With the ending of the first month of school, I am happy to report that the school year is off to a fantastic start. All our students have made a smooth transition to school and are adjusting nicely to their regular classroom routines.

We are all aware of how important it is to get our students and the school year off to a start, as this is the time of the year that our students engage in the process of making friendships, learn new things, and adjust to their new teachers. One of the most important elements that help to build school success is a strong home/school partnership. Our students benefit from your involvement in their education. I encourage you to stay involved throughout the school year. Part of that involvement could be your membership with the PTA and your attendance of school functions when you can. Also, please help us reinforce classroom instruction by ensuring our students complete homework and read each night. Talk with them about their school day and ask questions about what they are studying. If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call your child’s teacher.

By working together we can ensure all our students have a fantastic year. We look forward to your continued support of you teachers and students at Flower Hill. Thank You!!

Congratulations to the following Flower Hill students: Sol Rodriguez-Arevalo, Gavin Lefebvre, Liam Tucker, Benjamin Higgins, Morgan Colleluori, Julia Petrozzo, Jake Burton, Kelli Brister, Brenda Acevedo, Jordan Forte, Amanda Blitz, Sean Flick, Natalia Stamatos, Thomas Shakur, Michael McCooey, Kelly Warren, Ashlyn McMorrow, Matthew Edlin and Danny Stevens. Great work!
Dear Parents,

We kicked off the brand new school year by learning many new things such as adjusting to school, cooperating, sharing and learning our new classroom routines. We’ve done a great job so far and hope to continue working on these skills.

We also read many exciting favorites such as: Brown Bear, Brown Bear, Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, Ms. Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten, The Kissing Hand and The Wheels on the Bus. By reading these books we reviewed and introduced colors, shapes, the alphabet and bus safety. Letter and number formation was also practiced as tiny little hands wrapped their fingers around a pencil and tried their hardest.

During the month of September we will also read another favorite story, Johnny Appleseed. We will be taking this opportunity to learn about math, science and language arts through this famous fictitious character. Stay tuned for more exciting activities as the year rolls on.....We look forward to seeing you all at “Meet the Teacher Night” on October 6th.

The Kindergarten Teachers

The first graders have settled nicely into their new classes. In Math, we’ve been reviewing math concepts such as counting and odd/even numbers, as well as practicing proper numeral formation. We’ve even started addition!

We are beginning reading groups and looking forward to using the skills that were mastered in kindergarten. We have begun practicing our handwriting and working on taking our writing to a first grade level! Our focus in Social Studies will be families and school, and how rules help us to do our best and be safe. In Science, we will start our unit on Properties, which will lay the foundation for our science observations throughout the year.

This school year is sure to be an exciting and productive one for the first grade!

The First Grade Teachers

The children are getting used to the quick pace of third grade. We are excited about our new Language Art series.

In math, they are learning how to prove their addition with place value drawings. They are learning about communities in the United States and around the world in Social Studies.

Soon our third graders will be studying earth’s water and doing hands-on experiments.

The third grade teachers look forward to MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT where we will go over the curriculum and classroom routines!
Fourth Grade Highlights

Welcome back to school! September has been an exciting month for the incoming second graders. They have all settled into their new classrooms and routines. The teachers are looking forward to meeting our students' parents on "Meet the Teacher Night" in October.

Language Arts is one of the most important components of our curriculum. We are working on our fall assessments. It is extremely important that children read not only during the school day, but also at home on a daily basis. Time spent reading at home can include independent reading, reading to you or another family member, or having someone read aloud to your child. These activities help build skills, confidence, comprehension and vocabulary.

Math is also an important part of our school day. We have begun our first unit, which involves solving word problems using addition or subtraction; adding and subtracting to 10; and counting dimes, nickels and pennies. Please have your child review basic math facts and practice counting coins.

We have begun our Social Studies unit on “Where We Live” and our Science unit on “Solids, Liquids and Gases”. We will be studying the water cycle and weather in this section. We are all looking forward to a wonderful year. Thank you! The Second Grade Teachers

Second Grade Highlights

Welcome back to school! September has been an exciting month for the incoming second graders. They have all settled into their new classrooms and routines. The teachers are looking forward to meeting our students' parents on "Meet the Teacher Night" in October.

Language Arts is one of the most important components of our curriculum. We are working on our fall assessments. It is extremely important that children read not only during the school day, but also at home on a daily basis. Time spent reading at home can include independent reading, reading to you or another family member, or having someone read aloud to your child. These activities help build skills, confidence, comprehension and vocabulary.

Math is also an important part of our school day. We have begun our first unit, which involves solving word problems using addition or subtraction; adding and subtracting to 10; and counting dimes, nickels and pennies. Please have your child review basic math facts and practice counting coins.

We have begun our Social Studies unit on “Where We Live” and our Science unit on “Solids, Liquids and Gases”. We will be studying the water cycle and weather in this section. We are all looking forward to a wonderful year. Thank you! The Second Grade Teachers
Welcome all students and parents to our “new and improved” Flower Hill Library! We have added new shelves and we have also rearranged our Library to make book selection less congested with our new added student population. The first week of school for our kindergarten classes included “book selection” and a fun story entitled “The Berenstain Bears Go to School” (By: Stan Berenstain). The first graders also had “book selection”, and heard a story entitled “The Magic Beans” (By: Margaret Hillert). After the second graders finished with check out they heard a wonderful fairy tale about Tom Thumb (By: Margaret Hillert). The third and fourth graders reviewed “Caldecott Award Books”. Those titles were: Hugo Cabret (By: Brain Selznick), My Friend Rabbit (By: Eric Rohmann), Rapunzel (By: Paul O. Zelinsky), Officer Buckle & Gloria (By: Peggy Rathmann), Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China (By: Ed Young), Goldilocks & the Three Bears (By: James Marshall), Hey, Al (By: Richard Egielski), Hansel and Gretel (By: Paul O. Zelinsky) and The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses (By: Paul Goble). The third and fourth graders have started working on their “research book report folders.” They have begun work on a new lesson involving how to find the “title page” in their Library books.

Important “Fun Facts” for September were:

1. National Honey Month
2. National School Success Month
3. Library Card Sign-up Month
4. First electric light install in Manhattan (Sept. 4, 1882)
5. Patriot Day (Sept. 11, 2010)
6. Anniversary of the US Constitution (Sept. 17, 1878)
7. Houdini premieres his “Greatest Escape” (Sept. 21, 1912)
8. Planet Neptune discovered (Sept. 23, 1846)
9. Shel Silverstein’s Birthday (Sept. 25, 1930)
10. Anniversary of 1st US Newspaper (Sept. 25, 1690)
11. Birthday of John Chapman - better known as Johnny Appleseed (Sept. 26, 1774)
12. Ancestor Appreciation Day (Sept. 27, 2010)

Flower Hill will start it’s 3rd and 4th Grade REACH program during the week of Sept. 27, 2010. Huntington’s REACH is an enrichment program developed by the Library Media Specialists and Mrs. Maryann Daly that will provide hands-on activities and lessons that will reinforce certain curriculum subjects. These lessons will focus on geometry, area, perimeter, volume, measurement and critical thinking - all using the appropriate manipulatives. Please remember to read to your child/children everyday.

Yours in Reading, Mrs. Smith

Welcome back to Flower Hill! I am looking forward to meeting all the new students and helping to make this a healthy, happy school year.

A reminder, that physical exams are required for all kindergarten, 2nd and 4th grades, and all new entrants to the Huntington School District. Please be sure to get your child’s forms in to me as soon as possible!

Please see your child’s health care provider about getting a flu shot this fall. The CDC recommends that everyone from ages six months and older get the vaccine. This year’s vaccine will protect against three viruses: H1N1, H3N2, and influenza B.

Also, please remind your child to cover their coughs and sneezes and to wash hands often to prevent spread of germs. If you have any questions or concerns about physicals, immunizations, or any other health related issue please call me at 673-2139.

Nurse Pirolo