

*Every Child, Every Day, Without Exception*

**Our SCHOOL mission is to promote student learning**

Date: January 2018

Character Trait: Trustworthiness

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## From the Principal

As mentioned in an earlier edition, we were granted a media center make-over to be completed over Christmas break. The walls were painted, new carpet was laid, new shelves were added, and new furniture was purchased. We are very excited about the updated media center. The update was completed with ESPLOST (Education Special Local Option Sales Tax) funds. We were fortunate that the Catoosa Board of Education used these funds to help support our school. We hope to have an open house very soon to invite you in and see our new area.

This month I want to highlight our 4th grade teachers. Our 4th grade teachers consist of Mrs. Faith Pennington, Mrs. Tonya Sasada, Mrs. Connie Holsomback, Mrs. Judy Parker, Mrs. Kim Lunsford, Mrs. Ashlee Sims, and Mr. David Camp. These teachers have a combined total of over 203 years of educating students. Fourth grade is a challenging year and these awesome teachers do a great job educating students and getting them ready for 5th grade. Battlefield is lucky to have these fabulous teachers.

On January 25th at 6:30 pm, we will have a Title I parent informational meeting. In this meeting, we will be educating parents on using parent portal. Parent Portal is the county's system that helps you keep track of grades, lunch account, attendance, and assessment scores. We will also use this meeting to educate parents on the Georgia Milestones that will be given in April. I hope you will make plans to join us for this important meeting.

## From the Counselor

I want to commend our Battlefield students for a very successful Toy Drive. The students and staff brought in over 200 toys and gifts for the Catoosa County Sheriff's Department's Stocking Full of Love. Thank you to parents and students for showing generosity and compassion through giving.

As a New Year begins, we adults tend to make New Year's Resolutions to try and improve ourselves, whether through dieting, exercising, trying something new, etc. This same concept is what we want our students to adopt as we encourage them each day to be a better self than they were yesterday. Growth Mindset reminds us that we will make mistakes, but those mistakes can help us grow if we are willing to learn from them. So it is important to remind your child each day that mistakes are inevitable, but the ultimate goal is to work towards being better today than we were yesterday. Happy New Year.

## From the Nurse

With flu season upon us, it is important that we work together to keep our children healthy. Viruses spread easily among children in schools, and families with school-age children have more infections than others, with an average of one-third of these family members infected each year. By keeping our children flu-free, we benefit the community as a whole. You can help prevent the spread of flu or help your child get better if he/she does get sick by following a few simple steps:

- If possible, you and your child should get a flu shot
- Remind your child to cover his/her nose and mouth with a tissue when sneezing or coughing and dispose of the tissue immediately
- Have your child wash his/her hands frequently with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds
- Disinfect frequently-touched surfaces and shared items at least once a day
- Ensure that bathrooms are stocked with soap, hand towels and tissues
- Teach your child not to touch his/her mouth, nose and eyes
- If your child is sick and has a fever, keep him/her at home to prevent the spread of illness to others.

If you are concerned about your child's flu symptoms, call your doctor early. Call your doctor immediately if your child has a chronic disease. Common symptoms of flu include high fever, severe headache, muscle and body aches, exhaustion, and dry cough. Additionally, children often exhibit other flu symptoms that are rare in adults, such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Some children might benefit from an antiviral medication, which can be prescribed by a physician and can help lessen the duration of the virus and reduce the risk of complications, such as pneumonia. To be effective, antiviral medication should be taken within 12-48 hours after flu symptoms begin. - National Association of School Nurses.

If you have any questions or would like additional information about preventing and treating the flu, please contact the school nurse, Mindy Wright LPN at [706-866-9183](tel:706-866-9183) or [mwright.bat@catoosa.k12.ga.us](mailto:mwright.bat@catoosa.k12.ga.us)

### **From the Parent Coordinator**

Do you or someone you know need to get a GED to be eligible for a job or other advancement opportunity? Do you wish you could get help with reading, English as a second language or basic computer classes? Well, help is available! **Catoosa Citizens for Literacy** exists "to help all families of our community achieve life-long learning through literacy, enabling them to reach their individual goals." They are located in the Learning Center next to the library and they offer FREE classes, as well as FREE childcare and FREE transportation to participants of the Reading and/or GED classes who live in Catoosa County. CCL will even pay the \$160 testing fee when you are ready to take the GED. Find out more by going online to: [www.catoosacitizensforliteracy.org](http://www.catoosacitizensforliteracy.org) or come by the Family Resource Center (Rm. 701) and speak with Sara Peterson, your Parent Involvement Coordinator.