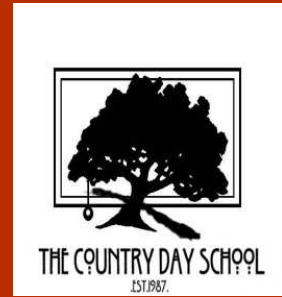


IMPORTANT  
DATES:

- **Sunday October 5th 1Pm-3PM- Fall family Field trip at Falls Mill**
- **Monday October 7th-all picture orders and money due**
- **Thursday October 9th- Flower Power fundraising orders and money due.**
- **Thursday October 9th-Primary Community trip to Tate Farms**
- **Monday October 13th- NO SCHOOL Parent/teacher conferencesTK-8th grades. Preschool teacher in-service**
- **Monday October 13th-Friday October 12th- Scholastic Book Fair**

# Friday News

OCTOBER 3RD, 2008



## Have a Successful Parent-Teacher Conference

It is that time of year again, signing up for a time when you and your child's teacher can get together to discuss your child's progress. These conferences offer the perfect chance to find out how well little Johnny is adjusting to his new class, more challenging studies and his teacher. Remember that you and the teacher have one thing in common: both of you care about your child's education and the conference is the time for you to understand how your child is doing academically. Here are a few tips: **Spend some-time discussing school with your child**— hopefully you are having a daily rap session about your kid's day at school. The secret is to listen for what your child might not be saying. He or she might have misconceptions, questions or fears. Talk about his or her

feelings about their teacher, classmates or staff. **Make a list of questions or concerns to bring with you**— coming prepared to the conference shows you care about your child's education and will establish you as an equal participant. **Don't be late**— These meetings are scheduled in time frames and they may sometimes go over yet your promptness reflects well on your child. Use positives from the very beginning—the teacher will warm up to you if she feels you aren't in defense mode. Often parents have a hard time hearing critical comments about their kids and come off defensive or hostile before dialogue has even begun. **Stay focused on the matter at hand**— yes it is great to spend the time talking about the new road or the next fundraiser, but that is not what the conference is for. **Try to keep your mind**

**open to the teachers ideas and concerns**— It is easy to become emotional and feel that your child is under personal attack if someone seems to be openly criticizing your child. No one is blaming you or your child for not knowing all the multiplication facts or not be able to spell certain words. The teacher just wants you to know where the student is academically, so a plan can be made to improve areas of weakness. **Take notes and discuss everything later with your son or daughter**— get the input on what was discussed and ask them how they feel about what was said. Be honest and direct so that everyone is on the same page. Remember it takes the student, the teacher and the school to educate our children.

## Scholastic Book Fair

The school's fall book fair will be taking place in the library from Sunday October 12th 1:00PM-5PM, Monday 9AM-3PM during Parent/teacher conferences and Tuesday-Friday from 9AM-4Pm. We welcome the parents to come and look anytime during the hours given above. The children will also be able to come through out the week

with their classes to look at the books and their teachers will let them come to look during their free times after they have finished their work.

Soma! Ota! Kua! Is your Swahili a little rusty? Allow us to translate: Read! Dream! Grow! This is the Scholastic book fair theme this year and we encourage everyone to do all three.



## Flower Power



*There is no season when such pleasant and sunny spots may be lighted on, and produce so pleasant an effect on the feelings, as now in October.*

*Nathaniel Hawthorne*

There is only one week left to get orders for the Flower Power bulb fundraiser.

Remember the student and the class who sells the most bulbs will win a prize!

Please Reassure all your family and friends that the bulbs will be in on time for fall planting and they will be delighted this spring when their yards are full of blooming flowers! We also wanted to clarify how the orders work. All orders will be written on the order form and then the collected money will be collected in the envelope provided. If you have questions please call the office at (256) 837-5266. Go Flower Power!

## CDS Cares



One of the goals at The Country Day School is to encourage the children to participate in the community and to reach out to those less fortunate than themselves. By encouraging this the children not only learn all about team work but they also learn a special feeling of self worth and how good it feels to help others. So each month, throughout the school year we participate in different community projects that we feel accomplish

these goals. This community service is called CDS Cares. Next week we will begin our very first CDS Cares project. It is called "kits for Ike Victims". A charity in Decatur, AL is going to bring collected hygienic items to the school and the children are going to put kits together so that they can be sent to the hurricane victims in Texas. The kits will include items that we take for granted every day like toothpaste, soap, deodorant, etc. We will announce our other fall projects soon.

## Madison Street Festival

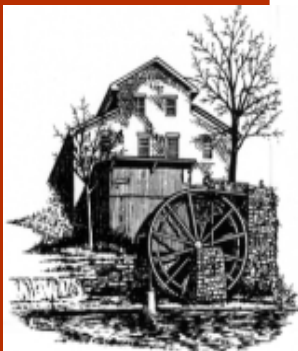
The 28th Annual Madison Street festival will be taking place this Saturday October 4th in downtown Madison. The festival starts at 8:30AM with a parade and runs until 4:00PM-rain or shine! There will be food, arts and crafts, entertainment, games and amusements. Fun events that will keep you and your family busy throughout the whole day. For more information please call 1-888-228-5845.



## "A Year with Frog and Toad"

If your looking for something more on the relaxing side for the family to do this evening or Saturday, you may want to go see a play. "A Year With Frog and Toad", the story based on the well known series of children's Newberry & Caldecott Honor Books by Arnold Lobel, is being performed at Lee High School, 606 Forrest Circle. Friday nights showing begins at 7:00PM and Saturdays Showing will take place at 2:30PM.

Tickets may be purchased at Harrison Brothers Hardware, Gates Cleaners, A.B. Stephens Music Store, Off Campus Bookstore & The Greenery or you can call 859-2563 for more information.



**The Back to School Fall Family Field Trip will be this Sunday October 5th From 1:00PM-3:00PM at Falls Mill. We hope to see everyone there. It will be great fun and it is wonderful opportunity to meet other families of Country Day School. Visit [www.fallsmill.com](http://www.fallsmill.com) for directions**

**Don't forget to turn in your picture orders. All orders must be turned in by Monday Morning!**





# Voyager News

## October 6th- October 10th

**Thurs:** Vocabulary Test  
**Fri:** Current Event  
**Fri:** History/Geography Test

**History:** We have begun learning about the five geographical areas of the state, and will finish this up on Monday. The students will also learn about some of the main crops grown in Alabama. We will review on Wednesday and have a History/Geography test on Friday.



**Language Arts:** The students did well on the unit test for nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. We have begun our next unit on using the five steps of the writing process to compose narratives, creative writing, and other written works.

### Vocabulary Words:

assume	comprehend	employ	establish
excavate	exert	grim	intense
provoke	translate	agony	aroma

**French:** This week, the children turned in their fall projects. I had a great time looking at all the colorful, creative posters! We had a trivia quiz and practiced our numbers. Next week, we're going to have a quiz over numbers 1-100, so please make sure that you children are practicing! (Your children don't need to be able to spell the French word for the number, just recognize it.) If they need more assistance with numbers, <http://french.about.com/library/begin/bl-numbers.htm> is a site where they can listen to a native French speaker saying the numbers.

**Music:** In Voyagers' Music this week we tried our hands at songwriting, discussing the mechanics and artistic choices a songwriter makes.

**Art:** We did still-life and had to create shadows and the 3-D affect with different pieces of colored and textured paper. We were a little loud and excited with this particular project because it created a fun challenge. No outlines of the still-life could be drawn; it had to be created by cutting each piece into the appropriate shape to fit that point which was viewed (what *they saw* from where they were sitting—each "collage" was different).