

# "Operation Coastal Roots"



Since the end of the 2001-2002 school year is upon us, we are forced to look back on what we have accomplished throughout the year. For the Science Dept. the list is not as extensive as it is meaningful. This year's eight grade class started a restoration project last year called "Operation Coastal Roots". In March we took nearly 300 cypress trees and planted them near Baton Rouge at Alligator Bayou. We also participated in Governor Mike Foster's "May Day", by planting 200 more cypress trees, but this time at the Belle River Public Landing. This was an effort to raise environmental awareness. The Science Dept. coordinated several field trips for the students on each grade level to attend. And lastly, we started our recycling program. Although it did not get started until the second nine weeks, the amount of recycled material was enormous. The custodians said that there was less trash this year than in previous years; and we are not even finished yet. The end of the school year will be a busy one for the recy-

cling team, because we expect even more material to be recycled. Students will rid themselves of old notebooks and other supplies, teachers will throw out excess materials, and custodians will help clean out classrooms.

The students have worked very hard and it has paid off. Our projects are successful. Our goal for the recycling program was between 2 to 3 tons- that's 4,000 to 6,000 pounds. We are presently at 6,500 and we

expect this number to increase. Next year we plan to recycle from the beginning of the year- so we know that our numbers will be even higher. We will work throughout the year to make sure that we are making Pierre Part Middle School the best it can possibly be. We will continue to work along with the rest of the community to make the world a better place for everyone.