

Think Smart Outreach Center, Inc.
“Reaching for Success one star at a Time”
June-August 2011

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

How did Father's Day?



How did Father's Day start?

Father's hold a special place in a child's life. Some Fathers are involved with sports teams, outdoor games, and having lots of fun. While other Dads enjoy helping children learn new skills. It could be anything from baking to building bird houses. It really doesn't matter how Dads spend time with their children, as long as they do spend time together. Father's Day is a time to remember just how special is your Dad.

There are many stories how the custom of honoring Dads on a Sunday in June got started. The most popular story about the origins of Father's Day is said to have started growing its roots in the year of 1909. Mrs. John B. Dodds, from Spokane, Washington, campaigned for a Father's Day celebration. The idea came to her while she listened to a church sermon on the virtues of Mother's Day.

Mrs. Dodds thought about her own childhood, raised in a family of six children by a single father after the death of her mother. Mrs. Dodds thought of her father, who acted as both father and mother, and nurtured and cared for her and her siblings. There were many other fathers who

selflessly gave of themselves to help take care of their own children, as well as provide for them financially too.

She wanted all fathers to be honored with a special day all their own. She campaigned and worked to spread her message, and even got the help of friends and family to write letters to influential people who could make this dream happen for her.

After much hard work, Father's Day was first celebrated in 1910. Mrs. Dodds wanted the date of the holiday to be on her father's birthday, which was the fifth of June. But the events had to be moved to the nineteenth of June so there would be enough time to prepare.

Over time, annual celebrations were held throughout the United States and Canada. In 1972 Richard M. Nixon signed a congressional resolution creating Father's Day in the United States.

Today, this special day provides the opportunity to honor fathers, stepfathers, uncles, grandfathers, guys that act as big brothers, and any other men that have played the father role model your life

Source: www.creativekidsathome.com

Summer Enrichment Program 2011



Our (CSI) pictured above

It's that time again...Summer Camp! This is our 10th Annual Summer Camp and it is bigger and better than ever! This year's activities include: Performing Arts, Games, Weekly Swimming, Field Trips, Music, Hands on Activities, Computer Technology, Math and Science, Sporting Camps (Basketball, Football, and Cheerleading) and so much more.

1st Week is CSI- Which the students will become Crime Scene Investigators and will have to solve the crime of who stole the cookies from the cookie jar. The classroom (crime scene) will have crime tape, clues, evidence, alibis, and so much more. The students will have to take notes, look for evidence and each team will decide who they think~~Stole the Cookies from Ms. Williams' Cookie Jar.

2nd Week is Stop Drop and Rock and Roll in which Mr. Roy Harris, Music Teacher, will teach the students a Rock and Roll Performance and they will perform it on Friday for the families.

3rd Week is Create your Own Business in which in groups the students will develop a business, will buy items, have an inventory list, and come up with their own budget and will sale their products at the end during their Ribbon Cutting.

4th Week is Let's Get Physical in which Mrs. Margie McNeill, Zumba, Instructor will

teach Zumba to the students and they will learn about healthy eating. Students will also fix healthy snacks and meals for the week.

5th Week is "Fran"tastic Getaway in which the students will get on the Think Smart Cruise line to France and explore the rich history of France and learn their language.

6th Week is Survivor Week in which they will learn Character Education skills while camping and surviving in the "wilderness".

Daycare vouchers are accepted for those ages 4-12.

We have a lot of fun, educational, and hands on activities planned. We are looking forward to a wonderful summer!

Our Staff Development workshop conducted by Mr. Lamont Sparrow was held on June 29th and our Summer Camp Open House was held on June 30th.

What's going on at Think Smart During the Summer???

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



Youth Summer Enrichment Program
Monday-Friday

Summer Career Readiness Program
Monday-Friday

Promoting Success through Sisterhood Mentoring Program on Mondays

Kids Café- A hot lunch is prepared daily at our facility.

Field Trips (see monthly calendar).

Fun Friday are held on Fridays

From the After school Corner



Our after school program ended in June. Based on the parent and student evaluations received, we can say that the students and the families that we served really enjoyed themselves.

During the month of June, the students worked on reading and writing short sentences, adding and subtracting, adding and subtracting using borrowing and carrying, multiplication problems, writing paragraphs using correct sentence structure, picking out main ideas of a story, ordering of sequence of events, reading comprehension, predicting and drawing conclusions and multiplication skills. They also did a cooking activity in which they made Homemade Mexican Pizza and they had an End of the Year Good Bye Festival.

After School Overview from 2010-2011

- During the after school program, we served 347 students
- We had a total of 301.5 Volunteer Hours
- We served 186 Families during Special Family Events/Activities
- 100% of our Seniors graduated and were accepted into college.

Promoting Excellence through Sisterhood- Ms. Catina Autry Mentor Director



Promoting Excellence through Sisterhood is back at it again. The summer session will run from July 5, 2011 until August 12, 2011. This summer our theme is "Free to be Me". In the month of June, the Mentor Director has done a lot of recruiting and making new Partnerships with local Businesses.

Because of her hard work and dedication; we have developed a new partnership with Another Barber Shop located in Dunn, North Carolina. The Owner Corey Williams will be making donations to our program.

We are also excited about the new Mentors and Mentees recruited for this program. There was a meet and greet for mentors and mentees in addition to a Mentor training on June 29, 2011, at 5:00 pm. The event was a huge success. They are looking forward to encouraging, uplifting and inspiring young ladies to know that they are special this summer.

They are still seeking volunteers to be mentors as well as those to be mentees. If you are interested, please contact our office and speak to Mrs. Catina Autry.

Scholarship Gala 2011



On June 25, 2011, at 7:30 pm at Harnett County Governmental Complex, we hosted our 1st Annual Honoring Achievement and Promoting Excellence Scholarship Gala. The purpose of the gala was to honor all of our graduates and their families for their hard work during this term. The Gala was a HUGE event. The event was open to the students, their families, friends, their supporters, and community members. Our pre-collegiate students assisted with the event as well.

The night started with an Opening Act Performance by the Graduates and after the wonderful Opening Act, the graduates did Self-Introductions which they stated their names, parent's names, college they would be attending and major, motto they live by, and their favorite color. After the Self Introductions, the Welcome, Prayer, and Introductions of Master and Mistress of Ceremony were done so by the graduates.

The Master and Mistress of Ceremony (Xavier Ellis and Kristie Harrington) then came out to get the crowd "hyped and excited about education". Following the crowd getting excited, they gave the purpose of the event. Following the Purpose, the audience viewed a slideshow for them to capture the Teen Summer Camp, After School Program, College Tours, Enrichment Workshops, Community Service Projects, etc. that the graduates had participated in while enrolled in our program throughout the years.

We were also blessed to have a TRUE Motivational Speaker with us on that evening – Major (Retired) Steve Jones. He

was introduced by one of our graduates and he spoke to the students about the importance of giving back to YOUR community once they receive their college degree "Build a Bridge" was his topic and it was so moving, touching, and it was a message not only to the graduates but everyone that was under the sound of his voice. He received a standing ovation for his great words of encouragement to the graduates and audience.

We also had a Dynamic Question and Answer Segment and the graduates did an awesome job answering the questions. It was so great that it was one of the highlights of the event. Before the conclusion, we had the Benediction by one of our graduates and then it was time for the Gala Finale.

The Gala Finale was amazing! The graduates were dressed in their formal attire as they performed an elegant routine with their youth escorts. After the dance was completed, it was time for the BIG surprise~ the Youth Escorts gave way to the Adult Escorts to join the graduates on the dance floor. Adult escorts consisted of fathers, grandfathers, mothers, step-parents, cousins, etc. It was such a touching moment.

The event also consisted of Entertainment, Recognition of Family and Friends, Class of 2011 Senior Gift Presented to Think Smart, Scholarship Announcement, refreshments, and music at the end for the families and friends to enjoy each other and spend some quality time together!

This will be an annual event! We had so many rave reviews on facebook. People we didn't even know that were in attendance spoke so highly of it and how much they enjoyed it. One person stated we need to have more activities like this in Harnett County! **Thanks for the Support!!**

From the Pre-Collegiate Corner

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



The Pre-Collegiate Program's last workshop for the 2010-2011 term was held on Saturday, June 4, 2011. The Annual Workshop is entitled "Welcome Back".

The purpose of this workshop is for the students that graduated from our program the year before to come back and speak to the current students about their first year experience in college. The graduates talked about roommates, homesickness, getting involved on campus, how to handle school work and personal time, what they like about their college of choice etc. Each graduate individually gave advice to the students in attendance. The current students also had the chance to ask questions to the graduates so they can get the "real" feel of going to college. We had a great time and the graduates were extremely informative.

As of today, 100% of our seniors have been accepted to one or more colleges/universities. We are now accepting applications for students in grades 9th-12th that would like to enroll in the Pre-Collegiate Program. It is on a first come/first serve basis and slots will fill up quickly and afterwards we will have a waiting list like we had this year! We are looking forward to the 2011-2012 term which will begin August 2011.

From the HCPAL Corner

Ms. Nell-PAL Director
Mr. Walter-Recreation Director
Mr. Alex-Recreation Assistant



Football Camp (Tuesday, July 26th through Friday, July 29th)

We are now accepting applications for our Flag Football League. The League is open to youth ages 4-15 and will begin in mid July. Cost is \$20 per person.

The Tackle Football Camp will be held on Tuesday, July 26th through Friday, July 29th from 10am-1pm. The camp is open to youth ages: 5-17 and the cost is \$ 25 per child. The camp will be held at Williams Ball Park (Erwin, NC). Each day, the campers will experience various stations, specializing in fundamental skills of football. Individual groups will be small to assure that each camper gets maximum instruction from top football coaches. Campers will participate in daily games, stations, and skill contests. Each camper will be placed on a team according to his or her age. Coaches will give daily talks highlighting the finer points of the game of football and beyond.

The Cheerleading Camp will be held Thursday, August 4th through Saturday, August 6th. Hours are 9am-2pm. The camp is open to youth ages: 5-18. The cost is \$ 40 per child. This camp will offer a wide variety of camps and clinics for teams and individuals of all ages and skill levels. Activities will include stunts, tumbling, dance, cheer, and choreography. Great for school teams, gyms, and youth of all ages. Camp will be instructed by local high school cheerleaders, college cheerleaders, and a former NFL/NBA Cheerleader. This camp is

specially designed for teams of 8 or more. Snacks will be provided.

The Basketball Camp will be held on Tuesday, August 9th through Friday, August 12th.

Hours are 10am-1pm. Cost is \$ 35 per child. The camp will be held at Erwin Parks and Recreation Gym. The camp will be ran by experienced coaches in a fun and interactive environment. Emphasis is placed on teaching basketball fundamentals!

Some of the basketball fundamentals to be taught are as follows:

Offense: dribbling, passing, jump shot, lay-up & foul shot.

Defense: footwork, boxing out, rebounding, man/zone principles & close outs

Other: shoot off dribble, low post offense/defense, fronting post, setting picks & mental game. Facilitators include T.J. Morrison - Triton High School; Rodney Scott - Pine Forest High School; Bruce Schmit - Cape Fear Elite; and Sylvester Pitman - Lakewood High School.

Each camp will include T-shirts and other keepstakes.

On Saturday, August 13th, we will host our Annual Cougar Classic Basketball Tournament at Overhills High School (Spring Lake, NC). Tournament is open to teams ages 12U-18U. Cost is \$125.00 per team. 2 games guaranteed. Must register no later than Friday, August 5th.

Trophies will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place winners.

To register for any of the above activities, please contact our office in person or by phone. Registration payments accepted by phone.

Our 10 and Under Boys Baseball Team



Our T-Ball Team



Welcome New Board of Directors

The next several years promise to be exciting ones for Think Smart Outreach Center, Inc. Our organization will continue to have a positive impact on the communities we serve. The Board of Directors will play a central role in this important work.

A primary responsibility of board directors is to participate in the development of policy and major decision-making at board meetings. Another key responsibility is to be active on an ongoing basis in a committee of the board.

We are pleased to have the following NEW Board of Directors Members that will be joining us in July 2011. Welcome Aboard:

Mayor Patsy Carson of Erwin

Attorney Jesse Jones who practices in Harnett County

Corey Nixon - Court Counselor for the Office of Juvenile Justice in Lillington

Linda Holliday - Retired Educator of the Harnett County School System

Major (Retired) Steve Jones - Educator at local high school

Doris Grady - President of a Community Based Organization entitled Erwin Ladies' Club.

Dexter Chance – Fraternal Organization

John Smith - Retired Superintendent & Member of Fraternal Organization

Rosalind Cross- Interim Director of Triangle South Workforce Development

Pastor Craig Robinson-Pastor of Greens' Chapel Church located in Lillington

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



Newsletter Prepared by Ms. Pamela Williams

**Chief Executive Director
Ms. Pamela Williams**

**Chief Financial Director
Ms. Nell Williams**

**Office Manager
Mrs. Anita Hart**

**Think Smart Outreach Center, Inc.
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www.thinksmartoutreach.org**

We were established on April 24, 2001. TEN Years and Still Growing Strong!! We would like to say a Special Thank You to our Wonderful Staff, Volunteers, Contractors, Grantors, Board Members, Students, Families, Partners, Harnett County, and everyone that helped us make this great a HUGE success. You complete the puzzle at Think Smart Outreach Center, Inc. 21st Century Community Learning Center.

THE BEST IS YET TO COME!

