

# HUSKY PAW PRINTS



February 3, 2012

## DATES FOR THE CALENDAR

February 7<sup>th</sup>-Tuesday - PTA meeting 6pm

March 7<sup>th</sup> 2012-Wednesday - NO EARLY RELEASE - District Testing

March 23<sup>rd</sup>-Friday Spring Social, Denim and Diamonds

April 2<sup>nd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Missoula

May 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>-Star Lab

May 15<sup>th</sup>-Tuesday Science Night

## Reminders to Parents ~~~~~

### Volunteers Needed:

**Lunch Room Duty:** From 11:30am-1:15pm

**Playground Duty:** From 11:50am-1:15pm

**Media Room:** Any school day during school hours

If you are interested in any of these positions please contact the office.

**Super-Duper Speller** congratulations to our Hunsberger Husky 6<sup>th</sup> grader Quincy who won the regional Spelling Bee competition held at UNR. She competed with over 35 other students from over 15 other schools. Her impressive performance allows her to advance to the state finals that will be held in Las Vegas in March. We wish her the best...Go Quincy!

**Missoula Children's Theatre Returns to Hunsberger the week of April 2-7.** There will be two performances on April 7th at 1:00pm and 3:00pm. We will be performing *The Secret Garden*. First come, first serve sign-ups will be on March 22nd at 7:30am (further information to follow on this). Rehearsals will start on Monday April 2nd and run from 3:30pm to 5:30pm and 6:30pm to 8:30pm, depending on the part your child has in the play. PLEASE NOTE: *Your child must be able to attend all rehearsals and performances to be part of the production on Saturday.* Call Karyn Jensen at 851-2179 for further information or to volunteer to help! Looking forward to another awesome performance by our kids!

**Coming Soon!** Hunsberger's annual spring social, Denim & Diamonds, will be held on March 23rd. **The funds raised from the Spring Social will be applied towards our commitment for purchasing Promethean interactive whiteboards for classroom use, improvements in school technology, library and art supplies, playground and landscaping upkeep.** This year we are holding our event at the beautiful ArrowCreek Country Club. In addition to fabulous auction items and fine dining, we will feature hosted wine and beer. Look out for early-bird discount tickets in the next couple of weeks! Do you like party planning and decorating? Are you good at organizing? Join us in preparing for this year's spring social. We have tons of jobs available from decorating the venue to creating a slideshow to taking tickets. Contact the PTA at [info@hunsbergerpta.com](mailto:info@hunsbergerpta.com).

**2012 School Registration** – Parents, please be sure you are using the Parent Portal in Infinite Campus (IC). School registration for next year will be done on-line, through the Parent Portal. Paw Prints will provide more information about the registration process at a later date. If you have any questions about using the Parent Portal please contact the office.

**Reno Fastpitch Softball Sign-Ups January 14<sup>th</sup>-February 19<sup>th</sup>**. Practices begin week of March 5<sup>th</sup>, games begin week of March 26<sup>th</sup> and run through June 2<sup>nd</sup>. For more information go to [www.renofastpitch.com](http://www.renofastpitch.com) or pick up a flyer outside the office.

### ~~~~MUSICAL MOMENTS

**MUSIC PROGRAM:** The first grade classes of Mrs. Cowles, Mrs. Ibarra, and Mrs. Major, with the second grade classes of Mrs. Campos/Mrs. Howard and Mrs. Dunivan, will present the musical "Spaced Out" on Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the Hunsberger multi-purpose room. This is an exciting and informative look at our Solar System, including lots of great music and fun facts. Please plan to attend and support your child's music education and hard work! Any questions, please contact Mrs. Thompson at [Tthompson@washoeschools.net](mailto:Tthompson@washoeschools.net).

**CHORAL ZONE CONCERT:** The sixth grade general music class will be performing at the Galena Choral Zone Concert on Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the Galena large gym. They will perform with the sixth grade students from Lenz and Huffaker, the Pine MS Choir, and the Galena Choirs. This is a fun and exciting evening which enables students to explore the opportunities that exist beyond the elementary music program. Please contact Mrs. Thompson with any questions: [Tthompson@washoeschools.net](mailto:Tthompson@washoeschools.net)

**Dolan Automotive Group School Improvement Contest on Facebook** Dolan Automotive is starting up another Facebook contest to help local schools. Hunsberger has added our project, which we're calling "Computers on the Run," to request funding for laptops and carts for student use while our computer lab is closed for standardized testing. Winning the contest would put \$10,000 toward the \$11,000 cost of these laptops and cart.

**Voting:** To participate, if you're not already a fan of the Dolan Automotive Group Facebook page, become one by "liking" their page. Then begin voting by "liking" our Hunsberger proposal. The first round of voting begins Wednesday, Feb. 15 selecting the top four elementary, middle and high school entries and ends Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 11:59 p.m. The top four submissions in each category advance to round two.

**Here's our proposal:** Learning to use a computer and putting those skills to use are a vital part of a 21<sup>st</sup> century education. An inescapable fact of 21<sup>st</sup> century schools is more and more student testing. Hunsberger would like to purchase a classroom set of laptops, and charging cart to house them, so our students will continue to have the use of computers while the school's lab is closed for these mandated tests. Our students need to have access to current information, be able to research projects, create presentations, access enrichment materials, and all the wonderful things the Internet has to offer while still complying with the state and district testing requirements.

What has now happened is that our school's computer lab is being closed for computer-based student testing so often that our students' computing skills are suffering. *Out of a typical school year, 36 weeks of instruction, our lab now needs to be closed to the general student population for 10 of those weeks for testing and next year will add an additional 3 to 4 weeks of closure to accommodate yet another online high-stakes test.*

*That means that our school computer lab will be unavailable to students nearly one-half of the school year.*

Our classrooms do have a teacher computer, and perhaps one laptop, but that is not nearly enough computers to make up for the loss of use of the computer lab.

**Please vote to support our students and THANK YOU! Our kids really appreciate you!**

## Counselor's Corner

**Hunsberger Self-Managers** are in full swing and gaining speed! Congratulations to all the safe, responsible, and respectful students that have earned their badge! We are all so proud of you!! **Parents** - We would like to organize celebrations and assemblies for all our hard working self-managers and need your help! If anyone has any great ideas and contact information for fun and cool ways to celebrate please let me know! We want our students to be rewarded for all their hard work with really special guests and activities. Thanks in advance!

This month the counseling department will be working on conflict resolution for grades K-3. This guidance curriculum stresses the importance of being positive problem solvers and provides strategies to deal with conflict in healthy ways. Please help at home by talking with your child about ways they can be problem solvers both at home and at school. "Peace cannot be kept by force. It can only be achieved by understanding." - Albert Einstein

## ~~~~~After School FUN~~~~~

**Dance Class**-for girls in grades K-4 held at Hunsberger on Thursdays from 3:35pm-4:30pm. Classes are held in the quad. The girls will be learning different forms of dance, including ballet, tap and hip hop. A recital will be in June. For more information call Miss Jenny at 250-4541 or 849-3844.

**The New Session of LEGO Lab begins next Tuesday February 7th** - Architecture and Famous Buildings II. 20 spots will fill the class so don't hesitate to register. Existing parents, please logon through your Bricks 4 Kidz account at [my.brick4kidz.com](http://my.brick4kidz.com) to register. New parents Enroll NOW at [www.brick4kidz.com/reno](http://www.brick4kidz.com/reno). Don't have time? Call us and we will enroll your child. Any questions, give us a call, 775.200.0445 or email [dshattuck@brick4kidz.com](mailto:dshattuck@brick4kidz.com).

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN YOUR CHILD LEARNING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE?

Starting on Monday, February 13 and Wednesday, February 15, Hunsberger Elementary and WCSD's Community Education will be presenting to you two **Beginning Mandarin Courses this spring to students in K-2 and in grades 3-6**. This will be 6-week sessions, which will start on Monday, February 13 and offer continuous sessions until Wednesday, June 6. K-2 classes will be on Wednesdays from 2:45pm-4:00pm and Grades 3-6 will be held on Mondays from 3:30pm-4:45pm. All classes will be held in Hunsberger's Library through June 2012.

The **Beginning Mandarin Course** entitled, "**I love Chinese: Culture & Conversation**" are 6-week session courses that are multi-sensory and will introduce beginning language learners to the Chinese spoken and written language, along with exposing students to fun activities through arts and crafts, singing of folk songs, and story-reading/listening. Students in grades 3-6 will have the opportunity to practice Chinese calligraphy, as well as be able to learn Chinese poetry. Classes are \$70 per session and pre-register is requested by emailing Hunsberger parent Helen Yung at [hcyung@me.com](mailto:hcyung@me.com). If you have any questions, please email or call her at (775) 657-8173 or contact WCSD Community Education at 775-829-9010. Applications and fees will be paid on the first day of each session. On-line learning options are available as part of this language program.

**Mandarin Teacher** Helen C. Yung is from Taipei, Taiwan, where she was born. She was educated in Taipei's International School as a child and grew up in Los Angeles, California. She holds a Masters in Education from the University of Pennsylvania in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) and was previously the Director of Academics at Citrus College's language academy, FLS International in Glendora, CA. She has also been a language instructor at language learning centers throughout Irvine, CA and Taipei, Taiwan. She has three children whom she continues to instruct in beginning Mandarin. She provides private and group lessons to adults and children in Mandarin and tutors ESOL students and prepares them for SATs and TOEFL.

## **Crochet for Charity!**

Hello! This is AnnaMarie still calling all the young and young at heart to join the "**Connecting Youth to Crochet for Charity**" project. Join us for our **meetings/open house** from 3:30pm to 5:00p.m. When: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month. Where: Room C6 @ Hunsberger Elementary school. What: Bring US crochet hook size I or J & 3 oz ball 100% acrylic thread medium thickness(4), colors are brown and off white. If you are interested, just show up or contact me at [connectyouth2crochet4charity@gmail.com](mailto:connectyouth2crochet4charity@gmail.com). Our next meeting is Thursday, February 16th. If anybody is interested in starting their squares for February, the color of that month is pink. Hope to see you there. Sincerely, AnnaMarie

For other school activities check the boards outside the office.