



September 2, 2011

PAW PRINTS

Important Dates

- Sept. 5th NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
- Sept. 7th Early Dismissal @ 2:00
- Sept. 8th Open House @ 6:30 -7:30 grades - K - 2nd
- Sept. 15th Open House @ 6:30 -7:30 grades - 3rd - 5th & CSS
- Sept. 21st Early Dismissal @ 2:00



COACH'S CORNER

We recycle cans every Friday morning from 8:35-8:55 (near the handicap parking spaces). Coach will have students collecting bags of aluminum cans. You can drive up, pop open the trunk and we will take your bags. The proceeds from this recycling go back into equipment for our PHYSICAL EDUCATION program. As you know, everything is getting more expensive. PLEASE help us recycle and buy new basketballs, footballs, and jump ropes.



Thank you,
Coach B.

A Note from Ms. Mitchell



We've had a great start to our 2011-2012 school year. I am very fortunate to work with "shining stars". I have been enjoying getting to know all of my faculty, students, and parents. I also want to thank you for making me feel welcome.

Open House is coming up for Kindergarten, First, and Second grades on September 08, 2011 and Third, Fourth, Fifth, and CSS classes on September 15, 2011. This will be your opportunity to come in and look around and gain information about your child's classroom. We have a school wide scavenger hunt planned, guessing jar, and lots of other activities. We look forward to seeing you.

As we approach our ten day count I want to share with you that our enrollment is increasing and with this increasing enrollment we may need to reorganize some of our classes in Kindergarten, First, and Fifth grades. Administration and Teachers will work together to decide which students this will effect and try to make transitions as smooth as possible.

Finally, thank you for your commitment in keeping our students safe by displaying your car tags during dismissal and signing in when you enter and exit the building. Together we can make this 2011-2012 school year an exceptional year for our Stars!

Earth Savers from Abess Park!



Cell phone and computer ink cartridge collection! Abess Park (ES) Earthsavers Club is collecting old cell phones and printer ink cartridges. They can be broken, missing parts, or in working order. They will be recycled for parts. The money raised will be used to improve the school grounds with the planting of flowers. We will be collecting all year. Collection baskets are located on the front counter in the foyer and the school office. We are also recycling newspapers and magazines. The paper bin is located in the back of the school by taking the bus loop. THANKS FOR DOING YOUR PART FOR SAVING THE EARTH!



Don't let your Box Tops fall into the trash!

The PTA is kicking off the fall season with Box Tops for Education! All you have to do is collect Box Tops from General Mills products like Cheerios, Chex Mix, Fruit by the Foot, Fruit Gushers and many more! Turn in your Box Tops to your teachers every Wednesday. GO ABESS!!!



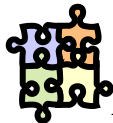
Apply to be a Volunteer



Welcome! Volunteers are a vital part of student success in Duval County Public Schools. More than 18,000 volunteers support schools each year and the number is growing. To ensure the safety of our students, volunteers must submit an application on line and undergo a criminal background screening, www.duvalschools.org Community>Volunteer, free of charge.

Once the background screening process is completed, you will receive a letter confirming that you have been approved to volunteer. Please keep it with you to present to the front office when you check in to volunteer. Also, please remember to sign in and out in the Volunteer book found in the front office. Your volunteer hours help not only the children and teachers, but help the schools achieve awards from the Florida Department of Education. Parents & Visitors must complete an application 3 weeks prior to a field trip or other activities at school. If you need further assistance please contact the school @ 220 - 1260.

CSS are Stars



Parents: Video Release forms will be coming home soon. Please sign and return them to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

We greatly appreciate parent volunteers, especially on field trips. Be sure to plan ahead by applying to be a volunteer. More information is printed in the "Apply to be a Volunteer" column at the right.



We look forward to seeing all of our parents at Open House on September 15th!



Why Join PTA?

Here Are the Top Three Reasons!

1. The #1 reason to join the Parent Teacher Association is to benefit your child. In doing so, you also help our school. More than 30 years of research has proven that children do better when their parents are involved both at home and in school. Grades are higher, test scores rise, self-esteem grows, and schools improve!

2. Every membership counts! When you join Abess Park PTA, you also join the Florida and National PTA and become part of a national effort to improve the education, health, and welfare of every child. Membership numbers count in a significant way when our representatives are lobbying for funding for education in the Florida legislature or in congress.

3. PTA membership helps you connect with the school, the staff, and other parents and gives you a VOICE in deciding the direction of the Abess Park PTA. Only members can vote on PTA issues and hold a PTA office.

Joining the PTA does not obligate you to volunteer at school or attend PTA meetings—although we hope you will! It's easy to join by simply including your membership dues of \$5 per person on the PTA form. If you have questions, please call or email our PTA Membership at abesspta@gmail.com **Thank you for supporting the Abess Park PTA!**



Happy Birthday

Please print EXACTLY as you would like your child's name to read on the marquee.
**** REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED ONE WEEK PRIOR TO YOUR CHILD'S BIRTHDAY TO ENSURE A TIMELY DISPLAY****

To _____

Date of birthday _____ Contact phone # _____

Name of student _____ Name of PTA Member _____

Student's teacher _____ Grade of student _____

Contact phone # _____ Contact email _____

IF YOU SIGN UP FOR BOTH **AT THE SAME TIME**, THE COST IS \$12.00 SEPARATELY, THE COST IS \$15.00 (\$10 FOR BIRTHDAY AND \$5 FOR MEMBERSHIP).

Make check payable to Abess Park PTA

We thank you for your support!