

## Calendar of Events

May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Papers go home
May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	ZFest Student Night
May 7 <sup>th</sup>	At-home textbooks are due
	Library books are due
May 11 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> grade lunch
May 15 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> grade field trip
May 16 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> grade field trip
	Papers go home
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> grade honors program
	5 <sup>th</sup> grade field trip
May 18 <sup>th</sup> @ 9:30am	5 <sup>th</sup> grade honors program (Fellowship Church)
May 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , & 24 <sup>th</sup>	Early Dismissal @ 12:55pm
May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> grade Field Day
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup> grade Field Day
May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Report Cards go home
	Last day of school for students

## Ancillary News

### In the Library

Congratulations to the AR Point Club members!

#### 200 points:

Angela Dardenne

#### 100 points:

Caroline Claassen  
John Thompson

James Gantz

#### 50 points:

Michael Mahan  
Madison Welch  
Dana Smalley  
Ty Doiron  
Haley Mixon

Kristina Bynum  
Jimmy Masterson  
Bianca Pierre  
Delaney Brady  
Emily Claeboe

#### 25 points:

Ellen Johnston  
Audrey McFeron  
Murphy Miller  
Jacqueline Odom  
Benjamin Serrett  
Hailey Dickerson

Emily Borg  
Mariah Clayton  
Hayley Hancock  
Martin Fontenot

PE

There will be an optional \$2 Free Dress charge on Field Day.

# Pride of the Colts

May 2007

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## From The Principal

Over the Easter holiday, I had the opportunity to fly in a small aircraft (Piper Saratoga). It was a new plane, and it was loaded with technology. I sat in the front seat next to the pilot. With my headphones in place and my body securely buckled, the plane sped down the runway and lifted off with ease. I was a little nervous, but I tried not to show it. Being "nervous" seems to be a more tolerable description than saying I was "scared". As we began our ascent, a loud warning buzzer went off in the cockpit. The pilot did his thing (looking at flat screen monitors and pushing buttons). I did my thing (sat quietly, prayed, and allowed the blood from my head to visit the southern regions of my body). The pilot informed me that the warning was a result of a conflict between the navigation system and the autopilot. A few pushed buttons later the buzzer silenced, and the color returned to my face. I was very thankful for the buzzer and the skill of the pilot.

Wouldn't it be great if more things came with warning buzzers? After all, most problems are conflicts in the path we should take (navigation system) and the desire to do what we want to do (autopilot). Can you imagine being in a restaurant and hearing a buzzer go off at the next table. The person with the buzzer tells the waiter that they will have to skip dessert because the buzzer is indicating their approach to overeating. Would we see people excuse themselves from the mall or the golf course because a buzzer indicated a problem with their marriage and more time was needed at home? It would be a great idea to have a warning buzzer on our children before they become teenagers. If I could patent this technology, I would be a wealthy man and there would be no more fundraisers at Copper Mill.

Although I like the thought of wealth, I began to feel a little guilty. You see, warning buzzers already exist in these areas and more. When we do not take care of our bodies, they generally will let us know. Relationships do not generally fail

without first crying out that a problem exists. If we look closely at our children, we will find more warning buzzers than the space shuttle. Why then do we not heed the warning? I think that we do not listen to the warnings because syndromes have invaded our lives. Here are just a few:

- Snooze syndrome: This syndrome tells us that we still have time. We can put a quick slap on it, and fix it later. If we are passive, we can just put the pillow over our heads.
- Symphony syndrome: The sound of the buzzer is cute. So, the three year old sticks her tongue out at an authority figure. Bless her heart, but isn't she cute. She's just being three.
- Search Syndrome: There has to be another reason besides the obvious for my shortness of breath..., my depressed spouse..., my child's inappropriate behavior. I must find the source and who is responsible.
- Someone Else Syndrome: This syndrome says that if it goes off long enough and loud enough someone else will turn it off. This one is the saddest and many times the most costly. Doctors, counselors, churches, schools, and police work at turning off the buzzers. It is true that someone will address it, but the cost is tremendous at times.

Take some time and listen to the buzzers in your life, and do something about them. I have to do the same. The part about the three year old and the tongue was not just made up. (Sorry again Ms. Myrna)



*Dewey Davis*

## News From The Classes

### 4th grade

It will not be long before summer vacation will be knocking at our doors. However, it is important for fourth grade students to stay focused during these last weeks of school. Promotion to 5<sup>th</sup> grade requires fourth grade students to pass reading, math, and two other subjects on their report cards. Along with the report card requirements, each child must pass the LEAP test with a minimum of Basic or Approaching Basic in the areas of Reading and Math.

In the area of reading, students will work on the following skills: skimming, scanning, vocabulary in context, cause and effect, making inferences, graphics, exaggerations, classifying, categorizing, and references. Language will continue with poetry, writing a how to paragraph, and experiencing fun with plays and reader's theater. In spelling, plurals, possessives, suffixes, compounds, continents, and nationalities will be addressed.

As for math, students will be focusing on multiplication and division. It is important for students to know their facts to work these problems in math.

In science, the students will research and study about whales and the rainforest. Louisiana History will be the focus of study in social studies. Students will learn about other states and construct a booklet. In culmination, we will take a field trip to the Port Hudson Historic Site on May 11<sup>th</sup>. In order for students to participate, they need a "C" or better in conduct and lunch money must be paid. This should be a fun and educational trip to end the year.

Presently, our fourth grade classes are experiencing the arts through poetry. Beth Foos, the poet, will be visiting the classes with poetry lessons inspired by science. These lessons should be exciting and motivational.

Finally, our new school has been an exciting and an awesome place in which to teach and learn. The fourth grade teachers would also like to thank our parents for their support and help in making our first year at Copper Mill a memorable one.

### 5th grade

There has been a lot of excitement at Copper Mill! Grandmother Marguerite brought the children back to the 1800's. The children churned butter, used a washboard, and created handmade dolls. Still to come are Challenger trips, the 5th grade awards program, and the Alligator Bayou trip.

The end of the year is almost here, but the hard work still continues. ELA teachers are encouraging students to complete their reading goal of 30 books and math classes are working on division and fractions. Students must continue to do their best

because middle school is right around the corner.

#### 4<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Program Schedule

**9am:** Graham, Tortorich, Trantham, Fields, Parker, Mitchell, Potts

**10am:** Helmick, Walters, Wells, Washington, P Miller, Black, G Miller, Moore, Byrd, Atkinson

### Miscellaneous Information

- Our school nurses now have a website where you can access important documents and view FAQ's! You can view it from the "Teacher Pages" section of our website.
- The "Links" page of our website contains many free search engines that are age-appropriate for our students. Please check it out and take advantage of these services.
- 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade Orientation for the 2007-2008 school year will be on August 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> at the following times: Girls @ 9am, Boys @ 1pm. Please mark your calendar for these important dates.