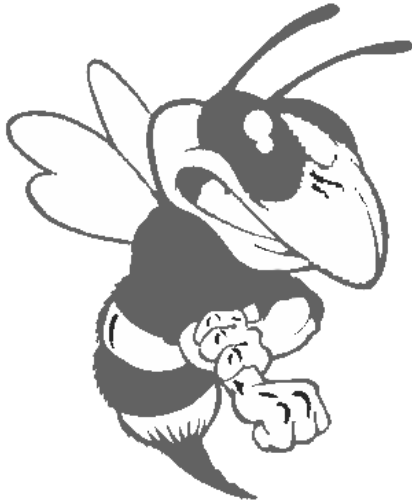


The Hive

www.thomashart.org

February 25, 2008

Vol. 2, No. 13



Promoting Excellence

Thomas
Hart
Academy

Important Contact Information

Thomas Hart Academy: 332-4991
Board Chairman : Rob Gardner 383-5834
Headmaster: John Horlbeck: JHorlbeck@thomashart.org
PTO Co-Presidents: Valerie Gardner: 383-0151
Lauri McLeland: 395-9225
The Hive Rita Daniel: RitaRDaniel@roadrunner.com

Headmaster's Corner

I am pleased to announce that interest in enrollment for next school year has resulted in our first waiting list for a class. First grade is now full and we are accepting new applications on a waiting list basis. As we continue to receive applications, we will consider dividing the class.

The school continues to search for high-quality replacements for our three teaching position vacancies. Initial interviews are in progress and we plan to move in to the second interview phase soon. We have three faculty vacancies to fill-two retirements and one announced departure. As I mentioned in the last Hive, Mrs. Kerri Pennington is returning to teach middle school literature and creative writing. If you know of a suitable candidate for our vacancies please give the name and phone number to me or ask the person to send a resume to me.

Speaking of vacancies, our part-time marketing and development consultant, Mrs. Brenda Norwood, has taken a full-time position with Women's Ministries of Florence. While we hate to lose her, we are seeking a replacement! Do you know someone who is creative, dedicated, well-spoken, able to write well, and interested in part-time income? If you know of such a person, ask him or her to speak to me or to board member Chuck Redfearn about the position!

As you know, we have been battling the chicken pox here at school. Fortunately, the numbers of children with it are decreasing. but... we are seeing an increase in the flu. If your child has a case of children pox, we are now requiring a written statement from the family doctor certifying that the child is medically authorized to return to school. Please do not send your child to school if he/she exhibits any fever or signs of the flu. We cannot afford to spread it throughout the school. Guidelines are listed in the Student Handbook. Thank you for your cooperation.

Stanford testing begins in less than three weeks. I'll have more information in the next Hive! Congratulations to seven of our fifth graders and ten of our fourth graders who qualified for the Duke University Talent Identification Program (TIP). These students will be recognized at our monthly assembly.

John Horlbeck
Headmaster

Compliment Corner

- To the teachers and staff members serving on the Accreditation Steering Committee. Thank you!
- To the teacher who took the chicken pox bullet..we're glad you're back!
- To everyone who made the Valentine's Day Dance a success!

THA Upcoming Events

February 28-Assembly-9:40 am
Wonderland Circus-1:30 pm
March 7-End of third grading period
Annual PTO Auction

Auction Update

COMING UP SOON—MARCH 7!

Our Luau Auction evening is fast approaching! Purchase your tickets if you have not already! Donations are still being accepted. Please invite friends and those who are interested in Thomas Hart. Individual tickets are \$25 and a table of 8 is \$175.

If you have any questions about making donations, please contact Barbara Lee (857-9310) or Jonellyn Dittenhauser (383-4964).

Don't Miss This Event!

Chairs for Sale

The PTO has purchased new chairs to be used in the gymnasium for PTO meetings and other events. The old chairs are now for sale. If your church or other organization would be interested in purchasing any or all of these chairs, please contact Lauri McLeland.

Happy Birthday to You

February 28	Caitlyn Moyd
February 29	Bennett Joyce
March 1	Gillian Munoz
March 5	Rhett Gardner
March 6	Grayce Kelley
March 9	Brenden Godfrey

Staff	
February 26	Mrs. Susan Clemons
March 10	Mr. Lee Waldron



Literary Meet News

The 2008 SCISA Literary Meet, which was at Holly Hill Academy in Holly Hill, SC was held on February 13, 2008. The following students were scheduled to attend the Literary Meet: Alex Baker and Lanie Kirby (2nd grade), Nolan Dittenhauser and Lacey Lane (3rd grade), Austin Gardner and Bailee Amerson (4th grade), Taylor Jones and Brittany Joyce (5th grade), CJ Waldron and Matthew Kirven (6th grade), Sydney Gardner (7th grade) and Margot Rogers and Julia Crabtree (8th grade). Unfortunately, due to illness, Lanie Kirby, Nolan Dittenhauser, Austin Gardner and CJ Waldron were unable to attend.

We left THA at 6:00 A.M and arrived at Holly Hill with enough time to eat a quick biscuit before registering for the meet. Sydney Gardner entered Extemporaneous Speaking and had to select her topic that morning. Matthew Kirven and Julia Crabtree, who had entered the Essay Writing, were given their topics that morning as well. Bailee Amerson, Taylor Jones and Brittany Joyce were entered in Poetry Recitation. Lacey Lane and Alek Baker were in the Storytelling Competition and Margot Rogers participated in the Oral Interpretation Competition.

After lunch, it was time for the exciting Awards Ceremony. All the Thomas Hart Academy students did extremely well, especially Margot Rogers who placed 4th in the state in Oral Interpretation. Her interpretation was of the suicide soliloquy from Romeo and Juliet. Sydney Gardner placed 2nd in the state in Extemporaneous Speaking responding to whether or not it should be required for parents to give their permission for a minor to have a "My Space" account.

No trip to Holly Hill could be complete without the traditional trip to Diary Queen on the way back home. It was a fabulous day and a great learning experience for everyone involved. It just shows once again that EVERYONE is a winner at Thomas Hart Academy.

Kindergarten Play Area

We are currently trying to put together a small play area for our 3K and 4K classes. A wooden play set has been donated. To complete the project we are in need of some wood chips for the ground . We would also be interested in some outdoor plastic play equipment such as small slides or a playhouse. Please contact Mr. Horlbeck if you can help with

Science Fair Update

Things are going well and I am very pleased with the progress of the students. The students have been asking great questions over the past couple of weeks and I am excited about the type of questions they are asking. Overall, I am very pleased with the ideas generated by the students. Most topics were very age appropriate. The students are working very hard, and I hope this will be a very rewarding experience for the students.

Parental support, guidance and supervision is encouraged and safety is the top priority.

I have placed a questionnaire on the THA website and it can be found on the THA Homepage and the Invention Fair page. I ask that parents please take this survey. It is only a couple of questions. I would really appreciate some feedback. This will allow me to evaluate any concerns that parents may have regarding the Invention Fair Judging Date or the process itself. Please take a couple of minutes to complete this survey. You may also contact me at any time with questions or concerns. I am the best person to answer any questions that you may have, and that is why I am here.

Thank you,
Lee Waldron
Invention Fair Coordinator

Website Volunteers

If you have any experience with web pages and would like to volunteer your time with the THA website, please contact Mr. Lee. There are many areas of the website that are very small tasks and some that are larger. Mr. Lee would be glad to talk to you about these opportunities.

British Soccer Camp

Now is the time to sign up for British Soccer Camp that will be held at Thomas Hart the week of June 9-14. This will be a great opportunity for your child to build their soccer skills for the fall teams. If you have misplaced your flyer there are more available in the office or simply go to our website and click on the link. Register early to be sure you get your free soccer jersey. Every child will receive a t-shirt and soccer ball for participating. If you have questions, contact Lauri McLeland at 395-9225.

Basketball Blow-Out

The Basketball Blow-Out held on Friday, February 22 was a huge success.

Thanks go to Selena Davis, Amy Jenner and Anitra Caldwell for coordinating this fun event. This event raised over \$350 for the THA Athletic Booster Club. Congratulations to all the contest winners, including the 8th grade for the spirit stick, the 7th grade for the banner contest and to Valerie Gardner, the "big" money raffle winner!

THA at Coker College 5K Walk/Run

Several THA students participated in Coker College's 8th SPC 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, February 23rd. Thanks again go to Selena Davis for coordinating this event for THA and to Yogi Bear for sponsoring our students. Students who participated were George Atkins, Sydney Ferrence, Sydney Gardner, Nathan Pignone, Jacob Caldwell and Margot Rogers. Congratulations to 8th grader Margot Rogers who came in first in her age group.

Staff Features

Mrs. Susan Clemons

Social Studies Teacher

Birthday: February 26

Mrs. Clemons has taught at THA for 21 years. She says there is never a dull moment in her school day. She loves to read and enjoys catching up on books during summer vacation. We can thank Mrs. Clemons for opening our 4th-8th graders' eyes to Geography, American History, European History and South Carolina History. Thank you, Mrs. Clemons for making THA students more aware of the world around us!

Mr. Lee Waldron

Science Teacher-4th –8th grades

Birthday: March 10

Mr. Lee has taught the wonders of science at THA for 7 years. He also designed and maintains THA's website. His favorite quote which all his students know is "Science without math is science fiction." Some of his hobbies are boating and Gamecock Football. THA will miss Mr. Lee as he leaves next year to pursue other endeavors but very much appreciates all he has done for THA over the past years.