Fun Run at Hopewell Elementary

BY DEBBIE HIGHTOWER

TRINITY — Some parent-teacher associations would hesitate to set a $25,000 goal to raise funds for a shelter for their school's car drop-off area. Not the Hopewell Elementary School PTA, however, that not only met, but exceeded, that goal during a Fun Run held Feb. 1.

After a Jan. 24 pep rally designed to pump up excitement, students went to their classrooms to collect one-time and per-lap pledges prior to the Fun Run.

"This is a great fundraiser," said second-grade teacher Sharon Peeler, whose class named themselves "Peeler's Pets." "Grandparents who are out of town and couldn't buy candy bars could donate."

Peeler and other classes built up excitement through the week with some great challenges. The classroom who brought in the most pledges Wednesday night got a pizza party. On Thursday, the classroom who brought in the most pledges Wednesday could exchange it for the other classroom who brought in the most pledges Wednesday. On Friday, the classroom who brought in the most pledges Wednesday was able to have the most money taken away from the person who brought in the most pledges.

"I haven't heard much of what has transpired," Schulze said. "I heard there were a couple of people in the back parking lot area behind the main church, and the driver that crashed into the (building) got scared and took off."

Schulze said the news came suddenly following the wreck. He said he was not entirely sure what had happened that caused the incident. It was reported that the condition of the driver was not immediately available Monday evening.

Six-thirteens take field trip to Kaleideum North

BY DEBBIE HIGHTOWER

TRINITY — It is one thing to learn about physical forces in a classroom, but quite another to experience them while zipping around a racetrack atop a scooter.

The science department at Braxton Caven Middle School recently undertook a giant field trip in which all 352 sixth-graders spent a day at Kaleideum North, formerly ScienceWorks, an interactive, hands-on museum and learning center. Students on the Seahawks, Pirates and Spartans teams visited the museum on three separate days, about 120 students at a time. During their visit, students on the Seahawks team viewed one of four planetarium shows, including Carolina Skies, the Seasons, The Grand Tour or From Earth to the Universe.

"It coordinated perfectly with our studies on the stars, development of planetary systems, and physical forces and motion," said science teacher Brenda Burlison. "We also had the opportunity to look at sound, which we will study in the spring."

Students from Braxton Caven Middle School recently had an opportunity to experience physical forces in person during a day trip to Kaleideum North in Winston-Salem. Those enjoying the ride included, from left, Cole Smith, Aiden Palmer, Madeline Johnson, Michael Woodard, Noah Johnson, Blake Johnson and Cassie Davis.
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Freezing temperatures, most of the classes completed their laps indoors in the gym motivated by upbeat tunes.

Physical education teacher Dee Hodgin organized various stations which gave no one time to get bored. In addition to two running sessions, they had the opportunity to build structures with cups, cheer on other students or take part in a Limbo challenge.

“It’s been a fun and exciting way to raise funds for the school,” said Hodgin. “It’s a great opportunity for the students to get exercise without really knowing that they are doing it. Plus, it allows them to work together and create team building skills.”

“Runners are being active and getting out there,” said Principal Aaron Barr, who high-fived the students as they ran, walked and jogged. At some point this week, Barr intends to make good on his promise to ride a tricycle through the school halls if they met their $25,000 challenge.

The PTA partnered with Boosterthon.com that supplied T-shirts, promotional items and educational videos viewed in classrooms each day.

“Cates was pleased that, as of Friday, pledges totaled more than $29,603, which meant $20,950 in profit for the school. It’s a six-day program through which they learn about science, math, integrity and character.”

Students collected lump-sum amounts, in addition to per-lap pledges during the Fun Run that, due to freezing temperatures, took place in the school gymnasium. As of the last count, $29,605 in pledges had been made. Champion classrooms in the fundraiser included Barbara Diaz-Lopez with $2,500, followed by Ginger Pope’s class total of $2,000.

Photos by Debbie Hightower

Hopewell Elementary School PTA recently exceeded its $25,000 goal to build a shelter for the school’s car drop-off area with a Fun Run. Students collected lump-sum amounts, in addition to per-lap pledges during the Fun Run that, due to freezing temperatures, took place in the school gymnasium. As of the last count, $29,605 in pledges had been made. Champion classrooms in the fundraiser included Barbara Diaz-Lopez with $2,500, followed by Ginger Pope’s class total of $2,000.

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