



# HAWK HERALD

## From the Principal

Welcome to another wonderful year at Hawthorne Elementary School. I am very excited to be back and look forward to working together with you to ensure your child receives the best standards-based education possible. As we start the year there are some issues we will need to look at:

- 1) Please make sure that your child has lunch money every day. If you qualify for free/reduced lunch, please make sure and turn in the forms to the cafeteria. I do not want any child to go all day without a healthy meal. Even if you do not plan on utilizing the program, please fill out the forms if you qualify. Our Title I funding is based on the number of students that qualify, not the number that participate.
- 2) According to district policy, elementary schools may ban cell phones completely from campuses. However, we have chosen to follow an **"off and put away"** policy. Students are not to use cell phones at any time during the school day. If a student is seen with a cell phone, the phone will be confiscated and returned only to a parent.
- 3) Parents are welcome at Hawthorne at any time. For the safety of our students, we ask that any parent coming to campus after 7:50 a.m. report to the office for a visitors pass. We are trying to ensure that no adult is on campus without a staff or visitor's badge. You do not need to sign in to take your child to class in the morning.
- 4) Our parking/drop off situation will continue as last year. **The right lane of both drop off areas is for pick up only.** The left lane is for through traffic only. Please do not stop to pick up your child in the left lane.
- 5) To help ensure the safety of our students, we ask that only kindergarten students and their siblings be picked up in the south lot by the office. **All other students** should be picked up in the north drop off/pick up area.
- 6) **No student is to be on campus before 7:25. All students eat breakfast in their classrooms and there is no playground supervision prior to 7:25.** To ensure student safety, any child on campus before 7:25 will be asked to go to the cafeteria.
- 7) Please remember that every Wednesday is early release with students leaving at 1:45 p.m.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me or stop by my office. The staff and I want to work with you to ensure a successful year for your student.

Remember that Curriculum Night is Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. I hope to see you there. Again, welcome to the 2009-2010 school year. I know that together we will be able to make this the best year ever for our students!

Scott Cumberledge, Principal

## Scott Cumberledge Principal

Hawthorne Elementary School  
630 N Hunt Dr  
Mesa, AZ 85203

Volume 1, Issue 1

August 21, 2009

### Important Dates:

- ☺ August 27 — Curriculum Night 5:30—7:00 pm
- ☺ Sept. 7 — Labor Day No School
- ☺ Sept. 2 — EARLY RELEASE at 12:15 pm
- ☺ Sept. 4 — School Pictures
- ☺ Oct. 9 — End of grading period. EARLY RELEASE at 11:45
- ☺ Oct. 12-16 —October Break — No School
- ☺ Oct. 19-23— Parent/Teacher Conferences School released at 1:15 pm

## Early Release Dates for 2009-2010

Professional Development Early Release Days  
Dismissal will be at **12:15 pm**:

- September 2
- November 4
- January 27
- February 17

End of Grading Period Early Release Days  
Dismissal will be at **11:45 am**:

- \* October 9
- \* December 18
- \* March 10

Parent/Teacher Conferences — Dismissal every day at **1:15 pm**

- October 19 - 23 and January 11 - 15

## Welcome back to Reading!

The Library Resource Center is a place to develop Imagination, do Investigation, and get new Ideas. Parents are also welcome to come and check out books before and after school. When you check out books, you agree to take good care of them and bring them back on time. Take special note of your child's library day. Policies for a successful year at the Library:

- ◆ Students check out books for one week. Bring books back to Library each week.
- ◆ You may renew their books as needed unless the book has been requested by another student.
- ◆ You are expected to pay for lost or damaged books. \*Check out privileges will be suspended when a book becomes 1 month overdue.
- ◆ Report cards will be held for fines of over \$5.00.

The Library will be hosting Book Fair August 24 – August 28. We will be open during the Curriculum Night event Thursday night. This is an opportunity to buy books and help your School Library to get needed books and shelving. See you there! Happy Reading from Mrs. Blalack, Hawthorne Library Resource Specialist

## Student Safety

As we begin a new year, our teachers and coaches will be reviewing safety practices with the students. You are an important role model for your child. Please take a few minutes to talk with your student about being safe. Here are some tips to share:

- Children should walk or bike to school with an adult or in a large group.
- Bus riders should walk to and from the bus stop with an adult or in a large group.
- Stay alert at all times on the way to and from school, and in the neighborhood.
- Walk or bike in familiar, public areas.
- Avoid people you do not know.
- Stay away from parked cars and bushes.
- Trust your instincts.
- Students should **immediately** report anything unusual or suspicious to a parent, teacher, principal or a trusted adult.
- Do not come to campus before the school opens for the day.

Mesa Public Schools now has a Parent Alert online at [www.mpsaz.org](http://www.mpsaz.org) and a Parent Information Voice Mail at (480) 472-1175 with safety updates for parents.

## Title 1 Parent Information

Hawthorne School receives additional supplemental funds through a grant from the federal government to provide extra supplementary services for all of our students. Your children will benefit directly or indirectly from this extra help. At Hawthorne School these funds, along with other federal resources, will be consolidated to support school-wide positive changes. Funds can be used to:

- \* Hire instructional personnel to assist teachers within the classrooms
- \* Provide training for staff and teachers
- \* Provide additional instructional materials and technology
- \* Ensure high-quality School-wide Programs
- \* Increase parent involvement participation with our counseling and parent liaison programs
- \* Support of Accelerated Math supplemental program
- \* All-day Kindergarten

We are pleased to have these funds to provide high quality instruction for all children.

### *Parents Right to Know*

#### *Title I School-wide and Title I Target Assistance Programs*

*Under NCLB Public Law 107, Section 1111.1, districts must notify parents of students attending Title I School-wide and Title I Targeted Assistance Programs that parents may request information on the professional qualifications of the student's teacher. The information must state if:*

- .. the teacher meets State Qualifications/licensure requirements,*
- .. the teacher is teaching under an Emergency Teaching Certificate,*
- .. the teacher has a baccalaureate degree,*
- .. the child receives services from a paraprofessional and*
- .. the qualifications of the paraprofessional.*

# Important Facts For Parents/Guardians

**Excused Absence:** It is any time a parent calls the school with a reason for a student's absence which the principal determines is justifiable (excused).

**Unexcused Absence:** No contact from a parent; no phone call on the day of absence or note from the parent the day the student returns to school. A note needs to be received no later than 24 hours after the child returns to school.



## **Allowable number of days a student may be absent, excused or unexcused:**

- \* Arizona State law will allow 4 unexcused absences. On the 5th unexcused absence, the student has exceeded the limit and may be cited.
- \* Arizona State law requires students attend 90% of the total days school is in session.
- \* Mesa Schools are in session 180 days each school year .... 90% = 162 days in school ..... 10% = 18 days of absences. Parents/Guardians may be cited to court for their student with 18 or more total absences during a school year.
- \* For each absence, the parents/guardians are expected to call the school or send a note within 24 hours of the day the child returns to school.
- \* If you do not have a phone, send a note each day with a sibling or neighbor, especially if your child will be out more than one day.
- \* **Remember, the school needs your call each day that your child is absent so we know your child is safe.**

## **Communicate, communicate, communicate!**

- \* Keep in touch with the school.
- \* Be sure the school always has your correct or new telephone number(s).
- \* When the student goes to medical appointments, obtain a written excuse from the doctor to the school to explain the absence.
- \* Advise the Principal when there is a family crisis.
- \* Know the school attendance number—it has 24 hour voice mail available.

## **Parent Education Workshops**

Plan ahead for Parent Education Workshops. Mesa Parent University provides great education opportunities for parents/guardians. Check out the fall schedule of classes and class descriptions—available in the Hawthorne office. All of the classes are FREE! Two of the fall classes are being offered AT HAWTHORNE: Ten Steps to Positive Discipline is a 5 session workshop offered in English beginning September 21 and offered in Spanish beginning November 9.

Also, don't forget that the **English conversation class** continues on Tuesdays & Thursdays afternoons from 1:00 to 2:00 in Room 47. Contact Hawthorne School Counselor, Mimi Senner at 472-7513 or Parent Educator, Robert Hernandez at 472-7460 with any questions.