

# McHarg Elementary

Robert F. Graham, Principal  
700 Twelfth Street  
Radford, Virginia 24141

Telephone (540) 731-3652  
Fax (540) 731-3696

## *TEAM – Together Everyone Accomplishes More*

04-17-08

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Now that the weather is warmer, the trees are beginning to leaf and the grass is growing, we are starting to see excitement from the students as summer vacation draws closer. I can still remember the first day of school on August 22 so it is hard to believe that we have reached our final six weeks of the year.

I am extremely proud of our entire McHarg school community and would like to share some wonderful accomplishments that we've achieved during the 5<sup>th</sup> six weeks. Two weeks ago we entertained a Southern Accreditation of Colleges and Schools visiting team sent here to conduct a review of our school to see if we meet requirements for full SACs accreditation. The review included assessing McHarg's vision/mission, school improvement, teaching/learning, collaboration, safety/management, budgeting practices, community involvement as well as division and school policies and practices. After a two day visit, the recommendation to the SACs board was to fully accredit McHarg Elementary School. Although the recommendation has to be approved by the SACs board, the whole process confirmed what we as a community already know; we learn, work and grow in a very special place. During the SACs visit we also completed our second round of Test of Higher Standards assessments. I am very proud to report that significant increases in scoring percentages were seen throughout each grade level. The effort that our students and teachers make daily is certainly paying off.

We have an important and exciting upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> six weeks. The Standards of Learning assessments for our third graders in the areas of Math, Science and Social Studies will be held the week of April 28-May 2 with the Reading assessment being given on May 14. If you are a parent of a third grade student, please make sure your child is well rested, prepared, present and on time for these assessments. We expect our results from these tests to also indicate that we work, learn and grow in a very special place. A variety of fun and entertaining activities have also been planned during the final six weeks of the year. Please review the dates below and contact the school if you have questions or concerns about any of them.

The following are important dates that you need to review:

April 17	End of 5th Six Weeks Beans and Rice Dinner/Talent Show @ 5:30
April 18	Volunteer Tea @ 2:00
April 24	Report Cards go Home
April 25	Arbor Day Celebration
April 28-May 2	SOL Testing Week
April 28	Ice Cream Sundae Pep Rally for 3 <sup>rd</sup> Graders
May 5 & 6	Field Trip to Visit Goodyear Blimp
May 14	Reading Paper and Pencil SOL Tests
May 15	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Visits Belle Heth
May 23	Preschool Program
May 28	Promotional Ceremony and Awards Banquet
May 29	Spring Fun Day
May 30	Last Day of School (Two Hour Early Closing)

Once again, we would like to thank all of our community members for their continued support and efforts to help our students and school succeed. If we can be of assistance in the near future, please do not hesitate to contact us (731-3652).

Sincerely,

*Robert F. Graham*  
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