

Helms Elementary- Monday Memo ~Week of September 3, 2012

From the desk of Principal, Mrs. Del Pilar: Thank you all for a wonderful first week of school. Your collaboration and patience are greatly appreciated! Our school day starts at 8:00AM. Tardies are marked at 8:05AM. Parents are asked to drop your child off. If you would like to walk your child into the building, please keep in mind that you may only go as far as the foyer. During dismissal, for your child's safety, parents are asked to remain in their cars or behind the fence from 2:45-3:15PM. If you would like to speak to a teacher, please schedule a meeting during his/her conference period. Please adhere to our dismissal procedures and dress code policy which are going home again today. I would like to invite you to Open House where you will have an opportunity to learn about our campus goals and visit classrooms from 5:30-7:30pm on September 12th. We invite every parent to take an active role in helping our students **Go for the Gold** in the 2012-2013 school year.

Highlights:

- School hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 3:15 PM. There will be five early dismissal days during the school year. These dates are: Oct.12, Nov. 9, Jan. 11, 2012, Feb. 29, 2012, & April 18, 2012. On these dates, students will be dismissed at 12:45 PM. Do not drop off students prior to 7:30 AM unless you have enrolled them in fee-based Morning Care Program, which begins at 7:00 AM. Please call Mr. Preston at 713-867-0820 to inquire about morning care or after school clubs.
- At 7:30 AM, Pre-K- 2nd Grade students report to the hallway of their classroom 3rd –5th Grade students report to the cafeteria
- The tardy bell rings at 8:05 AM. Being on time to class is an expectation. This week we will begin issuing tardy passes at 8:05 AM.
- Student ID Badges are to be worn daily and replacements are \$2.00
- Late dismissal begins at 3:30 and students are dismissed from the main entrance. Students that are not picked up by 3:45 will be taken to the After School Program and parents will be required to pay any fees that apply. Students that are not picked up by 6:00PM will be reported to Child Protective Services and HISD Police. Helms administration will follow directives given by HISD police and CPS regarding actions to take with children that have not been picked up.
- The light blue color shirt is no longer part of the Helms Dress Code. Shirts are to be tucked in. Helms spirit shirt or College t-shirts may be work **Only on Fridays** with solid color blue jeans.
- Please return all papers that were sent home filled out and signed, including the "Lunch Application". If you opt out the lunch, please draw a line through and write "I don't want it".

From the Library

Parents/students please remember to return your **Millionaire Club Reading Log** to Mrs. Hardin, Helm's Librarian by September 10th. Students who do not have their official Millionaire Club Reading Log may write down 5 books they read over the summer, have their parent sign it, and turn into Mrs. Hardin.

From the Nurse's Desk

- 1.) Parents, if your child has a health issue or needs medication during the school day for a chronic condition, please speak to the school nurse. HISD has a specific policy regarding medication administration. Please, NEVER send medication with your child to school. Due to the recent West Nile Virus cases, HISD will permit students to bring mosquito repellant LOTION. Students are responsible for the application of the lotion. Please DO NOT send mosquito spray or aerosols to school. For further information, please see the HISD website.
- 2.) Due to many factors, I am discontinuing the uniform recycle program. Therefore, I am no longer accepting donations of uniforms or other clothing items. For Pre-K & Kinder parents, please make sure you have a change of clothing for your child in your child's classroom.

Helms PTA

The Helms Parent and Teacher Association invites you to be an active PTA member. For more information regarding membership, please contact Mrs. Claudia de Leon, PTA president. The 4th Annual Helms Family Camp-Out will be from September 28 - September 30, 2012 at the Doublelake Recreation Area Coldspring, TX Pitch a tent and camp or just come for the day! Lots of fun for the whole family including swimming, fishing, hiking and bike trails! \$10 per family. More information and registration forms are available on the Helms website or in the front office. Questions? contact Kim Martinez at kmartinez2@hotmail.com or 832-867-4804

Monday	September 3rd Labor Day – No school
Wednesday	September 5 Purple Back Pack Meeting
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Purple Back Pack" Meeting 8:30AM – Come learn how to participate in this program which provides a weekly book, cd, and family activity that will support language acquisition in English and Spanish while creating a family learning experience.
Thurs/Fri	September 6 & 7 Grandparents Day Celebration- Grandparents come have lunch with your grandchildren during their lunch time!
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prek, 3rd, 4th, and 5th will be on Thursday, September 6th K, 1st, 2nd and Ms. Allietta will be on Friday, September 7th
	UPCOMING EVENTS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 12 –Open House – 5:30-7:30PM • September 14 – Coffee with the Principal – 8:30AM • September 15 – Fiestas Patrias Parade & Hems Community Celebration . VOLUNTEERS needed. Please contact Mr Guadalupe Mendez, fourth grade teacher and event coordinator at 867-5130, or Mrs. Claudia de Leon, PTA president. • September 17 - Fall Holiday – No School. • September 20 – PTA General Meeting 6:00PM • September 21 – Donuts with Dad in honor of National Fathers Take Their Children to School Day 8:00-8:20AM • September 24 – Progress Reports go Home • September 25 – Parent Math Workshop 1st and 2nd Grade 6:00PM • September 26 – Early Dismissal • September 27 – Parent Math Workshop 3rd 4th and 5th Grade 6:00PM • September 28-30 – Helms All School Family Camp Out

HISD does not discriminate in regard to race, color, national origin, age, gender or disability.