

# Claypit Hill School

## PTO Newsletter

April 15, 2009

It is hard to believe that more than two thirds of the year has passed. It is a good thing that we gained more daylight hours, as we begin April because there is still so much to do. The spring began with two well-attended fun family events, the Annual Art Show and Bingo. The spring fundraising season began with the successful Art to Remember and Apparel sales. Mark your calendar now for Sunday, May 3. This is going to be a great day for Claypit Hill families with the World's Fair, Family Picture Day and the Book Fair all taking place. Read below for details. It is time to give some thought to next year. We have some exciting opportunities with the PTO and would like to see some new volunteers. Please call me if you are interested in joining our Board or chairing any of our committees. I can be reached at [jbm723@comcast.net](mailto:jbm723@comcast.net) if you have any questions.

### UPDATED Fundraisers/Activity Schedule for 2009

- Apparel: April 1-April 15
- School Council's World Fair, Sunday, May 3, 2:30-5:00 pm
- Book Fair: Family Event, May 3, 2:30-5:00 pm & classroom visits, May 4<sup>th</sup> and May 5<sup>th</sup>
- Family Picture Day Sunday, May 3
- Roller Kingdom (5<sup>th</sup> Grade Social), Sunday, May 31
- Sweet Endings/School Picnic Thursday, June 4
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Picnic, Tuesday, June, 16

### Other "Dates at a Glance" for April and May

- PTO Coffee: Wednesday, April 15, 9:00 am, Cafeteria
- 5h Grade Play: Thursday, April 30, Gym
- Lice Check: Friday, May 1, 8:30 am
- PTO Board Meeting: Thursday, May 7, 8:45 am, Cafeteria
- PTO Annual Meeting: Wednesday, May 27, 8:45 am, Cafeteria

### PTO NEWS

**Spring 2009 Apparel Sale:** Final Notice: all orders are due by April 15<sup>th</sup>, TODAY! View the Catalogue online at: [www.claypithillpto.org](http://www.claypithillpto.org), click on the apparel sale link. Please contact Karen Philip at [Karen.Philip@comcast.net](mailto:Karen.Philip@comcast.net) or Tracy Roberge at [roberge@comcast.net](mailto:roberge@comcast.net) if you have any questions.

**SPRING BOOK FAIR:** The Spring Book Fair will be held on Monday, **May 4<sup>th</sup>** and Tuesday, **May 5<sup>th</sup>**, on the stage in the Gymnasium. There will be a Family Event on **May 3<sup>rd</sup>** during the World's Fair in the same location. Some key highlights:

- The book fair will open at 8:00 a.m. both days.
- The book fair will be open for the Family Event from 2:30 - 5 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- All those who attend the Family Event will be entered in a Raffle to receive \$25 of free books!
- We will once again offer the popular Teacher Wish List, which enables teachers to get much needed books for their classrooms.
- **Want to volunteer? We need you!** Please return the blue form that went home in your child's back pack if you'd like to help with set up, order filling and the Family Event. If you don't have a form, e-mail Andrea O'Neill at [anoneill@comcast.net](mailto:anoneill@comcast.net). Contact your Head Room Parent to help with classroom visits to the book fair.
- All parents are encouraged to come when their child's class visits the book fair!

**REMEMBER**, a significant amount of the proceeds from the Book Fair goes directly to our teachers and is used to buy books and resource materials for the classrooms. Buying books is not only great for your child, but also for our school! If you have any questions, contact Marie Durant (508-358-7511), Deb Gilmore (508-358-1187), Cindi Jacobs (508-358-3480) or Andrea O'Neill (508-358-8158). We look forward to seeing you there!

**Family Photo Day:** Sunday, May 3, CHS, Back by popular demand! Have your family's photo taken by Hayward Photography with a tax-deductible sitting fee of \$25. Packages start at \$59.95 and individual photographs start as low as \$7.50. There is no obligation to purchase. Contact Beth Junkin at [bjunkin@comcast.net](mailto:bjunkin@comcast.net) to reserve a time today. Also, please contact Beth if you are able to volunteer to help with this event. Any amount of time is appreciated.

**Just Like Me begins this month for 3rd Graders:** We have almost completed the Just Like Me program this school year. This was a big year for Just Like Me as we introduced the Hearing Impaired and Vision Impaired units to the 3rd grade for the first time while finishing up all 5 Just Like Me units in the 4th grade. Going forward, we will continue to cover the Hearing Impairment and Vision Impairment units in 3rd grade while the Physical Limitations, Intellectual Disabilities and Hidden Disabilities will be covered in 4th grade.

Thank you to the dozens of volunteers who gave of their time to this very worthwhile program. There isn't room to list all of you here, many of whom volunteered multiple times. We couldn't have done it without you.

Next year, we are looking for 2 volunteers to coordinate Just Like Me, one for 3rd grade and one for 4th grade. Most of the effort involved in coordinating this program is communicating via e-mail to room parents and volunteers. If you would like to learn more about coordinating this program, please contact Mary Kay Peacock at [peacockmk@gmail.com](mailto:peacockmk@gmail.com).

**Staff Appreciation Lunch** - *Wednesday May 6th* - Each year we honor our faculty and staff with a lunch to show our appreciation for all they do during the year for our children. It is a great opportunity for everyone to say "thank you". In order to make it a success we will need help. Please consider providing a salad, dessert, drinks or flowers. We will also need help with set-up and clean-up. Please email Bonnie Jurist at [lbjurist@comcast.net](mailto:lbjurist@comcast.net) or Marie Campbell at [marie@rklenterprises.com](mailto:marie@rklenterprises.com) if you'd like to help out. A flyer will be sent home as well with volunteer options.

**Kindergarten Representative Position Available:** If you are attending Loker next fall and are interested in being a Kindergarten Representative on the board, please submit name, to Susan Blumenfeld (Slate of Officer Coordinator) at: [Susan.Blumenfeld@imagitas.pb.com](mailto:Susan.Blumenfeld@imagitas.pb.com). A description of the Kindergarten Representative is noted below. The Slate of Officers will be presented at the Annual Meeting on June 3rd at 8:45am. Please submit names for board positions no later than: May 4th. Please don't hesitate to contact Stefanie Janoff with any questions at: [happyhollowpto@gmail.com](mailto:happyhollowpto@gmail.com). Below outlines the Loker Kindergarten Representative.

**Loker Kindergarten Representatives:** *Two Loker Kindergarten Representatives are needed to sit on the Happy Hollow/Loker board to support the Kindergarten School. These individuals are responsible for recruiting volunteers and executing all Loker PTO events and fundraisers.*

**Attention 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents: Save the Date, 5th Grade Roller Kingdom Social, May 31, 5:30-7:30PM,**  
Details to come!

**Community Outreach:** *Outreach is a PTO committee at Claypit Hill and its mission is to support less fortunate families in Wayland and the Metrowest area.*

**Cereal and oatmeal** are being collected by Ms. Walther and Ms. Foley/Ms. Olivier classes for the Parmenter Food Pantry in April. For information please contact Heidi Strauss at [hgstrauss@gmail.com](mailto:hgstrauss@gmail.com). Donations can be left in the box located in our lobby.

Many thanks to Ms. Coady's class and Ms. Fitzgerald's class collecting 130 cans of tuna fish in March.

**Lice Check:** The next Lice Check is Friday, May 1 at 8:30 am. Please contact Jill Freedberg at [jillfreedberg@aol.com](mailto:jillfreedberg@aol.com) if you can help with this important task.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:** Every month the PTO will attempt to acknowledge everyone who has volunteered their time for so many of our efforts. If we accidentally missed you, please accept our apology and special thanks.

- Jen Dowling, for coordinating a fabulous Art Show and Tina Mannarino, Piper Rice, Maureen Tacelli, Kris Kiesman, Suzy Goldstein, Emily L'esperance, Dee Butts, Stephanie Wasco, Elisa Scola, Jennifer Peyton, Karen Betancourt, Brenda Hsu, Lana Murphy, Karen and Chris Elbing, Lana Ames, Lee Raymond, Elina Glazer, Monica and Jaime Galindo.
- Noreen D'Amico for coordinating a fun-filled, successful BINGO Night. This event could not have been a success without the help of Noreen and the many volunteers who donated their time and talents. Many thanks to Janet Schwartz, Helen Tramosch, Marie Durant, Tim Durant, Dan D' Amico, Cindi Jacobs, Barb Fletcher, Rebekah LaCava, Beth Junkin, Deb Cohen, Cindi Slater, Marita Poll, Paulette Greene, Sarah Falber, Paula Lyons, Jennifer Murray, Maureen Lampert, Julie Ellenbogen, Eileen Balicki, Sandy Staiti, Jane Chitkara, Janet Haspel, and Kerry Tardif. A special acknowledgement goes to Bonnie Johnson, a Loker teacher who kindly transported the Loker registrations for us!
- Bonnie Jurist and Marie Campbell for coordinating a lovely *Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast* - The bus driver appreciation breakfast was a success this year thanks to all the wonderful cards the children made and the breakfast that so many volunteers provided. Many thanks to Nancy Cormier, Susan Essi, Barb Fletcher, Cathleen Holmes, Joe Karbowski, Kelly Lin, Shelby Morss, Jennifer Murray, Rachel Sideman-Kurtz, Susan Steneri, Deb Stubeda and Maureen Tacelli for providing delicious breakfast treats!
- Missy Davis, Kerry Tardif, Sue Cahaly, Renee Bolivar, Dana Davies and Janet Schwartz for helping with another garden clean up. They hauled numerous tarps of leaves out of the 1st grade playground area and Secret Garden, all despite the cold (45 degree) damp weather. Thank you to these outstanding ladies! Also, thanks to Missy Davis, Kerry Tardif, Tim Sheehan (with preschooler, Connor) and Patrice Barton who cleaned up the front garden and plant pansies in the pots.
- Jose, Sean and Jose for helping us with the March Joint Elementary PTO Meeting.

- Mindy Johal, Wayland Elementary School's English Language Arts Curriculum Director for leading our informative and interactive April PTO Coffee. To Rena Sarasohn, Debbie Besso and Jose for helping the PTO with our set up and last minute details!

## **CLAYPIT HILL SCHOOL NEWS**

### **Don't Miss the 2nd Annual World's Fair**

This year's Wayland Elementary School World's Fair is shaping up to be bigger and even better than last year's big success. No longer a Claypit event, the World's Fair is an all-elementary school Wayland-wide happening. In addition, we are delighted to welcome the Wayland Diversity Network which will be hosting a booth and fun world mapping exercise for the kids.

Of course, we have more cultures represented, more performance planned (including a World Champion Irish Step Dancer) and several live demonstrations. The kids will enjoy getting their passports stamped, the henna tattoos and door prizes. Parents will enjoy delicious home cooking from around the world, catching up with friends and neighbors and watching their children smile and laugh. Please respond to the flyer being circulated to save \$5 off the regular \$20 entrance fee. The funds help defray the costs of putting on such a wonderful event.

Please also consider volunteering on the day. Several culture teams could use an extra hand (its your opportunity to learn about a new culture) and the Welcome Center is looking for help. Please contact John Penrose ([johnpenrose@verizon.net](mailto:johnpenrose@verizon.net)) if you can help.

*See you Sunday, May 3rd from 2:30 to 5:00 at Claypit*

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

The Katie Lynch Heartbreak Hill Half Marathon: Contacts: Race information is available on the website at [www.heartbreakhillhalfmarathon.com](http://www.heartbreakhillhalfmarathon.com), by email at [hhalfmarathon@gmail.com](mailto:hhalfmarathon@gmail.com) Katie Lynch Heartbreak Hill Half Marathon Inaugural Race May 31, 2009 On-line Registration Now Open; Limited Field Newton, MA – The Katie Lynch Heartbreak Hill Half Marathon inaugural race will be held at Newton South High School on May 31, 2009. The field will be limited to the first 750 runners to register online at the event's website, [www.heartbreakhillhalfmarathon.com](http://www.heartbreakhillhalfmarathon.com). Registration is now open. The route includes a stretch of the Boston Marathon course, specifically the infamous Heartbreak Hill. The course will be USATF certified and open to traffic.

The race hopes to raise both awareness and funds for The Katie Lynch Foundation. The foundation was established in memory of Wayland native Katie Lynch who on April 16, 2001 completed her own 26.2 feet version of the Boston Marathon. Overcoming physical challenges related to her rare form of dwarfism, she was an active member of the Wayland High School community earning her varsity jacket as a manager of the wrestling and track & field teams before graduating in 1993. As a result of Katie's efforts, her friend and mentor Wayland's Coach John Passarini was recognized with a Disney Teacher of the Year award in 2003. After high school, Katie graduated summa cum laude from Regis College in Weston with a degree in English, worked for Children's Hospital and was a successful inspirational speaker. Katie passed away from health complications on April 24, 2001. The Katie Lynch Foundation seeks to fund programs, which create opportunities and foster respect for individuals with disabilities, including Boston's Children's Hospital's

Opening Doors for Youth and Understanding Our Differences. There is a charity runner component to the race in which runners can run to raise funds for the Foundation. Every charity runner will earn a raffle tickets for each \$25 they raise. The raffle features Red Sox tickets, a BMW bike (\$1,000 retail value), gift certificates and many other prizes generously donated by the race sponsors. In following with Katie's mantra Parva Sed Potens (Latin for "small but powerful"), all donations no matter how small are greatly appreciated. For more information about the becoming a Charity Runner please contact: Ashley Critchlow Roach (Wayland High School Class of 1995) at [heartbreakhillrunners@gmail.com](mailto:heartbreakhillrunners@gmail.com). There are no fundraising minimums! The event also features the Purple Heart Challenge, which welcomes young people with physical disabilities ages 12-22, to set personal performance goals, train vigorously and run or walk their personal best half marathon (as well as shorter distances). For more information on how you can participate in the event as a runner, volunteer, sponsor, or to donate to the Katie Lynch Foundation please visit [www.heartbreakhillhalfmarathon.com](http://www.heartbreakhillhalfmarathon.com).

### Cradles to Crayons:

Spring cleaning? Are your kids already growing out of their new clothes and shoes? Cradles to Crayons is collecting gently-used clothing, shoes, winter gear, baby gear, children's furniture, bedding and books. From **Sat, April 18- Sat, May 16**, drop off your donations for Cradles to Crayons right here in Wayland. A giant container will be set up at the entrance of the former Polaroid building (future town center), across from Russell's Garden Center on Boston Post Road in Wayland.

Founded in 2002, Cradles to Crayons (C2C) is an innovative, non-profit organization that equips homeless and in-need children throughout Massachusetts with the basic essentials they need to feel safe, warm, ready to learn and to thrive.

### Cradles to Crayons is collecting:

- Gently-used children's clothing (size 0-16) & shoes (all seasons) – no rips or stains
- Coats, all seasons, winter wear (hats, boots, mittens, snow pants)
- Baby gear including cribs, car seats, high chairs, monitors, strollers, crib toys
- Children's books

As always, please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions.

Best,

Jen Murray

[jbm723@comcast.net](mailto:jbm723@comcast.net)