

Hunters Horn



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President's Message

Maureen Becker

Happy New Year! We have an exciting year ahead of us at Hunters Woods with many opportunities for your family to have some fun together.

The fun starts with the International Festival, which is on Friday, February 1st. The event gives the students at the school a chance to celebrate their cultures and share them with others. Then we have the school play at the end of February. In March, there is skate night at SkateQuest and Talent Share. There are many volunteers working to put these together and more volunteers are needed. Please consider giving some of your time so that these events can happen for our community.

At our first PTA meeting of the new year, Mr. Ware gave an update on the PTA Cultural Arts committee. We are planning to bring in a poet as Artist in Residence, the Blue Jupiter Choral group for a visit to include a song with the 6th grade Chorus, and Poetry Alive will be coming back to the school. Mr. Ware is also going to be putting together a band uniform exchange for families in the spring. We also discussed the upcoming Silent Auction to be held in April, holding a family dinner before the Fine Arts night on March 11, and a HWES night at a Potomac National's game. The next PTA meeting will be on February 6th.

This year in Fairfax County the School Board and Board of Supervisors faces some tough choices on school funding. It is important to stay on top of what is happening at the county, state, and federal level and to make our representatives aware of our

concerns. In today's electronic age, it's easier than ever to be an informed advocate—sign up for electronic newsletters and alerts from the county council (www.fccpta.org), the Virginia PTA (www.vapta.org), the national PTA (www.pta.org), FCPS' legislative division (www.fcps.edu), even the General Assembly (legis.state.va.us). Ask to be put on your local and state legislators' email lists to provide feed-back throughout the legislative terms.

If you need to find out who your representatives are, you can check the FCPS, Fairfax County Government, Virginia General Assembly and/or US Congress & Senate websites.

See you around the school. Enjoy the snow and winter weather—before you know it we will be complaining about it being too hot!

Discover the World at HWES

Did you ever think you could go around the world in one evening! You can on February 1st at 6:30 PM at the annual Hunters Woods Elementary School PTA's International Festival! Be ready to pass through border control to celebrate the diverse cultures in the HWES community. Enjoy international music, dance, dress, and phenomenal cuisine as the HWES families showcase their diverse heritages. Through our annual International Festival you and your children can learn a bit more about the world we live in; a world which touches our lives on a daily basis. The International Festival fosters and develops an awareness of the broad scope of ethnic backgrounds of all in our community and promotes the bedrock of American citizenship and its ideals among people of all national backgrounds.

This year we are welcoming a country which has been absent from past International Festivals, the United States of America and its unique regions.

We would love to expand our world by having you showcase either your ancestral country or your region of the United States. Go ahead, be proud and show it off! Have no doubt about it, all would like to learn about where you or your ancestors came from. Bring a national game, dress in native fashion, bring photos, teach a student how to write his name in your native language. Use your imagination, the sky is the limit at this event!

More countries and states needed!

For further information or to reserve your space on the map, contact Andrew Chopivsky at andrewchopivsky@aol.com.

February Events

- 1 International Festival, 6:30 pm
- 6 Principal's Coffee, 6:30 PM; PTA Meeting, 7:30 PM
- 18 President's Day, School Holiday

March Events

- 1 Skate Night at SkateQuest
- 5 Principal's Coffee, 6:30 PM
PTA Meeting, 7:30 PM
- 7 Talent Share
- 17–21 Spring Vacation

HWES Skate Night, March 1st

Save the Date! Saturday, March 1st, Hunters Woods makes history with our first ever solo Skate Night event. This event has been so successful the past two years that we decided to make it a Hunters Woods-only family event. We will not be sharing the ice with another school, so there will be plenty of room for all our students, staff and families!! Prepare to tie up your skates and join us at SkateQuest of Reston from 6:10 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.. More detailed information to follow.

A Belated Thank-You or Two or Three

Thanks to Mr. John Hasel, owner/operator of the always-excellent Reston Trash Service, Inc., for generously stopping to pick up our numerous bags of compostable leaves and weeds left over from our Autumn Outdoor Workday.

Thanks to the good people of Reston's birding store, The Bird Feeder, for supplying us with free, kid-friendly and compost-ready old seed bags for use when our students work outdoors.

And a special thanks to Danny Rosemund, his family, his friends, and all those from Boy Scout Troop 1970 who worked over a very cold weekend in late November to install our new in-ground stone map of Virginia. You can see our state, Danny's Eagle Scout project, between the tall trees near the stairs that lead down to Door #2 of the school. Great work!

-Catherine Linberg, Outdoor Beautification Chair

Thanks from the Book Fair Committee

The Book Fair Committee would like to thank all who volunteered their time for the December Book Fair. This event is fun for students, teachers and parents. Its success is dependent on numerous volunteers whose time and hard work are greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who helped, and we hope to see you again in the Spring!

The Book Fair Committee

After School Winter/Spring Class Catalog

It is time to sign up for the new session of after-school programs! We have new and exciting classes, so remember to look for the After School Winter/Spring Class Catalog that you should have received in your child's Tues. folder! We look forward to another great session! **Registration due in the office by Jan. 30th, at 4 p.m..**

Hunters Woods Talent Share, March 7

Do you sing or dance? Do you plan an instrument or juggle? Do you write poetry or like to act? If so, this is the event for you!

Sign-up Deadline: February 6, 2008

Performance Date: Friday, March 7, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Rehearsals: Monday February 25, 3:15–5:30 p.m.

Wednesday February 27, 3:15–5:30 p.m.

Dress rehearsal: Wednesday March 5, 3:15–5:30 p.m.

- All acts must be less than three minutes
- The first varied 30 acts submitted will be included
- All acts must be age appropriate
- Lyrics must be approved by the Talent Share team
- NO Lip sync is allowed – background music must not have main vocals
- All accompanying music must be on its own CD
- All acts must participate in one rehearsal (which will be assigned) and the dress rehearsal.

To Participate:

- Complete the form below and return it to the PTA Talent Share Box located in the school office.
- EVERY participant must submit a form with parent approval.
- Acts will be notified by e-mail no later than February 12, 2008 (phone only used if e-mail bounces)

Parent volunteers are urgently needed!! Contact Delta Pelgrim at dpelgrim@gmail.com or 703-627-7847