

# MUSTANG MESSENGER

October-December  
2011

[www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us/HopkinsES](http://www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us/HopkinsES)



Learning ★ Leading ★ Succeeding

## Principal's MESSAGE...

Greetings Mighty Mustangs!

We hope you enjoy this first edition of our school newsletter. We will send out quarterly as a means to keep you informed of events happening at Hopkins Elementary.

We are off to a fabulous start, and it has been wonderful to see our students and parents participating already in the many opportunities available for you all so far this year at Hopkins, such as: Open House, Parent Conferences, Parent Center Sponsored Nights and our PTA events. Routines are already in place and quality learning is taking place each day.

Our faculty continues to focus on providing high level instruction that integrates reading and writing throughout the content areas. Ongoing professional learning will take place for faculty members throughout the school year focusing on developing inquiry based classrooms where students are encouraged to analyze, think, write, create, and be positive leaders and role models.

I want to encourage all of you to continue to stay involved in your child's educational life by participating in the parent workshops and family events offered through our parent center and PTA programs. These opportunities will focus on educating parents on our school initiatives that impact students and will assist you with strategies you can implement at home to help your child be successful in school, as well as allow you to participate in activities together as a family.

Our wonderful Local School Technology Coordinator, Susanna Zumbro, will continue to update our school web page for Hopkins Elementary that will provide ongoing instructional links and other items to our students and parents the resources to learn more about our educational goals and initiatives. Make sure you are using our web page, the Parent Portal, and listening to our phone messages sent from the school to keep you informed.

I want to thank our fantastic PTA for all of their help in getting this year off to such a great start! Angelica Ovalle and her team have been instrumental in making certain our students and teachers are supported in every way. If you have not joined PTA, you may do so by sending in \$5.00 for your family membership. Place the money in an envelope addressed to PTA with your name, your child's name and their teacher's name. We are hoping to have 100% participation from our Hopkins families.

Penny Clavijo

**From  
Our**

**Parent  
Teacher  
Association**

Dear Hopkins Families,  
I would like to thank those of you who were able to participate in our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Flea Market. It was a success! We plan to have another one in the spring, so save those treasures to sell then!

We will begin having Skate Along Spirit Nights again! Our first one will be on Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Our Fall Dance will be on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Hopkins' Holiday Shop will be December 5<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to look for more information on all of these events in your child's Friday Folders!

These events and more are made possible through our PTA. If you have not joined, please do so. The cost is only \$5 per family, and it is such a worthwhile way to support your child, their teacher, and your school! Thank you for your support!

Angelica Ovalle  
770-564-2661

# 2011 Teacher of the Year

## Jessie Kelly

Mrs. Jessie Kelly is our Hopkins Elementary School Teacher of the Year!



Mrs. Kelly teaches science lab to all of our Hopkins students, and focuses on hands-on, inquiry-based science. Mrs. Kelly attended Clemson University for her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education with an emphasis in Science Education, and earned her Masters of Science from Walden University. She loves the fact that she teaches more students science in the state of Georgia than any other teacher! When she's not at Hopkins teaching science, Mrs. Kelly enjoys spending time with her husband, Chris, her children Parker (2 1/2) and Catherine (11 months), watching Clemson football, sewing, and learning to garden.

# 7 Habits of Happy Kids

This year Hopkins continues to focus on building leaders through discussion of the **7 Habits of Happy Kids** by Sean Covey. These habits are emphasized throughout our school on a daily basis. The counselors are teaching the 7 habits each month through a weekly message on the morning announcements. The habit we focused on for September was **HABIT # 1: BE PROACTIVE**. When you are **PROACTIVE**, you are in charge of your own actions. You choose your actions, attitudes, and moods, you do not blame others for your wrong actions, and you do the right thing without being asked, even when no one is looking.

The habit for October is **HABIT #2: BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND**. When you begin with the end in mind, you have a plan for how you do things. You decide what your goals are first. Imagine what you want, then get started.

The habit for November is **HABIT #3: PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST**. When you put first things first, you decide what is most important, and do that first. You spend your time on things that are most important, and say no to things that are not.

The habit for December is **HABIT #4: THINK WIN-WIN**. When you think win-win, you have the attitude that everyone can win. You not only think about what you want, but also have consideration for what others want. When conflicts arise, you think of a 3<sup>rd</sup> alternative. Students will have a chance each week to be **"caught" exhibiting the habit of the month** by teachers and staff members at school.

Stay tuned for more healthy habits as our school year continues!

## The 7 Habits of Happy Kids



*Welcome Back!*



# Counselor's Corner

*We, the counselors at Hopkins Elementary, are excited about the 2011-2012 school year!!*

*Ana Hoyos (grades K and 1)*

*Regina Harris (grades 2 and 4)*

*Marcella Rickett (grades 3 and 5)*

*Meredith Weitnauer (attendance and special programs)*

**You are the expert when it comes to your child.** But, as your child's school counselor, we can offer support in several ways. We conduct classroom guidance lessons, individual and group guidance, teacher and parent consultations, and coordinate several programs for students throughout the school. We are here for the students, which also means being available to you. Please call your child's counselor if we can be of assistance to you in guiding your child through school. We are looking forward to a successful year here at Hopkins!

### **Gwinnett County Guidance and Counseling Standards and Competencies...**

The competencies describe what students need to know and be able to do as a result of participating in a developmental guidance program. Guidance programs facilitate student development in three broad content areas. These are identified as follows: Educational, Career, and Personal/Social.

To see a list of the Gwinnett County Counseling Competencies, please visit:

<http://www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us/advounselweb.nsf/pages/CounselingStandardsCompetencies>

### **Counseling Programs (Important Dates to Remember):**

***Red Ribbon Week: October 24-28, 2011***



Red Ribbon Week is October 24-28<sup>th</sup> this year. The focus of Red Ribbon Week is to educate and unite students to be drug-free. Hopkins's theme this year will be "We Pledge to be Drug-Free!" We will have daily themes throughout the week that you will receive more information about as the week approaches. Thank you in advance for helping to unite the Hopkins community against drugs this year!

# CLUBS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



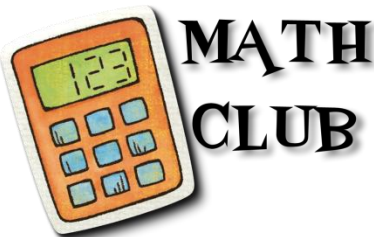
Meets Every other Thursday/3:30-4:30 p.m.  
Sponsors – Tracy Snow & Katie Van Laningham

Drama Club is made up of 20 students in 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade, who are learning about putting on shows and working together. Our goal is to have commercials on our morning news show and 2 performances in the spring. Stay tuned!



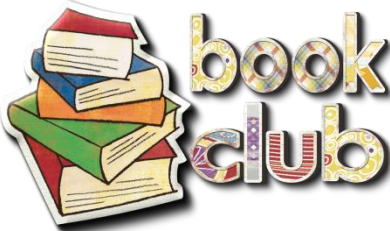
Meets Every Wednesday/3:00-4:15 pm  
Sponsor – Lauren Dart

Soccer Club alternates grades 2/3 and 4/5 each week.



Meets Every Monday except school holidays /7:15-8:00 am  
Sponsor – Jeanne Fanning

Math Club is for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade students. We play math games and have fun using math in many different ways!



Meets Every Friday/7:00-7:30 am  
Sponsor- Yolanda Lyons



Meets Every Thursday/7:00-7:30 am  
Sponsors – Kayla Cason, Monika Millard, Amanda Diehl, & Ashley Richards

Location – Ms. Cason's Classroom



## WITZZLE PRO

Meets Every Monday from 7:15-8:00 am  
Sponsors – Vicky Tettlebach & Tracy Gatling

Wizzle Pro is a club for fourth and fifth grade students who enjoy solving number puzzles. The children are challenged to use higher level thinking skills while playing a challenging game of "number crunching." Students use cards and dice for a quick game of equation building.



Meets Every Tuesday/7:30 am  
Sponsors – Vicky Tefflebach & Lori Tucker

Our AMBASSADORS will be doing a variety of workshops and projects throughout the year. Ambassadors will participate in several community service projects. At the same time they will learn responsibility, leadership skills, and communication skills. This is a program that will benefit individual students as well as the entire school.



Meets Every Thursday/7:00-8:00 am  
Sponsor – George Streitenberger

For students in 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade



Meets Every Other Monday/After school until 5:00 pm  
Sponsor – Lauren Dart

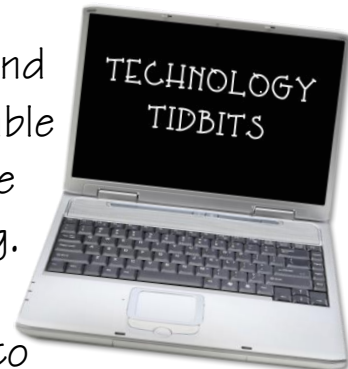


## CHORUS

Meets Every Wednesday/7:00-8:00 am  
Sponsor – Todd Clark

Our Holiday Concert is December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm!

We are so excited to be using Study Island, Education City, and Successmaker (to name a few) as support and enrichment for our students! CRCT Online will be available soon so that your child will be able to practice at home for the standardized testing that occurs in the spring. More information will be coming soon. Education City Homework Passes are also a great way for students to practice the Academic Knowledge and Skills (AKS).



# Parent Center News:

Hopkins Parent Center is open and we've had many parents check out materials. In addition to math and language arts materials, we also have booklets that are parent guides to help children with homework, reading, learning responsibility and succeeding at school.

Call or come by for more information:  
Maria J. Rodriguez Miller  
at 770-931-5726

# Noticias del Centro de Padres:

El Centro para Padres esta abierto y varios padres han pasado por aquí a ver los materiales. Además de los materiales de matemáticas y lenguaje, tenemos guías para que los padres ayuden a sus hijos con las tareas, la lectura, y las responsabilidades de los niños.

Llama o pase por el centro para más información:  
Maria J. Rodríguez Miller  
Al 770-931-5726

## Parent Center Highlights:

- Great Variety of materials available for checkout
  - Bilingual PISC
  - Bilingual Parent Liaison
- Monthly Parent Education Nights
- Community Partnerships
  - Literacy Material
  - Mathematics Material
- Parent English Classes
  - Family Resources
- One on One assistance
- Family Outreach services
- IEP/SST Parent Support
  - PTA Support

## Centro de Padres detalles:

- Variedad de materiales disponible para prestar
  - PISC bilingüe
  - POL's bilingüe
  - Noches de Padres
  - Material de Lenguaje
  - Material de Matemáticas
- Clases de inglés para padres
  - Recursos familiares
  - Asistencia individual
- Servicios de enlace o divulgación comunitaria
- Apoyo para padres en IEP/SST
  - Apoyo al PTA

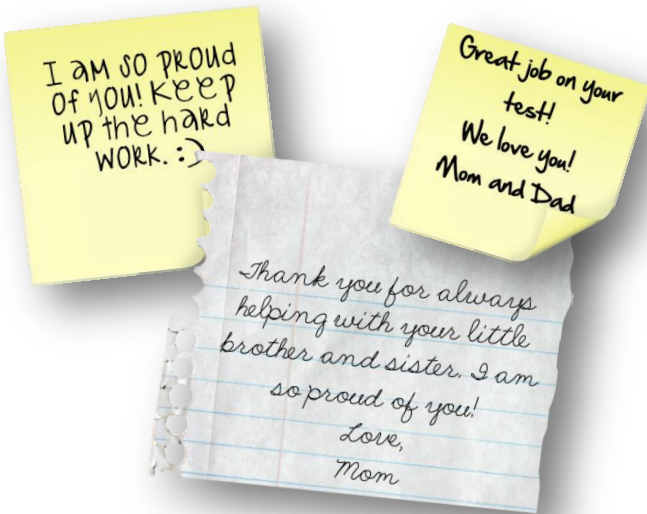


Please continue to send in your Box Tops for Education! We are raising \$\$ for Hopkins!



# Be a Bucket Filler!

This year we have embraced the 'Bucket-filling' concept. The idea of bucket-filling is outlined in the book "Have You Filled a Bucket Today?" The premise is that all people have an invisible bucket (their self-esteem) that can be filled with "drops" by others who do or say kind things. Buckets can also be dipped into when people are unkind or hurtful. We can help to protect ourselves from bucket dippers by using our lids. When we help to fill the buckets of others, we fill our own too. The concept is easily understood by even the youngest elementary students and helps to create a positive, encouraging climate for learning and growth. We encourage you to embrace this concept at home and write "drops" (notes) of encouragement to your child and each other.



November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9				13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21						
28						

# Hopkins Happenings!

## October

- 17-26 ITBS Testing/Make-up Testing
- 31 Box Tops for Education Due
- 3-Dec. 9th Parent Center will be open for parents to take the Intranet version of the Parent Survey on school computers

## November

- 2-8 Book Fair Week
- 10 Picture Make-Ups
- 21-25 Student/Staff Holiday
- 30 Box Tops for Education Due

## December

- 7 Holiday Chorus Concert 7:00 pm
- 8 PTA/Skate Along Night 5-8 pm
- 16 End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Nine Weeks
- 19-Jan. 2 Student/Staff Holiday

What information can you access about your student through the go2 Portal?

- Attendance
  - Grades
- Course History
- Test History
  - Schedules
  - Discipline

[go2.gwinnett.k12.ga.us](http://go2.gwinnett.k12.ga.us)

GCPS' Parent Portal: The new go-to source for Gwinnett parents

¿Qué tipo de información puede obtener acerca del estudiante en el go2 Portal?

- Asistencia
- Calificaciones
- Historial de cursos
- Historial de exámenes estudiantiles
- Horarios de clases
- Disciplina

Su escuela le ofrecerá detalles adicionales, como también información para inscribirse.

[go2.gwinnett.k12.ga.us](http://go2.gwinnett.k12.ga.us)

# Get YOURS Today!

Only  
**\$10.00!**

These are just a few of the many games that you can play at school and at home if you have the HOMEWORK PASS!



**Hopkins Elementary School**

<p><b>Upgraded!</b> Potion for Moti...</p> <p><b>Math 2nd Grade</b></p>	<p><b>Upgraded!</b> Mrs. Cow's Milk</p> <p><b>Math 4th Grade</b></p>	<p><b>New!</b> Volcanoes</p> <p><b>Science 6th Grade</b></p>
<p><b>New!</b> What letter is it? Tool</p> <p><b>Learn English 3rd Grade, S...</b></p>	<p><b>Upgraded!</b> Picnic Stop</p> <p><b>Science Kindergarten</b></p>	<p><b>Upgraded!</b> River Deep</p> <p><b>Language Arts 6th Grade</b></p>
<p><b>Upgraded!</b> The Orange D...</p> <p><b>Learn English 5th Grade</b></p>	<p><b>Upgraded!</b> Cloze Tool</p> <p><b>Language Arts 2nd Grade</b></p>	<p><b>Upgraded!</b> Supermarket</p> <p><b>Math 3rd Grade</b></p>
<p><b>New!</b> Cash Dash</p>	<p><b>Upgraded!</b> Granny's Farm</p>	<p><b>Upgraded!</b> Shiver Me Timb...</p>

Complete the order form and send to school with \$10.00 to receive your Homework Pass!  
(2 students/same family = \$15.00)      (3 or more students/same family = \$20.00)

## HOMESCHOOL PASS Order Form

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Received \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Received by \_\_\_\_\_



**Office Use Only**  
Pass Allocated \_\_\_\_\_

