

Falcon News  
September, 30, 2011  
Mary Cronin, Principal

### **CONFERENCES**

Just a reminder we have a “weird” schedule next week due to goal-setting conferences. Monday, October 3rd, students are released at 11:30 AM. Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, students are released at 11:30 AM, Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, students are released at 1:30 PM, Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, students are released at 11:30 AM, and Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, there is NO SCHOOL.

If for some reason you are unable to make your conference appointment, please call the office so we can notify the teacher.

### **RACHEL’S CHALLENGE**

What is Rachel’s Challenge? Rachel Scott was the first person killed at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999. Her acts of kindness and compassion coupled with the contents of her six diaries have become the foundation for one of the most life-changing school programs in America. A powerful multi-media presentation involving students, teachers and adults shows how to sustain the momentum created by the assembly. The assembly creates the “want to” or desire for positive change. Ms. Daryn Jackson, from the Rachel’s Challenge Foundation will present two assemblies on Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> for students at Rachel Carson Elementary School and Blackwell Elementary School. Following the student assemblies, an evening program for adults only, will be held at Blackwell Elementary School beginning at 7:00PM in the school gym. There is no charge for the evening event.

Students connect with this program by focusing on creating a culture of kindness and compassion on the school campus. The program addresses the root of problems like isolation, prejudice and bullying through kindness and compassion. Children and adults will be asked to accept Rachel’s Challenge by performing random acts of kindness and sign a large banner that will be hung in each school building. At the elementary level, students are encouraged to make a positive difference in someone’s life. When a student does an act of kindness, the teacher or other adult writes that act on a small paper link and add it to the chain of kindness at their school.

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By accepting Rachel's Challenge, students are starting a "Chain Reaction" in their school. It is our goal to connect the two chains from Rachel Carson and Blackwell sometime in the spring, so this will give impetus for students practice being kind and compassionate.

As part of the Rachel's Challenge, K.C. Club (Kindness and Compassion) will drive and sustain the momentum of the chain reaction. The club will be an excellent way for the student body to create a lasting impact in their school and community through service projects.

### **BOOK FAIR**

Our annual book fair will also run during next week. Parent and students will have opportunities to shop and purchase books all next week, (Four Days). We will also be open on Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 PM. If you would like to help Mrs. Ullom, please contact her, she always needs volunteers!

### **HOLIDAY CONCERT**

Our Rachel Carson choir will be performing at the Holiday Pops Concert on Saturday December 10 at 7:30 PM and Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00PM at the Eastlake Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$16 for adults, Students/Seniors \$11 and children under 10 are free. Tickets are available at the door or online at Ticketweb.com. Mrs. McElreath has been working with the Symphony to make this happen; it is an amazing "kudo" for our choir program and Mrs. McElreath.

### **QUEST**

Next school year, 2012-2013, Elementary Quest will serve second through fifth grade students. Therefore, only student's in grades 1-4 currently may apply for elementary quest. Kindergarten students may no longer apply. Applications will be accepted October 3<sup>rd</sup> through October 28; 4:00 PM is the deadline. Information meetings will be held at Rose Hill Junior High on Thursday October 6<sup>th</sup> either at 4:30 or 7:00 PM. Attending the meeting is not a requirement.

Students who are currently in grades 5 or 6 will attend Middle School for the 2012-2013 school year and must apply to Middle School Quest. Applications will be available from October 24<sup>th</sup> until November 18 with a 4:00 PM deadline.

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Students applying must have a report card mean score of 3.5 in reading and math from last June. Please check the criteria for application on our district website, [www.lwsd.org/quest](http://www.lwsd.org/quest).

Additionally, please do not ask teachers for letters of recommendation, or input on the Quest application procedures.

### **CARSON CARES**

Our school will have a food drive this month to coincide with Eastside Month of Concern to help stock local food banks. Starting Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> through Friday October 14<sup>th</sup> students can bring in non-perishable food items. Items in demand are: Peanut butter, canned goods, 100% fruit juices, cereal, vegetable oil, macaroni and cheese, baby food, powdered milk, rice, etc.

### **EXPLORATIONS IN MATH**

We have a few openings still in the afterschool math class that begins Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. You can register on the PTSA website. This fall class will feature measurement games and fun activities.