



PTA

Welcome Back!

Volume 1
9/19/08

THE EAGLE'S EYE

Center Grove School PTA Newsletter

Datebook

Back to School Carnival	September 19th
Back to School Night (Grades 3-5)	September 25th
School Closed	September 30th & October 1st
School Pictures	October 8th
School Closed	October 9th
Coffee with Principal & Vice Principal	October 10th 9:15 a.m. CG Library

Reminders

©Tonight is Center Grove's annual Back to School Carnival. Come join us for a night of fun for the whole family. This is the event your children will be talking about all year! The Carnival runs from 4:30 pm to 7:00 and costs \$30 per family. See you there!
©Spirit Wear orders are due 9/26.

We Want You!

Volunteer Opportunities

☆**Fall Book Fair** October 20th-22nd Volunteers needed. Contact Allyson Louro (973) 442-4180 alouro@optonline.net or Danielle Iannacconi (973) 537-9260 daniannacconi@yahoo.com.

☆**Reception Desk Volunteers** Thanks to all who offered to help cover the desk during these first few weeks of school. I've received a good number of new Volunteer Sign-Up forms, so please keep an eye on email for the remaining September and October schedules. If you'd still like to volunteer but have not yet completed a form, just email me your preferences and I'll add you. We cover 2-hour shifts, beginning at 9:15, 11:15 or 1:15, and you can help out weekly, monthly, etc. Please let me know if you have questions. Denise Archer archers5@optonline.net

Principal's Desk...Greetings to the Center Grove Eagle Community;

I must tell you how energizing it was to get the students and staff back in this building. Together I am sure we are going to have another fantastic year. It is my sincere pleasure to welcome Mr. Sean Dolan to Center Grove as our new Assistant Principal. Mr. Dolan is a terrific addition to our staff. Please feel free to stop by and say hello.

To compliment our existing staff we have added teachers, a media specialist, a literacy coach, an occupational therapist and four paraprofessionals. To compliment our curriculum we have added many new materials to include science, health and soon to be social studies. We have 30 new laptops to replace the old desktops in the library and the lab. Shortly we will complete grade 5 with SMART board set ups and grades three and four with mounted LCD projectors. We are on a fast track to getting complete SMART board set ups in all of our homerooms with the help of private donations, the amazing fundraising of our PTA and the outstanding cooperation between our PTA and the Board of Education. We have two FM systems installed in grade four and five with a future vision of continuing installations. We added 3 new FLIP video cameras to our inventory as well as a scanner, new laminator and 20 new sets of speakers. Our professional development opportunities continue and will include Everyday Math for our new employees, science kit training, and the use of Study Island to name a few. All homerooms will be utilizing morning meeting this year and will meet as a whole school each month.

Hopefully we will see all families at Back to School night so you can see first hand what an exciting place we are ☺ Also, in concert with the PTA, the first principal's coffee will feature Mr. Dolan and I soliciting input from all of you to assist us in enhancing the growth of the Center Grove School Community.

Thank you for entrusting us with your most precious gifts – your children. It is our collective goal to provide them with the tools they will need to progress and grow as young citizens. I am truly looking forward to working with all of you. Best wishes for an exciting and productive year.

Warmly, Mrs. Iosso

President's Message

Welcome to our first newsletter of the 2008/2009 school year. As PTA President, I am having a great time working with the teachers, staff, students and parent volunteers who make Center Grove so great every day.

We are looking forward to an exciting year for the Center Grove PTA. Our goal as an organization is to enrich the educational experience of our children.

This year's calendar is chock full of inspiring programs such as Eagle Enrichment, Cultural Arts and Character Education assemblies, a visiting author, grade level science days, and many more. Our support for the teachers is evident in the PTA teacher grants program, in which we award a total of \$5,000 to teachers to use in a variety of ways to support them in the classroom.

Last year, the PTA launched the "Technology for Teaching" program. The goal of this program is to supplement the district funding of technology for Center Grove School through the purchase of laptops, Smartboards, and LCD projectors. Last year the PTA donated 25 laptops and a Smartboard/LCD setup. This was made possible by private donors as well as PTA general funds.

Last night, I made an exciting announcement in this area. We are donating over \$20,000 to CG for new technology. This donation is made possible by 4 family donations in addition to \$7,000 the PTA general membership approved in June, 2008. This donation will fund 2 laptops, 7 Smartboards, and 6 LCD projectors.

Our goal is to provide the funds to outfit every grade level classroom in Center Grove with a Smartboard and LCD setup by the end of this school year. This will require an additional \$15,000 to be raised through our fundraising efforts.

Thanks to all of you who have joined the PTA and made an upfront donation. Please consider participating in one or more of our fundraisers throughout the year. If you are interested in making a donation specifically toward technology, please contact me directly at sheehanfamily4@aol.com.
Sincerely, Heather Sheehan

Health Office Update

Welcome back to a new school year! It is an honor and a privilege to take care of your children throughout the school year, and I am looking forward to what our new year will bring! Please feel free to call my office with any concerns or questions you may have regarding any health issues that arise. I would just like to share some health promotional information with you as we all get back into our school routine.

As we return to school, we can also experience the return of some unwanted visitors: lice. I have heard various reports of the incidence of lice in Randolph and the surrounding communities over the summer, so we need to be aware of preventive measures we can take to avoid infestation in our homes and school!

- **Inspect** your student's hair frequently, whether you suspect lice are present or not! **This is the single most important prevention method available to us!**
- Take note if your child appears to be scratching his head – an itchy scalp can be indicative of a lice infestation.
- Encourage your student to wear long hair pulled back or contained in some manner. Avoid commingling of hair with others.
- Discourage your student from playing or touching other people's hair.
- Discourage your student from sharing brushes, combs, or hair accessories with others.
- Avoid sharing hats or helmets when attending sporting events.
- When at after-school activities, please ensure that you hold your student's outerwear, or separate it from the outerwear of others. Do not place coats in large piles together.

REMINDER:

We know school paperwork can sometimes mysteriously disappear! However, if you haven't yet turned in your emergency contact form, please do so ASAP so that we have all your contact numbers on file.

Thank you in advance for all your cooperation, and I look forward to seeing everyone during Back to School Night!

Sincerely,
Mary Sharon Lopez, RN

ON THE FUNDRAISING FRONT...

Fall Fundraising Frenzy!

Hello CG families! Please check this week's folder for our NEW and exciting fall fundraising packets. We have all NEW products, so place an order to help support CG activities and programs.

CG Gift Card Program

The Gift Card program is back! Please see flyer in this week's Friday Folder. It's easy, convenient and it is a NO COST fundraiser for our school. Sign up and get shopping! Please contact me with any questions: Coleen Barbieri cbarbiere113@yahoo.com

ACME Receipts

Please send in your Acme receipts. They earn free income for our school! Every class room has a collection bin. Any questions call Beverly Mooney @ 973-328-8009 or Chantelle Grant @ 973-361-9763.

MARKET DAY

Our next Market Day is due by Noon, on October 9th and Pick-Up is on October 15th 3-4pm in the cafeteria. Enclosed, please find the order form to place your orders. There are TWO ways to order: 1. Visit www.marketday.com and our Account Number is 25727, and you can place your orders directly on-line "or" 2. You can fill-out your order form enclosed in the flyer, and send it back to school with your child, and a coordinator will input your order. If you have any questions, please call Chris Downtain 973.328.6602, or cdowntain@optonline.net.

Kid Stuff Books:

Order forms for Kid Stuff books went home last week. You still have time to place your order and get this great book filled with valuable coupons and discounts for stores, restaurants and activities of all kind. It is only \$25 and you can save much more than that! Contact Maureen Stockfish with any questions at mcfisch5@aol.com

Acknowledgements

Thanks to all those who helped with delivering back to school kits and stuffing the first Friday Folders!

A big thanks to Chris Downtain and all the folks who helped pull together another excellent New Family Welcome Night! The baked goods were enjoyed by all!

Thank you to Lisa Finnis who once again organized the Smile Partner program which welcomed so many new students into Center Grove.

Thanks to Trish Coyne, Jaci Iskols, Dee Porkorny, Stacy Gellert, Allyson Louro, Susan Forstenhausler and Trish Marciano for helping the 1st graders buy school lunch for the 1st time.

Programs/Events

Spirit Wear

Thank you to all who have already handed in their spirit wear orders. The deadline for ordering is **September 26th!** Be sure to check out all our new products - most of which are now on display in the front hall of school. Remember to Order Up - Sizes run small. Extra order forms are behind the PTA front desk. Feel free to contact me with any questions: Lori Knox 973-933-2127 or lakadk@optonline.net

Fall Book Fair

Mark your calendars! The Fall Book Fair will be returning to Center Grove Library on October 20th -October 22nd during school hours. The family late night will be held on Wednesday, October 22nd from 6:00-8:00pm, to accommodate everyone's hectic schedule and is sure to be lots of fun! This is a great way to build your family library as well as raise money for our school. We are still looking for volunteers.

Center Grove Teacher Profile

Introducing.....Mr. Dolan

Name: **Sean M. Dolan**

Position: **Vice Principal**

Years at CG: ***This is my first year at Center Grove School. Prior to this, I spent 4 years serving as the Assistant Principal of Wildwood Elementary School in Mountain Lakes. Prior to that, I was a 6th and 7th Grade Language Arts / Literature Teacher in Briarcliff Middle School. I taught Language Arts in Randolph Middle School in 1999/2000. I began my career in education in Hasbrouck Heights as a G&T Teacher for grades 3-6. I remained at Euclid School as a fifth grade teacher from 1994-1999.***

If you could switch places with someone for a day, who would it be? ***If I could switch places with someone for a day I would choose my great grandfather, just to see what life was like in our country in the early 1900's.***

Favorite book or author: ***As a teacher, I always enjoyed reading and studying The Call of the Wild, by Jack London. As an administrator and a father, I enjoy the comical humor of Dan Gutman and his My Weird School series.***

Favorite game: ***Stratego and Desktop Finger Football (with the triangular paper football)***

Favorite line from a movie or song: ***So many to choose from. Since I was a kid, I always enjoyed watching and tapping along to "Put One Foot in Front of the Other" from Rankin and Bass's Santa Claus is Coming to Town.***

Describe a good day: ***To me, a good day is any day where I have made a positive contribution in the lives of students, teachers and/or parents. I try to have good days all the time.***

Favorite vacation spot: ***Ocean Beach, New Jersey***

What was your favorite subject in school? ***English and Social Studies***

What did you want to be when you were growing up? ***I wanted to be both a professional football player and a veterinarian. However, I soon discovered that I was allergic to too many animals. When I went to college, I also realized that coaching sports was a nice way to satisfy my adolescent goals for playing them professionally.***

Most memorable CG moment: ***I am building a collection of them each day. So far, all of them have been awesome. I don't have any particular favorites yet.***

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