

Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation



**SPRING NEWSLETTER
2008**

- March 13.....Wine and Cheese party
(To honor our contributors for the Friends of the Foundation)
- March 16.....Quota Club Tours to benefit the BRSHF programs
- March 21st-March 28th.....Easter Holiday Break for the BRSHF
- March 31st.....Groups begin and we return from the holiday break
- April 18....."Day of Caring" (United Way agencies are greatly supported by persons in the community on this special day)
- May..... Better Speech and Hearing Month
- May 1* Volunteer Activist Luncheon
- May (TBA).....End of the year testing and parent conferences
- May 23rd (Friday) Certificate Ceremony
(Back lawn with family and friends)
- May 26th (Monday).....Memorial Day Holiday
- June 2nd - June 6thGroups break before Summer Session
- June 9th (Monday)..... 8 week summer Group language sessions begins
- July 4th.....HOLIDAY
- August 1st (Friday).....Summer Session ends
- August 18th -22ndStaff planning for Fall session
- August 22nd (Friday).....Orientation Meeting
(For all parents and staff beginning the fall semester)
- August 25th (Monday).....Group Language Classes begin for the Fall Semester

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Melissa Juneau

As I look out and see the beautiful spring flowers blooming, I cannot believe how quickly the year has gone by. There are many exciting things happening here at the Foundation. Our Friends of the Foundation campaign went very well this year. We will be hosting a Wine and Cheese Party on March 13 to thank those who have made contributions. Sunday March 16 is the Quota International Open Door Tour and we along with the O'Brien House will be recipients of the proceeds. Please support us by buying a ticket. We have also submitted several grants this year and will soon be offering a new parenting program "It takes Two to Talk". Our audiology department is getting ready to start a new marketing campaign to reach more elderly citizens in the ten parish area of the CAUW. This summer we will offer a summer camp in June for hearing impaired preschoolers: "Hear We Are".

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff, student workers, families here at the foundation for everything you do that makes this place so special. Remember you are our best advertisement for the work we do here. Thank you for your support!

WELCOME:

Lisa Sloan-Limmer is our newest Speech Language Pathologist. She leads a language group three days a week and provides therapy at our Denham Springs Clinic site. She comes to us with 24 years experience from Indiana. She has worked in rehab hospitals, private practice, home health and public school settings and she has great energy for new challenges!!

AUDIOLOGY NEWS:

Crystal Joseph, lead audiologist, is happy to welcome two student workers: Addie Dowell and Gretchen Perkins who both aspire to become audiologist. Crystal will begin spring audiological screening on the children enrolled in the preschool language classes; and she is soon to "hit the road" in our Mobile Testing Unit (MTU). She will be in St. Francisville Council on Aging on March 7th and Gonzales Senior Center March 18th and Donaldsonville Senior Center March 27th.

GROUP CLASSROOM NEWS:

Ms. Meg's class is busy learning about bears! If you peek in the door, you might hear the children growl, see them go on a bear hunt, pretend to "hibernate" in a cave, or catch a fish from the water. We are enjoying the books BEAR SNORES ON and BEAR WANTS MORE, and it's pretty funny when the concepts "big" and "little" get all mixed up in WHERE'S MY TEDDY? The bears might be sleeping the winter away, but these children are definitely awake and active.

Ms. Melissa's class has been reading "Who Lost a Shoe". They are going on shoe hunts on the playground and in the classroom. They enjoy making all the animals in the story and love trains and puppets! They are just beginning to make new friends and enjoy learning and playing together. Ms. Melissa's group will be moving up to Ms. Meg's Tuesday /Thursday group. Ms. Melissa is ready to start a new group very soon.

Ms. Tanya's class

Morning Group: If you have been seeing silly purple trolls around here, they probably escaped from Mrs. Tanya's room. Our group has been learning about the story of the "Three Billy Goats Gruff" and how clever the goat brothers were to fool the angry troll under the bridge. We will soon discuss stories that come to us from the farm, including "The Three Little Pigs" and "Pancakes for Breakfast". So start looking forward to hearing us pretend to be pigs and wolves and celebrate the end of our unit with a very special "Pancake Party" during which we will cook pancakes for our parents and friends.

Afternoon Group: We are having a great time learning about silly animals and people. First, we have been laughing at the silly little old lady who swallowed a fly! Can you believe that - she swallowed a fly, a spider, a cat, etc.?? After we finish laughing at the lady and watch her swallow too many animals, we will "drive" down to the farm to learn about the animals that live there and what they like to do. The most fun part of reading about the farm is learning to share what we learn with our friends!

Ms. Meme's class

4 year old group

Ms. Michelle's class has been doing the nursery rhymes "Hickory Dickory Dock", "Humpty Dumpty", "Baa Baa Black Sheep" and "Jack be Nimble". The class enjoyed acting out the rhymes and learning vocabulary words. They built a wall for "Humpty Dumpty", jumped over a candlestick with Jack, made a mouse run up and down the clock and glued "cotton balls" on the sheep.

2-3 year old group

This group has been reading "Who Lost a Shoe?" The children are learning the sounds that a duck, dog, cow, owl and bee make. We made pictures of each animal that was looking for the shoe and hung them on our bulletin board. The children also looked for the lost shoe in the classroom and each tried to match the shoes that were the same.

Ms. Lisa's class

Lisa has six "Smart Cookies" who are learning about being good listeners and following directions. They are learning about farm animals, vegetables grown on the farm, prepositions "above" and "under", the colors green and yellow and the use of social language and greetings (good morning, please, thank you etc). The class recently planted 4 tomato plants to watch them grow in the classroom! The class enjoys singing, dancing, throwing balls and making big movements (jumping, running with their bodies).

Quota Club Tour-Open Door Tour of Homes

The 57th annual open door tour of homes will be held on a Sunday afternoon 3/16/08. The Quota Club members are long time supporters of our programs so please support this annual event and see beautiful homes in our community. Tickets are \$20.00 and are available at the Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation front office.

Volunteer Activist Luncheon: Proceeds from this luncheon support our program. Our staff is encouraged to participate. We will end our classes that day at 11:00. **Our board volunteers give much of their time and energy to make it a successful event to benefit our programs. We certainly appreciate their efforts. Tickets are available for purchase in the front office. We are celebrating community servants and are so proud to honor them for their service to our community.**

PARENT CONFERENCES: This is a very important part of our program and we want to share with you assessment and informal observations about your children. Each teacher will post a CONFERENCE SCHEDULE on the classroom door in May, and we want every parent to take part and sign up for a special conference with your child's teacher. At the conference the speech therapist (your child's teacher) will compare initial testing and today's current information, and future recommendations concerning your child.

Mardi Gras was fun. We send our gratitude to the Delta Zeta Sorority girls, LSU "Mike the Tiger", LSU cheerleaders, LSU football players, Coach Nader, and the MANY parents and families supporting our festivities. All of the above made the parade possible and enjoyable. The students especially enjoyed the trailer ride and "throwing beads", and the mardi gras music had us dancin' in the street!!

Bubble Day with the Delta Zeta Girls will happen this spring!!

The Delta Zeta Sorority girls brought bubbles to our backyard during our outside play time with the preschoolers, blowing, popping and chasing bubbles.

Easter Egg Hunt:

We will have another great social event for our children to explore *in our own backyard* and find every shiny egg they see with the goodies tucked away inside.

Certificate Ceremony: parents plan to attend this day!!! Each child receives a certificate during the ceremony. The ceremony will begin at 10:00 in our backyard. It is all for the children. A very simple ceremony for each child to be recognized for a "job well done" this past year!! (If it rains we will have the ceremony in our back conference room.