



September 2009

Mustang Messenger

A publication of the Hughston Elementary PTA

www.hughstonpta.org

2601 Cross Bend Drive, Plano, TX 75023

Monthly Events

September

No School - Labor Day	7
Write a Check Campaign Begins	8
Watch Dogs Meeting - 6 pm	11
Spirit Night - Papa Johns Pizza	16
Write a Check Campaign Ends	18
Cafeteria Cops	22
Early Release - 12 pm	23
General PTA Meeting - 6 pm	24
McGruff Walk to School Day	25

October

Board Meeting	13
Parent/Teacher Conferences	
Directory Distribution	16
Red Ribbon Week	19 - 23
SBIC Meeting	27
Field Day	30

Benefits of Joining Your Hughston PTA

Every Hughston PTA member can take advantage of the discounts and benefits offered by Texas PTA.

Discounts for Members of Texas PTA:

- Aflac Insurance
 - BarnesandNoble.com
 - Enterprise Rent-A-Car
 - Fiesta Texas
 - La Quinta
 - Nationwide Auto Insurance
 - Schlitterbahn
 - Sea World
 - Southwest Vacations
 - T-Mobile
- Check out www.txpta.org

“Write A Check” Campaign Kick Off!

For the second year, the Hughston PTA is holding a “Write a Check” campaign. In years past, we’ve sold wrapping paper, cookie dough, Passbooks, and other items to raise funds to support our programs and events. While these activities were successful, less than 51% of the money earned stayed at our school. With this campaign, 100% of your donation stays at Hughston...and it’s tax deductible.



Your generosity will help fund the much needed supplies and activities for our children and school. If you missed the letter which came home and would still like to contribute, you may send your check, along with your name, address, child’s name and grade level to school in an envelope marked “PTA.”

Tax receipts will be mailed to all contributors’ homes by winter break. For questions or more information, contact Cherie Kaltenbach at cakaltenbach@yahoo.com.

New Laws as of September 1 Every Parent Should Know

Parents need to be aware of recent new laws that went into effect September 1 regarding driving and child passenger safety.

- HB 339 prohibits teens under 18 from texting or talking on a cell phone while driving.
- HB 537 requires that everyone in the car, regardless of age and regardless of where they are sitting, needs to wear a seatbelt.
- SB 61 requires that all children younger than 8 years and less than four feet nine inches tall be in a child safety seat system.

From the Texas PTA legislative website.



Yearbook News

The yearbook chairperson needs pictures from various Hughston events and parties. Please email pictures or contact the yearbook chair,

Jane Hatch, at yearbook@hughstonpta.org.

If you would like your child’s picture in the yearbook this year, you must fill out a PTA media release form. The original form was located in your student packet, but another may be obtained in the school office.



Hughston Spirit Wear Available!

We have 2 new styles this year and new colors! Short sleeved black shirts and hot pink shirts are \$12.00. We are also offering short sleeve and three-quarter sleeve rhinestone fitted shirts for girls and ladies. The short sleeve come in navy, black and white and are \$21.00. The three-quarter sleeve shirts come in black and white and are \$23.00. Don't forget about the cool new car decals for \$5.00. If you have any questions, contact Wendy Lewis at spiritwear@hughstonpta.org or 972-758-0738. You can get an order form on the www.hughstonpta.org website. Sizes are beginning to sell out, so don't wait!!!

Consider Becoming a McGruff House

A McGruff House is a safe house where children can go to receive help if they find themselves in a frightening or emergency situation. A McGruff House is identified by a bright yellow McGruff House sign in the front window of a house. McGruff House participants summon authorities by dialing 911. You can help make your neighborhood safer for children by participating in this program. For more information you may call the Crime Prevention Unit at 972.941.2431 or go to www.planopolice.org.

To qualify as a McGruff House participant you must:

1. Reside in the Plano Independent School District,
2. Have access to a working telephone,
3. Possess homeowners or renters liability insurance.
4. Annually clear a confidential criminal history check.

When completing an application, be sure to have all listed adults sign it. Submit it to the Plano Police Department Crime Prevention Unit by mail or bring it by the Police Station at 909 14th Street. Upon receiving approval to participate in the McGruff House Program, you will be notified to attend a short training session where you will receive your McGruff House sign.

Reflections is Back!
This year's theme: Beauty Is...



The National PTA Reflections Program is an arts recognition and achievement program for students. The Reflections Program provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and to receive positive recognition for original works of art inspired by a pre-selected theme, while increasing community awareness on the importance of the arts in education.

Participation in the Reflections Program is a great way for students to explore and learn about various art forms. Creating art is a valuable learning process that challenges students to use their critical thinking skills as well as their creative talents to create art that supports a specific theme.

Students may submit an entry in any of the six arts areas listed below by the first week in November. Only original works of art are accepted. The six arts areas are as follows:

- Literature
- Musical composition
- Photography
- Visual arts
- Dance Choreography
- Film/Video Production

Go to: <http://www.txpta.org/programs/reflections/> for more information.

Clip and bring in your Box Tops.

Drop your Box Tops in the grade level PTA bins in front of your child's classroom.

