

## HALLSVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Principal's Newsletter

Karen Jimerson, Principal

Dear Hallsville Primary Families,

It's the season of Thanksgiving, a holiday originally set aside to give thanks for the harvest. When I was growing up, my family lived on a small farm in northeastern Arkansas, and I learned to appreciate the meaning of this celebration as it was first intended. My parents were share croppers – they worked the fields and harvested the crops for a share of the profit. We lived in an old house that sat in the middle of the farm, and because it was built in the early 1900's, it lacked many modern conveniences. Actually, it lacked *most* modern conveniences, but my siblings and I really didn't know that at the time. There were six children in my family, and we had a wonderful childhood. I have fond memories of so many things – like playing tag in the moonlight and eating homemade popsicles on the front porch. Looking back on those years, I know now that by social standards we were poor but by all the standards that really matter, we were very rich.

Neither of my parents completed high school. My dad took on the responsibilities of an adult at the age of fifteen when his father died suddenly leaving a wife and six children. My mother fell in love with Dad and dropped out of high school to marry him before he was deployed to the Pacific during World War II. Their lack of education was probably a key factor in the importance they placed on schooling for their children. Our family dinner (we called it supper) conversation was always about what happened at school. If my siblings and I couldn't tell Dad something we had learned that day, he would suggest that he needed to talk to our teachers to see what we were doing wrong.

You have heard the saying "Actions speak louder than words." Dad wanted to be sure that he gave us every opportunity to excel, and his actions spoke volumes. While we lived in that old farmhouse without indoor plumbing, we owned two sets of new encyclopedias. During the years before internet and mass media, encyclopedias were the best source of information available, and those books were prized possessions. Our parents empowered us to find our own answers and solve our own problems, and the older I get, the more I admire their insight and wisdom.

As parents and teachers, we should never underestimate the impact we have on the success of our children. Let's be sure they know how confident we are in their abilities and how proud we are of all their accomplishments, and may we all be thankful for the limitless opportunities that lie ahead for them.

Wishing you a happy Thanksgiving,

*Karen Jimerson*

## ***Dates to Remember. . .***

- November 4                      PTO Fall Festival - Primary Building - 4-7 p.m.
- November 10                    Veteran's Day Assembly - West Gym - 9 a.m.  
*(Primary students will ride the bus to the main campus for the assembly.)*
- November 11                    No School (Professional Development Day)
- November 23-25                No School (Happy Thanksgiving!)



Dear Families,

Welcome to the Hallsville Primary School Library Media Center! Your child will come to the library media center every week to learn information literacy skills, hear quality pieces of children's literature, and borrow library media center materials. Each child can check out two books at a time. It is important for your child to return his or her books the day before the library visit. Please post your child's library day on the refrigerator or a place that is visible.

I have greatly enjoyed meeting all of the children during the first few months of school, and it is fabulous to see their enthusiasm about books and reading!

Cynthia Jones

### **~ Parents as Teachers ~**

If you have an infant or toddler 3 months to 34 months of age who has not had a developmental screening, please call (573)696-5512 ext. 631 to schedule an appointment with a Parents as Teachers educator.

## Counselor's Corner

Welcome to November and the second quarter of school. I enjoyed meeting with many of you during our parent/teacher conferences last month and celebrating the success of your little ones.

With October being Red Ribbon Month, we spent guidance class time discussing healthy lifestyles and medicine. Children discussed the importance of only taking medicine, when needed, from a safe adult. We also discussed and practiced making "just right choices" for ourselves. The culminating activity was a fun and inspirational magic show. Chris Eggleston, the speaker, reinforced the choice to be drug free during his short assembly. Each student also received a red ribbon and a drug awareness activity coloring book donated by our local Elk's Lodge in Columbia, MO.

In November, we will be learning about courage and what it takes to make and be a good friend during our weekly guidance lessons. We will also continue to focus on modeling and expecting good behavior from our students at Hallsville Primary. We will do this by reinforcing students who are found being safe, respectful and responsible during the school day. These are very important character traits and your children are practicing these daily as they go about their school day. Take time to notice our winners who were caught being safe, respectful and responsible. Their pictures are posted on our "Wall of Fame" down the main hallway of our school.

Have a wonderful November and Thanksgiving break!

As always, give me a call or send an e-mail if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child or the Primary Guidance Program.

Sincerely,

Torrie L. Vroman

*\$\$ Please continue to save \$\$*

*Box Tops, drink pouches, and Campbell Soup labels*

*for our school. Thank you!!*