



September 16, 2011

# PAW PRINTS

## Important Dates

- Sept. 20th Boy Scout Round Up 6:30pm
- Sept. 21st Early Dismissal @ 2:00
- Sept. 29th Student of the Month @ 2:00
- Oct. 5th Early Dismissal @ 2:00
- Oct. 11th Fall Individual Pictures
- Oct. 15th PTA Fall Festival



## 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. Take the bus loop straight to the back. **THANKS FOR DOING YOUR PART IN SAVING THE EARTH!**

## A Note from Ms. Mitchell



Parents,

It has been "reel" busy around here this week. I want to share this poem with you that I found to be most appropriate for this time of year.

### **WHOSE CHILD IS THIS?**

*Author Unknown*

"Whose child is this?" I asked one day  
 Seeing a little one out at play  
 "Mine", said the parent with a tender smile  
 "Mine to keep a little while  
 To bathe his hands and comb his hair  
 To tell him what he is to wear  
 To prepare him that he may always be good  
 And each day do the things he should"

"Whose child is this?" I asked again  
 As the door opened and someone came in  
 "Mine", said the teacher with the same tender smile  
 "Mine, to keep just for a little while  
 To teach him how to be gentle and kind  
 To train and direct his dear little mind  
 To help him live by every rule  
 And get the best he can from school"

"Whose child is this?" I ask once more  
 Just as the little one entered the door  
 "Ours" said the parent and the teacher as they smiled  
 And each took the hand of the little child  
 "Ours to love and train together  
 Ours this blessed task forever."



## Medication drop off & pick up

School Board policy states that students are not allowed to transport medication to or from school. *Parents*, please bring all medication (prescription and non-prescription) in the original container to the clinic / main office if your child will be needing to take the medication during the school day. There are permission forms that must be completed before any medicines can be administered to your child. If you have any questions, you may contact the nurse or call the main office @ 220-1260.

Thank you!



**Florida PTA**  
*everychild.onevoice.™*

Mark your calendar for our Fall Festival Saturday Oct. 15th !!!!

This is sure to be a great event with rock walls, bounce houses, a dunk tank and much much more! If you know of a business that would be interested in renting a booth at our Festival, please email [abesspta@gmail.com](mailto:abesspta@gmail.com). Money earned from this year's Festival and other fundraisers will be used to serve all children. Abess Park PTA plans to support Read it Forward, Field Day activities, Family Fun nights, Books of the Month for each class and 5th Grade Promotions. Abess Park PTA funds will also go toward student academic awards, grade level incentives, and the Presidential Awards. By supporting the PTA you are supporting EVERY CHILD at Abess Park.



## Travel Arrangements



Parents, please make travel arrangements with your child before they come to school. We are unable to take changes over the phone for safety reasons. *Any changes in transportation must be made in writing.*



# Building Kids of Character

## Citizenship

September's Character Trait

Children don't learn the values that make strong citizens simply by being told about those values. They learn by seeing the adults around them act on and uphold those values in their daily lives. Parents can have a huge impact on the building of good citizens by modeling those behaviors first and then actively teaching their children what is expected of them as members of a larger community. The character of our democracy rests on the good character of its citizens. Here are some specific ways parents can teach their children these concepts:

- Be informed about important issues in your community and go to community meetings. Discuss these with your children or allow them to accompany you.
- Participate in community-building activities such as cleaning up parks or assisting with school activities. Allow your children to help in age-appropriate ways.
- Vote in elections and take your children with you if possible.
- Encourage your children to get involved in school elections or student government.
- Take your family to the state or national capital. Take a tour and discuss what you learned about our government.
- Demonstrate a sense of community by getting to know your neighbors and introducing your children to them.
- Encourage older children to volunteer at a food bank, nursing home, or other local organization.
- Talk to your children about your own political views and explain why you hold these views.
- Model how to listen to someone who holds vastly different opinions from yours.
- Obey the law, including speed limits, littering ordinances, etc.
- Expect your children to follow rules, both at home and at school. Support your child's school in upholding their code of conduct.

