



PTA NEWSLETTER

From Our PTA President

Greetings!

I hope everyone is enjoying the good cheer and spirit of community that marks the holiday season.

Just a few quick notes, thanks and invitations . . .

- ◆ **The “P” in PTA stands for Parents!!** All parents are invited and encouraged to attend our PTA meetings. We are always interested in new ideas and suggestions for programs and events. If you have any questions, issues or concerns that we can help you with, please don't hesitate to contact me or any of the officers listed on the website. Please plan to join us for our **“PARENTS MEETING”** on Tuesday, Jan. 8 in the MORNING at 9:15 in the cafeteria. Coffee and light snacks will be provided.
- ◆ The PTA's annual **“FAMILY CRAFT NIGHT”** is coming soon! Check your Thursday fliers for information. This free event is open to all students and their families, and is one of the most popular family events of the school year.
- ◆ The Sweet Success fundraiser is over. We raised about \$1,000 for the purchase of **Emergency ‘Go-Buckets.’** This PTA-funded special project will help ensure the safety and security of all of our students. In addition to the individual classroom kits, each ‘wing’ of the school will have two larger emergency duffels, and each team leader will be equipped with a leader bag. PTA volunteers have been shopping to assemble the supplies. The kits should be distributed by January.
- ◆ On Dec. 5, the early dismissal allowed our first full-school trial of the **PTA's Automated Messaging System.** You should have received word of the early closing in a timely, clear fashion. The system completed over 1,000 calls in less than 10 minutes. **PARENTS - PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE OFFICE IF YOU SEE THE SCHOOL ON YOUR CALLER ID BUT MISSED THE CALL!!! CHECK YOUR MESSAGES** - The system will

leave the same message on answering machines or voicemail. In some cases, the system will call back once or twice before leaving a message (particularly if you are on the phone and didn't catch the call waiting) – but the follow-up calls are placed within two minutes. Try to keep the office phones free while staff is dealing with the logistics of an unexpected schedule change. Questions about the system? Contact us at centervillepta@comcast.net.

- ◆ Last chance! The Lost & Found is overflowing and all items left at winter break will be given away. **Parents should check NOW for missing items and collect them by tomorrow, Dec. 21.**

Have a great month! And as always, thank you for your support.

Barbara Stone



Volunteers Needed for Star Spangled Celebration

Believe it or not, it's time to start planning the very popular Star Spangled Celebration and we need your help!

Please contact Natalie Gipson at 5gipsons@comcast.net to let her know you would like to get involved. The Planning Committee will hold its first meeting after the Winter Break. Volunteers are needed to both plan and execute the event. Don't miss

Reflections Program

Centerville's Arts Program has been bustling with activity! The CES Art Club hosted Artist William Cochran on Nov. 20. He gave an inspirational talk about how art can help our community.

The Gazette featured an article about Centerville, which discussed the school's enthusiasm for the arts. It also highlighted Ms. Luby and Ms. El for their work with Centerville's amazing Art Club.

We had 22 students participate in the Reflections Contest this year. Submissions were judged on how well they reflected the theme, ***I Can Make A Difference by ...*** Local artists judged the program and selected 1st through 4th place winners, whose work will go on to the county level competition. Winners of that competition will move on to the National level. ***And the winners are...***

Kindergarten-Second Grade

1st Place: Holly Liposky
2nd Place: Harrison Prah
3rd Place: Megan Carlson
4th Place: Camryn Jones

3rd-5th Grade

1st Place: Morgan McGrady
2nd Place: Madison Janaskie
3rd Place: Hannah Bush
4th Place : Alexandra Peach

Music Category

1st Place: Ann Coleman

Literature Category

1st Place: Payton Steele

Thank you, Centerville Stars, for entering this contest! Thank you, Barb Peach, Natalie Gipson and CES administration for supporting this program.

Important Dates

Fri., Dec. 21: LAST Day to reclaim items from the Lost and Found.

Mon., Dec. 24 - Tues., Jan. 1:
Winter Break

Tues., Jan. 8: MORNING PTA meeting @ 9:15 p.m.



Box Tops Program is Successful

The Box Top contest was a huge success! Centerville collected close to \$1,400 worth of Box Tops during this contest! We had tons of fun with the random drawings, and the kids loved having their names called when they won a prize! Prizes included Target and Wal-Mart gift cards, free ice cream from The Painted Cone and movie passes.

Congratulations to Alex Kiyota in Ms. Brown's first grade class. He turned in 15 completed Box Top sheets to win the grand prize! Alex received a \$25 gift card to Target and free ice cream at The Painted Cone. Ms. Brown's class is also the winner of the donut party with the Principal! Congratulations! In a random drawing, Garrett Ballard won the Dream Dinner's gift card for his family to enjoy! Mrs. Van Deusen won the Dream Dinner's gift certificate in the teacher's drawing.

Our goal is to earn \$1,900 through Box Tops for Education this year. To date, we have raised \$1,792.50. With continued contributions from parents, teachers and other school supporters, we can reach and exceed our goal.

Below is a list of local businesses that provided prizes for our contest! Please remember to say thanks when you visit.

Dream Dinners of Urbana City Magnolia of Urbana
Office Depot The Painted Cone

Keep clipping Box Tops!!! Ask everyone you know to help collect them, too, so you can be the next Box Tops Champion!! Keep a look out for the next contest sheet!

Parent Involvement Committee

A huge thank you to all of the parents and volunteers who have supported all of our volunteer requests. We couldn't have done it you!

Please remember to log your volunteer hours. Shopping for parties, preparing classroom materials, fund raising, health room support, party planning, etc., all count as Volunteer Hours.

Please remember that parents cannot volunteer in the classroom unless they have attended a Parent Volunteer Orientation. They must also have a badge id with photo.

For more information on badges or orientation, please contact Tara Zaboroske 301-874-0726 or

PTA Officers

President

Barbara Stone
301-874-1015

Vice President

Vicky McGrady
301-874-0473

Vice President

Kristen Calvo
301-865-8630

Treasurer

Eileen Cebula
301-831-1939

Secretary

Christina Marcel
301-874-5244

CES PTA Website

www.centervillepta.org

National PTA Website

www.pta.org