

Wildcat's Roar

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 4

NOVEMBER 2007



Principal's Message

Congratulations Wildcats! We have just completed our first quarter of school and things are going great. I have enjoyed meeting all of our new students and families and continuing the relationships with parents and students who have been part of our family for some time.

Getting Involved in Activities Outside of School

There are lots of wonderful programs outside of school for middle school students (sports programs, school clubs,

YMCA programs, scouting, church activities, etc.). Middle school students can also volunteer. As many of you know, Carver students are required to do a certain number of hours in community service. Volunteering at a nursing home, animal shelter, hospital (reading to young students hospitalized) is a great way to have fun and to also do something that's important and worthwhile.

While friends and group activities are important, it's also important to have

things that you enjoy doing by yourself. During the next few years, take time to develop some personal skills and hobbies. Find time for yourself and celebrate that time as well.

The Carver staff welcomes your inquiries and support. Send us an e-mail, call or make arrangements to visit us with an appointment.

It takes a village!

Micheal D. Johnson,
Principal

Tulsa Kids Magazine features Carver 8th Grader

Carver 8th grader, Terricia Foster, is featured in the November issue of Tulsa Kids magazine. In an article entitled "Kids Have the Last Word on Prejudice" Terricia offers her response to the question: "What can all of us do to end prejudice?" Way to go, Terricia.

Reminder to Parents

Telephone calls cannot be put through to teachers' rooms during the school day, except when the teacher is on planning period. Thank you for your cooperation.

I would like to thank the PTSA, the parents, students, teachers, and Mrs. Lenore Brown for contributing to a very successful Fall Book Fair. Mrs. Brown does not even have students here any longer, but agreed to come and organize our fair, AND to incorporate student workers. Students went through the same process that is used to apply for a job. It was a great experience for them and a help to everyone. The PTSA hosted the fair and members volunteered. Teachers, parents, and students also supported with their many purchases. All of this allowed the Carver Library Media Center to get \$2000 in new books! Thank you!

Mona Edwards, Carver Library Media Specialist

Order Your Yearbook By Mail

We understand how busy life can be, so we'd like to make your student's yearbook purchase as easy as possible. We have partnered with Jostens to bring you a convenient way to order yearbooks—order directly from your home. It's quick, easy, and eliminates the need for your child to bring money to school. You should have received a mailing at home from Jostens with all your order instructions. We hope you find this service to be an easy and efficient way to purchase your student's yearbook. If you have any questions please contact Jostens @ 1-866-282-1516. Place your order today!

Sincere condolences to Carver student Andrea Boyd and her family on the recent loss of her mother, Renetta Boyd.

Carver PTSA

Students of the Month

AUGUST

Tiani Jones
Toby Towsley
Karen Pena
Ishak Hossain

SEPTEMBER

Carl Mitchell
Krista Witherspoon
Sarah Podpechan
Arlando Johnson

OCTOBER

Chelsie House
Andrew Eaton-Clark
Alexandria Benjamin
Matthew Bruns

6TH GRADE

7TH GRADE

Madison Mobley
Trevor Grant
Wesley Desmond
Jessica Swicegood

Tyrin Reynolds
Kyle Colvin
Joseph Tran
Shakihya Willis

Miguel Hernandez
Audrey Yu
Isaiah Washington
Rosallyn Pisachubbe

8TH GRADE

Osha Davis
Peter Folkins
Jaqueline Lucius
Paige Miller

Jarod White
Cody Tucker
Keiah Williams
Moriah Vanderburg



Photo by SheRhonda Littles

Both Carver's Junior Varsity and Varsity teams have made it to the TPS playoffs. The Varsity will play Foster on Tuesday, November 6th, 6:00 pm at East Central.

Junior Varsity faces Byrd on Thursday, November 8th, 7:30 pm at LaFortune.

Come out and support the Wildcat's football teams to another Championship Victory!

Fall Carver Clean Up Day Completed

Thank you to all the Carver students and families who spent the morning of October 13 tending to the school property during Clean Up Day, organized by PTSA Building and Grounds co-chairs, Darla Allen and Lauran Drummond. Weeding, mulching, and planting pansies and border plants have improved the curb appeal of Carver. In addition, many bags of debris were raked up and removed from the grounds. Watch for another Clean Up Day in the Spring!

Carver 8th graders set sail at the Booker T. Washington pool on October 12.

S.S. Wildcat 2007 was a fun learning experience for the Carver Class of '08. This interdisciplinary unit drew on all four core classes for background and understanding. Students learned how to make scale drawings in Math classes, and studied buoyancy and displacement in Science. American History classes studied explorers, and learned about agreements (Compacts) entered into by settlers and travelers. In Language Arts, students read "The Open Boat", an autobiographical short story written by Stephen Crane. Over the course of two weeks, students spent time working with their teammates to design their boats, create a flag, and agree on rules and duties for their

team. Once the preliminary steps were completed, the fifty-four teams of 4 students each were given one 4-foot by 8-foot sheet of corrugated cardboard, and were allowed to use as much duct tape as they wanted to bring in to construct their boats. Every boat was designed to carry one team member – plus a life jacket and wooden paddle – the length of the BTW swimming pool! Launch Day saw us loading 54 boats, and 218 very excited kids, onto buses for the ride to Booker T. We ran 11 heats of student boats – and 23 boats actually made it all the way across the pool! The cheering, laughter, team spirit, and encouragement made for an exciting and fun-

filled day. Teachers even got in on the fun, launching 5 craft (not all could be seriously called "boats") in a bid for bragging rights. We returned to Carver to enjoy a picnic lunch, then an afternoon of fellowship in the stadium. The day ended with the entire 8th grade class cooperating to clean up trash and litter in and around the stadium. Students and 8th grade teachers extend a heartfelt "Thank you!" to our parents who volunteered to help with cardboard cutting at Carver, and Launch Day crowd control at BTW. We couldn't have done it without you!

6th Graders Visit George Washington Carver Museum

Sixth graders took their first field trip of the year to the George Washington Carver Museum in Diamond, Missouri on October 16 and 17. They toured his birthplace and participated in some of the activities of that time period. Students observed how some toys and candles were made (created

their own). They learned about cooking outside on an open fire and washing clothes outdoors in a tub with a scrub board using bluing to whiten the clothes. Sixth-graders also toured Dr. Carver's childhood home and museum which consisted of a Science lab, information about his life, his creations and inventions,

and how each of these helped mankind (Homo Faber). Some of the students were also able to tour the Carver family burial grounds. The people who reared Dr. Carver and his brother are buried there. Students were also able to purchase tokens and souvenirs from the gift shop located in the museum.



Carver Carnivale is Coming!

Mark your calendars for Friday, February 8, 2008. That is when Carver PTSA will kick-off Carnivale---an evening of dancing, food, games, and fun for the entire family. If you would like to volunteer to assist with the planning of this event, please contact PTSA 2nd VP Kisha Hardaway at kisha.hardaway@aa.com.



George Washington Carver Middle School
National Blue Ribbon School

624 E. Oklahoma Place
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74106

Phone: 918-925-1420
Fax: 918-925-1450

Email: www.tulsaschools.org/schools/Carver/

PTA REFLECTIONS ENTRIES

Are you an artist, photographer, film-maker, musician or dancer?

Enter the 2007-2008 PTA Reflections Program!

Come by the office to pick up details for participation.

This year's theme is "I Can Make a Difference by..."

Entries are due by December 3, 2007

Upcoming Tests for Carver Students

November 12–15 Elementary and Middle School Benchmark Assessment, Unit 3

November 26-29 High School Math Benchmark Assessment, Unit 2

Geography Bee is December 3, 2007. All Carver students will compete in the bee, with the top placing students participating in a school-wide Geography Bee. The Carver winner will represent our school in the district Bee.

Jazz and Jeans – A Great Evening!

Carver PTSA's 2nd annual Jazz and Jeans at the Jazz Depot was a spectacular event and successful fundraiser. Pianist Jon Glazer gave a sparkling performance of pop and jazz numbers, taking requests all evening. Special appearances were made by Saloma Davenport-Smith singing a *cappella* and Steve Broussard, who provided a fine rendition of "Brick House" by the Commodores.

Special thanks goes to the Cordell family and to Conner & Winters for their very generous sponsorship. A big shout-out, also, to Ray Davis at the Jazz Depot. Remember to consider them for your future events. Many thanks to the entire Jazz & Jeans committee—Jill Drummond, Susan Edwards, Katie Campbell, Tricia Cadenhead, Elaine Ard, Tina Reimbold, Danel Farris, Janice Podpechan, Stephanie Richmond, DeeAnn Beal, Melanie Burgess, and Pam Boxley. Finally, we thank all the wonderful Carver volunteers who helped make Jazz and Jeans 2007 a great time!

OMTA Recognizes Carver Student

William Long, 6th Grader at Carver Middle School, received a Certificate of Recognition on October 13, 2007, as one of top winners in the Tulsa OMTA Junior Auditions. William will represent Tulsa in piano at the Winners Recital East District Conference at OBU in Shawnee on November 3rd. The purpose of the Junior Audition is to give students the opportunity to perform in a competitive audition that will allow those students who exhibit a sufficient level of performance skill to have the opportunity to perform on a Winners Recital. More details about the Oklahoma Music Teachers Association can be found at <http://www.okmta.org/>.

Family Dinner Night

The family of Carver students Lauran and Sydney Drummond was featured recently in the Tulsa World endorsing Family Dinner Night, an idea touted by the Center for Screen-Time Awareness—a group that is urging Americans to spend less time watching television and more time talking to each other.

Tips for making every night **Family Dinner Night**:

Be consistent: Make dinner a standing appointment and schedule everything else around it.

Keep it simple: Dinner doesn't have to rival Thanksgiving. Choose quick recipes.

Work together: If everybody helps cook and clean up, the average meal won't take much time.



Photo courtesy of The Tulsa World

Carver Student Directories Distributed

Thank you to Leslie Cairns, Directory Layout and Design Chair, and Nanette Stubblefield and Gina Ward, ad sales chairs, for the many hours of work they volunteered to publish this year's Student Directory. They did an outstanding job! A copy of the student directory was sent home with each Carver student before fall break. Additional copies of the directory may be purchased for \$1.00 each in the Main Office. Student Directory forms were distributed via the August and September newsletters. Only those students who returned signed completed forms were eligible to be included in the directory. The Student Directory is compiled, published, and distributed by CMS PTSA, and funded by our advertisers. Please patronize our supporting advertisers.

Gateway to Technology News

Now that the school year is off and running, I have a few minutes to gather my thoughts and look at what is going on. Our Gateway, Tech. Ed, TSA, and ERC programs have kicked off a fundraiser to earn money to cover expenses for competitions, group account fees, basic supplies, and possibly a trip to Nationals in Orlando, Florida. This is an important goal for these students, and one that I support. We will be repeating a fundraiser in the late winter/early spring. Eighth grade is currently finishing up a unit on electronics and preparing to move into the automation and robotics unit. Seventh grade will be dividing their time between computer modeling, design and development, and construction of a Rube Goldberg device. Sixth grade completed their nine weeks by finishing the Rube Goldberg project. They will then be studying about geodesic domes, and dome prototypes. This school year is progressing well, and I'm excited to see how far we can go. Please continue to communicate with me via email with your questions. If your schedule allows, please visit the classroom and work with us for a short time each week (with Principal and District approval)

William Ollar
ollarwi@tulsaschools.org

The Carver Middle School Foundation Invites Your Support

The Carver Middle School Foundation was formed in 1992 by Tulsa business and civic leaders, parents and supporters. The primary objective of the Foundation's mission is pursuit of excellence for Carver Students through our activities to

- Foster and promote Carver Middle School by organizing alumni and patrons
 - Obtain grants, donations, gifts and bequests to be used exclusively for the benefit of Carver Middle School, its students and faculty
 - Promote educational excellence at Carver Middle School by financially assisting programs and projects for the enrichment of Carver Middle Schools' academic, cultural and other activities
- Each school year, teachers and certified staff apply for individual grants. Grant recipients are recommended by Foundation Trustees who consider the applicability of the project and its benefit to the students. Funds are then awarded for use by teachers for selected projects during a specified school year. Each school year, the grant application cycle begins in September and awards are made in January. Carver Middle School Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization benefiting Carver student programs. Examples of grant requests are math manipulative, supplies for the Sister Cities project, social studies equipment, and materials to supplement the curriculum in the classroom.

We invite you to contribute to the Foundation to provide adequate resources to enable funding of these teacher grant requests. No donation is too small (or large) and all donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Your financial support benefits Carver students on their journey to performance excellence.



In addition to earning over \$2000 worth of books for our library, we are so excited to have had the opportunity to try a new Student Manager concept with this Book Fair. Thank you so much to Caleb Christie, Bayle Burrows, Kryste Turley, and Victoria Richmond for being an amazing crew. They gave me valuable feedback and were great leaders. They learned about maintaining the inventory through reorders, presentation through clean up after class visits, advertising through communication and recommendations, and financials by closing out the bank and learning how to prepare a deposit.

We have met to debrief and are looking forward to tweaking the concept for our Spring Book Fair. We are considering expanding the advertising opportunities by doing a poster contest, book talks by students, utilizing a team staff on our busier days, and many other ideas.

I want to extend my appreciation to Mr. Johnson and the 8th grade teachers for being receptive to trying something new. We are not only lucky to have such amazing leadership in our students, but an equally amazing staff to support them as you do.

Lenore Brown
Book Fair Chairman

SAVE THE DATE: NOVEMBER 20

Carver is working with the American Red Cross on a new program called, “Will You Be My Hero?”

On November 6 during 5th block, the period for MYP Areas of Interaction (AOI), the Red Cross will present a DVD and live program about the circulatory system, the need for a safe blood supply, and Red Cross emergency services. That day, students will receive forms with which they may ask adults in their lives to donate blood. Whether students recruit donors or not, if they return the form they will receive a red “Give Blood” wrist band.

Then on November 20 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, the Red Cross will return for Carver’s blood drive. Donors whose students recruited will make their donations that day, and will be joined by donors from local churches and the community. Students will receive two free music downloads when donors they signed complete their donation. Students will also join their donors for the post-donation juice and cookies.

“Will You Be My Hero?” combines learning with Community and Service, one of the five areas of interaction of the International Baccalaureate’s Middle Years Programme, and brings adults who are our students’ heroes into the school. On the November 20 donation day, parents and guardians are also invited to bring a lunch and eat with their students, or come take them out to lunch.