



Promoting Excellence

Thomas Hart Academy

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THA Family Newsletter

The Hive

www.thomashart.org

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Headmaster's Corner

October is one of the months of the year when we are very busy here at school. Our various athletic teams are wrapping up their fall seasons. Tennis and 1st-3rd grade soccer teams are done and the 4th –6th grade soccer team plays its last game tomorrow. Our teachers have been working on grades and report cards go home today. As an aside, please stay in touch with your teachers (and they are supposed to do likewise) to stay ahead of academic issues involving your child. Our PTO is working hard preparing for our annual Halloween Carnival. Thank you to the many parents who help with this huge undertaking. So, it is very busy...and this is just the tip of the iceberg!

I would like to make you aware of several upcoming initiatives. First, this is an accreditation year for Thomas Hart and we expect to be visited in the spring by a team from the South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA). We are gearing up for this event now so please know that this effort will consume some of the staff's attention in the coming months. Second, our faculty and I are working on an assessment of how we stack up as far as meeting or exceeding the SC state curriculum standards. As you may recall, last year the Board of Directors adopted the state standards as the minimum standards for THA. I believe we likely exceed many, if not most, of the standards but we are taking a close look and will document our findings in writing for the benefit of the accreditation team and ourselves. This is no small effort and will require special effort on the part of our teachers. It is probable that what we find will result in subtle changes (i.e improvements) to the curriculum presented in our classrooms. As always please communicate with your child's teachers to stay informed on our progress with this initiative.

See you at the carnival!

John Horlbeck
Headmaster

Compliment Corner

- *To Mrs. Warner Rogers and Mr. Bryan Laney for their efforts as coaches of girls' tennis and 1st-3rd grade soccer, respectively!*

3K/4K News

The 3K and 4K classes enjoyed a wonderful field trip to the Wesley Methodist Pumpkin Patch. They learned about various pumpkins and were read a delightful story by the volunteers. A good time was had by all. All proceeds from the Pumpkin Patch benefit the Hartsville Soup Kitchen.

5th Grade News

The fifth grade class has completed their study of the Native Americans. As part of their story, the students chose an Indian home to build for their individual project. In the next few weeks, they will present their projects to the 5K class. If you are in the building, please stop by and view these wonderful Native American homes.

Susan Clemons

6th Grade News

The 6th grade class traveled to YMCA Camp Greenville for their class field trip on Monday, October 1st. While at camp the students take part in activities that build self-confidence and encourage the class to respect and see the strengths of each member. This year the class rode a zip line across the lake. They were the first school group to be able to do this activity. They hiked to Rainbow Falls (a beautiful waterfall); rock climbed an actual mountainside, climbed rock walls, completed a high ropes course and were also one of the first school groups to do the "Dangle Duo." (Just ask any 6th grader and they will tell you about it!) The group had an amazing time and enjoyed the 4 days and 3 nights they were able to spend with their classmates. They brought home the Golden Plate Award and the Golden Fork! (This is an award given to a school that has zero food waste for every meal.) Great job 6th graders! A special thanks for Mr. Leon Kirven, Mrs. Clemons and Mrs. Caldwell for chaperoning!

Red Ribbon Week

All this week we will be emphasizing the importance of being drug-free with Red Ribbon Week activities at THA. Don't forget to ask your child about each day's Red Ribbon project!

8th Grade News

Dear THA Students, Faculty, and Parents:

The 8th grade class is once again sponsoring the Haunted House at the Annual Thomas Hart Halloween Carnival on Friday, October 26th. We would appreciate it if anyone has materials or decorations to donate or that we could borrow for that night. Some helpful supplies include:

- Plastic skeletons
- Fog machines/fluid
- Spider webs
- Scary statues, moving figures, etc
- Cardboard
- Paint (Glow-in-the-dark, black, grey, white, red, etc.)
- Hay bails
- Pumpkins
- Cauldron
- Artificial Candles

If you would like to make a donation or have something that you would be willing to lend the 8th grade, please drop it off in Mrs. Caldwell's room before October 26th. Please include your name so that the item can be returned to you if desired. All items are appreciated! Thank you for your support!
The 8th Grade Class

Math Meet

The THA Math Middle School Math Meet Team has been preparing for the meet every Wednesday since the beginning of school. They traveled to Orangeburg, SC on Tuesday, October 16th to compete in the SCISA Math Meet. There were two teams that competed. The team members were George Atkins, Carrie Brown, Julia Crabtree from 8th grade, Nicholas Chavez, Zack Davis, Julia Flowers, Sydney Gardner, Elizabeth Martin from 7th grade, and Matthew Kirven and CJ Waldron from 6th grade. The high scorers were Zack Davis and Sydney Gardner. Congratulations to all the team members for a job well done!

More Thanks!

Much appreciation goes to Miss Neeley Rentz who did a great job with our cheerleaders during soccer season! We loved their enthusiasm and all their new cheers! "Our teams are dynamite, yeah!"

Wednesday Activity Period

We've completed the first nine weeks of our Wednesday Activity Courses. Special thanks goes to Brent Snyder, THA Board Member and parent, for teaching a Film Studies course. Also, a proper thank you goes to Martha Brown and Rita Daniel for teaching our etiquette course to half the fifth graders. They will be teaching etiquette again this nine weeks to the rest of the 5th graders. Other courses for the second nine weeks include: Quiz Bowl, Spelling Bee, One Act Play, Canada, and Fitness.

Library News

AR Highlights

The newest members of our AR Hall of Fame are Bennett Joyce and Meghan Daniel.

Congratulations!

Did you know? During the first 9 weeks, 99 students passed 1001 quizzes! The top point earners for grades 2-8 are as follows:

Gr 2: Alek Baker

Gr 3: Jacob Caldwell

Gr 4: Meghan Daniel

Gr 5: Anya Bali

Gr 6: Matthew Kirven

Gr 7: Sydney Gardner

Gr 8: Robby Sawyer

Inquiring minds want to know...Scholastic Book Fair begins Nov. 13 before/after the PTO meeting. Start saving your pennies!

PTO News

Countdown to the Carnival!

The Halloween Carnival is in 5 days!

Friday, October 26th is the big day! We will need lots of help setting up during the day that Friday so try to come for any amount of time you can spare!

Grandparents Day

Help is also needed for Grandparents' Day on Friday, November 16th.

Call the school office if you can help any that week or that day.

Wednesday Work Day is cancelled for the month of November. We will pick up with our "Work and Lunch" days in December.

Sally Foster Update

Lyn Joyce is working hard to complete all of our Sally Foster orders. A few helpful hints:

- All internet orders with candy items will NOT ship until November 1-15.
- The deadline for reporting missing/damaged items was October 16. Any items reported after that date might be charged shipping.
- Items reported missing/damaged are on order and should be shipped to us within 2 weeks.

We apologize for any inconvenience! Thanks again for your support in this important fundraiser!

Staff Features

Mrs. Jocelyn Sanderson
4th and 5th Grade Language Arts Teacher
FCA sponsor

Mrs. Sanderson has taught at THA for 20 years. She says she loves the family atmosphere at THA and that THA has the very best students in the world! She is married to Jimmy and has two children, Jason, 24 and Jamie, 17. She loves to read, sing, spend time with her family and teach at THA.

Thank you, Mrs. Sanderson for being a great teacher and for being so enthusiastic about Thomas Hart Academy!

Note her birthday on October 28!

Art Classes

Our after-school art classes have begun. Our class for 1st-3rd graders is full, but there are still a few spots available in the Thursday 3-4 pm class for grades 4th and up. The cost for the 8 weeks session is \$40.00. To sign up, please call the office.

Attention Parents (or any computer illiterate adult!)

Are you interested in learning Microsoft Excel, Powerpoint, or Publisher?

For a small fee, (\$25) our instructors can offer a Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon session (2-3 hours) to introduce you to these programs. If interested, contact the office to submit your name and we'll contact you with more information. We promise that it's a painless (even FUN) way to learn these programs or to brush up on your skills.

Happy Birthday to You



October 24	Austin Jones
October 25	Margot Rogers
November 5	Nathan Pignone

Staff:
October 28 Jocelyn Sanderson

Featured Wish Lists

Each Hive issue will feature teachers' wish lists. Our teachers always appreciate donations to their classes by parents, grandparents or friends. This issue features Science Lab Wish Lists from Mr. Lee.

All of the items below may be directly purchased and donated or a monetary donation can be made for the specific items. The list below includes non-consumable items that we would like to add or replace in the Science Lab

- 12 Solar Calculators (preferably scientific)
 - Step Stand (collapsible)
 - Materials or donation to build a drying table
 - Large Sink for washing lab tools
 - Case Mason Jars and Lids (small)
 - Case Mason Jars and Lids (medium)
 - Case Mason Jars and Lids (large)
 - 6 digital scales
 - 4 stop watches
 - Prepared slides of various cell types
- See Mr. Lee for questions regarding these.

Help our teachers help our children!

Sports News

...from the field

The 1st-3rd grade soccer team ended their season with a win against Florence Montessori. They celebrated with a team dinner at Chuck-E-Cheese. Many thanks to Bryan and Brigitte Laney and Anitra Caldwell for all their help with this team!

The 4th-6th grade team ends their season with a home game tomorrow, Tuesday the 23rd, at 4 p.m. against All Saints Episcopal. Come spend a fall afternoon helping our cheerleaders cheer on the Hornets!

...from the courts

The girls tennis team ended their season with a 4-5 record. The team had some great matches and made a lot of improvement over the season. Many new players contributed to the team. Thanks to Mrs. Warner Rogers for her dedication!