

**FROM THE HART NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2007**

Each Friday is “Sprit Day,” and we encourage all students to wear their River Bend Elementary School t-shirts or clothing displaying our school colors, blue & green. Our PTA is selling the new River Bend t-shirts and they may be ordered in the main office.

Please join us at our school PTA’s first “International Festival” on Thursday, November 1, 2007 at 6:30 PM. There will be entertainment, food and fun for everyone as we gather to celebrate our diversity and cultivate new friendships. The event will begin in the cafeteria and in our classroom buildings as well. We hope to see you there.

We have begun to experiences an increase in the number of students who are reporting to school tardy in the mornings. Please be reminded that we begin the instructional day at 9:15 and dismiss at 3:45. When students arrive late, they are missing the beginning instruction for the school day. Please have your child at school and ready to begin the day at 9:15 each morning. We recommend that all students arrive at school by 9:00 AM, in order to have time to prepare for their day. Carpool students wishing to eat breakfast should arrive on campus as close to 8:45 as possible, so they may eat breakfast and have time to return to class and prepare for their day. Also, parents who arrive to pick up students after 3:30 PM will be asked to pick their children up through the carpool lane.

Please mark your calendars with the next two Early Release Days; March 6, 2008 and April 17, 2008. We will dismiss school at 12:00 PM on these days. All staff will be involved in professional development workshops on both afternoons.

Character Education traits will continue to be integrated into all areas of the curriculum throughout the school year. The character trait that will be emphasized during October is “respect”. “Respect” is showing high regard for authority, for other people, for country, and understanding that all people have value as human beings.

Students in grades 1-5 will engage in three mock writing test simulations during the 2007-2008 school year. These simulations will help to better prepare all students for the 4th grade writing test and to improve their overall writing abilities. The first simulation will be for 2nd-5th grade students only and will take place on October 17, 2007 for tracks 1, 2 & 3 and on October 30, 2007 for track 4. First grade students will participate in the second and third simulations which will be scheduled later in the school year.

Upcoming Events

- October 16, 23 & 30 Latino Outreach Parent Training (6:30-8:30 PM)
- October 17 & 30 Mock Writing Simulation (Grades 2-5)
- October 18 Cookie Dough Distribution (3:00-6:00 PM in multi-purpose room)
- October 18 & 25 Crisis Drill (all students, all grades)