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Claypit Hill PTO E-Newsletter

www.claypithillpto.org

March 2010

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

March 19, 2010 at 6pm at WMS

BINGO

(see details below)

March 25 at 7pm to 8pm

Coffee with the Principal

March 28, 2010

Boston Play date

March 30th and April 6th at 3:15pm

PTO Budget Wish List Meetings

March 31, 2010 at 8:45am

Bus Driver Appreciation Breakfast

April 7, 2010 at 6pm to 7:30pm

Art Show

April 9, 2010 at 2pm

School Meeting

April 10, 2010 PM

Spring Event-Casino Night

(see details below)

April 28, 2010 at 7pm

5th Grade Play

April 30th, 2010

Lice Check

May 2, 2010 at 2pm to 5pm

World's Fair

(see details below)

May 2-4, 2010

Book Fair

May 7, 2010 at 9am to 10am

Coffee with the Principal

May 7, 2010 at 2pm

School Meeting

NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

Fifth Grade Lunch Update from Debbie Bearse

The fifth grade students have improved their cafeteria behavior over the past several weeks. We have had two "Cafeteria Committee" meetings which included one student representative from each classroom, fifth grade teacher, Tricia O'Reilly, Gisele Kouka, and Debbie Bearse. The first meeting also included school guidance counselor, Dr. Mike Hehir, and parent volunteers, Cara Dennis and Larry Briasco-Stewart. Notes were taken and given back to the fifth grade classes, which included areas that have improved and areas still needing improvement. We have changed some systems, and are still working on improving others. We are also instituting some funs "rewards" that have not been disclosed yet. We are still trying to hold students accountable for staying in their lines and not cutting (greatly improved but not there yet!) and for quieting down when the bell rings so they can be dismissed in time for fourth grade lunch. The students suggested that the cafeteria committee meet at the end of the school year to think about what will work for next year's fifth graders! We agreed to do this.

We will continue to work on the "issues." The best news is that it feels like a normal, noisy lunch with 126 pre-teens, who get silly and loud. I want to thank the following parents who were brave enough to form a presence, which sent a strong message to the students that parents and school are a partnership. It felt really good and the adults who work in the cafeteria felt very supported. Thank you so much to Cara Dennis, Larry and Cathy Briasco -Stewart, Becky Haase, Tracey Poisson, Laura Cronin, Ann Gordon, Lana Murphy, Maite Fay, Barb Fletcher and Kim Reichelt.

Parmenter Donations

March- tuna fish



April- cereal,



oatmeal

May- canned fruit



June- peanut butter



and jelly

The families and faculty of Claypit Hill School have been proud supporters of the Parmenter Community Health Care for numerous years by donating food and supplies. Parmenter and the community would like to thank you for your continued support in these difficult economic times.

"No one has ever become poor by giving" — Anne Frank

Parmenter is an independent, non-profit health care agency providing home health, hospice and community services for the metrowest area.

FUN EVENTS TO ATTEND

Friday, March 19, 2010

6pm to 8pm (doors open at 5:45pm)

Wayland Middle School Cafeteria

BINGO NIGHT IS SOLD OUT!

The Elementary School Bingo Night is THIS FRIDAY! We hope you will enjoy a great night of food, family fun and prizes and we look forward to seeing you there!



Saturday, April 10, 2010 PM

Spring Event-Casino Night

Rolling the Dice....lasWAYgas style!!!!

Please join us for what will be considered one of the most creative events in town!

We need your help, we are looking for volunteers-the opportunities are plentiful. For more information, please contact Claypit event co-chairs Dana Volman(dvolman@verizon.net) or Robin Jones (robin.jones4@comcast.net) or Loker/Happy Hollow co-chairs Susan Blumenfeld (susan.blumenfeld@imagitas.com) or Deirdre Robinson (deirdrerobinson@verizon.net).

Sunday, May 2, 2010 at 2pm to 5pm

3rd Annual Elementary School World's Fair

Please join us and consider volunteering for this interesting, educational and fun event. For more information, please contact Kate Moore 2010WWF@gmail.com or (617) 851-8700

This is a town-wide family-oriented event where students, siblings and parents attending the fair receive a pre-printed mini passport that they "use" to visit the many different booths set up around the school. In presenting certain countries, cultures or geographies, booths typically display interesting facts, art, games, cultural symbols, decorations, unique attributes and varying customs from the area they represent – and they also serve amazing and delicious culture-specific food (in small bites because there will be so many places to see!).

As individuals visit and learn a little bit about each culture, they answer five specific questions that are posted at each booth (the answers are posted as well). They then get their passports officially stamped, and move on to visit another interesting area. One of the challenges is to get to every booth – there's a lot to see and do!



Sunday, May 2, 2010 at 2pm to 5pm

3rd Annual Elementary School World's Fair (CONTINUED)

In the past we have had representation from a host of places, like Egypt, Israel, The Netherlands, Ireland, South Africa, Scotland, Korea, Spain, India, Morocco, Kenya, German-speaking countries, Colombia, Mexico, etc., the list goes on and on.

One of the best things about the event is that families can do it all. First, they can be part of a team focused on presenting a particular culture, and second, because everyone takes turns manning the booths, they can go around the event with their kids to visit all the other “geographies”.

There will also be culture-specific performances presented live on stage, like dancing, singing, demonstrations, etc., by Wayland students and their friends and family. After the fair you and your children will have learned so much about the different cultures of our many origins, and we'll all feel a greater appreciation for the amazing diversity in our community.

Admission fees will be used to pay for the event – this is not a fund-raising effort.

More information will follow in the next few weeks if you think you might be interested in getting involved. Because previous teams have already developed a huge amount of display materials, and because so many people tend to sign up, the work involved in setting up a booth and presenting a culture is surprisingly minimal. There are also tons of other small opportunities to participate.

The PTO will help identify and assemble interested individuals into ‘teams’, provide clear direction about what to do, and be available to help as needed.

Please start thinking about where you'd like to “go” on May 2nd, and we'll be in touch soon!

Extracurricular Activities for your Children

There are numerous extracurricular activities for your children to participate in during the school year. Here is one that you may be interested in.

The Children's Way is running a raffle for chance to win \$500 off Pegasus Summer Camp this year. There will be two winners drawn for \$500 each. Tickets available at The Children's Way office. Tickets – one for \$25.00 or three for \$50.00. The drawing will be held March 22, 2010 and the proceeds help finance the TCW Staff Development. Pegasus is a six-week summer program for children of all abilities, ages three through entering sixth grade. Pegasus is located this year at Claypit Hill School and has two three-week sessions as well as a half and full-day option, with extended hours.



Thank you to our librarian, Ruth Burman, for arranging the author visit by Grace Lin and to Lynn Dowd from Wayland Youth and Family Services for arranging the presentation to parents by Robert Evans. Both events were well attended and enjoyed by all.