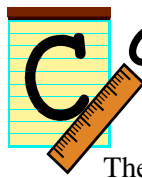




# Cline Connection

April 2008



## Clifford's Corner

*New news from Mr. Clifford*

The elementary schools in Friendswood I.S.D. are participating this year in a safety program, which audits schools and gives recommendations based on their findings. On a Friday in February, Ms. Bailey from the Safe and Secure Schools program under the auspices of Harris County Department of Education visited Cline Elementary. This was an unannounced visit, which included an intruder audit, safety inspection of the interior and exterior, interviews with students/staff, and a review of our crisis management plan.

Ms. Bailey attempted to enter the building by knocking on a door to see if students would let her in. After several attempts, the students went to get an adult. Our custodian greeted her at the door and escorted her to the front office where she was properly checked in. Ms. Bailey was highly complimentary of our students and staff. In fact, she commented that she audits schools across the state of Texas and is denied access to only 2 or 3 schools. I told Ms. Bailey that this was a direct result of our teachers and staff who consistently teach safety and who excel in all that they are asked to do.

It is the purpose of an audit to identify areas for improvement, which ultimately will result in a safer school environment. As a result of the audit, it was recommended that Cline Elementary re-establish a visitor sign-in/sign-out register. In the case of an emergency we need to be able to account for all visitors in the building as well as our students and staff.

Beginning on March 24, 2008 we are asking all visitors to sign-in and sign-out at the front office when you receive your visitors badge. We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to make Cline Elementary a safe and wonderful place to learn!

## Every tile is in Place!

The school now has a colorful entrance! The "Make Your Mark" tiles were installed on the school over spring break. These tiles were sold this year at Clinefest for the first time and turned out to be a huge success. We would like to thank Adam Hill with Sterling Builders for teaming up with Flooring Source to sponsor the installation of the tiles on the school. The artwork of our students makes the school shine!

**C. W. Cline Elementary**  
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## F.Y.I from the P.T.O

Springtime is here, and although this school year is winding down, P.T.O has begun preparations so that the 2008-2009 school year is as successful as this one has been. In the month of April you will receive a "Volunteer Opportunities" form sent home in your child's folder. Please review it and consider what P.T.O. committee you would like to help with next year. This is a time to change committees if you would like to try something new, or to get involved if you have thought about it, but were not sure how or when to do so. Our principals, teachers, and children greatly appreciate and need your involvement at Cline!

Additionally, in the month of May, P.T.O will have its annual school supply sale. We will be sending home an envelope in your child's folder for you to order and pay for supplies for your student for the 2008-2009 school year. Supplies are delivered to your student's classroom before the first class day of the school year, and all the hassle of shopping for a long list of hard to find items is eliminated! There will be an early order discount offered this year, so don't miss out on supplies from P.T.O.

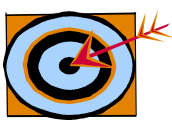
## Teacher Appreciation Week Is Coming Soon!

Don't forget Teacher Appreciation week May 5-9. Now is your chance to show the teachers how much you respect and appreciate all of their dedication and hard work!

### Upcoming Events

- April 29** Math TAKS (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)
- May 1** Kindergarten Registration  
5:00-6:30pm
- May 5 – 9** Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 6** Old Board / New Board PTO Luncheon
- May 7 – 8** TAKS Celebration (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)
- May 9** Teacher's Appreciation Luncheon
- May 15** Volunteer Tea
- May 16** 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders Tour Windsong
- May 23** Spirit Day
- May 26** School Holiday / Memorial Day
- May 29** Kindergarten Graduation Day
- May 30** Last Day of School / Early Release Day

## Target on Third Grade



The third grade at Cline ES has been busy getting involved in politics this month as students learned about the voting process. In a mock election held March 11, students cast their own votes for President of the United States of America. So as not to skew the nationwide results in November, we'll not publish the Cline winner here, but ask any third grader and he or she can tell you.

Third graders also took the TAKS reading test March 5 and are preparing for the TAKS Math Assessment in April. A TAKS celebration hosted by the PTO is being planned for May and will be held at the Fun Max Zone on NASA Road One.

Classes studied prominent people in America and wrote "If I were President" essays in February. The students are studying biographies by researching more people who have had a positive impact on their world. Then, to note the difference between a biography and an autobiography, some classes will be doing self studies and writing essays on their findings. Already, Mrs. Massar's class has prepared 5 Points of Interests stars.

Have you ever wondered if a diamond is the hardest rock and talc, the softest? Ask your third grader in March as they delve into geology! They'll be studying the MOHS Scale, looking at the characteristics of minerals and learning the types of rocks such as igneous and metamorphic in their Science Rock Lab Unit.

Mrs. Price's classes will be entering the Reading Rainbow writing contest, and Mrs. Sullivan's class will be entering a poetry contest in April.

It has been a busy year, and already the final nine weeks is just around the corner for Cline's hard working third graders. We appreciate your support from home to help keep their love for learning alive.

### Mark Your Calendars!

Our 3rd Graders have been hard at work at the TAKS Test. This year we are treating them to something a little different! They will be having a "jumping good time" at the Fun Max Jump-in in Webster! Fun Max Jump-in will be open only to our 3rd Graders. They will enjoy some fun jumping time and be treated to pizza. On Wednesday, May 7th, Ms. Eason, Ms. Denman, Ms. Sullivan, Ms. Reed, and Ms. Bertasz's classes will attend. On Thursday, May 8th, Ms. Lyles, Ms. Peacock, Ms. Price, Ms. Massar, Ms. Tucker, and Ms. Richardson's classes will attend. They will leave the school by bus at 10am and return to the school by 12pm. When they return from Fun Max Jump-in, they will be treated to a movie and popcorn. Please be watching for more information being brought home by your 3rd Grader. They have really been working hard and have earned this special day!



### Label Collecting Wins Pizza Parties!



Students have been collecting the Box Tops for Education and Labels for Education all year long. Each box top is worth 10 cents to the school. To date the school has earned over \$1200 in box tops. Cline PTO awards pizza parties to the classes that turn in the most box tops and labels each 9 weeks. We are proud to report that the classroom winners for the first 9 weeks period were Mrs. David, Mrs. Denson, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Sullivan. The winners for the 2nd 9 weeks were Mrs. David, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Walmsley and Mrs. Sullivan's classes. Box Tops for Education are found on many of the products we purchase every day. Who will win the pizza parties for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 9 weeks? Keep saving the box tops to find out!!!

### WE'VE GOT SPIRIT, YES WE DO!

Our final Spirit Day of the year will be perfect for the ending of another successful school year. The Spirit Committee has arranged for Clutch, the mascot of The Houston Rockets, to perform two shows in the afternoon of May 23rd for our Cline Students. The show is one hour in length and every student will receive his/her very own copy of Clutch's 3rd book, "Clutch Shapes Up". The show focuses on building character and discouraging bullying. In the footsteps of Rockets and Comets greats like Calvin Murphy, Turbo, and Cynthia Cooper, Clutch carries on this time tested Rockets Classic Message and Community Program. P.R.I.D.E. stands for: Positive attitude, Respect and Responsibility, Intelligent decisions, Dreams and Determination, and Education.



Clinefest 2008

### Clinefest 2008 is on its way

As we all know, Clinefest 2007 was a HUGE success! We want to ensure the same accomplishments in 2008. Plans have already begun in many areas to guarantee that our students have a great time. The success of Clinefest is primarily due to volunteers like you. Positions are available on all of the committees. If you would like to join the team, look in this week's Friday Folder for the Clinefest 2008 Recruitment letter. There is a brief description of each committee, and a form to fill out if you are interested in helping us to raise much needed funds for our students and teachers at Cline Elementary.

The Festival Charing Team for Clinefest 2008 includes Kim Girouard, Sandy Calapan, and Kelley Waters. These volunteers are full of enthusiasm and expect Clinefest 2008 to be successful in all areas. Grab a friend and join the team to make this year more exciting than ever!

## Skate Night Success

Cline Elementary's Skate Night Project was an inaugural success in January. It was a huge social event for the kids. A total of 464 students attended and raised \$1400. The night doubled as a fundraiser and a social hour for the kids. The students couldn't agree more. "I got to skate with my best friend," said Katie Thompson, second grader. Jared Clifford remembered holding Tanner Bandini's shoulder and James Alberts holding his. "Tanner fell so we all fell and couldn't stop laughing," said Jared. Kindergarten teacher Brooke Holtvluwer attended the evening and skated for hours with each of her students. They were thrilled to spend the social time with their beloved teacher. "When my teacher, Mrs. Holtvluwer, fell down it was the funniest thing because she was a professional," said Allie Bishop. "The best thing about the night was when I raced my cousin," said Garrett Massey, kindergartener. Students unanimously said the best thing about the evenings was getting to spend time with their friends skating and the funniest was seeing everyone fall down. Plans are already underway to host Cline Skate Night number two next year.

## Walk to Cure Diabetes is a Great Success!

Raising over \$31,000, Cline's Diabetes Walk for a Cure was once again a huge success. Thanks to top fundraisers like Abby Ardoin and Logan Bryant in Mrs. Thornhill's and Mrs. Price's classes, the school was able to raise and dedicate funds to find a cure in the name of 5 children at Cline who have Type I Diabetes. Abby and Logan both raised just over \$1,000 each and other top collectors included Austin Dufrene, last year's top fundraiser, Gentry Lowe and Cameron Weaver. "I want to recognize all the support we had from our Friendswood High School Health Occupations Student Association, the Friendswood Junior High School Band under the direction of Mr. Munoz, the Friendswood Police Department and the FISD Food Services," said Judy Shetler. "We had over 895 student walkers plus parents, grandparents, teachers and even dogs," Shetler went on to say. Thanks to the support of parents, teachers and the community of FISD, finding an end to Type I and II Diabetes may someday be possible.

## The Return of the Dinosaurs for the Kindergarteners!

Cline Elementary's kindergarteners became dinosaur experts in March with a host of tasks that also exercised students' math and language skills. The week culminated in an experience in excavation. Students started with chocolate chip cookies and using wooden picks gently excavated the chips as if they were scientists discovering fossilized remains. Other activities for the week included counting and graphing triceratops, pterodactyls and others. Students used the topic to make predictions, alphabetize, study shapes, sequence and increase vocabulary. The students had an amazing week filled with dinosaur fun.

## Ms. Dittmar's Creative Corner

Our 2008 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Art Show was exhibited at The Art Alliance Center at Clear Lake (TAACCL) in January. A variety of work from 26 students represented Cline Elementary this year. Congratulations to the following students:

### *Kindergarten:*

Kathleen DeWolfe: 1st place & a GOLD STAR

Trey Gurry: 1st place

### *First Grade:*

Madison Boudreaux, 1st place

Grace Connell, 1st place

Katie Crutchfield, 1st place

EmmaLee Davis, 1st place

Lily Ellis, 1st place

Danielle Fischer, 1st place

Isa Khanani-Moosa, 2nd place

Elizabeth Shoemaker, 1st place

Samuel Thomas, 1st place & a GOLD STAR

Caroline Velek, 2nd place

### *Second Grade:*

Robert Kastner, 1st place & a GOLD STAR

Kimberly Marchand, 1st place

Caroline Mims, 2nd place

Lauren Mims, 2nd place

Alec Perry, 2nd place

Jake Waters, 1st place, a GOLD STAR, and "THE GOLD MEDAL"

### *Third Grade:*

Brooke Burris, 2nd place

Camryn Dooley, 2nd place

Sydney Gurry, 1st place

Christine Nguyen, 2nd place

Marina Meche, 2nd place

Addie Murphy, 2nd place

Kiran Raghunath, 1st place & a GOLD STAR

McKenna Stran, 2nd place

After the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbons were awarded, the judges selected a variety of work from the 1st place art to be considered to be taken to the actual Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo. Work that was selected by the judges to go to this semi-final round of the competition received a GOLD STAR. Cline had five GOLD STAR winners. It is very unusual and I am proud to announce that we had at least one in every grade level!

Kindergarten: Kathleen DeWolfe

First grade: Samuel Thomas

Second grade: Robert Kastner and Jake Waters

Third grade: Kiran Raghunath

Out of all the art from all the schools in FISD, only seven were selected from this round to be taken to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo including one from Cline. Jake Waters, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, won a Gold Medal for his work entitled "Black Tail and Fluffy." Jake received his Gold Medal at the HLSR's School Art Awards along with a scholarship to the Glassell School of Art's Summer Workshop at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.