

November 9, 2007

Notes to HJCS Parents

HJCS Scholars Learn About Special November Days

First Graders Exercise Their Right to Vote

Scholars in both First Grade Homerooms learned about Election Day and then put that into practice when they voted on the animal their Homeroom would adopt for this year. The election occurred on Tuesday, November 6, after students studied about the animals up for election. This combined science/social studies activity gave scholars in 1A the chance to choose between a panda and a tiger, and those in 1B to elect either a cheetah or an elephant. Ms Petruska's class elected the tiger, while Mrs. Shaw's scholars cast the majority of their ballots for the elephant. More information will be going home to the scholars' families about what this means, but our students are already planning fund-raising activities to support their electoral choices!

Remember—No School on Monday
Veterans' Day

Kindergartners Remember Our Vets

All three Kindergarten Homerooms spent time this past week learning about why we have a holiday from school on Monday—they are learning about Veterans' Day and how important the men and women of our military are to our country. The three classes made cards that will be delivered to the VA Hospitals in Albany thanking the veterans for their service. In addition, Mrs. Kirshenbaum's KGB class was visited by Tiera Wilmot's mom, Ms Mary Ann Sturdivant, who spent four years in the National Guard. Ms Sturdivant talked with the children about her experiences in training and during service and made connections to Henry Johnson and his service during World War I. She read a story about the Memorial Day Parade and presented each child with a miniature folded flag under glass. (See one of these in our display case near the Henry Johnson photo.) Many thanks to Ms Sturdivant for bringing Veterans' Day to life for our scholars!



Photo Gallery

(From top left): Mrs. Turner reads to 1B; Taliq examines a photo during Ms Sturdivant's visit; Rei Anna, Remi, and Areonia enjoy the Ice Cream Social; so do Tamia, Isaac, and Brandon; HJCS staff serve at the social—Mr. Banner, Mr. Shaw, Mrs. Gast, and Mrs. McLoughlin.



Assembly Alert

This morning we enjoyed the performances of three Homerooms. KGA and KGC joined forces to sing "If You Are Free, Thank a Veteran." Our poetry for the day was 1B's recitation of "Air." Teachers named the following as Northstars for the week: Christopher Baker, Venice Johnson, Theresa Wilson, ZyQuaveone Mayo, Kevin Williams, Semaj Highsmith, Dynasty McCormick-Bass, and Sade Cole.



Briefly Noted—But Important

- **Make-Up Picture Day** for children who did not have photos taken or who would like retakes will occur on November 19. Pictures will be ready for families before the holidays, in case you plan to give them as gifts. A flyer will be sent home about a week before as a reminder.
- **Thanksgiving Adopt-a-Family** We plan to provide turkey and all the trimmings for four needy HJCS families, and we are asking you to help out. Contributions may be brought in until November 16. Thank you for your generosity in helping to make the holidays a little brighter for those in need!
- Thanks to those of you who are donating to our **playroom**. The children will love the room come the cold weather. We are still gratefully accepting items.