

### Extra, extra: read all about it!

In addition to regular class activities students are enjoying computer lab, physical education, Spanish, library and music classes. The students are learning new computer skills, games, and exercises in computer lab and PE. The students are learning how to say words and greetings in Spanish class. In library and music classes we are enjoying many stories and songs. Remember, reading everyday

to your child will help to increase attention span and language skills.

Parents can order color birthday posters for \$15.00. Students can bring these posters home as a keepsake to remind them of their wonderful years at NWE. Forms are available at the office.

The Scholastic bookfair and first AR nights will be held in October this year. These events are scheduled for the week of October 4-8, 2010. If

you would like to volunteer for book fair, your help would be greatly appreciated!

Interested persons can contact the school librarian by sending an email to [gay.bankston@zacharyschools.org](mailto:gay.bankston@zacharyschools.org) or by calling 654-2786. Please help support our school by recycling! We are collecting old cell phones and ink cartridges to be recycled for profit for our school. We also participate in the "Box Tops for Education" and "Community Coffee for Cash" programs. Please save these labels for us. Thank you for your support!

## Speech Spotlight

The children enrolled in speech therapy are currently participating in speech and language testing to determine their current levels of functioning. We are delighted to see some of our students from last year return, and we are ready to begin work with our new students.

Listed below are some suggestions for stimulating your child's speech and language skills at home:

- \*Talk to your child. Your child learns words by hearing you talk.
- \*Read books to your child. Talk about "who" is in the book and "what" they are doing.
- \*Be a good example. They need to hear you speak clearly and in complete sentences.
- \*Sing and listen to CDs. Children gain many new word meanings through singing songs.
- \*Give spoken directions. Start with one direction

When your child is able to understand one direction, add another. (Example: "Go to the table, and get a tissue.")

The speech therapists at NWES want parents to know that talking and listening times should be fun.

-----Christie Aguillard,  
and Leah Rettig

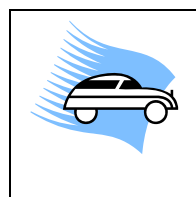
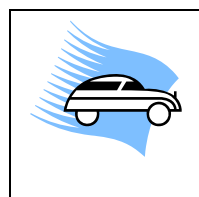
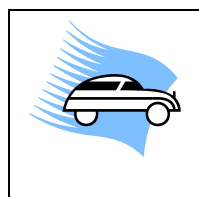
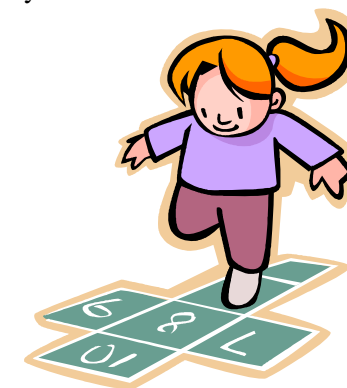
## Counselor's Corner

The school counselor at Northwestern Elementary is Dana Vicellio. She will see your children twice a month for guidance lessons. This year the students will be learning about the six pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. The counselor will also do individual and small group counseling and will be using some new interactive software with the children. If you have a concern about your child or would like to sign them up for individual or small group counseling, please contact the counselor at 654-2786.

## PE News

P.E. is off to a great start! We are looking forward to this year and are planning some wonderful activities to get all our bodies healthy and moving. We will be incorporating the "Smart Bodies" Program into our K and 1st grades curriculum. This program is partnered with the LSU Ag Center and Blue Shield of Louisiana. For more information, visit its website at

[www.smartbodies.org](http://www.smartbodies.org). We are also planning a Wellness Night and will invite all the Zachary community to come out and "get smart, get healthy' and get moving". We hope to see all of you at this event. Any one who wishes to volunteer, please contact Coach Burrell or Coach Simoneaux. We wish all a healthy and successful year!



### Car Riders VERY IMPORTANT!

Please make sure your child's name is clearly visible in the car window. All car pool riders must be picked up in the afternoon by 3:45 p.m. or the end of the car pool line.

Any students left after this time will be sent to Extended Day and parents will be charged \$5.00 until 4:00 p.m. After 4:00 p.m. parents will be

charged the usual fee of \$8.00. Extended Day is over at 5:45 p.m. Parents will be charged \$1.00 per minute for each child remaining after 5:45.



**First Grade is Fabulous!** We have had a wonderful time in first grade so far. First-Graders have been very busy learning school and classroom rules and getting into routines. They have been learning and practicing our

school's expectations: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Your Best.

In first grade, our days have been filled with lots of learning and fun. We have read many books that connect to lessons in our classrooms.

Chrysanthemum is a book that tied into a lesson about graphing names. We now know how many letters we have in our name! We have been identifying and writing

complete sentences correctly and extending and creating patterns. We have also been making and interpreting graphs.

First-Graders have begun to explore the five senses. We look forward to many more fun-filled days of learning in first grade.

Parents - Each Night Remember to: Look over your child's homework, Check their binders, and READ.



# NORTHWESTERN BRAVE BEAT



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## Important Dates

**September 2-**Buck's Pizza Night, PTO meeting at Coppermill

**September 3** – Free Dress

**September 6** – Labor Day Holiday

**September 14-**Star student lunch

**September 16** –Papers go home

**September 28-**1<sup>st</sup> grade field trip to New Orleans Children's museum and Zoo

**September 29-**1<sup>st</sup> grade field trip to New Orleans Children's museum and Zoo

**September 30** –Papers go home, Fall pictures

**October 1-** Free Dress

**October 4-8-** Book Fair

**October 5-**Pre-K/K Literacy Night 5:30-7:00

**October 6-**AR Night for 1<sup>st</sup> grade 4:30-6:30

**October 7-** AR Night 1<sup>st</sup> grade 4:30-6:30, Buck's Pizza Night

**October 11-**Fall Break

**October 12-**Teacher Conference Day-no students attend

**October 15-**ZHS Homecoming

**October 18-**Star Student Lunch, Raising Cane's Night 1<sup>st</sup> grade



## FROM THE CHIEF

Thank you to our parents, faculty/staff, community partners, school board staff and students for an awesome opening of the school year. A special thanks to our

volunteers who assisted during lunch time in the cafeteria. We thank our parents who attended our Parent Orientations and Meet and Greet.

Our teachers are working hard to provide your child/children with an outstanding education. The students are quickly learning routines, procedures and school rules. We are implementing our Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Program. The students are doing a great job. We are very proud of them. Thank you for sending us such wonderful children.

We encourage you to keep your Students Rights and Responsibilities Handbook and Student/Parent handbook to refer to if you have questions about school policies.

Some of our attendance policies have changed. The following is taken from pages 13 -14 in the Students Rights and Responsibilities Handbook:

Pre-K through Eighth Grade students will not be allowed to exceed ten (10) absences each school year. Absences of two or fewer consecutive school days due to personal illness or serious illness in the family may be validated by a parent written excuse note. If a student is absent for three (3) or more consecutive days, a student must present a note from a physician, nurse practitioner, or dentist to be excused. These new guidelines will not allow students to be excused for vacations or other family trips. If you have any questions about the new guidelines, please email or call me.



We welcome you to Northwestern Elementary. Kindergarten is off to a great start. This year we have a total of 17 classes of

kindergarten children. We have been busy learning school rules and our daily classroom procedures. We are making many new friends and having a wonderful time.

If you have not already done so, please be reminded to pay the \$50.00 kindergarten fee as well as the \$10.00

field trip T-shirt fee. We are looking forward to a Community Helpers field trip during September. We know this is going to be a fantastic year for your child. They will grow, learn, and mature so much during this wonderful time of their lives.