



Anderson School Newsletter

A publication of the Anderson School for the Gifted & Talented
14900 White Settlement Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76108

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The Anderson School is much more than a traditional private school. It is genuine interaction with other talented children and with gifted adults who harbor a sincere passion for what they teach. It is creating lasting relationships with other children. It is taking long walks down nature trails created by children to guide them toward real and imaginary ends or sharing their hopes, ambitions, fears and dreams while tending to the animals in the petting zoo. It is also making plans to keep in touch with new friends in order to finish something special they started at school and discovering another person who is interested in puppets, slot car racing, cartooning, computers, gardening or chess. It is working together to put the finishing touches on their own video tape production of an "Unsolved Mini-Mystery", scripting a new play, newsletter or invention. It is listening to stories while enjoying lunch and then traveling somewhere special each week to discover the beauty and diversity of opportunities in the communities where we live.

The school is all of this and much more. But most of all, it is a small community of talented learners and mentors who are willing to share with each other in an atmosphere purposefully designed to promote acceptance of each other, respect, trust, academic scholarship, hard work, excitement, adventure, fun and the belief that everyone has something to contribute.

LeVonna Anderson

COMMUNITY CLASSROOMS

Since classes commenced in August, our eager students have traveled afar in search of adventure and knowledge. They witnessed the arrival of the N.A.S.A. space shuttle at Carswell A.F.B., explored pathways of the Botanical Gardens, marveled at artifacts from Syria during electronically guided tours at the Kimbell Art Museum, gained fascinating insights into the vanishing world of Bears during several sojourns to the Museum of Science & History, (special thanks to the museum for the loan of artifacts from Yellowstone Park and to the Omni Theater for a wonderful movie), discovered the how of getting there at the Pate Museum of Transportation, modeled (in clay) Komoto dragons following personal introductions at the Fort Worth Zoo, were informed of peaceful uses of atomic energy at the Comanche Peak nuclear power plant, viewed many marvels of aviation history at the American Airlines C. R. Smith Museum and brushed up on Shakespeare at the International Theater School production of A Midsummer Night's Dream in the Scott Theater. And one of our favorite experiences occurred while munching on popcorn and viewing The

Indian in the Cupboard at a local movie parlor.

Plans are under way for many more excursions into the world around us as the walls of our classrooms expand to horizons beyond the school.

DOUG PRINE, IS NEW ARTIST - IN - RESIDENCE

We are indeed fortunate to announce that noted western artist, Doug Prine, has joined our staff. During his visits, Mr. Prine provides a wonderful opportunity for our children to work with a gifted and highly respected professional in the world of art. He allows them to explore various mediums including sculpting, watercolor, oil painting and drawing.

Mr. Prine is also an avid lover of history and recently shared his collection of Civil War artifacts with us. He frequently participates in historical reenactments and has invited our students to join in the adventure.

JOHN HAMMONS LIBRARY



In Sincerest Appreciation for Dedicated and Distinguished Service
to the Anderson School for the Gifted & Talented
The Board of Directors Names the School Library in His Honor.
Without his Support This School Would Not Exist.

The Library was recently dedicated to our dear friend, Mr. John Hammons, for his numerous contributions to our school and to the students.

CURRICULUM UPDATE

The Autonomous Learner Model (Betts) has been adapted and provides a basic framework within which the Anderson School structures the curriculum components and activities provided for our students.

The goal of this model is to facilitate the growth of the students as independent, self-directed learners, with the development of skills, concepts and positive attitudes within the cognitive, emotional and social domains.

Precocious children need help to realize their full career potential and to experience a sense of personal fulfillment and self-actualization. These children must have an opportunity to pursue their own interests to whatever depth they desire.

Students are not placed into schools for the gifted and talented and automatically become autonomous learners. The process is difficult and requires a long period of time and the sincere dedication of the teachers involved. It demands new orientations to the learning process, and new development for skills and attitudes, which must be turned positive prior to the onset of any meaningful learning.

As the needs of gifted and talented children are being met, they will develop into autonomous learners with the ability to be responsible for the development, implementation and evaluation of their own learning.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

We were delighted to receive a visit from Ms. Pat Debusk Holmes and her father, Dr. Jack DeBusk. Ms. Holmes is President of the Fort Worth Association for the Gifted and Talented and Dr. Debusk is now retired. Their advice and encouragement is deeply appreciated.

SIGNIFICANT DATES NOTED

JUNE 1	Tuition due for option 1 or 2 plans
SEPT. 3 *	Classes for Fall Semester begin
Nov. 1	Tuition due for option 2 plan
Nov. 13-15	Inservice (N.A.G.C.)
Nov. 20-22	Inservice (T.A.G.T.)
Nov. 27-29	Thanksgiving holiday
Dec. 23 - Jan. 3	Christmas Holiday

* All records required for admission must be on file within one week of admission.

MRS. ANDERSON TO APPEAR ON "ISSUES OF THE MIND"

LeVonna Anderson, Director of the Anderson School Campus, is scheduled to appear on the Arlington T.C.I. Cable program, "Issues of the Mind", hosted by noted child psychologist Dr. David Welsh.

She will discuss various issues and concerns related to gifted and talented education including motivation, curriculum, identification and appropriate activities for parents to use to meet the special needs of precocious children.

The program is available only on the Arlington cable system (T.C.I.) on cable channel 13.

The four scheduled broadcasts are:

Tuesday, March 19 at 9:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Friday, March 22 at 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 23 at 1:30 p.m.

"The imaginative child will become the imaginative man or woman most apt to invent, and therefore to foster our civilization."

- L. Frank Baum

