

The Cheetah Spot

PTA Newsletter
Tuesday,
October 20th
2009
Issue 4

Cimarron Elementary School—Mindy Dickerson, Principal
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<http://kisdwebs.katyisd.org/campuses/ce/Pages/Default.aspx>

Dear Parents,

Please join us for Cimarron's Fall Open House TONIGHT from 6-7PM. We are very excited to show you what your children have been busily working on in the classroom. Our 5th graders will be selling pizza from 5:30-6:30PM in the cafeteria in order to raise money for their end of year party. Join us for food and fun TONIGHT!

Your Principal,
Mindy Dickerson

October's character focus
Individuality:
*discovering who you are meant to be
so you can make a difference.*

Dear Cimarron Families,

With field days, school projects, Open House, skate night, and Red Ribbon week, fall is a busy time of year at Cimarron. Add to that extra-curricular activities, sporting events, festivals, and family time, it's impossible to do it all! As Cimarron's staff and PTA volunteers work to plan events that bring families together, benefit our school and support the local community, the calendar gets crowded fast. Although we love to see our students and families at these activities, we don't expect you to "do it all." We hope that you are able to look through the Important Dates and attend some Cimarron after school events that fit into your schedule and your family will enjoy.

As the calendar gets busy, remembering the important things can get tricky. My family uses a dry erase calendar to keep up with our activities and assignments from three different schools. Our calendar hangs by the front door so we can check it before we leave in the morning. We note test days, library days, practices, after school events, Open Houses, and anything else we want to remember. We gather information from newsletters, planners, and the school web sites. Each family member has a different color marker for easy reference. New to my calendar this month is the purple marker for "family events we all attend together." My goal is at least one "purple event" each week, as time flies by too fast!

Stop by the PTA table in the cafeteria tonight during Open House and register to win your own "Dry Erase Family Calendar" and marker set! Good luck with your schedule, and enjoy this fantastic fall season with your family.

Cheryl Wienserski, PTA President

October Important Dates

- Visit Cimarron website's online calendar for updates.
- 19th-21st 2nd grade OLSAT/SAT 10 testing
- 20th Tues. **Cimarron Open House**
5:30-6:30 Pizza dinner benefitting 5th grade
6-7PM Classes open to visit
- 22nd 8:30-10 Kindergarten & AM PreK Field Day
10:30-12 1st grade Field Day
1:30-3 2nd grade & PM PreK Field Day
- 23rd 8:30-10 5th grade Field Day
10:30-12 3rd grade Field Day
1:30-3 4th grade Field Day

- 26th-30th **CE's Red Ribbon Week**
- 26th Mon. **Wear Red**
We're RED-y to be drug-free.
- 27th Tues. **Wear Sunglasses**
We're too bright for drugs.
Texas Roadhouse Night
- 28th Wed. **Wear Crazy Socks**
Sock it to drugs.
Picture Retakes
- 29th Thurs. **Wear a Hat**
Hat's off to being drug-free.
- 30th Fri. **Wear a Favorite College Shirt**
We're too smart for drugs.
Kindergarten character parade
Author LaFever speaks to 3rd-5th

November Important Dates

- 2nd Mon. **Wear Brown**
November's character trait introduced
- 3rd Tues. **50th Day of School**
- 6th 12:40PM **Early Dismissal** *end of 2nd 6-weeks*
(10:20AM for morning preK & PPCD)
- 12th Thurs. **3rd grade Field Trip**
- 13th Fri. **Cookie Dough Delivery**
- 20th Fri. **Kindergarten Field Trip**
- 24th Tues. **Class Parties**

It's not too late to join the PTA

If you haven't already joined Cimarron PTA, it's not too late. Being a member shows your support for Cimarron, as well as State and National PTA. Individual Membership is only \$7, and a Family Membership is \$11. Please join PTA and show your support for Cimarron! Questions? Contact Chris Zierk at chris.zierk@gmail.com.

Cookie Dough The orders are in, and you've done it again. Thank you, Cimarron, for another successful fundraiser. Delivery will be November 13th; delivery details coming soon.

Junior Achievement Have you ever dreamed of being a teacher or wondered what your children are learning? Why not step inside a classroom to teach Junior Achievement! Teaching experience not required; all lessons are written out and all materials provided. KISD is the first district in the world to teach Junior Achievement throughout the district. You can be a part of this. JA allows students to experience economics in exciting and innovative ways. If you would like to help about hour a week for six weeks, contact Deirdre Chavez at deirdrechavez@katyisd.org or 281-237-6952.

Red Ribbon Week It's that time again! October 26th-October 30th is Cimarron's Red Ribbon Week. We will show we are drug free by dressing up. Every day, the class with the largest percentage of participation will receive a class reward, so dress up, have fun, and stay drug free!

Art News Congratulations to 2nd grade students Gillian Husack, Robert Grainger, Charlie Robberson, and Kelsey Moore, as well as 5th grade students Michael Blue, Abby Sticker, Laura Castellano, Stephen Lloyd, and Caitlin MacDonald for having their works chosen for the first art display. Cimarron student art is displayed four times during the school year at the KISD Administration Complex, along with samples of art from all the other schools in the district. Each time, it is an impressive sampling of the young talent Katy has to offer. You're welcome to visit it. Here in the classrooms, we are beginning our pastel, resist, landscape, shadow and light source, and perspective lessons, coupled with our continuation of our practice of line and color theory. Our works will continue to appear in the hallways for a visual display of your students' creative energies.

Library Event On October 30th, Cimarron will welcome author Robin LaFevers. Ms. LaFevers wrote the [Forging the Blade](#) fantasy series as well as another series about a girl named Theodosia whose parents run the Museum of Legends and Antiquities in London. Both series are filled with fun, magic, and adventure. We are introducing the books to students during library time. Students can purchase discounted and autographed copies of her books. The last day to order is October 27th, but there are a limited number of books, so order early for best selection. These books will be delivered to students after the author visit. Parents and students can also visit Ms. LaFevers' exciting website: <http://www.rllafevers.com>. Ms. LaFevers will only be speaking to grades 3, 4, and 5 since her books are more appropriate for these students.

Birthday Marquee Our PTA is putting up birthday messages on Cimarron's marquee. For \$10, your child can have their name on the marquee for a minimum of 2 days during their birthday week! It's a great way to express your love for your child during their birthday! Just complete the form and return it with your payment. Checks to be made to Cimarron Elementary PTA. Extra forms are available on the spinning brochure display at the front entrance. Please direct your questions to Stephani Peralta at 281-217-3635 or lanie1012@aol.com. *Note: Due to FERPA laws, we are only allowed to put up the child's first name.*

Kindergarten Update Kindergarten had a great time over the past few weeks discussing city and farm. Unfortunately our field trip to Dewberry Farm was canceled due to inclement weather. We have rescheduled our field trip for Friday, November 20th. Our next event will be our storybook character parade to be held on October 30th. Please be looking for more information on the Kindergarten website and in your child's folder.

Kindergarten Gifted and Talented Screening Information regarding this year's screening of kindergarten students for the gifted and talented program was sent home with kindergarten students last month. Kindergarten parents who would like to refer their children for screening must return the Kindergarten Parent Checklist to their campus by October 16th. Extra copies of the checklist can be found in the school office. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Angela Schneider 281-237-6996 or angelaschneider@katyisd.org.

Avoiding Colds and Flu This Season:

Get enough rest. Recent information shows this helps ready your immune system to fight off infections. This means creating a consistent bedtime routine by going to bed at the same time every night. This helps your body "learn" when it's time to go to sleep. Get at least 8 hours of uninterrupted, quality sleep each night.

Wash your hands frequently! This is the key to avoiding all kinds of illnesses. Although some illnesses are in the air, many are contracted by touching an infected surface and then touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. To wash your hands properly, scrub your hands *vigorously* with soap and warm water for 20 seconds on all surfaces and between your fingers. After drying your hands, use your paper towel to turn off the faucet, to keep your clean hands clean. An alternative to soap and water is to use alcohol-based hand sanitizers.

Avoid touching your face. Touching the face is one of the most common ways that illnesses are caught and spread.

Drink plenty of water. Staying hydrated by drinking a lot of fluid, preferably water, helps keep your immune system in great shape by flushing out toxins. Limit caffeinated and sugary drinks, as these pull water out of your cells.

Eat a balanced diet. This includes at least 3 servings of vegetables and 2 servings of fresh fruit every day. Focus on dark green, red, and yellow fruits and vegetables. Have 2 servings of low-fat dairy daily.

Avoid sneezing or coughing into your hands. Use a tissue and immediately throw it away. If a tissue is not available, sneeze into your elbow.

Maintain a smoke-free environment. Smoke, even secondhand smoke, dries out nasal passages. This damages the fragile hairs in your nose that protect you again cold and flu germs.