

handprints

SEPTEMBER
2011

Have sand, will dig! Enjoying the sandbox at Harmony School, 2011.



Harmony Preschool/K News

We welcome everyone to an exciting year ahead! We have a great group of children and families at Harmony. The teachers and children are excited and enthusiastic about school! We are beginning to mesh nicely together and learn a lot of rules and where things are at Harmony. We have been going over procedures so please be understanding as we work things through. Everyone seems to be adjusting well. Debbie's class will have Stephen and Fionn starting on Sept. 6. They are moving to the US from the UK. Please welcome them as they join our classroom and adjust.

Our preschool/k studies began August 29 with the study of insects. You can begin to read stories about insects to your children at home. You will begin to hear songs about insects and related art activities, too.

Late this month, Justin Lewandowski will visit us to talk about insects at circle time.

A few reminders...

Please make sure your child eats a good breakfast and gets plenty of rest. Please keep an extra pair of clothing in your child's cubby at ALL TIMES and label all clothing with your child's name. Please use quiet voices in the classrooms when dropping off your child and continue friendly conversations in the hallway.

Book club order forms are sent home from time to time. The books are discounted and generally a good selection. If you are interested in ordering books, please make your check payable to the book club, NOT to Harmony School.

Don't forget...

Cookie day is every Friday. Please be sure your child has a quarter on Fridays. Check your child's classroom door (or the Parent's Corner of the website) for their assigned day to bring cookies. Please remember to provide 45 cookies.

Please volunteer for field trips and class parties. The sign-up sheets are on the classroom doors.

We're off to a great start and happy to address concerns or situations that arise. Please leave a note on our board in the classroom, email us or call us at home. Debbie's number is 790-9822, Carroll's number is 256-1694 and Ashley's number is 843-224-0166.

Elementary News and Notes

Our first weeks together this school year have been great. Having so many first graders makes learning that much more inspiring. Our multiage “one room” school house is off to a tremendous start for sure! The 2nd through 4th graders are sharing their knowledge and skills, and getting to see the world through the eyes of a first grader again! So far, reviewing things like our



planet’s continents and details of Earth’s journey around the sun, the importance of humanity’s inventions like writing and math, and the needs of a community and how they relate to needs within our classroom. Reviewing all these things only reinforces the concepts for the older students.

This month, we’ll continue to study about the universe and delve deeper



into our planet, continent and country. A lot of busy, enthusiastic learners have explored math through manipulative and written work, studied antonyms and synonyms, grammar studies, and our students are, of course, always writing. We start every day with journal writing. Students share their writing during morning community circle, and the discussions it inspires is amazing.

Another big part of our community is eagerly caring for our classroom plants and animals. We now have a bearded dragon in addition to the well-loved Djembe (tortoise), Poseidon (fish), Antares (scorpion), Cob and Dun Dun (snakes), and Lovebug (bird). Our first field trip to the Fire Department and the Fire Department Museum and then to Memorial Park downtown was so much fun. This month, we’re off to Saluda Shoals Park to photograph the beauty and creativity of nature. We’ll also visit Sonoco Recycling and Owen’s Field this month.

Another great thing we really love about our class? Books, books and books! Our students enjoy a classroom culture that values literature and reading. They read throughout the day: from early reading exercises for the younger students to silent reading time

for all after recess. Reading is also a part of everyone’s homework. As a family, read aloud whenever you can no matter the age of your student. It’s so much fun and opens up worlds of adventure and food for thought or discussion.

Spanish has begun on Fridays. If you ask your student about “Cosmo” and the fun Spanish songs, you’ll probably get to hear the neat songs they enjoy so much. Be sure to ask your student about our healthy snacks. Thank you for supporting this effort and for taking the time to send them fruits and veggies in their lunches, too.

Don’t forget to visit the Elementary Blog at harmonyelementary.wordpress.com

Harmony Staff Update

Courtney who has been working with the elementary students in the aftercare program has had an unexpected family emergency and will not be returning. We are looking for someone to replace her ASAP. We have a potential candidate but ‘til everything is final we will have subs fill in. Thanks for understanding.

sept.	brisk	fun	autumn
	9/5 Labor Day Holiday — no school!	9/10 Harmony Day at Plex (Sandhills) 2–5pm	9/22 Children’s Theatre Field Trip—Debbie’s class leaves at 8:45 am and Carroll’s 10:30 am
	9/23 Children’s Theatre Field Trip—Ashley’s class leaves at 8:45 am	10/26 Halloween Family Fun at Harmony School 6:30pm	11/19 Annual Oyster Roast and Silent Auction at Harmony School, 6:30 pm

Sixth Annual Oyster Roast and Silent Auction

Plans are well underway! Mark your calendar on November 19 for an evening full of great food, music and friends. The fun will start at 6:30 pm and includes steamed oysters, homemade chili, beer, wine, live music and a silent auction. Tickets are \$30 per person.

Live musical performances by Jahson and the Natty Vibe Band, J’Ouvert Steel Drum Band and the Next Door Drummers. Silent auction items include a Myrtle Beach weekend get-away at the Hilton Oceanfront Resort, tickets to Ripley’s Aquarium, Brookgreen Gardens and the NASCAR SpeedPark; a week’s stay in The McDonald Family beach house on Edisto Island; a pair of Skorpion Multi Terrain adult skates, a pair of Skorpion Quadline Urban Street Skates for adults and a pair of Skorpies, Quadline Urban Street Skates for kids. Many items including original art and gift certificates, too. Visit the event blog at www.harmonyauction.blogspot.com for information.

Harmony Day at Plex Indoor Sports

(Saturday, September 10 from 2-5 pm)
 Enjoy rollerskating and inflatables for just \$8. Tickets available in advance. Great fun and 30% of ticket sales are being donated back to Harmony School!

Happy Birthday to You!

Macy How	9/1
Addison & Alexis McClure	9/2
Zoe Young	9/10
John Duncan	9/14
Max Hyjek	9/16
Maxwell Hevener	9/16
Samuel Blake	9/17
Aidan Gruner	9/18
Noah Adams	9/20
Ranger McAngus	9/21
Danielle Vandenberg	9/23
Caroline Brandes	9/28

Harmony Day at Monkey Joe’s

(Tuesday, October 4 anytime between 10am-7pm)
 Enjoy Monkey Joe’s awesomeness for just \$7.99. Go to the Monkey Joe’s near Clemson Road on Harmony Day and 35% of ticket sales are donated back to the school!

Like Harmony on Facebook yet? We’d like you to!

<http://www.facebook.com/harmonyschoolsc>

Hooligan's Lunches

Thank you for using the online Hooligan's order form. Please complete a separate form for each child and submit electronically by Wednesday each week. If your child stays for aftercare, don't forget to send an afternoon snack or order an extra side to be delivered with lunch. Make checks payable to Hooligan's and give to Shannon or put in the payment pocket in the preschool hallway or elementary classroom.

Spoon Patrol

Parents if you find forks or spoons that do not belong in your child's lunchbox please send them back to school. They probably belong to Harmony School.

Supplies

Please send one box of tissues and one baby wipes refill per child for the school's general supplies. Please send the refill only. We do not need the plastic container. Please write your name on the boxes and/or bag so we know who has turned in their supplies. Thank you!

Class Pictures

Picture People will be here on Wednesday, September 21 at 9 am to take pictures of all students for the Harmony yearbook. You will have an opportunity to purchase pictures a few days after they are taken. If any students are absent, there is usually a make-up day.

Harmony Board

Would you like to become more involved with Harmony School? Consider serving on the school board. If you'd like to learn more, please see Debbie or Diana Tester.

Parents Corner

If you visit the Harmony School website, take a look at the Parents Corner on the home page. We've put some of the most common files right at your fingertips for quick and easy access. School calendars. The most current newsletter. Even the Harmony School song lyrics you've been meaning to learn! Visit www.harmonyschoolsc.com to check it out!



Parent/Teacher Work Day

Each spring and fall, Harmony School holds a parent/teacher workday. These days are a great way to bring parents and children together as a community to help improve Harmony's physical facility. We provide childcare on parent workdays.

The fall parent/teacher work day will be Sunday, November 6, 2011 from 1-4 pm. Please plan to come!