

Mrs. Chapman's Weekly Newsletter
August 7, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been another busy but productive week at Leesville Elementary. Guided reading groups are in full swing as well as the new math adoption, Math Expressions. You probably are noting a slight return to the basics with this program; however, it is helping the students to develop the "why" in problem – solving. Personally, I like this series. For the advanced students, there are enrichment activities for each lesson which also stresses problem – solving at a higher level.

Our PLC's are working diligently. After I shared the disaggregated data from the testing department with the staff, each PLT has solidified their goal. The Kindergarten goal is focused on Literacy; the first grade's goal is Math; the second grade's goal is tabled for now to allow more time to delve deeper into the data; third grade will focus on at risk students in the area of Reading; fourth grade has targeted the AG students in Reading and the fifth grade PLT focus is reading with the emphasis on Science. What is nice about receiving this data is that we have evidence of those students who need interventions to grow and those students who need extensions. As is our mission statement, we are taking each child from where he/she is and moving him/her at least one year in the right direction. Students will reach their highest potential as we meet their needs.

Please remember to attend our Open House scheduled this Tuesday from 6:30pm – 8:00pm. Please go directly to your child's classroom. There will be two formal sessions. The first one begins at 6:30 and ends at 7:00pm. The second session begins at 7:10 and ends at 7:40pm. The staff will discuss expectations for class, homework, and behavior. Schedules will be shared as well. You will also learn more about your child's teacher and the goals he/she has set for your child. This is not a time for personal conferences. You may however schedule a conference with the teacher at a mutually agreeable time. We do want you to be in direct communication with us so together we can provide your child the best.

Thank you, parents, for not parking in the lower bus parking lot. It has created a much safer dismissal for our children. For the few parents who continue to park there, please follow this safety measure. It is not to punish you; it is to keep your children safe. I acknowledge that our carpool line is long; however, if you wait a few minutes to come to school, your wait time will decrease. Conversely, if you arrive a few minutes earlier than dismissal, your wait time will also decrease.

Noteworthy News:

1. **Return of Tracks 1 & 2 CitiPass materials**

All money, unsold books and additional orders for Tracks 1 & 2 are due next Tuesday, August 11th.

2. **CitiPass Volunteers Needed for Tracks 3 & 4**

Volunteers are needed for Tracks 3 & 4 CitiPass distribution on Tuesday, August 18th, at 9:05 a.m. Please contact Pam Hixson at pchixson@bellsouth.net if you can help.

3. **Picture Day** for Tracks 1 and 2 is Tuesday, August 11th.

4. Wednesday is an **Early Release Day**. Students are dismissed at 1:15PM.

5. The **Chess Club** will meet twice in August: Fri., Aug. 7, and Fri., Aug. 21 -- in the Media Center from 3:45 to 4:30 p.m. Interested students with some knowledge of chess are welcome to join and there is no cost to attend. For further information, please contact Astrid Flores, afloresda@gmail.com, or Rica Bilan, rica_bilan@yahoo.com.

6. The **Chess Club** meeting dates are: September 4, September 18, November 6, November 20, and December 4.

I look forward to seeing you Tuesday evening at Open House.

Enjoy your children. They grow quickly!

Cecelia Chapman, Principal