

Claypit Hill School

PTO Newsletter

September 2, 2008

Welcome to Claypit Hill 2008! I hope your summer was enjoyable and relaxing. It is my pleasure to extend a GIANT WELCOME to new and returning Claypit Hill families. Like many, I greet "back to school" with great excitement, some nervousness and just a little sadness to say goodbye to summer. Like my children, I am looking forward to renewing friendships and making new ones.

Wayland schools have been very fortunate to have many dedicated volunteers. I invite all of you to participate in the many exciting PTO events that will be happening this year. We are very appreciative of the strong support and dedication that so many people give to our school. I am looking forward to working with all of you to make this another great year for our community. I know how busy this time of year can be, but please mark your calendars now so you don't miss a thing. Feel free to call or email me at 358-2991 or jbm723@comcast.net with questions, suggestions or concerns!

Jen Murray

□ **Claypit Hill PTO Website:** *A new and valuable resource. Please visit www.claypithillpto.org to view important announcements, our newsletters, the PTO Calendar, access email links to committee heads and much more. You can even fill out your volunteer form online. We are grateful to our webmaster, Kim Reichelt, for establishing this site during the summer. Please let us know if you have any suggestions by emailing webmaster@claypithillpto.org.*

□ **Electronic News:** *As of October 1, the PTO Newsletter will only be distributed electronically.*

- To subscribe please go online to <http://www.wayland.k12.ma.us/listserver/subscribe.html>. Enter your email address and check the eNews lists you wish to receive.
- Our newsletters will also be available on the PTO website: www.claypithillpto.org.
- Please let Jen Murray know as soon as possible if you cannot access our newsletter electronically.

□ **Volunteer Form:** *Look for your Volunteer Form in your child's backpack. It should be completed and returned no later than Friday, September 12th.*

- We have listed a number of ways for you to help enrich our school and your child's classroom.
- Tell us how you want to help!

PTO Dues and All Schools Directory/Calendar: *Attached to your volunteer survey you will find an envelope in which you can return your dues and payment for the All Schools Directory/Calendar, should you choose to purchase one. Our voluntary PTO Dues contribute to our annual Claypit Hill PTO budget.*

- Please note that the Claypit Hill Directory will automatically be sent home to all Claypit Hill families at no cost.
- Please make your check payable to Wayland PTO and return the envelope to your classroom or the office by September 12th.
- The All Schools' Directory/Calendar will be available on Curriculum Night, Thursday, October 2nd.
- Thank you in advance for contributing to the continuation of our programs.
- Contact Bonnie Jurist at (508)-358-5686 or lbjurist@comcast.net if you have any questions about the All Schools Directory and Calendar.

□ **First PTO Meeting:** *Wednesday, September 17th at 6:30pm in the cafeteria. We will hear from principal Debbie Bearse and our specialists. Pizza and babysitting will be provided. Please RSVP to Jen Murray, 508-358-2991 if your family will be attending so that we can order the correct amount of pizza. We look forward to seeing you there!!*

□ **Elementary Schools Dinner Auction:** *Our annual Elementary School Auction is planned for late February. We need many volunteers and a few parents willing to coordinate this event. It takes many hands to run this very successful fundraiser. Please let Jen Murray know if you can help by emailing jbm723@comcast.net.*

□ **Greenraising:** *We are excited about this new fall fundraiser - Gift wrap and more...*

- Greenraising products help the environment while raising money for our school. What better way to raise money than to use environmentally safe products? Not only will you help the PTO by purchasing useful products but you will also make a lasting contribution for the future of our planet.
- Look for a flyer in your child's backpack in a few weeks describing this fundraiser in more detail.
- The catalog sale will run from October 1 - October 15.
- If you can help please call Andrea Armstrong (508) 358-2992 or Kris Normandin (508)358-3034.

- **Family Coffee:** *The New Family Coffee is Friday Sept. 19th at 9:00 am in the cafeteria.*
 - This is a chance for all families new to Claypit Hill to socialize and learn more about the school and PTO. Please RSVP to Lana Murphy at murphyhq@comcast.net, (508)358-5539 or Eileen Balicki at eileenbalicki@comcast.net, (508)358-5420. Hope to see you there!
- **School Pictures:** *School pictures will be taken on September 16th so please mark your calendar and look for flyers in your child's backpack. If you would like to help or have questions please contact Beth Junkin at (508) 358-4588 or bjunkin@comcast.net.*
- **Lice Check:** Our first lice check will be on Friday morning, October 17. All it takes is about 15 minutes! If you can give us a hand, please reach Jill Freedberg at 508-358-7869, or jillfreedberg@aol.com, and let her know what classroom you can cover, or if you are available to cover more than one. Thanks in advance for your help.
- **Community Outreach:** *Community Outreach is a PTO committee at Claypit Hill and its mission is to support less fortunate families in Wayland and the Metrowest area.*
 - In September we will be collecting **CEREAL** for the Parmenter Food Pantry. This Food Pantry supplies Wayland residents in need with basic meals and necessities. The **CEREAL BOXES** can be placed in the Community Outreach box outside the school office and a different item will be collected each month.
 - Contact Heidi Strauss (508)358-6621, hqstrauss@gmail.com or Lisa Flathers, (508)358-3303, lisaflathers@comcast.net with questions or if you want to help. Please look for our monthly flyer for descriptions of our other planned outreach activities.
- **Faculty Appreciation:** *The Faculty Appreciation committee will be providing a hot meal for teachers on Curriculum Night, October 2nd*
 - We need volunteers to help set up, break down and provide the main course, salads and desserts.
 - Please contact Marie Campbell at marie@rklenterprises.com or Bonnie Jurist lbjunist@comcast.net with how you can help.
- **SCHOOL COUNCIL NEEDS YOU:**
Are you interested in shaping the policies and programs of Claypit Hill? We are looking for a parent to volunteer to join our School Council, a group comprised of our principal, two teachers, elected parent representatives and one community member. Watch for nominations forms and more information this month. Contact Maura McInerney at moemac320@comcast.net if you have any questions, suggestions or nominations.
- **Room Parent Meeting:** *Friday, September 26, 9:00 am, Cafeteria.* If you signed up to be a room parent, please join us for this informational meeting and to meet your other room parents. Contact Dana Miller at (508)358-5408 or danamiller@comcast.net if you have any questions.
- **Farmers Market:** *Friday, September 13, 2:30 pm, Claypit Hill.* Local fresh produce from Lanni Farms, fresh bread, flowers and more. Join us for this fun event sponsored by Wayland Parents' Health and Wellness Committee. Contact Christa Flanagan at christa.flan@verizon.net if you have any questions.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Come in for just an hour and a half every other week to help the children find and check out books and keep the Library organized, or assist with special projects and the gift book program. Volunteering in the library is also a great way to stay acquainted with your child's class and the world of great children's books! For more information, contact Cathy Scholz at cscholz89@gmail.com or (508)358-9916.

METCO Family Friends Network: Join our METCO Family Friends Network! The goal of our Family Friends program is to support relationships between our Wayland and Boston families. Our network works to connect families in both communities by attending events together (for example the Back to School picnic taking place at Happy Hollow this year or the MLK Dinner), inviting friends over for playdates for which buses are provided to and from Wayland and Boston, inviting Boston friends to stay after school when there are evening activities and meeting their parents at the event. If you are interested in being involved in this Network or learning more about it, please contact Heather Pineault, 508-358-9665, heather.a.pineault.87@alum.dartmouth.org.

Annual Back to School Picnic Save the Date: Please join us for this event on Sunday, September 28 from 2pm-5pm, for great food, music, fun and games. This year the picnic will be at will be at Happy Hollow. This event is sponsored by the Wayland Boston Parent Council and all are invited to attend!

Wayland Public Schools Foundation: ALL THAT GLITTERS: A Sparkling Anniversary Celebration of 25 years supporting Innovation in Education. Join the celebration at the Weston Golf Club, on Saturday, October 4th, from 7:00-11:30 PM. For a quarter of a century, the **Wayland Public Schools Foundation (WPSF)**, staffed by volunteers, has been partnering with Wayland's teachers to bring excellence and innovation to every classroom. Your support will enable the Foundation to continue to provide valuable programs that the school budget cannot. Help us to turn educational ideas into realities that will positively impact our teachers and students for years to come. Enjoy an evening of catching up with friends and being inspired by the accomplishments of the WPSF thanks to your generous support. Invitations have been mailed. Buy your tickets now. www.waylandpublicschoolsfoundation.org

Wayland Hockey Association/Wayland Boosters to Co-host Fundraising Golf Tournament to Support Wayland Athletes. The Wayland Hockey Association and the Wayland Boosters announced that they will co-host a golf tournament to support Wayland hockey and varsity sports. The tournament will be held at the Wayland Country Club at 11:30am on October 10th. The tournament will consist of a four-person scramble, with individual hole contests, team prizes and raffles. Snacks and beverages will be available during the day with a special awards dinner immediately following the tournament. Registration will begin at 11:30 am, with a shot-gun start at 12 noon. More information on sponsoring or participating in the golf tournament can be found on the Wayland Boosters website, www.waylandboosters.org. Golfers must register by September 26. Your support as a tee sponsor, player or donor to our raffle will be greatly appreciated. The Boosters and WHA share a common goal of providing the funding needed to encourage high levels of sports competition for Wayland High School's boys and girls. High School sports programs are an important part of a well-rounded education. Students, through participation, develop sportsmanship, confidence and leadership skills. Fundraising and community support enable us to offer the opportunity for high school students to participate in the sport they love. Any support you are able to provide will go a long way in helping the Boosters and the WHA and will enable our youth to follow their passion for sports.

SAVE THESE DATES:

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Tuesday, Sept. 16		School Pictures	
Wednesday, Sept. 17	6:30 PM	PTO Meeting	Cafeteria
Friday, Sept. 19	9:00 AM	New Family Coffee	Cafeteria
Friday, Sept. 26	9:00 AM	Room Parent Meeting	Cafeteria
Sun, Sept. 28	2:00-5:00 pm	Back to School Picnic	Happy Hollow
Thurs. Oct. 2	Evening	Curriculum Night	Classrooms
Sat. Oct. 4	7:00 - 11:30 pm	WPSF Anniversary Celebration	Weston Golf Club
Wed., Oct. 15	7:00 PM	PTO Meeting	Cafeteria
Friday, Oct. 17	8:30 AM	Lice Check	Cafeteria/Classrooms

THANK YOU TO:

- **Lisa Seferian**, for helping me with the transition to this position, and for giving SO much back to our school and to our community as last year's Claypit Hill PTO President.
- **Kim Reichelt** for doing an amazing job establishing a website for the PTO this summer. Be sure to visit www.claypithillpto.org!
- **Marie Campbell and Bonnie Jurist** (Chairs of the Staff Appreciation committee) for providing welcome back lunch for the teachers.
- **Missy Davis, Kerry Tardif and Linda Hanifin** for getting our gardens ready for the first day of schools.
- **Debbie Besso** for being so helpful with everything!

I'm looking forward to a great year together. Please feel free to contact me with any ideas, questions, or concerns. I am often at school during drop-off and pick-up, or I can be reached by phone at (508) 358-2991 or via email at jbm723@comcast.net.

Jen Murray, PTO President