

The Winter Concert will be held on December 15!

Please mark your calendars for Thursday evening, Dec. 15, when Hardy's musicians will present their winter concert. This event is an annual highlight at Hardy, showcasing the great talents of our instrumental and vocal performers. The students and music faculty have put an enormous amount of effort into preparations, so please come and support them. The performance will start in the auditorium, then move to the gym for the marching band's big finale.

Note: An incorrect date for this performance was distributed with report cards. **The correct date is Dec. 15.**

Message from the Principal

Greetings from Dr. Mary...

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, Hardy students took their second round of "Paced Interim Assessment" tests in English/Language Arts and Math. These tests are short (approximately one hour) evaluations that will be administered every six weeks to determine students' progress in preparing for the comprehensive DC CAS tests that are given each spring. The interim assessments are part of the new 2011-2012 DCPS "Academic Plan" for Hardy and other district schools.

Within about ten work days, the staff receives the results of the interim assessments, as well as coordinated professional development materials focused specifically on ELA and Math. The assessments provide information that can aid teachers in making instructional adjustments. For example, the results might prompt teachers to re-emphasize certain skills to meet new "Common Core Standards" for a given cycle of instruction. The assessment data are shared with all staff members so that they continue supporting and integrating the standards in their own disciplines.

One of the key requirements of the new Common Core Standards for Reading is that all students be able to comprehend texts of steadily increasing complexity as they progress through school. By the time they complete the core, students must be able to read and comprehend independently and proficiently the kinds of complex texts commonly found in college and career environments. Students must be able to read complex expository texts -- texts that offer new language, new knowledge and new modes of thought.

As parents, please know that improving literacy and math at Hardy and in DCPS is a priority. A parent guide about the Academic Plan

Dates to Remember

1/24 - 11/25 -
Thanksgiving Holiday -
NO SCHOOL
(DCPS Turkey Bowl
DCIAA Football
Championship Game
at Eastern SHS)
11/29 - First Hardy
Open House, 9:00-
10:30

12/02 - Professional
Development Day for
Teachers and Staff -
NO SCHOOL FOR
STUDENTS
12/15 - Hardy Winter
Concert

12/22 - Winter Break
begins. Students return
to school on January 3,
2012.

How to Reach Us

Greg Mize, PTA Co-
President

gemproductions@
mac.com

Barry Hudson, PTA
Co-President
blehudson@gmail.com

Hudson Primus, Vice
President
hfprimus@msn.com

Stephen Frum,
Treasurer
sfrum@mac.com

Doug Kendall, Co-

can be found on the district website, under "In the Classroom".

Dr. Mary

Letter from the PTA

The PTA Hospitality Committee Serves up Snacks!

Did you know that Hardy has a Hospitality Committee? Well, we do. This is a yummy of an assignment, and we are here to serve snacks and good cheer to students, teachers, and guests at special Hardy events.

So far, events that require our specialty include: Faculty meetings, Open houses, Parent Teacher Conferences, Student snacks during testing weeks, and, *of course*, Teacher Appreciation Week.

Some parents have already signed up to provide snacks for many of these events, but we could also use **YOUR** help on the following events and dates:

Faculty meetings - last Mondays at 3:30 p.m. Water bottles and granola bars would be great! (Nov. 28, Feb. 27, March 19, April 23 and May 21)

Open houses - last Tuesdays at 9 a.m. Coffee, pastries, napkins and cups.

If you can coordinate an event, that'd be GREAT! You do not have to do this single-handedly, and I hope you can enlist some of your friends to help out.

PTA will reimburse you for your purchases. Starbucks, Brueggers Bagels, Safeway, and Whole Foods (all on Wisconsin Avenue between Hardy and Calvert Street) are good places to ask for donations. At the very least, you can use Hardy's tax-exempt status for your purchases (please request the Tax ID number from Stephen Frum, PTA Treasurer (sfrum@mac.com)).

Please contact us! We can use your help.

Thanks,

Shari Gilbert
sharigilbert@mac.com
m2mom5@gmail.com

Marisa Mize
commolly.c.evans@gmail.com

Molly Evans

Announcements

Hats, Scarves and Gloves for the Homeless

The 8th Grade is sponsoring a hat, scarf, glove, and sock drive for Charlie's Place (the organization featured at our Homeless Walk assembly). Teachers, please encourage your advisory students to bring in new or lightly used items. If you could create/ decorate a box or bag for your homeroom to use that would be great.

Secretary
doug@theusconstitution.org

Mesha Moody-Pratt,
Co-Secretary
mpratt3318@aol.com

Hardy "Quiet Fund"

Please consider helping a Hardy family in need of a helping hand during the holidays by donating a grocery card in any amount to the Quiet Fund. Thanksgiving contributions are due by Tuesday, November 23, 2011, while December contributions can be given until December 15. See Ms. Hester for more information.

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(202) 729-4350

Dr. Mary Stefanus,
Principal

mary.stefanus@dc.gov

Loren Brody,
Assistant Principal
loren.brody@dc.gov

Sah Brown,
Assistant Principal
sah.brown@dc.gov

Parents, please note that the last day for contributions will be Friday, December 9th. These items can be found at Family Dollar and at the dollar store, etc. for a small cost. Every item is a welcome gift for our brothers and sisters facing homelessness-- especially during these cold winter months.

The advisory class with the most items collected wins a pizza party on Friday, December 16th!!

Questions? Please contact Ms. Bax at sarah.bax@dc.gov. Kazon Thomas is our student liason with the organization.

After-School Activity Notes

The 6th Grade Newspaper Club meets Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30 in Ms. Hughes' room. Questions? Contact Ms. Hughes at kimberley.hughes@dc.gov.

Environmental Club also meets Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30, in the library. Contact parent Karen Bates at bates.dc@verizon.net for more information.

Math Club meets from 3:30-4:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Ms. Bax's room. The club is sponsored by Ms. Bax and Ms. Trogisch. Questions? Contact Ms. Trogisch at cynthia.trogisch@dc.gov

Scrabble Club meets every Wednesday from 3:30-5:30 pm in Ms. Henry's classroom. The club will participate in our first competition of the year at Janney Elementary on Saturday, November 19, 2011. The club is sponsored by Ms. Henry and Ms. Bright. Questions? Contact Ms. Henry at jann.l.henry@dc.gov.

Double-dutch Jump-Rope Club will begin after the Thanksgiving break on Thursdays from 3:30-4:30. The club is open to all students, whether they're just interested in learning to jump or already a professional. Questions? Contact Ms. Hughes at kimberley.hughes@dc.gov.

After-School Tutoring

All three grade-level teams provide after-school tutoring for students seeking extra support or instruction in any subject. For more information, contact any of your child's teachers.

Sports News

Eligibility Forms for Indoor Track and Field and Basketball for Boys and Girls are now available. Once Eligibility is deemed "Cleared" for students, Try-out Dates will be announced.

Hardy Hawks Football Recap:

The team placed second in the DCPS WEST Division. Congratulations to Coach Foster and everyone on the team. Go Hawks!

Want to receive the Hardy newsletter? Send us an email at HardyMiddleSchoolPTA@gmail.com and we'll add you to the list

Follow us on Twitter
@HardyPTA

Hardy Hawks Cross Country:

Middle School City Championship:

Asia Amos, winner

Dianalyn Romo (Girls) Aaron Coates (Boys), top 10 finishers

Hardy Boys Team, runner-up

Hardy Girls Team, runner-up

West Division Solo Competition:

1st Place, Asia Amos; 3rd Place, Dianalyn Romo; Top-10: Aaron Coates

Congratulations to all of our Student Athletes and to Coach Bethea and Coach Dixon!!

