

# Holly Grove Herald

Dear Holly Grove Families,

I hope that all of the snow is behind us! It was beautiful and the time off was wonderful; however tracks 1, 2, and 3 will be in school for a few Saturdays.

We are gearing up for our upcoming book fair. There is definitely excitement in the air! Mrs. Karlos has been countless hours preparing for this wonderful event and providing many creative ideas to get everyone involved. I am very appreciative of her time and the information she has provided to keep us all informed.

As we continue to focus on a safe and orderly school, we are pleased with how our students show respect and self-control. Parents, we thank you for working hard with our staff to support students in making good choices and using self-control. "Parents Make the Difference," suggests that as a parent, you can teach your child skills in resolving conflicts peacefully by:

- ❖ Talking about problems before they become conflicts. When little things are ignored, they tend to grow to major disputes, anger builds, and bad choices are made.
- ❖ Use "I" messages. Help your children learn to talk about their feelings, not the other person's mistakes.
- ❖ Don't play the blame game. If there is a problem, it probably doesn't matter whose fault it is. Help your children spend their time fixing the problem not fixing the blame.
- ❖ Be willing to cooperate and compromise. If there is a conflict both of the people have a problem.
- ❖ Talk to adults, sometimes children think they have to solve everything by themselves.
- ❖ Listen. Children can never grow and see another person's point of view if they don't listen to what the person has to say.
- ❖ Practice. Just like learning to ride a bike or read, learning to solve conflicts peacefully takes practice.

Kindergarten registrations will continue to be held through February 6<sup>th</sup>, from 8:45AM-4:30PM. If you have children that will be upcoming kindergarteners, please come in and register your child. Let your friends know as well. Even if they are interested in applying to another school, children must register at their base school. The number of teachers we can have per grade level is dictated by the number of students that enroll. Early enrollment means that we will not have to spend time later reorganizing for our late registers.

On February 4<sup>th</sup>, we will hold an information sessions for parents that are interested in applying to attend our school. The AM session will be at 9:00AM and the PM session will begin at 5:30PM. These sessions are for students that are not based at Holly Grove and whose base school is not a year round assignment.

Growth Management should be releasing the final student assignment plan in early February. Until the plan is released, consider your current placement as the placement for next year. This means that if you have kindergarteners to register for next year, you can do so at Holly Grove. If your base assignment changes, we will forward the records to your child's new school. For students at certain grade levels, you will have the opportunity to grandfather (stay at Holly Grove; however you will have to provide transportation for your child). As soon as that information is available, information will be sent home for you to share your plans for the upcoming school year.

If you have questions, concerns, or unresolved issues don't hesitate to call us at 577-1700. We can only assist you if we know what your needs are. Our goal at Holly Grove is to have open, honest communication that fosters a learning community that will assist all of our students in reaching the highest of heights.

As always, take time to share warm feelings during this Valentine's Month. We are celebrating Black History Month, Dental Health Month and Tornado Awareness Month with various activities throughout the month.

Sincerely,  
Wiladean R. Thomas, Principal