

# Horizon Honors Primary School News

February 2010

## A NOTE FROM PRINCIPAL LAURA WANSTREET

### Thinking About AIMS

Even though we are feeling chilly now, spring will be here before we know it, and with spring comes standardized testing. No Child Left Behind federally mandates state testing for our nation's students. All students attending a public school in the state of Arizona are assessed in grades 2-10. HCLC 2nd graders will take the Stanford 10 assessments. The Stanford 10 is a national norm-referenced assessment covering language arts and mathematics. Students in 3-4 will take the AIMS DPA (Arizona Instrument Measuring Standards Dual Purpose Assessment). The AIMS DPA is a combination of AIMS criterion-referenced assessment questions developed by Arizona educators and based on the Arizona Academic Standards, and questions from the Stanford 10.

HCLC 2nd graders are scheduled to take the Stanford 10 the week of April 12th. It will take two days and will assess language arts (reading and writing) and mathematics. The format of the Stanford 10 is multiple-choice.

HCLC students in grades 3-6 will take the AIMS DPA during the weeks of April 12th and April 19th. The AIMS DPA will assess language arts and mathematics and the format for both are multiple-choice. The state of Arizona has changed the writing assessment for AIMS this school year. Students in grades 3, 4, and 8 will not take the writing portion of the AIMS test in 2010. Only students in grades 5 and 6 will take the writing portion. The writing test requires students to write one extended response based on a given prompt or topic. Students in grades 4 and 8 will also take the AIMS science test at that time.

The AIMS portion of the test is scored as follows:

- Exceeds the Standard
- Meets the Standard
- Approaches the Standard
- Falls Far Below the Standard

In order to pass the AIMS test, a student needs to "Meet" or "Exceed the Standard." The Stanford 10 is scored using a percentile compared to a national norm.

It will be important to mark your calendars for the weeks of April 12th and April 19th. These will be the weeks our students will be taking their assessments. Students perform their best when they have had a good rest the night before and eat a healthy breakfast. Parents can also go to the Arizona Department of Education Website at <http://www.ade.state.az.us/AIMS/students.asp> for more information including sample tests and student guides.

Because the AIMS DPA and Stanford 10 are based on the Arizona State Standards, HCLC teachers are preparing our students all year long. These tests, along with other less formal assessments given throughout the year, give parents and teachers information about a child's progress and help to identify areas for improvement. We expect to have the results by the end of the school year and to be able to share them with you at your final ILP conference.

Laura Wanstreet - [laura.wanstreet@horizoncl.org](mailto:laura.wanstreet@horizoncl.org)

## Upcoming Events

Spring Pictures:  
Feb. 2 & 3

3-4 Field Trips:  
Silver – Feb. 3  
White – Feb. 18  
Black – Feb. 22  
Blue – Feb. 24

Kinder to 1st Grade  
Parent Orientation:  
Feb. 4 @ 2:15 p.m. in MPR

4th to 5th Grade  
Parent Orientation:  
Feb. 4 @ 3:15 p.m. in MPR

1-2 Field Trips:  
Blue – Feb. 11  
Black – Feb. 12  
Silver – Feb. 16  
White – Feb. 17

Presidents' Day (NO SCHOOL):  
Feb. 15

School Roundtable:  
Feb 25 @ 6 p.m. in MPR

*More upcoming HCLC events can be found on the HCLC Web site.*

## School Values Schedule

Week of February 1:  
Perseverance

Week of February 8:  
Dedication

Week of February 16:  
Humor

Week of February 22:  
Responsibility

## YEARBOOK PHOTOS NEEDED!

Elementary Yearbook Club would like to request photos of PreK-6 students participating in school events. We need pictures of Band and Chorus performances, Pride/VIP events, Socials, morning meetings, and other typical classroom or outdoors events. Please visit this Website: <https://images.jostens.com/>, and then use the following info to upload: User ID: 400029183 and Password: eagles. Thank you!

## KIWANIS BOOK DRIVE!

HCLC is providing boxes in both offices for the Kiwanis 7th Annual Book Drive from February 12 through March 12. The books received will benefit local Head Start programs, Gila River Indian Reservation, and homeless shelters in Phoenix. Thank you in advance for your contributions to this wonderful community outreach venue.

# What's Happening in 3-4 Math?

In Math this quarter students are doing a project on the stock market. Students recently learned about ticker symbols, buying and selling stock and the difference between the NASDAQ and NYSE. Students will have the chance to "purchase"

shares of eight different toy company stocks. Throughout the quarter students will be tracking their stocks to see if they have made a wise investment. Be sure to ask your child what stocks they have purchased.

## MUSIC NOTES

During third quarter, 3-4 students will be going on a field trip to hear the Phoenix Youth Symphony. During our music unit, we will play recorders and prepare to hear the symphony by listening to the music, reading composer biographies, and doing activities related to each piece or composer. Our focus this quarter is on expanding our recorder skills and relating our own musical knowledge to a live performance at the symphony.

1-2 students are circling up and singing songs around the campfire this quarter. To complement their unit on the western expansion, we will be singing songs of the American West. In addition to learning these folk songs, we will integrate Technology by recording our performances and learning to listen objectively to our own voices, as well as other instruments in the classroom.

## FIELD TRIPS, FIELD TRIPS, FIELD TRIPS!

3-4 has three field trips this quarter! Our first field trip is to Stuffington Bear Factory where students will be learning and taking part in the manufacturing process. The dates for this field trip are:

Silver - Feb. 3 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

White - Feb. 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Black - Feb. 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Blue - Feb. 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

For our second field trip we will all be attending the Phoenix Youth Symphony on March 4 from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Our last field trip will be on March 8 to Pecos Park for the Fun Run. This will run from 8:40 to 10 a.m.

## 2010-2011 ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

Your child will bring home a 2010-2011 Re-Enrollment Form on February 4. Siblings of returning students requesting new enrollment in 2010-2011 must be added to this form. In order to maintain your child's enrollment and ensure siblings receive full enrollment preference, please return this form by February 9.

Families will be contacted February 11 regarding new sibling registration. In the past, HCLC has been able to accommodate all siblings requesting new enrollment. However, a sibling lottery will be held if there are more siblings than spaces available.

If you are enrolling siblings, please prepare now to complete the following registration process. Within one week of enrollment notification, you will be expected to have this information complete:

- Complete a Registration Form in our Main Office between 7:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
- Present an official birth certificate
- Satisfy state immunization requirements (see the HCLC Web site or office for specific information)
- Schedule an assessment (Grades K-9)
- Submit copies of last report card or transcript and the most recent standardized test results (New Grades 6-11 siblings)

Questions? Please contact Darlene Gaudette [via e-mail](#) or at 480-659-3004.

# Are you a member?

We need your support. Join Soaring Eagle Society today!

SES helps fund programs that make HCLC unique.

Your support helps make the difference in the lives of our students. We are counting on you to help make that difference.

Donate to the HCLC Soaring Eagle society TODAY at <http://www.horizonclc.org/docs/soaring.pdf>



Thank you to our 2008-09 members who helped:

- continue our amazing Art program
- add mounted LCD projectors in classrooms
- add our first Engineering class
- continue our fantastic Drama program
- add a beginning Guitar class
- continue our excellent Band program
- add a Photography class
- continue our awesome Graphic Design class
- continue our Project Group classes
- continue our wonderful Choral program



# SAVE THE DATE FOR SPRING FLING!

**Spring Fling 2010**

**Friday, April 30 from 5 to 9 p.m.**

**Tickets on sale April 1st-15th**

\$13 - all-ride wristband (pre-sale price)

\$8 - non-ride wristband (pre-sale price)

To enter the event EVERYONE must purchase a wristband. Prices increase after April 15th. Please note that students involved in an athletic group, club or extra-curricular activity that will be fundraising during the event should contact their coach/staff sponsor prior to purchasing a ticket.

The HCLC Spring Fling Carnival is a school-wide event that is on our school grounds. Please join us for a fun night that offers carnival rides and games for the entire family. This is an event you won't want to miss. HCLC athletic groups and clubs fundraise during this event by selling treats and trinkets.

This event is made possible by volunteers like you. If you'd like to be a part of planning this exciting event or the day of the event we'd love your help. Contact Mona Volden at (480) 659-3098 or at [mona.volden@horizonclc.org](mailto:mona.volden@horizonclc.org).

**February 2010 Volunteer of the Month:**

**Karin Vigesaa**

**Congratulations and thank you!**