



Slater-Marietta Elementary School Newsletter



Volume 5, Issue 5

January/February 2012

864-355-2000

100 Baker Circle, Marietta, SC 29661

www.greenville.k12.sc.us/slaterma

Dear Parents,
Happy New Year!
Please read the following:



Annual School Improvement Council Report to the Community:

Principal: Lindsey D. Cole
SIC Chair: Shannon Johnson
School Address: 100 Baker Circle; Marietta, SC 29661
School Phone Number: 355-2000

2011 Report Card Ratings:

Absolute rating: Average
Improvement rating: Average

2010/2011 PASS Results:

ELA: 23.7% Not Met; **76.3%** Met or Exemplary
Math: 16.9% Not Met; **83.1%** Met or Exemplary

Achievement of Goals and Objectives:

During the 2010-2011 school year technology throughout the school was upgraded. Our 2011 Math PASS scores improved by 7% with over 80% of our students scoring met or exemplary. Our ELA PASS results continue to show over 75% of our students with met or exemplary scores.

School Goals & Objectives:

To increase the use of technology in the classroom
To have fewer students scoring Not Met on PASS in ELA and Math
To increase parent involvement opportunities

Strategies:

We will use our Title I funds to support the use of technology throughout the school; make the computer lab available for all students; provide additional materials for teaching math and reading; reduce class size; and, fund parenting programs and learning opportunities.

Evaluation:

Our students met Adequate Yearly Progress as measured by NCLB as a result of our 2011 PASS scores. All of our teachers and assistants are highly qualified according to No Child Left Behind legislation.



Important Dates:

January:

- ◇ **Jan. 18-20** Registration dates for 5K and 1st grade students for 2012-2013
- ◇ **Jan. 12** End of 2nd grading term
- ◇ **Jan. 13** Teacher work-day-No students
- ◇ **Jan. 16** ML King, Jr. Holiday-No school
- ◇ **Jan. 18** Parent Mtg: 8:30 a.m. Love, Logic & Academics
- ◇ **Jan. 19** 2nd term report cards come home
- ◇ **Jan. 23** Meeting at Northwest MS: 6:00 p.m..
- ◇ **Jan. 24** Lunch & Learn: Diving into Math @ 12:30
- ◇ **Jan. 27** Hawaiian Shirt Day! Chase away the winter blues!
- ◇ **Jan. 31** Deadline for parent surveys

February:

Dental Health Month!

Jump Rope for Heart Month!

- ◇ **Feb. 7** Title I planning committee mtg. @ 1:30 p.m. All invited to attend
- ◇ **Feb 1-3** Registration for 4-year old Kindergarten
- ◇ **Feb. 14** Annual Valentine's Dance: 2:30-3:30 p.m.
- ◇ **Feb. 13-17** Scholastic Book Fair!
- ◇ **Feb. 20** Presidents' Day-No School
- ◇ **Feb. 28** Lunch & Learn: Diving into Reading @ 1:30 p.m.

In November we had the Duke "Energized Guyz" come to school and present an assembly for our third, fourth, and fifth graders. This was very enjoyable and the students learned a lot about saving energy. As part of the program, everyone in the school can get a FREE energy kit from Duke Power mailed to his/her home. If our school has enough people register for kits we get \$1000.00 for the school! We are still in the running for it!!!

Go to MyEnergyKit.org and register for your kit! Keep it going for our school!

Thank you, Mrs. Simmons

From Paulette Megee in Title I:


◇ In these tough economic times, please remember that if there has been a recent change in your employment or in your income level, you are encouraged to complete a new **GC Schools free and reduced meals application** at any time. Don't hesitate to take advantage of this program to assist you and your family. The levels are adjusted per family size. You might be surprised to find that you do in fact qualify. Just ask in the office for an application form. Slater-Marietta Elementary receives Federal Title I funds to benefit our students and families. These funds are partially based upon the free and reduced program numbers.

◇ Please complete and return the **attached Schoolwide Title I planning survey** as part of our planning process for the 2012-2013 school year. **Only one survey is needed per family** (either paper or electronic). The survey will be sent by email to those whose email I have. Please complete by January 31st. We welcome and encourage parent input at any time regarding our Title I program but it is especially important during the planning process. Thank you so much for your involvement.

From the Media Center:

Our winter book fair will be February 13th-17th. Your purchases from the book fair will help us to pay for the online AR program for next year.

Our 4th and 5th grade Battle of the Books (BOB) team has begun practice. They have to read ten (10) books and then answer questions based on the book. They will then compete against each other to see who will

go to the district  competition in April. Wish them luck!

Christina Mobley and Sharon Smith

GCSD student registration for 5-year old Kindergarten and First grade for the 2012-2013 school year will be held on January 18-20. Be sure to register your 5 or 6-year old during this time.

You must come to school to complete paper work. Please bring the following items with you: a state issued birth certificate; two proofs of residence (can not be driver's license); and a properly completed immunization certificate.

If you have friends or family, please share this information. These are registration dates not only for Slater-Marietta but for all Greenville County schools.

Time to Plan for Middle School!

As we look forward to next year, our 5th grade students need to begin thinking about middle school classes.

In 6th grade, your child will get to choose which electives (related arts) he or she takes. You and your child should discuss which electives would be appropriate to take next year. We will be registering during the month of March. More information will be sent home in regards to specific electives and requirements as we near the registration date. Registration is done here at school over the computer.

Northwest Middle School will have a meeting to discuss course offerings and registration on **Monday January 23, 2012 at 6:00 pm in the cafeteria** at Northwest Middle School. We want you to be involved in making educational decisions for your child. If you have any questions, please call me at 355-2012 or our guidance counselor, Mrs. Kilgore at 355-2004.

Thank you, Mrs. Simmons

Slater-Marietta Elementary Fifth Grade will be sponsoring a

Valentine's Dance on February 14th

from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in our school gym.

The cost will be \$2.00 per person.

Parents are welcome to attend! Permission slips will be sent home on a later date.



Healthy living tip of the month:

January:

Limit TV and video games to 60 minutes or less! Instead read a book, go for a walk, play tag, ride bikes, build a fort, practice multiplication, draw, paint, write, or talk with your family members!

February:

Get 60 or more minutes of physical activity every day!



Lost and found!

We always have an abundance of student coats and jackets that have been left around the school and not claimed. Please write your child's name in these items so they may be returned to their owners. If your child is missing a coat or jacket, please come by and check out our "lost and found."





Science Club News



Slater-Marietta Science Club is up and going this year under the direction of Jody Childs, Carla Janosky, and Courtney Tilley. They just received their new delivery of Brook Trout eggs for the Trout in the Classroom program. These are the only trout native to our area. Students will learn about not only the life cycle of the trout but also about how poor environmental conditions are making life difficult for brook trout to survive. While science club members will be the most involved in raising these to release in the spring, all teachers have access to lesson plans and information to use in their classroom during science, math, reading or other lessons. One great website for teachers and parents to check out regarding the watershed, streams, rivers, water cycle, etc., is www.streamexplorers.org

Registration for Four-year-old Kindergarten with GCSD:

Registration dates for the four-year-old Kindergarten will be on: **Feb. 1, Feb. 2, & Feb. 3.** Parents must register their 4-year-old during this time in order for them to be evaluated in May for placement in a classroom for the 2012-2013 school year. This will be the only registration period for four-year-olds. In order to register, children must be four years old by September 1, 2012.

Come learn a new skill or freshen up on an old one!

What: **Family Literacy Project at Slater-Marietta Elementary!**

Who: All parents, grandparents, guardians of Slater-Marietta Elementary students (or members of the SMES community)

When: Each **Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 2:45-4:00 p.m.**

Where: The **Media Center** of Slater-Marietta Elementary

Why: Education matters and the more you know the more you can help your child! Make education a family event!



Dental Health Month!

February is National Dental Health Month. As part of our recognition of this, the Title I nurse, Ann Taylor, will be doing dental care education and providing new toothbrushes to all students in 5K and 1st grade.

Dental health is very important to overall good health. Please model good dental health practices and remind your child to avoid sugary foods and beverages. Make night-time brushing a normal part of your family routine.



Counselor's Corner from Aline Kilgore

"But I don't want to go back to school today!" Hopefully, this wasn't a statement uttered by a student in our school. But if you've heard something like it, this month's "Good Character" word of the month might come in handy. For the rest of the month, we are talking about using self-control – choosing to do what you SHOULD do, not what you WANT to do.

From Your Nurse, June Ratliff:

Cold and flu season is upon us. All parents should have a plan in case their child is sick and must be sent home or kept home from school. It is vital that the school have working emergency numbers to reach parents. Also, children should be kept home until they are fever free and have no vomiting or diarrhea for at least 24 hours. Good hand washing is the best way to help prevent the spread of germs. Practice singing "Happy Birthday" while washing hands to ensure they are clean! We will soon be updating immunization records. Be sure to bring documentation to the nurse when your child receives immunizations.



PE News from Coach Childs:

Two students from Slater-Marietta won the **Carolina Panthers Punt, Pass and Kick (PPK) Team Championships!** The Carolina Panthers and the Atlanta Falcons were not the only ones competing on the Panthers football field on December 4th. **Anastasia Samford** (age 7) and **Brittany Shipman** (age 11) recently won local, sectional, and state PPK titles which qualified them to compete in the national championships. Both girls dominated the field in their respective age groups and won the Carolina Panthers Team Championship! Their scores were submitted to the NFL along with all the other pro team champion scores. Among the 36 NFL team champions in the entire nation, Ana is ranked 20th and Brittany is ranked 18th. The school and community has a lot to be proud of with this Carolina Panthers PPK Team Championship achievement. Hard work and dedication creates success!

Music Notes from Ms. Lee:

No chorus practice during the months of January and February. The full chorus outfit should be kept clean and ready to wear at any given performance date. This includes the white T-shirt and the white shirt with the collar and logo on them, khaki pants with a black or brown belt, white tennis shoes, white socks, and green/white hair bows for the girls.

Be sure to send in all box tops, especially those saved over the winter holiday break. We will be ready to mail the next bundle of box tops off by February 24th. We would like to order some more steel drums, bells, and other instruments for the music classroom!

Thank you all for your continued support of the related arts team: Art with Mr. Clinton; Music with Mrs. Lee; P. E. with Coach Childs; Media Center with Mrs. Mobley; and Computer Lab with Mrs. McKinney.