

Eagle News

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SOAR Spotlight

Happy New Year and welcome back Eagles! We are looking forward to another fantastic year. As we reflect on the ups and downs of 2020, many things come to mind, but the one thing that stands out above all else is the **amazing work of our teachers and staff**! They are truly one of a kind, and we would not be the school or the community that we are without them. So, this month we have chosen to recognize them and the **SOAR** qualities they exemplify in all that they do.

- 1. **SAFE:** You cannot think of this word without recognizing the level of their efforts to keep our children and our school safe. From cleaning and sanitizing to rearranging classroom furniture to writing and rewriting classroom and school policy with every change and update, our teachers and staff have worked tirelessly to keep our students safe and to make our school a safe and healthy place for all.
- 2. **OUTSTANDING:** Since the pandemic began last March, our teachers and staff have gone above and beyond the call of duty to make sure that our



children's education did not suffer. They have worked long hours, taught from their kitchens or bedrooms while taking care of their own children and households, managed online and face to face instruction simultaneously, and been the emotional support system for students and parents during these unprecedented times. Their hard work can only be described as outstanding.

- 3. ACCOUNTABLE: Our teachers and staff have never worked harder to make sure that our doors open each and every morning. They have done an excellent job of adapting to the ever changing rules and expectations placed on them, and they have the tough job of managing the children and making sure that they adhere to the current standards, both educationally and health wise. Lastly, they have carried this accountability into their personal lives, often limiting leisure and family activities in order to stay well and to be able to be there for our students.
- 4. **RESPECTFUL:** Throughout these unusual times, our teachers and staff have respected the process and the situation and have done what they have been asked, even when that has been very difficult. Their respect for their profession and for their students and parents shines through in their smiling faces as they open the doors in carpool lines, greet our children in the classroom, serve them in the lunchroom, and keep up with the latest and greatest set of protocols to move the students through a successful day in the school halls. Their professionalism and their resolve is remarkable, and as a community, we are beyond blessed to have them on our team!

Please join us in thanking our fantastic teachers and staff for creating our nest and for being the best examples of S.O.A.R. behavior!

Calendar Highlights

January

- 12 Sunshine Committee Event
- 12 Spirit Night at Porters Pizza
- 18 MLK Jr. Holiday, school closed
- 26 College Spirit Day

February

2-12 Kindness Week

- 5 HFE Spirit Day
- 9 Spirit Night at City BBQ
- 12 Professional Development Day, students off
- 15 Presidents Day Holiday, school closed
- 23 College Spirit Day

IB Update

HFE International Inquirers

During the month of January, HFE students will expand their knowledge about the humanitarian efforts led by their country of study. This includes things like conservation efforts, clean water, and/or health and wellness efforts. Research will be placed on teacher Weebly pages, and research will be posted

in the hallways as well!

We will also continue the effort to learn words and phrases in various languages. The phrase this month is "What is your name?"

Cookies for Character

The learner profile for the month of January is *Principled*. Teachers will be looking for students who have consistently shown integrity and commitment, both academically and socially. Like in previous months this year, administration will be delivering certificates and cookies on the last Thursday of the month, which for this month, will be January, 28.

Mrs. Allie Yancey (aka "Mrs. Y") IB Coordinator/SST Chair

Porters Pizza Spirit Night



Make plans to support HFE by placing your takeout orders on **Tuesday, Jan. 12 from 4:00-8:00 p.m.** at <u>Porters Pizza</u> in Sandy Springs. Don't forget to mention **HFE** and your teacher's name when ordering! Check out the <u>flyer</u> for additional info.

City Barbeque Spirit Night

HFE is having a fundraiser at City Barbeque Sandy Springs on **Tuesday, Feb. 9.** Order online, by phone, or head on over to order take-out to show your support and enjoy some BBQ—HFE gets 20% of sales from everyone who uses our **fundraiser code (FundA)** when they order <u>online</u>.

No Place for Hate

We are very excited to announce that this year HFE is participating in the No Place For Hate initiative. The No Place for Hate program is an initiative sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League. The program encourages students, families and staff to challenge bias in themselves, others and society in order to create more inclusive learning communities. No Place for Hate is a collaborative initiative that provides PreK–12 schools with an organizing framework for students, administrators, teachers and family members to develop

long-term solutions for creating and maintaining an inclusive and equitable climate. No Place for Hate schools receive their designation in the following ways:

- Building inclusive and safe communities in which respect and equity are the goals and where all students can thrive.
- Empowering students, faculty, administration and family members to take a stand against bias and bullying by incorporating new and existing programs under one powerful message.
- Sending a clear, unified message that all students have a place where they belong.

Under the leadership of Ms. Tench, <u>Ms. Aronowitz</u>, Ms. Stockard and Ms. McCullough, the "No Place for Hate Coalition" (made up of student members in fourth and fifth grades) will conduct activities to sustain an inclusive school environment such as a "No Place For Hate" pledge mural, Kindness Week, anti-bias classroom counseling lessons and Diversity Reader Week.

Kindness Week

We are living through extraordinary times. With all that is going on in the world, it is even more important that we focus on kindness and the power it has to heal, uplift and unite us all. HFE will be participating in the Great Kindness Challenge (GKC) the week of Feb. 8. The program is a proactive and positive bullying prevention initiative that improves school climate and increases student engagement. The GKC is one week devoted to



performing as many acts of kindness as possible. This year's theme is "KINDNESS UNITES". A Great Kindness Challenge checklist will go home with all students and parents are encouraged to have their child/children complete at least ten (10) acts of kindness on the checklist. The checklist is an interactive tool that empowers every single student to "practice kindness" in their own way and at their own pace. Please note that the checklist has been adapted to include social distancing precautions and takes into account the safety of students, families and staff members. Please stay tuned for more updates on Kindness Week! Please reach out to <u>Anna Aronowitz</u> with questions.

Substitute Teachers Needed!

Heards Ferry and Fulton County are in need of substitute teachers! Please consider signing up <u>HERE</u> if you have the time and flexibility. You can select your available days as well as which school(s) you're interested in supporting.

Yearbook Orders & Ads

Purchase by Dec. 31 for \$40 per yearbook, until sold out. <u>Click here</u> and use our school code 14991.

Yearbook Ads (Deadline Feb. 14, 2021). Click <u>here</u> to order your 2020-2021 Yearbook Ad Online.



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The next edition of Eagle News is February 1. All article submissions are due Jan. 25 and should be submitted to: communications@hfeeaglealliance.org.