

ELEMENTARY FOCUS FOR PARENTS

September 4, 2009

FROM LISA BROCK, THE ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

www.mtcscougars.org



IN THE NEWS

- ◆ Dallas Truelove, Brendan Jackson, and Cady Fields recently competed in a triathlon (a swimming, biking, and running event) at Sports Com. Congratulations!
- ◆ "Annie Get Your Gun" under the direction of Mrs. Louise Hickey was flawlessly performed by our students this summer! Great job!
- ◆ Our elementary Trapshooting Team recently placed 2nd in the Grand American National Championship. They had placed 2nd in the state prior to this. Our team is a part of AIM (Academics, Integrity, Marksmanship) which is associated with ATA (Amateur Trapshooting Assoc.) *Team members:* Taylor Bolin, Garrett Sweeney (placed 5th in his age level), Sam Mathis, Hunter Vaughn, Will Brown, & Nathan Smith. Thanks to our coach, Ritchie Bolin, and to our sponsor, Rob Mathis!!!

Got Music?!?!?

There is a reason why MTCS includes the arts in the daily instruction. The "arts" are considered part of the "core academic subjects" according to the No Child Left Behind act. I agree. So do most people who have looked at the research on this... and there is a lot of research:

- ◆ Students involved in the arts show increased academic performance, reduced absenteeism, better skill-building, increased self-esteem, and the development of much needed creative thinking and problem solving skills (*National Governors Association, May 2002*).
- ◆ *The U.S. Department of Education states* "It is well known and widely recognized that the arts contribute significantly to children's intellectual development."
- ◆ High school music students score higher on SATs in both verbal and math than their peers. SAT takers with coursework/experience in music performance scored 57 points higher on the verbal portion of the test and 43 points higher on the math portion than students with no coursework/experience in the arts. (*The College Board, Profile of College-Bound Seniors National Report for 2006*)
- ◆ Brain scans and other brain research indicates that music making offers extensive exercise for brain cells and their synapses (connections). It would be difficult to find another activity that engages so many of the brain's systems. Synapses between brain cells strengthen with use just as muscles do. There is good reason to believe that music making increases the brain's capacity by improving these synapses. (*Educational Leadership, Nov. 1998*)

Besides being good for them, music is fun! Be sure your children are taking advantage of the music opportunities at MTCS. General music instruction takes place PK-8th grade, with band and chorus offered 5th-12th. Got music?!?!?!? We do!

Hall of Famers

8/17 3 - Wooldridge
8/24 K - Hopkins
8/31 2 - Kennedy

Lunch Bunch

8/17 6th Grade
8/24 TK
8/31 3rd Grade

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ◆ SEPT 7—LABOR DAY, NO SCHOOL, NO Ext Care
- ◆ SEPT 9—Picture Retakes
- ◆ SEPT 19—MTCS WORK DAY—Please come!
- ◆ SEPT 23—1/2 DAY, 1:00-3:00, Teacher In-Service
- ◆ SEPT 28—Bible Bowl
- ◆ OCT 1—Jack-o-lantern Jack visits classrooms
- ◆ OCT 2—NO SCHOOL, EXT Care Open, PK-12 Parent/Tchr Conferences
- ◆ OCT 3—FALL FESTIVAL, 9:00AM until

Elementary Football off to Great Start!

All four teams are **undefeated** so far!!! Come out and support one or more of our teams! You can find the schedule on our website. Congratulations, young cougars!!! Thanks to our supportive cheerleaders, too!!

CLASS QUILTS

Take a good look at the precious class quilts hanging in the hallway! These will be sold at the Fall Festival Auction next month. Donna Haley, our art teacher, was responsible for getting the artwork done by the students for the quilt blocks. Edna Meadows (grandmother of Holly & Dylan Bowman) sewed several quilt tops together and bound the edges of all 20 quilts. Janie Harper took her time to purchase the material, cut it all out, and coordinated the project. Others helped to sew quilt tops together, and Patrons paid for them to professionally quilted. Be sure and bid on your child's class quilt (from last year) for a magnificent keepsake!!!

Our children will be future leaders. How they lead then will be determined by their past. Therefore, we must take advantage of the present. In Christ, Lisa Brock