



**Paw Prints from the Principal
Duncan Elementary School
April/May 2011**

Hello, Duncan Wildcat Families! Where in the world has the year gone? Duncan Wildcats have been busy at work and enjoying each other's company along the way. We have a very busy rest of the year planned, so I encourage you to carefully read the information/ newsletter from your child's teacher, as well as this newsletter.

As you know, our school board voted to excuse three of the student make-up days. We are now back on schedule with the original district calendar-Friday, May 27th will be the last day of school.

We want to continue to build a strong partnership with our families and look forward to next year's endeavors. Remember, there is no membership fee for taking part in your child's education here at school; all you have to do is say "yes" when contacted. If you are willing to serve in a leadership capacity, please contact Lynn Vaughn at 439-8733/809-6018 or dojustly@bellsouth.net.

Our SIC/Title I Committee will meet on Thursday, May 5th at 9:30 a.m. to review our school's progress and plan for next school year. In preparation for this process, our Title I Parent Surveys were distributed on Thursday, April 21st at our Family Art & Literacy Night. We use this information to guide our planning.

Did you know Title I funds sponsor our Family Nights



Thursday, April 21, 2011

and many other wonderful things....



Mrs. Railey, K/5 Literacy Interventionist



Ms. Curnane, Parent Educator



Full Day K/4 Classes



Early Bird Computer Program



Mrs. Labelle, Literacy Interventionist



Book Give Aways for all of our Students

Remember, as we begin to plan for next school year, that while we do not take specific requests for teachers, I do encourage you to send me a letter describing your child's learning needs academically, socially, and emotionally. We will use this information in addition to many other important pieces of information to make the very best placement "fit" for your child. Your child's best interest is our top priority.

We continue to have many wonderful events planned for our students and families. Information will continue to be sent home on a regular basis with important dates. **Please see the snapshot of important dates below that you'll want to place on your family calendar. Look for more details in your child's newsletter. Thank you for your understanding if changes become necessary with these events. We will notify you as soon as possible in the event of a change.**

- Friday, May 6th 4th grade Arts Day
- Monday, May 9th PASS Testing for 3rd and 4th grade -ELA Reading & Research
- Wednesday, May 11th PASS Testing for 3rd and 4th grade -Math
- Thursday, May 12th- PASS Testing for 3rd Science or Social Studies and 4th grade-Science
- Friday, May 13th PASS Testing for 4th grade-Social Studies
- Tuesday, May 17th 9:00 a.m. K/4 Awards (last day)
- May 20th-Spring MAP Window Closes; Field Day & Relay for Life Celebration
- Wednesday, May 25th 8:15 K/5 Awards; 9:45 1st grade Awards; Last full day of School
- Thursday, May 26th 8:15 2nd grade Awards; 9:45 3rd grade Awards; 11:25 dismissal
- Friday, May 27th 8:15 4th grade Awards; 11:25 dismissal; Report Cards sent home; Last Day of School

Included in this "Paw Prints" is our Annual Report to the People for the previous 2009-2010 School Year. Please take time to read through the accomplishments of our students and school family. Don't hesitate to contact me (Susan.Hill@spart5.net or 949-2373) if you have questions.



Annual Report to the People for the 2009-2010 School Year

“Wildcat Wows”

- Met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) per federal expectations set for student achievement data (PASS).
- Jennifer Rivera was the Terrific Kid of the Year for Duncan Elementary School.
- Duncan Elementary School provided the following extracurricular programs: Wildcat Chorus/Drama, Creations, K-Kids, and our “Early Bird” Extended Day Program.
- Duncan Elementary has a total of eight teachers who have earned National Board Certification.
- Shirley Hames, First Grade Literacy Interventionist, was named Duncan Elementary School Distinguished Reading Teacher of the Year
- Lisa Russell, First Grade Teacher, was named Duncan Elementary School Teacher of the Year.
- Francine Pullen was named Duncan Elementary School Support Employee of the Year.
- Title I funds provided Interwrite Boards for our Kindergarten and First Grade Classrooms.
- Title I funds provided Interwrite Pads for our Second-Fourth Grade Classrooms.

Our Duncan Wildcats Care

- Duncan Wildcats’ “Relay for Life” Team raised \$5,899.91 for the American Cancer Society.
- 22.41% (17.7) of our employees participated in the first Relay for Life 5K sponsored by FCA.
- United Way participation by the staff was 100% (fourth consecutive year) with contributions totaling \$3,343.00

MAP (Measures of Academic Performance) Goals for 2009-2010

- The percentage of students meeting their individual target goals on MAP in reading and math will increase each year.
- All students will show significant gains in reading and math (specific attention given to the strand within each content area rather than overall score).
Data walls in 2nd-4th grade classrooms display this information.

*** (Our overall goal for all of our students is that they develop strong academic minds, as readers and in the area of math at the conceptual level; and that they become individuals of strong character.*

State Report Card

Duncan Elementary School received an Absolute Rating of “Average” on the SC School Report Card. We met 17 out of 17 objectives; therefore, we met “Adequate Yearly Progress” as defined by the US Department of Education for the third year in a row. Our Growth Rating was “Good”, which means that our school’s performance “exceeded the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision”.



**Student Achievement Update
Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)**

Percentage of Students Meeting Standard

	ELA		Writing		Math		Science		Social Studies	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2008	2010
Grade 3										
School	74.1	81.7	63.5	77.7	56.2	65.1	51.6	62.3	69.5	71.4
District	85.1	82.6	68.8	76.4	73.7	75.5	70.3	62.5	77.1	79.6
State	78.0	80.7	68.9	71.0	67.1	70.0	61.6	55.7	74.4	73.2
Grade 4										
School	77.7	75.7	75.2	77.1	84.6	78.6	71.5	68.9	78.0	69.9
District	80.7	80.9	78.6	77.3	84.6	83.4	76.1	77.5	85.6	80.2
State	75.6	76.5	70.1	72.3	76.8	76.7	68.7	69.3	79.8	76.2

**Duncan Elementary School is a Title I School-wide Project.
Our School Improvement Council (SIC)/Title I Planning Committee**

Lynn Vaughn
Tiffany Blackwell
Teresa Baxley
Melissa Brannon-Onofre
Jennifer McGuire
Mary Lee
Ana Ceasar
Austin Barnett
Chief Ryan Cothran
Richard Kelly
Sis Walters
Susan Curnane
Debbie Kelly
Jennifer Sumerel
Belinda Snow
Jeanette Price
Mary Troisi
Susan Hill
Shirley Hames (Chair)

The mission of Duncan Elementary School is to promote student success and respect by providing a total educational experience that benefits students, parents, and the entire community in a safe and friendly environment.