The December Students of the month are: Carley Harpold, 5th grade; Alaina Sipes, 6th grade; Josh Sciara, 7th grade; and Seth Lydeen, 8th grade. Carley is the daughter of Mark and Connie Harpold. She has one brother named Mason. Carley enjoys horse riding and hopes to become a barrel racer someday. Her favorite color is camo and her favorite food is watermelon. Carley collects trail of the painted ponies and seashells. Carley’s favorite subjects are science and art. She is in the HJH Science Club and in GT. Alaina is the daughter of James and Helenna Sipes. She has 2 older brothers, Keven and Devin. Alaina enjoys cheering, singing, and spending time with her family. Her favorite food is pizza and her favorite color is Hooks Hornet Blue. Alaina collects elephant figurines. Her favorite subjects are reading and science. Alaina wants to someday become a nurse to help people. She is a member of the HJH GT. Josh Sciara is the son of Anthony and Teri Sciara. He has a sister Elizabeth one brother, Anthony Jr and one brother-in-law, Jon. Josh enjoys fishing, camping, and playing football. Josh hopes to become a preacher and a geologist someday. Josh’s favorite food is pizza and his favorite color is Hornet Blue. Josh is a member of the HJH Student Council. Seth is the only child of Donald “Chip” and Michelle Lydeen. He enjoys working with leather and hopes to work with horses someday. His favorite subject is Ag and he hopes to continue in high school with all the Ag classes. Seth’s favorite color is blue and his favorite food is chicken. He is the Vice President of the HJH Student Council this year. In his spare time, Seth enjoys playing soccer. (by Christina King)

Hornet buzz

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

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It is hard to believe we are beginning our second semester of the year. We have learned much and come far in the past 5 months, but we still have much to do as we gear up for the STAAR test. The test is our opportunity to show the state of Texas what an awesome school Hooks Junior High is to be at as a student, and a staff member. The New Year begins in the dead of winter when the trees have shed their leaves; like the tree if we look at ourselves in bare honesty, we can see things we need to improve about ourselves. As spring approaches and we begin to improve ourselves, like the buds on trees and plants, we begin to emerge and grow new leaves of better quality. Once a year we have the chance to start over and continue to become a better person. What a wonderful time for us to thrive and continue to grow academically as well as in character. Happy New Year!!

Learning made fun!

Mrs. T. Edwards 6th Grade Science students went to the Science lab to calculate mass, volume, and density of everyday objects. The students recorded the information on charts in their science journals. The students enjoyed the hands-on approach to learning and had fun learning something new with Mrs. T. Edwards. (Pictured below is Kasey Hout and Marena Estell; Makenzy Lowery and Tori Foster; Storm Smith and Layne Stubbs; and Maddie Sherman and Makayla Manuel) (by Cierra Hutchison and Christie Johnson)
NED is coming to our HJH on February 21, 2010. The program will be in the HJH gym 10:15-11. The NED show gives a great message with yoyos, humor, and audience participation to teach students how to develop three valuable characteristics involved in becoming champions at school and in life:….

Never give up (focus, persistence)

Encourage others (kindness, shared learning)

Do your best (diligence, excellence)

Students can purchase NED items after the program. Parents are invited to attend. A free yo-yo trick sheet is available to everyone.

The HJH Hornet Swarm played Dekalb in their season opener. Final score of the 8th grade game was 36-28. Leading scorer was Jamall Fort with 16 pts. The 7th grade team won 33-31 with Malik Estell leading the mighty Hornets with 11 points. The second game was against Chapel Hill. The 8th grade Hornet Swarm fell a little short with a final score of 49-44. The Hornets leading scorer for the 8th grade was Jamal Fort with 22 pts. and Brandon Barber scored three 3-pointers. The 7th grade fell short with a score of 28-18. Leading scorers for that game were Malik Estell and Montrell Estell with 6 pts. each. The Hornets hosted Red Lick with the 8th grade team victorious with a score of 24-21. Leading scorers were Jamal Fort and Reshawn Parker with 8 pts. each. Brandon Barber had three 3-pointers. Reshawn Parker had 7 rebounds and Jake Witten had 6 rebounds for the night. (cont. on pg. 6) by Natalie Poole and Hallie Cole
Can you believe half the year is over??! Time is flying by!!!

Stop and ask yourself, have you learned half of what you need to know to move on to the next grade??! I hope you have, but if not what can you do? There are countless teachers here at school, before and after school starts. Setup a time to get extra help, they will gladly be here for you. Another thing you can do is ask them if you can come at lunch. I know you don’t want to give up recess, but that’s got to be better than giving up going to the next grade!!! Another great way to get help is during STAR class. Talk to your star teacher about areas where you are struggling, they will be glad to help.

Whatever you do, get help, don’t let your classmates pass you by!!! As always, “It’s a GREAT day to be a HORNET!!!”

FCS is hosting its first annual BIBLE BOWL on Friday, Feb. 13. Students memorize chapters 1-7 in the book of Matthew in the bible. Students will compete against others in FCS with answering questions about the chapters. Come join in the fun with FCS today. Bible Bowl Winners include:

1st place: Kenley Turner (42 points)
2nd place: Micah Walston (39 points)
3rd place: Kade Schutte (34 points)

Come Join the fun– Wednesdays– 7:30 am


The HJH Lady Hornets 8th grade team includes: Catey Hicks, Natalie Poole, Haley Krieger, Samantha Hughes, Haley Kahler, Coach Brewer, Christie Johnson, Jasmin Norvell, Abby McDonald, Cierra Hutchison, Haven Duke, and Coach Downs.

The 8th grade Lady Hornets lost their first game of the season 18-9 over Paul Pewitt. Leading scorer was Abby McDonald with 10 pts. Jasmine Norvell did a great job hustling and rebounding. Catey Hicks did a great job at point position. Christie Johnson, Natalie Poole, and Haley Krieger did a great job hustling and on defense. The 7th grade A team also came out winners with a score of 14-10. Korey Brooks was leading scorer with 6 pts. Sydney Wedgeworth, and Lily Martinez did an outstanding job hustling and making plays. Coach Brewer said “Everyone stepped in, hustled, and contributed as a team to win”. The 7th Grade B team won 8-2 with leading scorers Rosa Zuniga, Serenity Dooley, Tamera Black, and Breanna Warren all with 2 pts. each. Although there were only 6 girls on this team, coach Brewer said that it was definitely a team effort and she is very proud of all the girls that played. Hooks 7th Grade Lady Hornets lost to DeKalb 31-15 and 8th grade lost 29-2. Hooks fell short against Chapel Hill with a score of 44-12 for 7th grade and 38-10 for 8th grade. Hooks played Red Lick on Jan. 5 and was defeated 29-6 for 7th grade and 34-6 for 8th grade. The Lady Hornets are looking to turn around their game against Redwater on Jan. 12.

(by Haley Kahler and Haley Krieger)
The HJH Student Council collected toiletry items and small toys for the Battered Women’s Shelter. Items were collected November 28-December 9. Students brought shampoo, cream rinse, body wash, hand sanitizer, deodorant, tooth brushes and tooth paste, combs and brushes, hairspray, lotion, mouthwash, and any other items that help you to get ready in the mornings. The toys brought included barbies, trucks and cars, dolls, stuffed animals, etc. Anything that would make a child smile and have a happier holiday. The Student Council officers and 8th grade representatives went with sponsor, Mrs. Walsh to take the items collected to the Domestic Violence Prevention Office in Texarkana and they delivered them to the shelter. Mrs. Walsh said she was very proud of all the HJH students for opening their hearts and doing something special for others to make their holiday just a little brighter. The workers at the Domestic Violence office were very surprised at so many things that were donated by our Hooks Junior High Students. Student council members said they were so happy they were able to make a difference in the lives of those in need. Without the help of students and staff from the Hooks Junior High, we would not have been able to make such a wonderful donation.

HJH Student Council 2011-2012

Science Club will meet the first and third Tuesday of each month from 3:25-4:30. Sponsors for Science club are Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Simpson.

Math Club will meet on the first and third Thursday of each month. Math teachers will be passing out application this week. Sponsors are Baird for 5th and 6th and Briggs for 7th and 8th.

December 4-10, 2011 was National Handwashing Awareness Week. The 4 principles of Hand awareness:

- Wash your hands when they are dirty and before eating.
- Do not cough into your hands.
- Do not sneeze into your hands.
- Above all, do not put your fingers into your eyes, nose, or mouth.

Yes, the power is in your hands to prevent the Flu! Handwashing is the line of defense in fighting germs.

Accelerated Reading, or AR for short, incentives this year includes a chain with dog-tag charms for each level reached. 25 pts.—bone engraved “Bone-a-fide Reader”; 50 pts.—Doghouse engraved “Don’t be in the Doghouse..Read”; 75 pts—Firehydrant engraved “Fired up about Reading”; 100 pts. dog head engraved “Dog-gone good reader”; 200 pts.-Star engraved “Its ‘Ruff’ being a good reader”; 300 pts.-silver star engraved “Texas Size Reader; 400 pts-Orange Star engraved “Big on Reading”; and 500 pts.— Gold star engraved “Lone Star Reader”. So far in our 100 pt. club is 6th Grader, Tyler Bates with 141 pts. 75 pt. club includes: Korey Brooks, Jasmine Griffin, and Megan Jackson. 50 pt. club includes: Kaitlyn Duke, Katie Gibson, Haley Krieger, Cody Lamon, Lone Lane, Rachel Latimer, and Rachel Miller. 25 pt. club includes: Makenzy Cook, Kera Daughtery, Jillian Diamond, Haven Duke, Jacob English, Marena Estell, Carley Harpold, Catey Hicks, Chase Hicks, Ivan hill, Jonathan Jones, Haley Kahler, Orlando Lucky, Carlos Martinez, Amanda Miller, Hashim Mirza, Natalie Poole, Alexis Runnels, Scott Satterfield, Kaitlyn Schaefer, Kade Schutte, Porsha Sims, Alaina Sipes, Haley Thompson, Kenley Turner, Alliyah Vayson, and Natalie Wheeler.

(by Christina King)
“Operation Christmas Child” is a program that the HJH GT students participated in for the past 2 years. Mrs. Murdock took her GT students and all her 5th and 6th grade advanced English/History students to participate this year. Rose Hill Baptist Church hosts the event. The HJH students helped other volunteers to pack shoe boxes to be ready for shipment to children around the world in over 95 countries who are less fortunate so that they can have a merry Christmas. This program brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations and provides an opportunity for HJH students to be directly involved in a simple, hands-on project that focuses on the true meaning of Christmas. This project has provided over 61 million shoe box gifts for Operation Christmas Child since 1993 when it started. Various churches and organizations throughout our community are involved in this worthwhile project. The Hooks Junior High students worked very hard packing and loading boxes for shipment. This was a great honor being able to participate in this project to help so many people in a meaningful way. HJH students participating in Operation Christmas Child this year include: (5th graders) Kera Daughtery, Carley Harpold, Cade Hicks, Lexi Runnels, Kade Schutte, Scott Satterfield, Willow Hilborn, Jake English; (6th graders) Bryce Baird, Jillian Diamond, Phillip Moore, Alaina Sipes, Jacob Cooper, Tyler Bates, Chase Kahler, Jonathan Jones, Briley Woods; (7th grader) Jordan Soper; and (8th graders) Catey Hicks, Natalie Wheeler, and Jacob Whitten.

(by Catey Hicks and Natalie Wheeler)

Pictured above: 1—Willow Hilborn & Alaina Sipes; 2—Jordan Soper; 3—Lexi Runnels; 4—Jillian Diamond & Briley Woods; 5—Students video about Operation Christmas Child and listening to instructions for the day; 6—Kade Schutte; 7—Scott Satterfield; 8—Natalie Wheeler & Bryce Baird; 9—Alaina Sipes.
Students in Mr. Edding’s 6th grade Robotics Class learned to build and program robots the first semester. Now it is time to say goodbye to them and welcome the next group of 6th graders for the second semester. Students this year are given the opportunity to have robotics and key boarding their 6th grade year. 5th graders have leadership and robotics. Mrs. Simpson is the 5th grade robotics teacher. Students work hard to prepare in hope to be selected to go to the robotics competition. (pictured above is Matthew Walston and Ivon Acevedo; Nathan McFaul and Jacob Cooper; Khori Daniels and Tysen Anderson) (pictured below is Brandon Bush, Tyrek Kitchen, and Marena Estell; Jalen Lomax and Kasey Hout; Makayla Manuel, Maddie Sherman, and Jayden Duke) (by Samantha Hughes)

Students in Mr. Edding’s 5th grade Science Class have been working on Measurement including: mass, density, volume, and length. The students used a variety of tools to find the measurement of many different objects. The students had fun with the hands-on learning approach. Teachers at HJH are always striving to find ways to make learning fun for their students. Funding may have been cut, but teachers are finding ways to keep the “FUN” in learning. (pictured to the left is Rolando Rizo Perez and Victor Hernandez; to the right is Scott Satterfield and Kera Daughtery) (by Kaitlin Dodson)

**BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED…**

Both the 7th and 8th grade boys basketball teams participated in the Hughes Springs Tournament this past weekend. The 7th grade Hornets defeated Jefferson 23-3 in the first game and they defeated Hughes Springs in the second game 26-9. The 7th grade Hornets were named the Tournament Champions! The 8th grade Mighty Hornets defeated Jefferson 34-11 in the first game and defeated Linden Kildare 29-21 in the second game. The 8th grade Mighty Hornets were also named Tournament Champions! Way to Go Mighty Hornets!!!!!!!!!! (by Natalie Poole and Hallie Cole)
HJH News

The 5th grade Art classes designed and decorated festive holiday shirts for the HJH Assistant Principal, Mr. Wylie for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. They even designed shirts for Coach Bell, and Mr. Krenek for Friday. The students had a little help from 5th grade Art Teachers, Ms. Ritchie and Ms. McCaslin. Pictured below are the creative artworks with Mr. Wylie and Coach Bell sporting their Santa shirts complete with Santa Hat! Mr. Wylie with his very own Frosty the Snowman shirt and of course his own Partridge in a “pear tree” or on “Wylie’s Shoulder”! Next we have Mr. Wylie sporting his very own “Rudolph the red ‘blinking’ nose reindeer complete with bells for he and Rudolph. And lastly, we have our very own Mr. Krenek aka. “Speshul K” sporting his Christmas lights and of course pine cones complete with his very own “Special K” bar! Ms. Ritchie and Ms. McCaslin want to say Thanks so much for being such a good sport and wearing their shirt designs. Of course the entire HJH staff and student body loved looking forward to each day to see what Mr. Wylie would be wearing. I think it all started when we say Mr. Wylie wearing a “Grinch” shirt earlier in the week, but who knows for sure. It did make the last few days of school before the break a lot more fun! (by Brittney Wyrick and Jasmine Griffin)

The Fun Continues at HJH….

Students in Mrs. Simpson’s 8th grade science classes participated in a project on balanced and unbalanced forces. Students enjoyed rubbing the balloons on their head to create static and watching them stick to their heads. They recorded the information on their science charts of which activities were balanced and which ones were unbalanced. The students also did an activity using a can, ruler, and balloons. It was amazing to learn so much with the fun hands-on approach we were able to do in our science classes.

(by Christie Johnson and Jasmine Griffin)

HJH Christmas Card Winners
Scott Satterfield, Miranda McMillian, and Jaylynn Sanders
Open House started out with the 6th grade band playing all different types of music they had been practicing. After the whole band played, each section of instruments played their favorite line in the music. Mrs. Freeman welcomed everyone. The HJH cheerleaders and pep squad did a few cheers and a dance. Mrs. Freeman dismissed everyone to visit their child’s classrooms and to visit the book fair. The Book fair had a lot of great books and students had the opportunity to win a gift certificate each day to spend at the book fair. There were lots of parents and grandparents that came to visit our school. Parents and Grandparents enjoyed visiting the classrooms with their child or grandchild. The Journalism class sold the HJH Hornet Buzz, and the Student Council sold candy to raise money for the playground. It was a good night. (by Samantha Hughes and Chloe Williams)
**UIL Results**

**5th Grade**
- Kade Schutte—3rd place Ready Writing
- Willow Hilborn—6th place Ready Writing

**6th Grade**
- Briley Woods—5th place Number Sense
- Layne Stubbs—1st place Oral Reading
- Kenley Turner—4th place Oral Reading
- Tyler Bates—4th place Ready Writing

**7th Grade**
- Makenzy Cook—1st place Oral Reading
- Lone Lane—3rd place Social Studies

**8th Grade**
- Skylar Smith—5th place Spelling & 5th place Art
- Kaitlyn Duke—5th place Modern Oratory

The HJH UIL Coaches want to give congratulations to the winners and thanks to all students who participated in this year’s UIL events. Thanks for all your hard work and dedication in preparation for your event.

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**Hero’s Pantry**

The students of HJH decided to honor our veterans by bringing non-perishable items for the Hero’s Pantry which helps to supplement the veteran’s income by helping out with food. Mrs. Freeman made it a contest between grades and classes to see how much we could bring. 5th grade had 236 items, 6th grade had 182 items, 8th grade had 93 items and 7th grade won with 370 items. 7th grade won a free recess and Ms. McCaslin’s class won the class award and had a cupcake party too. HJH collected a total of 881 items for the Hero’s Pantry. We felt great about doing it, even though our grade had the least. But we felt like we made a big impact with 881 cans from our school. The Hero’s Pantry is located at the Trinity Presbyterian Church on Richmond Road across from Texarkana College.

(by Haven Duke and Haley Thompson)

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**Veteran’s Day**

Hooks ISD honored our veterans in our area by holding a Veteran’s Day Program. HJH Gifted and Talented students performed a skit called “Who is a Veteran?”. HJH GT students Kera Daughtery and Madison Whisenhunt gave a speech on Hero’s Pantry. HJH was also represented by Girl Scouts Whitney Green, Rachael Williams, and Kera Daughtery as they did the presentation of colors, the pledge of allegiance, and the retreat of colors. The entire HJH GT students presented a skit about “What is a Veteran”. We are glad some of our HJH students got to be a part of the veteran’s day program. I’m proud to say we presented ourselves very well.”

(by Haven Duke and Haley Thompson)
Thanksgiving is a time you get out of school to spend time with your family and to give thanks to God, friends and family. Thanksgiving came from when the Pilgrims came to America to get away from the New England Church. The Indians offered to help them grow crops such as corn, etc. They had a feast together, and now we celebrate Thanksgiving the fourth Thursday in November. 8th grader, Kaitlyn Dodson spent time with her friends; 8th grader, Deonte Kitchen spent time with his family; 5th grader, Hunter Satterfield said he went to the Rocky Mountains; 6th grader James Mills went to his Aunt Sandra's house and hung out with friends; 7th grader, Holland Hawley went to see the movie “Breaking Dawn”; 8th grader Catey Hicks went Black Friday Shopping, and 6th grade reading teacher, Mrs. Walsh went to Branson, MO to spend time with her family and took her kids to Silver Dollar City for 2 days and shopped. I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday time. (by Micah Walston, Deonte Kitchen, and Ashley Taylor)

“Christmas break is a time to have fun with your family and be with the ones you love. It’s time to lay back, have fun, and be yourself!” says 8th grader Ashley Taylor. 8th grader, Christie Johnson got Arkansas Razorback stuff for Christmas. 7th grader Dana McCatherine spent time with family in Missouri. 6th grader Matthew Walston played his Play Station 2 and used his Wii. 5th grade Science Teacher, Mr. Eddings worked on recuperating, and getting back to school. 6th Grader Kenley Turner visited with her cousins from San Antonio. Makenzy Lowery got a hamster and disco ball for Christmas. 6th Grader Benji Romero got an X-box 360. Malik Estell, 7th Grader, got a Playstation-3 and a four wheeler. 7th Grader Darius Wright got some air max shoes, clothes and a rhino (not the animal, the vehicle) 7th grader Jordan Soper spend his holidays in Hawaii with his family. 8th grader, Catey Hicks said “Christmas was amazing” getting to spend time with her family. 8th grader, Kaitlyn Dodson said that “Christmas was perfect getting to see her two favorite nephews”. Favorite Christmas songs include: Blue Christmas by Elvis Presley, Mistletoe by Justin Bieber, Deck the Halls, and All I want for Christmas is you by Mariah Carey. I hope everyone had a great time at Christmas. (by Micah Walston)

NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTIONS

Natalie Wheeler– To become a better Christian and to focus my life less on myself and more on God.
Brittney Wyrick– To lose 30 pounds
Hallie Cole– To eat more
Catey Hicks– To make better decisions.
Maddie Sherman– To make good grades.
Tyrek Kitchen– to lift weights and get a six pack!
Christina King– To get all A’s again
Christie Johnson– To be nice

Samantha Hughes– To save enough money to get the IPhone 4
Micah Walston – To be nicer to people.
Chloe Williams– To be nicer to my Mommy.
Matthew Foster – To be a better person.
Khori Daniels– to stay out of detention
Jasmine Griffin– to stop talking about people
Mr. Eddings– Sing and enjoy everyday day of my life
The Hooks Junior High students, faculty and staff would like to say a big “THANK YOU” to our school board members. President Larry Allen; Vice President Mike Smith; Secretary Jim Whisenhunt, Members Pattie Whitehead, Jeff Whitten, Scott Hanes, Arthur Harpold and our Superintendent Ronnie Thompson. Hooks ISD is blessed to have such an encouraging, helpful, and successful school board. Once again we would like to say “THANK YOU”