



HUFFMAN HERALD

A Note From the PTA President

Happy New Year to everyone and I hope you enjoyed the much needed break because the activities are about to rev up! You will start seeing lots of opportunities coming home in the YO packet to get involved and I hope to see lots of you signing up. Also, the Plano ISD Education Foundation is hosting their annual Ski Plano event on Saturday, January 31st at 6:30 pm. This is a great event to mix and mingle with community leaders and friends. If you are interested in attending please let me know because we are going to try to

get a couple of Huffman tables for the evening.

Be on the look out for information regarding the Family Festival and Auction. It is coming a little earlier this year and we are looking for your assistance to make it a great family event.

I am looking forward to the start of 2009. Go Huffman Hawks!

Susie Learmont,
Huffman PTA President
president@huffmanpta.org

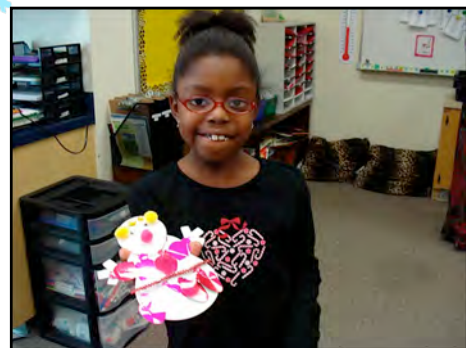
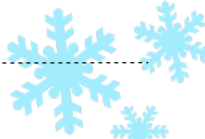
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Ski Plano

"An Extraordinary Evening on the Mountaintop" awaits guests at the Plano ISD Education Foundation's annual "Ski Plano" event to be held on Saturday, January 31, at Southfork Ranch. Don your favorite ski vests, sweaters and scarves and join your family and friends in a wintry fun night out with live band music, cocktails and dinner, silent and live auctions and an "Avalanche" snowball raffle. Proceeds will benefit the students, faculty and programs of Plano schools. Visit the Plano ISD Education Foundation at www.pisd.edu.

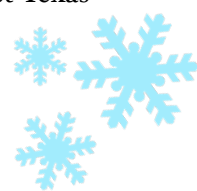


Snowman craft from the Winter Holiday parties



Thank You Gold Key Business Partners!

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Adventure Kids | Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas |
| Avon (KT Handley) | Equest |
| Burris Windows | Kids N Art |
| (Rob Breihan & Reed Ashmore) | Next Level Fitness |
| Charo Grille | Pump It Up |
| Children's Medical Center | Sweet & Sassy |
| Cub Scout Pack #265 | The Merlo Group |



PTA Membership Update

More than 30 years of research has proven that children do better when their parents are involved both at home and in school. Grades are higher. Test scores rise. Self-esteem grows. Schools improve. So to the 422+ PTA members of Huffman – congratulations for taking a great step in your child's future. Also, a big thank you for helping us meet and exceed our goal of 415 members. Great job!

Membership Drive Winner = Kindergarten!!!

Congratulations to the Kindergarten Parents for winning the membership drive competition for their kiddos! In January, the kindergarteners will receive a popcorn party to celebrate (too cold for extra recess right now).

Lifetime Members Chosen

Each year, the membership committee has the opportunity to bestow a lifetime membership to the Texas PTA to a few deserving parents and teachers. This year four parents and two teachers stood out for their passion and dedication to our Huffman kids. The recipients are Mrs. Bhattacharya – 2nd grade teacher, Mrs. Fawcett – 4th grade teacher, Susie Learmont, Zepur Ohanian, Margie Pisterzi, and Traci Koen. All six of our special honorees will be honored February 17th at the Lifetime Members PTA banquet.

ATTENTION 5th Grade Parents!

You are invited to attend a meeting at **Renner Middle School** to learn about the transition to middle school and what middle school life is like. You will also be able to meet a few of our sixth grade teachers and hear performances by our music department. While your child is certainly welcome, this meeting is primarily for parents. The fifth grade students will be visiting our campus during the school day after your meeting.

Since we would like to meet in reasonably small groups, please observe the following schedule:



Centennial
Tuesday, February 3
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Huffman
Tuesday, February 3
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Brinker
Tuesday, February 10
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Barksdale
Tuesday, February 10
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Wanted: Kindergarten Boys Soccer Players

Wanted: Incoming 2010-2011 Kindergarten boys interested in playing soccer this spring!

We have eight boys already on the roster, looking to add four more! Team has assistant coach, seeking Head coach!

Deadline: January 19th
E-mail: grmurth@tx.rr.com



Children’s Program Update

Spring Session of After-School Spanish!

Our wonderful friends at Spanish Schoolhouse will be providing this 9-week course that will be held on Wednesdays from 3:00 pm - 4:00pm beginning Jan. 28 and ending April 8 (No classes held on early release Feb. 25 or spring break). This program is open to K-5th graders and students will be placed into groups based on age and Spanish ability. Student teacher ratio of 8:1! The fee is \$108.00 for the session and you may register online at www.spanishschoolhouse.com or you can call 972-345-4210. **The registration deadline is Mon. Jan. 26.** Register early to secure a spot! Flyers went home to students last Thurs. or you may get one from the wall unit in the office.

After-School Science Moves To Mondays!

The next Science Adventures topic is Anatomy Academy! Mix a sports drink, build a working model of a muscle and test your lung power as you discover sports science! This 5-week program will be held from 3:00-4:00pm on Mondays beginning Feb. 9 and ending March 23 (No classes held President's Day Feb. 16 or during spring break). The cost is \$70 for this session and you may register for this class online at

www.scienceadventures.com or by calling 1-888-458-1812. **The registration deadline is 2pm Feb. 4!** There should be flyer included with the newsletter you are receiving today! There will also be some copies in the wall unit in the office!



Huffman Welcomes Congressman Sam Johnson

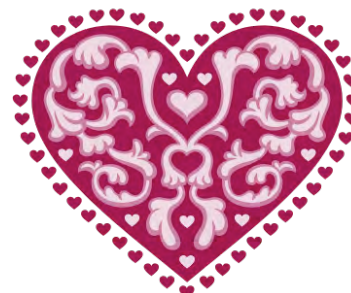
On Friday, January 16th Congressman Sam Johnson will be visiting Huffman Elementary to speak to students.

Students have prepared letters and handmade valentines for veterans and will be giving them to the congressman as part of the **Valentines for Veterans** program. Huffman was chosen this year to be an ambassador school for the program in PISD. Basically, we are a 'hub' for collecting valentines from other schools. We are looking forward to having a lot of valentines to give the congressman so that he may deliver them to veterans at the Dallas VA Hospital.

More information about the Valentines for Veterans program is available at www.valentinesforveterans.com. If you are interested in writing a letter or sending a valentine, send it to:

**Dallas Vet Center
10501 N. Central Suite 213
Dallas TX 75231**

Look in next week's YO packet for a follow up and pictures from his visit!



*New Kindergarten Mural
Painted by Claudia Montero*

Upcoming SAGE (Special And Gifted Education) Events

January 24: IEP Clinic from 10am-noon
@ Region 10, 904 Abrams Rd, Richardson.
Attendees must RSVP to
dallasdsg@sbcglobal.net

January 29: Brown bag presentation,
at noon
Mark Wellborn will address Emotional IQ
(EQ) @ Sockwell Center, Chapel Hill Drive
in Plano

**February 7: 1-4 pm: 2009 Expo –
Making Resources Available for
People with Disabilities** @ Garland
Special Events Center

**February 17: 5-8 pm Summer Camp
Fair** @ Bowman Middle School

February 25: Region 10 Special Education
Public Input and Information Meeting @
904 Abrams, Richardson. Register Online

Contact: info@huffmanpta.org if you need
further information, or visit the SAGE website
for Plano PTAs at: [http://www.pptasage.com/
index.htm](http://www.pptasage.com/index.htm).

Notes from the office

-Floral arrangements, singing telegrams,
balloons, etc. will not be delivered during the
school day.

-The office will deliver EMERGENCY
telephone messages. After-school plans must
be made ahead of time. If after-school
arrangements are changed, send a signed
written notice to the teacher. (If no written
note is received, the student will go home the
usual way).

-Parents, if your child forgets homework,
coats, etc., the school is open until 3:30 pm to
get the forgotten items through the front
door. After 3:30 pm Program Pasar (the after
school program) follows these same rules, and
therefore, will not be able to admit you.



JANUARY SPIRIT NIGHT

Thursday, January 29th- Happy New Year to
all our Huffman friends and families. Hopefully
everyone had a safe and happy holiday time!

A big thank you to everyone who has come
along to one of our spirit nights, over the last
few months we have had some great food and
fun. Now we are in a new year and the fun
WILL go on!

This month we return to one of our favorite
eating places, MOOYAH! If you have never
eaten here come along and try it.

You may ask "What is Mooyah?" – And their
answer is "Mooyah is Just burgers. Just fries.
Just better. That's it. We want to make the
best burger you've ever tasted. Period."

As usual, we will have some very special
guests. The 2nd & 3rd grade teams will be there,
so come and say hello to some of your favorite
Huffman teachers.

If this is not the night out for you and your
family, don't worry, keep looking for details of
February's spirit night.

If you have any suggestions of where you
would like to see a Huffman spirit night held,
please feel free to mail me the details at
fundraising@huffmanpta.org and I'll try my
hardest to sort it out.

See you on the 29th from 5:30pm at Mooyah
(6400 W Plano Parkway)!

Mel Durham, V.P. Fundraising
Huffman Elementary PTA
fundraising@huffmanpta.org

Upcoming Events

Skate Night

Our family Skate Night will take place on Thursday, January 15th at Thunderbird Roller Rink from 6 pm to 8 pm.



Math Night

Our annual Family Math night will be on Thursday, January 22nd. Dinner will be provided by Maggianos for \$1.00 per person so bring the whole family for a feast and great math strategies from the teachers.

Dinner is from 5:30 pm-7:30 pm and activities are from 6 pm -7:30 pm.

Science Fair

Science Fair projects are due on Monday, January 26th.

If your child enters the fair, judging will take place on the 28th while the Open House will take place on the 29th!





Isabel Martinez
*Award of Merit
 Reflections Winner*



Congratulations!

Isabel Martinez earned the Award of Merit (Council-level Award) for Reflections. The Council will have a reception in the spring to honor the Council-level award recipients and they will receive their Council Awards at that time. Great job, Isabel!



Huffman 5th Graders participate in organic recycling in the cafeteria



GEM AWARDS

*Going the Extra Mile
 for Huffman*



- Michelle Bennett
- Claudia Montero
- Jenny Weber
- Gayle Bird
- Shelley Coleman
- KT Handley
- Melanie Glickler
- Lara Ashmore
- Susie Learmont
- Amy Mitchell
- Jane Choppin
- Jennifer Kitka
- Jo Ann Compton
- Tanya Grant
- Claudia Eckert
- Andra Harris
- Carolyn Curfman
- Sandy Williams
- Jennifer Hall
- Nicole McCasland
- Jamie Burns
- Misty Stephens

Upcoming Calendar

January 7- 30
 MAP testing window for K through 5th grades

Thursday, January 15th
 Huffman Family Skate Night
 Thunderbird Rink 6 -8 pm

Monday, January 19th
 Student/Teacher holiday
 NO SCHOOL

Thursday, January 22
 Family Math Night
 Dinner 5:30-7:30 pm
 Activities 6-7:30 pm

Saturday, January 24
 SAGE IEP Clinic

Monday, January 26
 PTA meeting 9:00am -cafeteria
 Science Fair Projects Due
 After School Spanish registration deadline

Thursday, January 29
 SAGE Brown Bag Lunch
 Science Fair Open House
 Spirit Night- Mooyah

Saturday, January 31
 Ski Plano at Southfork Ranch

The Huffman Herald is the award-winning publication of the Huffman PTA.

Monthly newsletter submissions are due by the 25th of each month. Weekly calendar updates are due by Monday each week.

*Lara Ashmore,
 PTA Newsletter Chair
newsletter@huffmanpta.org*

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