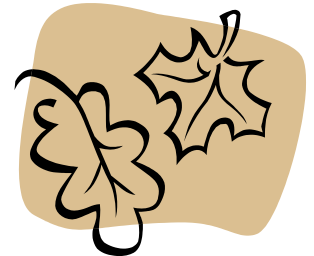


Towle Bridge



September: A Great Time to Invest By Gretchen Mahoney

Last week, the *News Journal* published a positive article about one of our local homeschool families. Alongside the online article ran a simple survey: in favor or opposed to homeschooling? Looking at the early poll results, the opposing folks were in the lead. Over the course of the evening, I received several emails encouraging me to cast my vote. Sure enough, by the time I went to bed, proponents of homeschooling had taken the lead.

As I mused (as I often do, in the middle of the night) upon these results, I wondered how many of us quickly cast our vote, maybe even twice or more, to make an impact on the public perception of homeschooling. How many of us felt satisfaction helping drive the poll numbers up?

It seems that more people participated in this convenient, but non-consequential survey than are generally willing to make their voices heard when it really matters. At last count before I turned in for the night, at least 1500 voters had made their preference known. If the “for” homeschooling category was in the lead, at least 750-800 of us clicked the button. Amazing!

Are we also willing to get involved when...

- Legislation threatens our *or someone else's* homeschool privileges?
- We want a Jr. High basketball team?
- We want Science Olympiad teams, Science Fairs, etc.?
- The state decides not to pay for Driver Education for home/private educated students?
- An elected official holds a “town-hall” meeting?
- We want a meaningful graduation ceremony?
- The United Nations wants to bind parents with global regulations?
- We have hopes for an awesome Senior Trip?

Granted, some of these take a bit more effort than clicking our mouse in the comfort of our own home. Let us, however, consider also the impact our authentic involvement could have: it is certainly going to be much longer lasting than convincing the *News Journal* audience that homeschooling is a good thing. Next time someone asks us to make a difference by contacting a legislator, being on a committee, or helping to coach, let's follow-up on the mouse-click with some genuine action.



Towle Basketball



As we get ready for another exciting season of basketball, here are some dates to remember:

Starting September 15th
for Varsity Girls (8th - 12th) and
Varsity Boys (10th - 12th)
Tuesday Practice at Ogletown Exchange
6:45 - 8:45pm

October 6th - Parent Meeting at Ogletown Exchange @ 6:pm

October 10th - Yard Sale at the Leuze's home
7:am - 2:pm - proceeds will go towards the basketball program - everyone who wants to participate in the basketball program this season is welcome to help. All donations can be dropped off at the Leuze's home any time before Saturday. (Address: 31 Chaucer Drive, Newark, DE 19713)

More information will follow. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact me at kshortlidge@comcast.net

2009-10 Lab Schedule

Fall

(Wednesdays-FBC)

Note: This is tomorrow!

September 9, 2009 (Lab **Group 1** on school calendar)

8:30 – 10:30 Physics

9:30 – 11:30 Chemistry

10:30 – 12:30 Physical Science

September 23, 2009 (Lab **Group 2** on school calendar)

9:30 – 11:30 Biology - Wiles

Biology - Molecular Approach

12:00 – 2:00 Health

October 14 Follow Lab **Group 1** schedule

October 28 Follow Lab **Group 2** schedule

November 11 Follow Lab **Group 1** schedule

November 18 Follow Lab **Group 2** schedule

December 9 To Be Announced

Things to remember...

Please remember that we are guests in the buildings we use and should behave accordingly.

- 1. ALWAYS check IN and OUT with the study hall monitors if coming to school late or leaving before the end of seventh period! You must also check in at the beginning of every study hall.**
- 2. No loitering in the parking lot.** Once at school, you are here for classes or, if available, you may be outside at the basketball court during study hall. There is no need to be around cars.
- 3. All backpacks, crates, etc. are to be in the study hall area.** No items are to be left in the hallways.
- 4. Keep voices down when in the hallways as there may be classes in session and there are pastor offices in the lower hallway.**
- 5. Remember to use gym room bathrooms only. Do not go beyond the orange cones in lower hallway.**
- 6. If weather is a factor, remember to listen to the radio or go on-line.** Campus may close when the Red Clay School District closes. Check the *Student Handbook* for further information.

"Babe, the Sheep Pig" Live on stage

Presented by True Light Productions

directed by Cheryl Shields

September 17, 18 and 19, 2009 , 7 p.m.

Sunday matinee on September 20 at 2PM

The Everett Theater, 47 W. Main St., Middletown, DE.

For tickets call 302-602-1638.

Tickets prices are children 2-12 \$6.00, teens 13-17 \$8.00, advanced adult \$10.00 and adult
1 at the door \$12.00.

"Babe, the Sheep Pig" is a wonderful tale of high adventure in the farmyard. A delightful play - with a story you probably know from the children's book by Dick King-Smith or the Oscar-winning film. "Babe" has lots of fun farm animals, sweetness and humor.

The play shows that the familial love of an orphaned piglet can come from some unlikely sources. A Border collie named "Fly" can be a pig's mom; a pig on Farmer Hogget's farm, which may have been Christmas dinner, can learn to herd sheep. In fact "Babe" is such a good sheep herder that Farmer Hogget decides to enter "Babe" in the Grand National Sheep Dog Trials.

All the farmyard animals are on the scene: Cockerel, Turkey, Cat, puppies, ducks and Ma, the old ewe, just to name a few.

Middle School Book Club meets the second Monday of each month, seventh period:

September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14,
January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, and May 10.

Thanks,
Barb Gallagher

COLLEGE GUIDANCE NOTES

1. The PSAT will be administered on Saturday, October 17, 2009. Please be at Faith Baptist Church by 8:45 a.m. and bring No. 2 pencils, an eraser and an approved calculator (refer to page 17 the PSAT Student Bulletin) with you. You may bring snacks and a drink, but you may not eat or drink during testing, which is scheduled to end sometime after 12 noon. As testing materials have already been ordered, only students who have signed up by June, 2009 may test. Please direct questions to Ms. Loke/Mrs. Chu.
2. The Junior and Parent College Night is scheduled for Tuesday, November 3, 2009, from 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. at Faith Baptist Church. This is a meeting for our full-time junior families, and attendance is **MANDATORY**. Only the student and his/her parents may attend. No younger children, except for nursing infants, please. If you are a part-time junior family, you are welcome to attend for a fee of \$25 (prior registration is required). Please see Ms.Loke/Mrs. Chu if you have questions.
3. Ms. Loke/Mrs. Chu will be visiting the English 10 class on October 19, 2009 to give a short college guidance presentation. Parents of students in the class are cordially invited to attend this presentation. If you are unable to join us, please ask your student for the handouts which they will be receiving during that time.

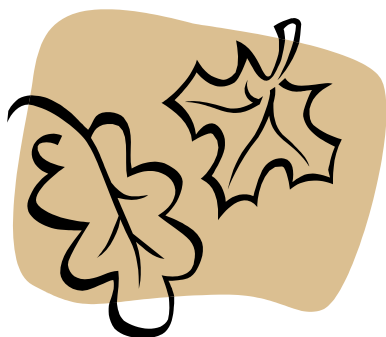
**TowleInstitute.
com**

September 2009

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
6	7	8 Week 1 Mapping Day	9 Lab Grp 1	10 Begin Drama	11	12
13	14 Week 2 Book Club 4/5 Sci.	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Week 3	22	23 Lab Grp 2	24	25	26
27	28 Week 4 Teacher Mtg.	29	30	1	2	3
4	5 Week 5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Week 6 Book Club	13	14 Lab Grp 1	15	16	17 PSAT

Towle Institute
www.towleinstitute.com
P.O Box 580
Hockessin, DE 19707

Phone: (302) 993-1408
Fax: 993-1409
towleinstitute.com



**If you wish to submit something to the Towle
 Bridge, please email Gretchen Mahoney at
 Newsletter.towlebridge@verizon.net**