

# Hallsville Primary School

May 2012

## Principal's Newsletter

Dear Hallsville Primary Parents and Guardians,

As with every school year, May is a busy month at Hallsville Primary. This week, we have had guests for breakfast, volunteers for lunch, and an evening art show and music concert. At the center of our busy schedule are final academic assessments and plans for summer school and the start of a new school year in August. The students at Hallsville Primary have learned so much, and it is exciting to compare their achievement levels from the beginning of the year with their levels now. You have been such an important part of this learning and growth. Thank you for all the support and encouragement you have given your children this year!

The close of the school year always brings changes to our building. Children are leaving us to move on to the intermediate school, and one of our staff members will be making the move with them. Mrs. Nicki Klasing, our Title I reading teacher will be working with intermediate students next year, and Mrs. Jennifer Lindsey will be coming from the intermediate building to work with our primary students. We will miss having Mrs. Klasing at the primary every day but know that our first graders will be happy to have her with them as they move on to second grade.

There is another teacher who will not be returning to Hallsville Primary in the fall as Ms. Kay Strodtman has announced that she will be moving over the summer. Ms. Strodtman has been a dedicated member of this school for eleven years, and her contributions have gone well beyond the classroom. Her upbeat personality and warm smile will be missed when the new school year begins, and we wish her much success and happiness in the future.

Summer brings lots of opportunities for family fun and relaxation, and I hope that you all have wonderful adventures in store for the break. Continuing a regular routine of reading, writing, and math is important to keep skills sharp over the summer. Summer school is a wonderful way to keep the learning going if your family's schedule is open during those weeks in June. There's still time to enroll! If not, please set aside time for reading each day with your children, and encourage them to find math facts in their daily routines. Learning can be a lot of fun!

Have a wonderful summer! I will look forward to seeing you soon.

With appreciation for your partnership,

*Karen Jimerson*

Safe

Respectful

Responsible

## *Counselor's Corner ~ May*

“Itchy, itchy, scratchy, scratchy, twitchy, twitchy, catchy, catchy” these are the warning signs of tattle tongue. Tattle tongue is what could happen if one tattles too much or so the story goes. I have been reading the story A Bad Case of Tattle Tongue by Julia Cook to our students during guidance classes here at Hallsville Primary. Ask your child if they can tell you about tattle tongue. It is a delightful story about a little boy who tattles all the time causing his tongue to itch and turn yellow with bright purple spots. His tongue grows longer and longer each time he tattles. Thankfully, our main character, Joshua Jacob Jones, gets help from the Tattle Prince who teaches Joshua the tattle rules. Rule #1 Be a Danger Ranger-if a person or animal is in danger, you must warn someone! Rule #2 Be a Problem Solver-if the problem involves you, take charge and try hard to solve it yourself first. Rule #3 Now or Later-Is the problem a now problem or a not now problem? Can your problem be solved at a later time? Rule #4 M.Y.O.B (Mind your own beeswax)-if the problem is not dangerous and it does not involve you do not tattle. The students had a chance to make their own Joshua Jacob Jones tattle tongue puppet. We had fun practicing ways to stop ourselves from tattling with our puppet. Hopefully you won't see any yellow and purple tongues wagging down the halls of Hallsville Primary.

Next up in guidance class will be a unit on safety. This unit is a little more serious. I discuss some safety tips with students from being safe in the sun to stranger safety. Students are taught to be aware of people they don't know and how they should never go anywhere with people they don't know. These hot tips help keep cool kids safer with people they don't know and people they kind of know.

I hope your family has a safe and happy summer. Spend some time together making memories that last a lifetime. See you in August!

Torrie L. Vroman  
Primary School Guidance Counselor

*Please keep saving Box Tops and  
Campbell's soup labels over the summer.  
Thanks for helping our school!!*

## ***Better Hearing and Speech Month***

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month. This year, I will be visiting each class during health class to talk about speech and hearing. We will be looking at models of the brain and the ear and learning how these control our speech and hearing. We will be learning about what can be done to prevent traumatic brain injuries—and the speech, language, hearing, and swallowing disorders that may result. Wearing bicycle helmets and using proper restraints while riding in cars are two important ways to prevent traumatic brain injuries that we will be talking about.

We will also talk about how to avoid hearing loss caused by noise exposure. Over ten million Americans have hearing loss because of excess noise exposure. With the increasing popularity of mp3 players, millions of children are at potential risk of noise-induced hearing loss. Listening to headphones at high volumes for extended periods of time can result in lifelong hearing loss.

The loss may occur painlessly and gradually. Often it goes unnoticed until it is too late.

During the Health classes, we will be looking at some interesting websites, such as:

<http://www.bmweducation.co.uk/sots06/pupils/cyclesafety.asp>. If you look at the cycle safety menu and click on #7 *Spot the Mistakes* you will see an interactive picture about bicycle safety.

There is other good information on the cycle safety menu at this website.

We will also look at a sight to learn how loud sound has to be to cause damage to your inner ear:

<http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/hearing/Pages/sound-ruler.aspx>.

At [www.listento\\_yourbuds.org/How-the-ear-works](http://www.listento_yourbuds.org/How-the-ear-works) you can watch a short video about the ear works. The [listento\\_yourbuds.org](http://www.listento_yourbuds.org) website has other good information about preventing hearing loss.

I am excited about talking to all of the students about protecting their brains and their ears! If you have any questions about your child's speech, language, or hearing, please feel free to contact me at school. You may call the Primary School (696-5512 x 602) or e-mail me ([cmuckerm@hallsville.org](mailto:cmuckerm@hallsville.org)).

***Cindy Mucherman, Speech Pathologist, Hallsville Primary School***

### *~ Dates to Remember ~*

May 11	No School
May 15	Fun Run
May 23	Kindergarten Awards Assembly - 12:45 p.m. First Grade Awards Assembly - 2:00 p.m.
May 23	Last Day of School

