

# Hawks' Eye View

December 1, 2011



## Small Fry at Henderson Mill Elementary School

As a part of our STEM initiative, Henderson Mill been the home to some very welcome guests this past 6 weeks.

In early October 2011, we received our second delivery of "Egg Eye" or "Egg Fry" from a Rainbow Trout hatchery in Washington State. Last Spring, HMES received a Labitat for our Fry and successfully raised 1,500 Small Fry, which were released into the Chattahoochee River.

This fall, we received almost 3,000 eggs, which have grown to Small Fry and were released Tuesday, November 15th. The release included a fourth grade field trip to The Chattahoochee River National recreation area, Paces Mill Unit. The trip included water sampling and testing of the Fry's natural habitat in comparison to our Labitat water; a discussion about Fry to Trout, what to expect, a fish release, and nature hike.

Students at Henderson Mill Elementary had an informational assembly to prepare for the arrival of the Fry. Fifth grade student representatives trained in the life cycle of the Fry and safe viewing procedures gave students tours of the Labitat and small classes.

Henderson Mill Elementary will be sad to say good bye to this Fry and will anxiously await the arrival of new Fry in the spring of 2012!



## 5th Grade Parents: Henderson Middle Hosts Tours for Parents

The Henderson Middle School PTSA will be conducting tours of the campus for parents of rising 6th graders on December 2, January 19, February 8, and February 14. Tours begin at 10 a.m. and will be followed by a Q&A session with principal, Terese Allen. An evening tour is also scheduled for February 2 at 6:30. Please plan to attend one of these events if your child will be attending HMS next year. For more information about Henderson Middle School, please visit [www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/HENDERSON](http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/HENDERSON).

## Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- **Friday, December 2**  
*Parents' Night Out*
- **Wednesday, December 7**  
*Wonderful Wednesday, 2nd Grade*  
  
*PTA Executive Committee Meeting 4:00 p.m.*
- **Thursday, December 8**  
*Holiday Candlelight Luncheon*
- **Thursday, December 15**  
*First Semester Awards Day (time varies by grade)*  
  
*Spirit Night at Jason's Deli 4:00 – 8:00 pm*
- **Friday, December 16**  
*Class Holiday Parties 1-2 pm*  
*Last Day of Semester*

## December Box Tops Collection

7:15am to 7:45am  
Thursday, December 15 or  
Friday, December 16

Please trim, pre-count and bag (mark with child's name/teacher and total number). Each student that submits 25 or more clippings gets a choice of prizes!

## Congratulations

Mrs. Na-Russ,  
Henderson Mill

Elementary 2012

Teacher of the Year!!

### Grade Level T-Shirts:

“Hawks' Pride” grade level t-shirts can be purchased on Friday mornings in the school store (7:15-7:45am). Shirts can be worn for field trips, spirit days, field day and more! Prepayment of \$5 and size selection required. Orders will be filled and delivered by the following Wednesday. Note: Adult shirts are \$10.

### Select Fridays Are Spirit Days!

We invite students wear their grade-level tshirts or other HMES shirts (field day, fun run, etc.) on the last Friday (regular school day) of the month!

#### Dates:

December 16

January 27

February 24

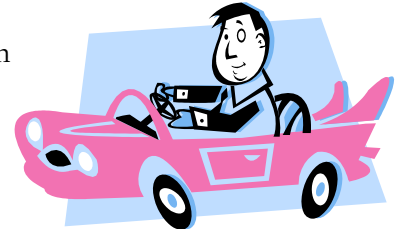
March 30

April 27

May 11

## Morning Carpool Safety Tips and Reminders

1. Parents need to arrive a little earlier (7:20-7:30am): cars are backing up from 7:30 to 7:45 and causing students to be tardy. 60% of students arriving through parent drop-off arrive after 7:30am. Frustrated drivers can eliminate their morning stress by arriving 5 minutes earlier.
2. Parents, please look where you are going when you pull away from the curb. It is unsafe to drive while watching your child walk into the school.
3. Drivers, please stay in line and do not pull around cars that are still dropping children off. This causes more of a backup when cars are pulling away from the curb and is dangerous as some parents are not looking when they pull out (see above). If everyone stays in line, the lines move smoothly and the chances for fender-benders go down.
4. All children should get out from the right side of the vehicle. If you have to help your child out of your vehicle, please pull into a parking spot and walk them across the drive.
5. Please be patient. Morning carpool can be hectic and frustrating – please read tip #1 again. By arriving 5-7 minutes earlier, you will start your day and your child's day with less stress!



**Thank you 3rd grade parents for the November Wonderful Wednesday snacks. The faculty and staff enjoyed them all immensely!**

### Help HMES Win \$50,000!

Please send this information to family, friends and co-workers – we need their vote!

Vote **two** ways EVERY day through Dec. 9, 2011. Texting is super easy if you have unlimited texting!

1. **Text to Vote.** To vote for HMES, text clorox8672 to 44144 Vote one time on SMS/text every day now through Dec. 9! \*\*Msg and Data Rates May Apply.
2. **Vote Online:** Click on <http://www.powerabrightfuture.com/gallery/detail/?nid=1404>

## Thanksgiving Day Letters of Gratitude

Henderson Mill Elementary students participated in the "Thanksgiving Day Letters of Gratitude to our Troops" campaign sponsored by The Bert Show of radio station Q100.

Every student, PreK - 5, either wrote a letter (or drew a picture) addressed to a soldier. The letters were thoughtfully written and expressed the students' heartfelt gratitude to the soldiers for serving our country. Some students referred to family members currently serving and expressed sadness that they would not be home for Thanksgiving.

We are so proud of our girls and boys for taking the time to express their appreciation to a soldier during this season of Thanksgiving.

### Results of the School Council Elections

New parent representatives:

Melissa Yeager replacing Tim McGaughey  
Victor Fiorsi replacing Ward Morse

New teacher representatives:

Ms. Celestaine replacing Mrs. Na-Russ  
Mrs. Punjabi replacing Mrs. Bennett.

Thank you Mr. McGaughey, Mr. Morse, Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. Na-Russ for serving on the School Council for the past two years. Your service is greatly appreciated!

## Join Spanish Club at HMES for 2nd Semester!

Wednesdays: grades 3-5 • Fridays: grades K-2  
7:15am to 7:45 am in the Media Center

Students will learn Spanish culture, language, geography and art! The club is currently meeting weekly, but second semester club meetings start on January 11, 2012 and continue through March 23, 2012. Only \$40 per student (for 2nd semester only = 11 weeks). **Registration Deadline: December 12, 2011.** Forms in this week's courier!

## Candlelight Luncheon December 8

Parents can come have lunch with their HMES student. Please check your grade-level newsletter for the assigned lunch time for each homeroom class. We appreciate your patience as our cafeteria staff provides lunch for many students and parents on this special day. Please bring cash to pay for your lunch: \$2.80 (adult) or \$1.75 (child)



## After School Chorus

Parents enjoyed the performance of the After School Chorus at the PTA Potluck two weeks ago. Dressed in their cowboy outfits - their dancing and singing added to the festivities.

If your child would like to join the after-school chorus in January, please email Beverly Blissit at [northlakechildrenschorus@gmail.com](mailto:northlakechildrenschorus@gmail.com). Next semester will add drama to the mix as they learn songs about American folk heroes. Club dues are only \$15 per family each month.

## Holiday Community Concert:

The HMES signers will join another 60 children in a community concert on December 4th, at 4:00 pm at Briarcliff Baptist Church (intersection of Shallowford and Briarcliff). The 30 minute concert of folk songs and holiday cheer will be followed by a bake sale fundraiser. For more information go online to [www.northlakechildrenschorus.org](http://www.northlakechildrenschorus.org)