

Think Smart Outreach Center, Inc.
"Reaching for Success one star at a Time"

February 2011

www.thinksmartoutreach.org

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EXTRA.....EXTRA.....READ ALL ABOUT TSOC
21st Century Community Learning Center

Why do we keep celebrating Black History Month?



Some wonder, "Why do we keep celebrating Black History Month?" It is because Black History Month is a very special time of year. Granted, we do not become less black on March 1st. And we take pride in our heritage all year long. But by setting aside this month, we set our heritage apart. We take it from the pages of history books and bring it to life. We take the time to remember, to reunite, and to rededicate ourselves to our history. And what a glorious history it is!

During Black History Month, we honor the memory of African-Americans like Dr. Martin Luther King, as we celebrate current history makers like President Obama. We remember the greatness of Jackie Robinson breaking down color barriers in sports, and then cheer as Tiger Woods sets another record. These and so many other heroes pushed color lines and then broke through them, forever altering America's history.

www.blackcollegian.com

Some of African American Inventions:

Air Conditioning Unit Frederick M. Jones

Baby Buggy W.H. Richardson

Bicycle Frame	L.R. Johnson
Cellular Phone	Henry T. Sampson
Toilet	T. Elkins
Clothes Dryer	G. T. Sampson
Dust Pan	Lawrence P. Ray
Elevator	Alexander Miles
Folding Chair	Broday & Surgwar
Fountain Pen	W.B. Purvis
Golf Tee	T. Grant
Guitar	Robert F. Flemming
Ice Cream	Augustus Jackson
Ironing Board	Sarah Boone
Key Chain	F.J. Loudin
Lawn Mower	L.A. Burr
Lock	W.A. Martin
Mop	Thomas Stewart
Motor	Federick M. Jones
Pencil Sharpener	J.L. Love
Refrigerator	J. Standard
Stethoscope	Imhotep
Thermostat Control	Frederick M. Jones

Valentine's Activity to do at Home



Serve some heart-shaped pancakes to kick off Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day -- or any other special day! Pancake batter makes nearly ideal "ink" on a hot griddle. We used our regular made-from-scratch pancake recipe with a splash of extra milk for fluidity

Ingredients

- 2 cups sifted flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 4 tsp. baking powder
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 1/2 cups plus 1 tbsp. milk (or buttermilk)
- 4 tbsp. butter or margarine

Instructions

1. Preheat griddle over moderate heat while you mix batter. Sift (with a real sifter, if possible) flour, salt, sugar and baking powder into a bowl. Combine egg, milk, and butter in a separate bowl and slowly stir into dry ingredients. Mix well so lumps won't gum up the process.
2. When a drop of cold water will dance on the griddle, begin cooking. To make a "pen," funnel the batter into a squeeze bottle with a hole in the cap, such as a clean chocolate syrup container. On the griddle, shape the hearts one lobe at a time. They're really just a V shape, which spreads out into a heart on the griddle. You can also write secret messages or your child's initials. Top with fresh berries and maple syrup. Makes 24 pancakes.

www.familyfun.go.com

Partner's Meeting



On Wednesday, February 9, 2011, our program hosted our quarterly Partner's Meeting at our site at 11:00 am. The purpose of the partner's meeting is to bring all the key stakeholders that assist our organization together in order to provide the best services to our students and their families. We discussed EOG scores in Harnett County and North Carolina, new Algebra II requirement that has been implemented that states each child must pass Algebra II to receive his/her high school diploma, overview of our services, our goals and timeline for our program's objectives, break down of our program's statistics, etc. The meeting was a huge success.

In attendance at this meeting was Fayetteville State University (EOC Office), North Carolina Food Bank, Johair's Family Services LLC, Harnett County PAL, and Office of Juvenile Justice. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 4, 2011.

Parent Advisory Board



We had our Parent Advisory Board Meeting on Wednesday, February 9, 2011, at 6:00 pm. 2010-2011 Term Presidents are Angela Cameron (After School), Quamesia McNeill (Pre-Collegiate) and Barbara Williams (Mentoring).

What's going on at Think Smart???

(You can also check out our website at www.thinksmartoutreach.org under Upcoming Events for additional information)



Youth after school program meets Monday-Thursday from 3:00 pm-7:00 pm.

Pre-Collegiate Workshops (High School Students) meet the 1st Saturday of each month from 12:00 pm-2:00 pm and then attend trips as they become available.

High School after school program meets Monday-Thursday at our facility.

Think Smart's High School Radio Station airs every Wednesday from 6:00 pm-7:00 pm at 646-381-4846 or www.blogtalkradio.com/thnk-smrt-undrgrnd

Kids Café- A hot dinner is prepared nightly at our facility.

Family Reading Night is held Bi-monthly (see monthly calendar).

Male/Female Mentor Nights are held Bi-Monthly (See monthly calendar).

Family Movie Nights are held Bi-monthly (See Monthly Meeting).

Think Smart's Middle School Radio Station airs on Mondays at 5:00 pm.

Music Classes are held on Tuesdays

Thrilling Thursdays are held on Thursdays

Conflict Resolution Training held on Tuesdays and conducted by Johari's Family Services.

African Dance Classes held on Mondays.

From the After school Corner at Think Smart



Picture of students at Civil Rights Museum in Greensboro

Primary Class

Walk into their classroom and you will be blown away! They have implemented a Word Wall to assist with their academic games and to help them with their sight words. Based on their grade level they are working on dictation, writing sentences, learning their words and definition, writing compound sentences, writing paragraphs, and learning to write short stories. They are learning to count to 10, picking out place values, and spell by sounding out words. They are doing all of this while having fun. They too are doing Black History Inventors on a daily basis.

Elementary Class

The elementary class is "showing up and showing off". They are doing a great job! They are focusing on rocks and minerals and weatherization. They are also working on their reading with their reading logs, and math that consist of multiplication, division, fractions, mixed numbers, etc. They are also doing Black History Inventors in their class.

Middle School Class

The middle school group is putting their best foot forward. They have begun to review for the EOG working on but not limited to Algebra, multiplication, adding and subtracting negative numbers. The students are also learning about new African American Inventors Daily.

On the last day of the month, no one in our program will use ANYTHING invented by an African American (excluding the toilet) so we can see how America would have been different without the contributions of African Americans.

Welcome HCHS



We would like to take this opportunity to thank HCHS and their Freshman Academy for allowing our program to be placed at HCHS to provide services for their students in order for them to be exposed and for us to empower, inspire, and educate. Thank you!

**Promoting Excellence through
Sisterhood
Think Smart Mentoring Program
Mrs. Catina Mentor Director
Ms. Shalonda-Mentor Coordinator**



Promoting Excellence through Sisterhood, Think Smart's Mentor Program is under new direction but has the same goal in mind which is a great program for our young ladies. In the month of February, they had a meet and greet session, I love Me Project, and new mentees and mentors have come along so the program is falling into place. They have also started the Nubian Princess African Dance Class which is taught by Nezziman Performing Arts Studio of Fayetteville, NC. The Mentoring program also hosted a Thank You Mentor Day (please see next column for more info.)

National Mentoring Day



In America, National Mentoring Day was set aside on January 25, 2011, and the Day was entitled "Thank You Mentor Day". On this day, Americans reach out to thank or honor those individuals who encouraged and guided them, and had a lasting, positive impact on their lives. Think Smart Outreach Center, Inc. 21st Century Community Learning Center's Promoting Excellence through Sisterhood Mentoring Program hosted a Mentor Appreciate Event entitled "Mentoring Matters" on January 25, 2011, at the Triangle South Enterprise Center, in Dunn.

The purpose of the event was for the female mentees in the program to honor their mentors. The event consisted of a power presentation of all the mentors/mentees events, trips, community service projects, etc., entertainment provided by the mentees, certificates were given to the mentors from their mentees in which they gave remarks about their mentor, a catered meal, and Trista Webb was the Keynote Speaker for the event speaking to the audience in reference to the importance of being a mentor.

If you are interested in being a mentor, please contact our office at 910-814-8762.

Welcome to Think Smart



We would like to take time this time to welcome Mrs. Catina, Ms. Shalonda, Ms. Destiny and Ms. Nicah to the Think Smart Family! They are part of the Mentoring Program, After School Program, and Office Staff. When you see them, give them a BIG Think Smart Welcome!

Community Website



Our program is currently putting the beginning touches on our Community Website. The website will feature but not limited to: local churches, organizations, business, etc. The purpose of this website is to provide the citizens with information on various services that are provided to the residents of Harnett County.

The website is FREE! So if you would like to place your business, organization, church, etc. on the website please call our office and ask for Ashley Stewart.

From the Pre-Collegiate Corner

Pre-Collegiate Director- Ms. Pam
Pre-Collegiate Assistant Director- Ms. Nell



During the month of February our Pre-Collegiate Program had their monthly workshop from 12:00 pm-2:00 pm. The workshop was entitled “Money Matters” in which representatives from Fayetteville State University EOC Program came to speak to the students about Scholarships, grants, loans, and then the representative did the student’s financial aid for college.

The students also took part in two college trips/events at the end of January and the 1st week of February. January 28th-30th, we took our students on a weekend trip to the Battle of Bands located in Atlanta, GA and then we visited the King Center our last day of the trip. The students have a great time!

February 4th-6th, we took our students to a weekend educational trip to VA Beach and ECSU. Our students attended Elizabeth City State University Open House on Saturday, February 6th from 9:00 am-5:00 pm. We also had two of our graduates that currently attend ECSU come by and speak and meet us at the Department Fair and one of the dorms during a tour of the dorms and the basketball game.

We will be taking our students to the CIAA High School Day on March 3, 2011. Also in March we will be touring Fayetteville State University, Winston-Salem State University and North Carolina A&T State University

Family Affair Ball

From the HCPAL Corner

Ms. Nell-PAL Director

Mr. Walter-Recreation Director

Mr. Alex-Recreation Assistant



HC PAL would like to welcome to Catina Autry, Mentor Program Director and Shalonda Blue, Mentor Coordinator to the HC PAL Family. We understand that this program requires a lot of hard work, dedication, teamwork, and getting the job done by any means necessary and we thank you for stepping up to the challenge.

We would like to say thanks to everyone who participated in the Krispy Kreme Doughnut Fundraiser. It was a great success. We are still members to join the Athletic Booster Club. For more information, contact Deoward McLean, President at 910-658-1538 or Walter Williams, Athletic Director at 910-984-6887.

Currently recruiting cheerleaders in grades 9th-12th for our Competition squad. Anyone interested in joining should contact our office and speak to Destiny Fullwood who will serve as the competition coach.

The 12U, 15U, and 18U boys basketball teams are gearing up for the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) tournament to be held in March. SWAC is organized exclusively for the purpose of encouraging, promoting, advancing, and conducting intercollegiate sports activities and other recreational and not-for-profit activities among the members of the Conference. Good Luck Cougars.

We are now recruiting for T-Ball, Baseball, Softball and golf. Contact our office for more information!

It's a Family Affair Our Valentine's Day Event

Pictured below is one of the families at our event



On February 11, 2011, at 6:00 pm our program hosted our Annual Family Social Valentine's Day Event. The event was entitled: It's a Family Affair. The topic: Family Involvement is the key to a Successful Child's Education. It was Semi-Formal to Formal Event and was open to all students and their families that are enrolled in our program. The event consisted of cultural arts performance by students, Black History facts by the students, keynote speakers, and photographer to capture the moment.

The Primary Class did a "French Connection" which they spoke French and did activities in French based on what Mrs. Holliday, the French Instructor, taught them at our facility during French 101 which is part of our Educational Curriculum.

The Elementary and Middle School Class did a Black History Moment in which they did a speech on Black Inventors and then provided a model of the invention.

Mrs. Palmer an Educator in the Harnett County School System did an Electrifying Speech Entitled: "Parents take your homes back". Thanks to everyone that came out to make this event a great success.

Strike out Cancer



Think Smart is back at it again! Come out and show off your skills while supporting a GREAT cause! We've even added a little friendly competition: Fraternities vs Sororities; Couples (women vs men); and Parents vs kids (under 17). If you don't fit in any category; don't worry we have a team for you too!

To sign up for a team or for more details; Contact our Mentor Coordinator Shalonda Blue or Mentor Director Catina Autry or Directors Pam and Nell Williams at 910-814-8762 910-814-8762 or at tsoc2005@yahoo.com no later than March 4, 2011. There will be great giveaways.

Proceeds for this event will benefit the Harnett County Relay for Life!



Where our aim is "Reaching for Success one star at a Time"



Newsletter Prepared by Ms. Pamela Williams

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Ms. Pamela Williams

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We were established on April 24, 2001. Nine Years and Still Growing Strong!! We would like to say a Special Thank You to our Wonderful Staff and our Volunteers. You complete the puzzle at Think Smart Outreach Center, Inc. 21st Century Community Learning Center