

3205 N. University Drive, Coral Springs, FL 33065

PANTHER POST

FEBRUARY 2009

Dear Parents and Students,

With second semester well underway, enrollment for the 2009-2010 school year is right around the corner. We will begin the enrollment process with the recommitment of current students. To ensure your child has a seat for the new school year please complete the recommitment form either online or by submitting a hard copy to the homeroom teacher. Report cards will be issued to students on February 4th. Re-enrollment information will be included with your child's report card. Please be prompt in returning this important information. To ensure your child's spot for next year, it is imperative the recommitment letter be returned by the deadline date of Monday, February 23rd. At the present time we still have over 1000 students on our wait list!

For new students who may be interested in enrolling, we will be hosting two Open Houses scheduled for February 12th and March 12th from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. These Open Houses are for prospective parents and students. Please tell your friends and neighbors about this opportunity to come and visit our school.

Please be reminded the FCAT testing will begin on February 10th with the writing assessment for 8th and 10th graders followed by the reading, mathematics and science assessments in early March. As you know, at Coral Springs Charter we focus on the Sunshine State Standards and believe all students who master these standards will perform at a proficient level or higher on the FCAT. This year, due to state budget cuts, the Norm Referenced Tests (NRTs) will not be given. If your child is experiencing academic difficulty, it is imperative you communicate with your child's teachers and guidance counselor to seek ways to further support your child.

On another note, this year marks the 10th anniversary of Coral Springs Charter School! A committee of students, faculty and staff are busy planning a spring event to celebrate this occasion. Further details will be forthcoming!

At Coral Springs Charter we continue to build upon our strengths and our accomplishments to enable our students to reach their highest academic potential. Thank you for your continued support!

Warmest Regards,

Billie Miller, Principal

IMPORTANT DATES – FEBRUARY

February 3	Chorus Booster Club Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
February 4	Report Cards Issued
February 7	NJHS Carwash
February 10	PTSO Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Cafeteria
February 10-12	FCAT Testing
February 11-13	Jr. Class College Tour
February 12	Open Enrollment Open House, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
February 13	Sophomore Class Fundraiser – Jamba Juice
February 16	Holiday – No School
February 17	Band Booster Club Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Band Room
February 19	Interim Reports Issued
February 19	Parent Curriculum Night, 7:00 p.m., Auditorium
February 23	SAC Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
February 26-28	HS Musical, 7:00 p.m., Theatre

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Main Phone line	954-340-4100	Student Activities Director	954-340-4120
MS Attendance line	954-340-4128	MS Dean of Discipline	954-340-4118
HS Attendance line	954-340-4129	HS Dean of Discipline	954-340-4125
Guidance Office	954-340-4134	Nurse/Clinic	954-340-4107
ESE Department	954-340-4139	School Store	954-340-4123
Athletic Department	954-340-4106	Registrar	954-340-4108

DONATIONS WANTED

We are in need of the following items. Please note that for every \$10 spent, 1 hour of volunteer time will be given. All donations should be dropped off to Mrs. Hocker in the main office.

First Aid Items (band-aids, feminine hygiene products, plastic baggies, etc.)

Manilla file folders- letter and legal size

Business Envelopes - #10

Address Labels – Avery 5160

Copy Paper (also colored copy paper)

Dry Erase Markers

General Office Supplies (paper clips, scotch tape, staples, etc.)

Navy or White Table Covers (long or round)

Plastic Utensils, Paper Plates, Cups, Napkins

Bottled Water

Gatorade

Crackers or Breakfast Bars (for clinic)

OPEN ENROLLMENT OPEN HOUSE

Please tell your friends and neighbors about our Open Houses for Open Enrollment planned for Thursday February 12th and Thursday, March 12th **from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.** Prospective parents and students may come at any time during these two hours as there is no formal presentation. Tours will be given every 15 minutes beginning in the main lobby.



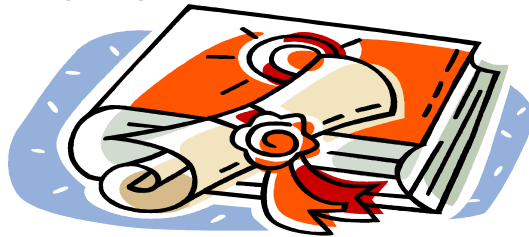
RECOMMITMENT FORMS

Recommitment forms will be sent home with your child's report card on February 4th. To ensure a spot for your child next year, it is **imperative** that the Recombitment Forms are returned by the deadline date of **February 23rd**. You may also recommitment online using the Parent Access on the SIS System. It is extremely important that you include a valid email address when recommitting online. This will provide you with a dated confirmation page to keep for your records. Should you have any questions regarding the recommitment process, please call Mr. Martin at 954-340-4108.

HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK

Order your full color 160 page memory book while the price is a low \$80. The price increases to \$90 once the books are here. Order forms are available by the Panther outside of room 205 in the main lobby. Checks may be made out to CSCS. Imprinting is no longer available.

All of the senior tribute/advertising pages are now full.



MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOK

The Middle School Yearbook is now on sale for \$45. If you would like to purchase one, please send in a check or money order made payable to CSCS or cash (exact amount please) to either Mrs. Murray (257) or Mrs. Pullo(259).

As there are only a limited amount of yearbooks available, don't miss out on your chance to own a CSCS 10th Anniversary Edition.

ANONYMOUS TIP PROGRAM

Broward County Public Schools has launched a new Anonymous tip Via Text Messaging program to provide students an alternative tool for anonymously reporting dangerous situations or individuals to District officials. Students, teachers, staff and parents along with members of the public, can now send anonymous tips via text message from any cell phone. **All text messages must begin with SBBC [space] followed by the message and sent to CRIMES or 274637.**



NURSE'S NOTES

We will again be offering the opportunity to get those volunteer hours needed by assisting with health screenings. The dates will be March 26th and 27th. Please contact Nurse Willoughby@ ewilloughby@coralspringscharter.org or call 954-340-4107 and leave a message if you would like to help. March 26th will be all day starting first hour and March 27th will be ½ day the same as school hours.

GUIDANCE CORNER

Parent Curriculum Night - February 19, 2009, 7:00 PM (Auditorium)

Come to the **Curriculum Night** to hear about the registration process and what Charter has to offer our students. This will be very informational to 8th grade parents in particular as we will be discussing the transition process from 8th to 9th grade. Guidance staff will be presenting a talk in the Auditorium at 7:00 PM to discuss the many opportunities for CSCS high school students.

FCAT Writing

On February 10, 2009, our 8th and 10th grade students will be taking the FCAT SSS Writing test. Make up days for testing will be on February 11 and February 12.

PLEASE NOTE A IMPORTANT FCAT POLICY!!

Due to recent concerns based on security violations involving camera phones, policy has been revised to state that the possession of electronic devices **will** result in test invalidation. The previous policy stated that violation **may** result in test invalidation. However, If a student is found with an electronic device that reproduces, transmits, calculates, or records (e.g., a cell phone, camera, or pager) within his or her arm's reach during testing, invalidation must take place. Our suggestion is to have your child leave their electronic devices at home to avoid any unwanted invalidations.

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

Coral Springs Charter School will no longer be accepting community service hours unless they are included in the list of Broward County's Approved Service Hours. The following website gives a detailed description of acceptable community service hours: www.browardschools.com/schools/service_learning.htm.

Some examples of non-acceptable service hours include attending club meetings, participation in campus or competitive activities such as athletics, plays, etc. Volunteering for a for profit summer camp will not count.

Some examples of acceptable service hours are time spent collecting donations in which all proceeds go to a non-profit charity, volunteering for a non-profit organization, helping a club in which the student is NOT a member.

Please visit the website above for more examples. When volunteer work is done outside of the school, an approval form must be filled out. All service hours will be verified and if we are unable to verify the hours, we will not count them until we can. All service hour forms can be picked up in Guidance and we can guide our students as to the acceptability of their hours.

DECA NEWS

"Make Your Mark!" DECA District winners qualify for States March 5 to March 8 in Orlando! Congratulations go to the following members: David Ardila, Brandon Becker, Hannah Swerdloff, Melissa O'Neill, Najla Walfall, Marilyn Malara, Shawna Rodriguez, Jamie Cohn, John Canzanese, Freddie Scholcover, Steven Lerner, Seide DesAuguste. In the bubble (Placed in top 25 of category and moves up in qualifying rank if someone drops out): Chad Indictor & Maria Diaz, James Sang & David Kuhlman, Jordan Ludwig & Sara Lobracco, Alexa Ulloa & Jordyn Barnello, Heather Heck & Michelle Arce, Maria Herrera, Darius Guerin, Philip Harrinarine and Shay Maraj. For more information contact Mrs. Hoo at dhoo@coralspringscharter.org or 954-868-2030.

BUILDER'S CLUB

The Builders Club has done fantastic work during the past few months. They raised \$3,600 worth of clothing and toiletries for the Broward Partnership for the homeless. They are also working on the Cystic Fibrosis walk (April), The Humane Society Walk for Animals (March). We are putting together a recipe book (great recipes will be appreciated) and are planning a jeans day. The students are very enthusiastic and have done great work for the charities. It is very satisfying to be in a win-win-win situation.

NATIONAL HONOR AND JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

Attention all students with a 3.0 GPA or higher: National Honor and Junior Honor Society will be handing out applications in February 2009 for those students who qualify for membership into these organizations. Please make sure you continue to get your service hours to reach the required 30 hours **prior to the application deadline date**. For more information, please see Ms. Alba or Mr. Singer.

PTSO NEWS

PARENT VOLUNTEER FORMS

You may pick up a parent volunteer form in the front office or at the school store. Don't forget you are required to do 20 hours per school year if you have one child in the school and 30 hours per school year for two or more children. Forms are due **no later than May 15, 2009**. Your child will not be able to return for the 2009-2010 school year, if you do not hand in a completed Parent Volunteer Form to Mrs. Barbuto by the due date. No Exceptions! ***Seniors will not be able to participate in their Graduation Ceremony if their Parent Volunteer Hours are not completed.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed in the copy room. Please contact Sandra O'Connor at sokrafty@bellsouth.net

Chaperones needed for the Renaissance Fair on Friday, February 20, 2009. Please contact Ms. T. Moore at tmoore@coralspringscharter.org.

Volunteers needed for uniform presale Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, May 12-14 from 5:00 – 7:30. Please contact Louisa Barbuto at lbarbuto@coralspringscharter.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Tuesday, February 10 – PTSO Meeting 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria

Tuesday, March 10 – PTSO Meeting 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria

Tuesday, April 14 – PTSO Meeting 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, May 12, 13 & 14 – Uniform Presale 5:00 – 7:30 (receive 3 hours/child for purchasing 2 uniform items)

Friday, May 15 – All Parent Volunteer Forms must be turned in



We are in need of camping tents for Relay For Life held on April 17 & 18 at Coral Springs High School. If anyone is interested in lending us his or her tents, the PTSO will give you 5 volunteer hours for the loan of your tent. Another way you can get volunteer hours is by coming by that evening and walking around the track. However long you stay, that is how many volunteer hours you will receive. If you bring other adults with you, they can get volunteer hours for you also. Just think - exercise and volunteer hours - how much better can it get. Please contact Ms. Moore at mmoore@coralspringscharter.org

SCHOOL STORE HOURS

Monday – Friday 7:15 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Additional Hours Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 11:30



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE LIBRARY?

After School Programs:

Mondays through Thursday - Afterschool activities (school days only), ages 12-18. 2:45 to 4pm.

Tuesdays and Thursdays - Free Homework Help Center (school days only), grades 6-8, 4 to 5:30pm.

4- Short Story Book Discussion. Read a short story and discuss it with others, refreshments, ages 12-18, 4 to 5:30pm.

7- Fashion Design. Learn the basic rules of fashion design. Take apart and re-design your own T-shirt. T-shirts provided. Please call the YS desk at 954-341-3900 x 274 to pre-register. Registration is required. This free program is sponsored by The Stephanie Rubin Memorial Fund. Ages 12-18, 1 to 4pm.

11- Craft: Making beaded valentines pins for craft day.

17 - Anime Club. Join our fanboys and fangirls to discuss and watch anime and manga, ages 12-18. 5:30 to 6:30pm.

18 - Teen Movie Night, refreshments, ages 12-18, 4 to 6pm.

Black History Month Program:

February 28- Diversity: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow, 10:30am to 2pm in Multipurpose Room. The contribution of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other civil rights leaders on diversity and open housing - yesterday, today and tomorrow. For more information, contact Brenda Cleaver: 954-567-0545.



Literary Fair News



Congratulations to 7th grader Michelle Concepcion Hernandez Espinosa from Ms. Beckles' class! Her beautiful poem, "We Are Different, but We Share One Dream," earned the Best in Show award in the city's annual Martin Luther King Visual Arts and Literary Competition. Mrs. Miller shared her work with the school during morning announcements. Needless to say we are very proud of Michelle in the way she represented our school to the community!

Her poem and award will soon be on display, along with a wonderful interactive art piece from Ms. Erez' class.

Entries for the Broward County Literary Fair will be due to Mrs. Martin at the beginning of March. Interested students can see Mrs. Martin at the library for a list of categories and guidelines. Meanwhile, here are some more opportunities for our young writers (Watch deadlines and please ask Mrs. Martin or your child's Language Arts/English teacher for more information.):

- 1) Novel Day for Students Short Story Contest, Sponsored by the Broward Library Foundation. Prizes from \$25 to \$1000. Due Feb.12.
- 2) River of Words "Watersheds" writing contest. The contest is designed to help students explore the natural and cultural history of the place where they live, and express what they discover. Prizes and trip to Washington for the grand prize winner. Due Feb. 15
- 3) American Museum of Natural History Research Essay Contest invites students conduct a scientific investigation including questions, hypotheses, and gathering of data. It should include artwork and/or photographs to illustrate findings and provide the student with a new understanding about his or her question. Winners receive cash and a trip to Washington. Due Mar. 2nd
- 4) Holocaust: The Meaning of Never Again Writing and Visual Arts Contest. Limit 1,000 words. 1st place: \$250 bond. Overall: Trip to ceremony in Washington. Due Mar. 27th
- 5) Acts of Kindness Can Make a Difference From the Holocaust Education Center. Students are asked to share an experience and express how it changed someone's life. Due May 15th

Please let Mrs. Martin know if your child will be entering any of these contests. Feel free to ask her for any assistance. Please get entries to her a little before the deadlines so she can help if needed.

DRAMA NEWS

AWARDS GALORE FOR CSCS AT JR. AND SR. THESPIAN DISTRICT COMPETITIONS!

The CSCS Drama Department did great this year at both the Jr. and Sr. Thespian District Competitions that took place in December. The Jr. Thespians Large Group Musical, *Positive*, featuring Lindsey Abbott, Logan Abbott, Ari Bloshinsky, Jessica Carter, Rebecca Feinberg, McKenzie Campbell, Caitlyn Pagano, and Annalee Wharton, won the Critic's Choice Award! And the Sr. Thespian Critic's Choice Award for Costume Design went to Hillary Nofil. Our thespian students also won many Superior and Excellent ratings in the categories of Pantomime, Duet Acting, Monologues, Small Group Musicals, Large Group Musicals, Technical Events, Playwriting, Student Directed Scene, Solo Musicals, Jr. One Act, and Duet Musicals! Congratulations to all of our thespians!

DRAMA BOOSTER CLUB NEWS

The CSCS Drama Booster Club meeting will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 11th, 2009 at 7:00 pm in Ms. Helliker's room. Everyone interested in the Drama Department, including those parents whose children are not in a drama class, are welcome to attend. Two volunteer hours will be given for attendance.

DON'T MISS THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL

The CSCS Drama Department will perform *The Scarlet Pimpernel* on February 26th, 27th, and 28th at 7 pm at the CSCS Theater. Tickets are available through Ms. Helliker, Ms. Childress (in the front office between 10 am and 2 pm), or by calling or emailing Sherrie Bourg Carter at 954-980-0544 or sbcarter@forensic-experts.net. Reserve your seats today!



READING NEWS

Mrs. Smoller's classes participated in the, *News in Education* "Publix Touchdown" program, starting in October, 2008 and ending November 14, 2008. Most of the students did the required reading log for a class assignment, but 47 students went beyond, and December 11, 2008, these students were recognized by receiving a "Congratulations!" Coupon for Gameworks, from the "Sun Sentinel," *News in Education*, program.

Congratulations to all participants.

Need Money for College?

Who? All college-bound students.

What?

- Complete your financial aid forms in one afternoon!
- Bring your 2008 tax returns and/or W-2 forms if ready.
- Financial aid presentations in English, Spanish, and Creole.

When?

SATURDAY, February 21, 2009
from 9 a.m - 1 p.m.

Where?

Broward College A. Hugh Adams
Central Campus, Building 19
3501 SW Davie Road
Fort Lauderdale, FL



We can help

Questions? <http://www.broward.edu/sfs>