDERS!

Eastminster Pizza Night at CiCi's Monday, October 1. The homeroom with the highest "funday" participation wins a free pizza party!! Eastminster will be closed on Friday, October 5th for Fall Break.

STUDENT SELECTED FOR LEADERSHIP FORUM

Reynolds Rogers has been selected to attend the 2007 session of People To People World Leadership Forum in Washington, D.C., this October. The People To People World Leadership Forum was founded in 1956 by then president Dwight D. Eisenhower to promote peace through international exchange.

The People To People World Leadership Forum helps prepare the world's most promising young people for the opportunities and responsibilities ahead. Reynolds will join other outstanding sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students from around the world to learn, be challenged and earn academic credit while exploring the most prominent monuments and institutions of the United States. Reynolds was nominated by Candice Frazier of Pine Street Elementary School based on her academic achievements and leadership skills. Reynolds attends Eastminster School and is the oldest daughter of Julie and Carter Rogers.

STUDENTS ATTENDING AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

If your child does not regularly attend the after school program please be sure to give Monya Newsome a couple days notice so she can plan activities for the week. We need to make sure we have enough supplies ,as well as, snack and drink to provide for the students. Monya makes her lesson plans one week in advance. Also, the cost for After School Care is \$10.00 a day.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL 101 WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS

In response to parent requests for more information about independent schools and how they work, the Eastminster Parent Teacher Fellowship is sponsoring a series of "Independent School 101" workshops for parents. These workshops will introduce parents to independent schools, help parents understand how independent schools work, and highlight the similarities and differences between independent schools and public schools.

The first workshop in the series, "Governance and Financing of Independent Schools, will take place on the evening of Tuesday, October 2nd in the Lower School Commons Area on campus, and will be led by Headmaster-Elect Dr. Darren Pascavage. Child care will be provided from 7pm until 8:30pm, and the session will consist of a presentation along with Q&A. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, please contact Charlotte Jones at 770-785-6780.

PICTURE DAY!

Individual and class pictures have been rescheduled for Wednesday, October 17!

ITEMS FOR SALE!!

Eastminster School on DVD AND on the Internet - In May and June of last school year some filming was done on our campus and two finished products are ready for viewing. Parents, teachers and students who attended the EPTF Ice Cream Social got a chance to see the DVD commemorating the 2006-2007 Eastminster School year. If you missed it, you will have a chance to see it at the next EPTF meeting on October 9th at 6:30 PM. If you want your own copy, send 25.00 (check or cash) to school in an envelope marked EASTMINSTER SCHOOL DVD. Copies will also be available at EPTF. Thanks to Darlene Palmer and Liz Grady for this making this special memory possible!

Also, check out our city's web site -www.conyersga.com. Look at the column to the left of the screen; click on "Come watch our Community Videos"; click on Eastminster School to see us!

Be sure to see Charlotte up front to purchase Eastminster Owl T-Shirts. Short-sleeve are \$10.00 and long-sleeve are \$12.00. Students and staff are allowed to wear the t-shirts on Fridays. Also, Eastminster School magnets for your vehicles are \$5.00.

See Charlotte up front.