



PTA

Fall Fun 
Volume 3
10/17/08

THE EAGLE'S EYE Center Grove School PTA

Upcoming Programs/Events

Datebook

Fall Book Fair	October 20-22,
Family Late Night	October 22, 6pm-8pm
Red Ribbon Week	October 20-24
PTA Meeting	October 22 at 9:15am
Halloween Parade	October 31 at 2pm
School Closed	November 4, 6, 7
Family Movie Night	November 14

Fall Book Fair

The Fall Book Fair will return to the CG Library on October 20-22 during school hours. The family late night will be held on Wed., October 22, from 6pm-8pm.

Please remember to send your child to school with cash or a check (payable to CG PTA) so that they may purchase books. You may also attend the Book Fair with your child's class to assist with his/her purchases. If you have any questions, please contact Allyson Louro at 973-442-4180 or at alouro@optonline.net or Danielle Iannacconi at 973-537-9260 or at daniannacconi@yahoo.com.

We're Looking for a Few Good Volunteers...

Halloween Parade

CG will hold its annual Halloween parade on Fri., October 31, at 2pm. As a reminder, the winners of the "Safety in Our School" poster contest will be the parade's Grand Marshals and receive a gift certificate to Barnes and Noble.

For the Science Fair

We need Science Fair coordinators for each grade level (two per grade). Coordinators help to find other volunteers, to organize/order supplies, and to set up/clean up on the day of the event. It's a fun and rewarding day. No science or teaching experience is necessary!

Family Movie Night

Mark your calendars! Family Movie Night is Fri., November 14, at 7pm in the CG cafeteria. Students are currently voting for their favorite movie. We will send home more information when we announce the winning movie. Any questions? Please contact Alexandra Kehayas at pandrak@aim.com or Geri Williams at grichwill@msn.com.

This year's Science Fair dates are:

- Kindergarten: 2/6 (Magnets)
- 1st Grade: 2/20 (Building, Blocks & Boxes)
- 2nd Grade: 4/24 (Mr. Bear)
- 3rd Grade: 2/27 (Bubbles)
- 4th Grade: 3/6 (Structures, Building & Creativity)
- 5th Grade: 3/27 (Microscopic Exploration)

If you are interested in being a grade level coordinator or have further questions, please contact Jennifer Locke at jdlocke@optonline.net or 973-328-1969. Hope to hear from you!

For Eagle Enrichment

Do you have a special skill or talent that you can share with the students? Are you interested in teaching a six-week mini-course in January/February, or do you know someone who would be great? Questions? Ideas? Please contact Margaret Clark at mclark0213@optonline.net, Michele Ross at billmichross@aol.com or Stacy Gellert at sgellert@optonline.net.

Important Deadlines

<u>DATE</u>	<u>WHAT'S DUE</u>
10/24	"Safety in Our School" Posters
10/27	Gift Card Orders
10/31	Gift Card Pickup, 1pm-2pm/ <i>Front Desk</i>
11/6	Market Day Orders
11/12	Market Day Pickup, 3pm-4pm, <i>Cafeteria</i>
11/19	CG Reader Reviews

President's Message

By Mrs. Heather Sheehan, PTA President

Happy Fall! I hope everyone is enjoying the gorgeous fall weather. I know my family is squeezing in every last minute outside that we can!

The CG PTA is in full swing: room parents have been assigned, volunteer lists distributed, and the first assembly was a great success! October is always such a great month at school, between the Fall Book Fair and the Halloween Parade. It is a great time to be around the kids and enjoy the holiday from their perspective (including indulging in the yummy candy!).

If you signed up for any PTA committees through the Volunteer Interest Finder, the committee chairs will contact you shortly. If you are interested in volunteering in any way, or have ideas and feedback, give me a shout. I am confident we can find something for everyone.

Finally, I want to thank everyone who joined the PTA and participated in our fundraising efforts so far this year. This is a great opportunity for me to address our fundraising philosophy here at CG PTA. We try to give every family a chance to participate in our fundraising in a way that best suits their needs and provides the CG PTA with the funds needed to run the programs which enrich the educational experience of our children.

We are constantly evaluating and updating our programs. Our upfront fundraising program provides the CG PTA with about 25% of the operating funds we need and is a tax-deductible donation for families. We also work hard to maximize our "no cost" fundraisers, such as the ACME receipts and BOXTOPS programs. The Gift Card program is another "no cost" fundraiser—if you spend \$100, you get \$100 in gift cards. Our Fall Fundraiser is a product sales event and provides an opportunity for families who would prefer to participate in that type of fundraising. Further, we offer programs such as Market Day and Kidstuff Books based on the positive feedback we have received from those who choose to participate.

At the end of the day, our fundraising efforts are just that, our best effort to meet the needs of our families and our programs. Please contact me if you have questions or suggestions about our fundraising.

If you joined the PTA, you should receive your CG PTA Family Directory by November 5. If you are still interested in joining, please contact Jacky Villar at jackyvillar3@yahoo.com.

Coffee and Conversation

Thanks to everyone who attended last Friday's PTA meeting and coffee with Mrs. Iosso and Mr. Dolan. The meeting's objective was to invite parents to express their ideas in the following three areas: CG's Academic Growth, CG's Culture and Climate, and CG's Community Involvement. Future meetings will include prioritizing the concerns that were raised and setting up action plans to implement results.

The incentive for this meeting stemmed from the community's desire for improved school-wide communication, as a direct result of the Randolph District survey that went out last spring.

Mrs. Iosso gave parents the opportunity to share their thoughts. More than 20 topics were raised. These included: encouraging greater community involvement, improving parent-teacher communication, understanding the variation in coursework/homework, introducing the concept of differentiation, incorporating more school traditions, and many more.

"It was wonderful to have a great turnout of parents—who represented all grade levels—provide their feedback and ideas," said Mrs. Heather Sheehan, PTA President. "It was an open and honest exchange of ideas. Virtually everyone left with a better understanding of the topics, as well as an eagerness for the next meeting."

Lots of interesting information was discussed. The next meeting—which will include prioritizing areas to work on and setting up action plans—will be Wed., October 22, at 9:15am. We look forward to seeing you there!

On the Fundraising Front...

Gift Cards

The Gift Card program is up and running! We place orders every two weeks. Here's how to do it:

- Go to www.shopwithscrip.com.
- Register to create a family account.
- Use enrollment code 6F3ALLF51554L for Center Grove School.
- Choose your gift cards, and place your order.
- Pay by check online, or send in your check to CG PTA in an envelope marked "Gift Card Order" with a printout of your order.

Gift Card order are due by Mon., October 27, for pickup on Fri., October 31, at the *front desk* from 1pm to 2pm (due to Halloween activities). Any questions? Please e-mail Coleen Barbieri at cbarbieri113@yahoo.com.

Market Day

Our Market Day PIE CONTEST is back, just in time for Thanksgiving. Keep an eye out for the order forms to come home next week. Once again, the class that sells the most pies will win the PIZZA PARTY!!

The next Market Day orders are due by 12pm on November 6 (and school is closed on this date!). Pickup is on November 12 from 3pm-4pm in the cafeteria.

There are TWO ways to order:

1. Visit www.marketday.com, enter our account number (25727), and place your order online.
2. Fill out an order form (enclosed in this folder or available in the school lobby) and send it back to school with your child **NO LATER THAN Wed., November 5**. We will input your order.

Any questions? Please contact Chris Downtain at 973-328-6602 or at cdowntain@optonline.net.

Kidstuff Coupon Books

Kidstuff books are still available for anyone who is interested in purchasing one. They are \$25 per book. Please send cash or check (payable to CG PTA) in an envelope to Maureen Stockfisch. Please be sure to include your child's name and homeroom teacher as well. Any questions? Please contact Maureen at 973-989-5332 or at McFisch5@aol.com.

Acme Receipts

Please send in your blue Acme receipts. They earn valuable income for our school. Every classroom has a collection bin. Any questions? Call Beverly Mooney at 973-328-8009 or Chantelle Grant at 973-361-9763.

Thanks!

"Thanks to all the CG families who took part in our Fall Fundraisers. We really appreciate it!" – *Coleen Barbieri*

"Thank you to all who supported my fundraising efforts by buying a "Diabetes Sneaker" for this year's *Walk to Cure Diabetes*. I felt very proud to help raise donations on my brother's behalf. Our family team, "Joseph's Jammers," raised over \$6,000 with the help of my CG friends. Thanks very much to all the PTA members who helped with the distribution and collection of the Sneaker Donations." – *Patricia Juliano, 5th Grade/Mrs. Burke*

Spotlight on Specials

WHAT'S NEW IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION?

By Ms. Finn and Mr. Fritch, Phys. Ed. Teachers

Our CG Eagles have been very physically active since school started! Kindergarteners are learning what Phys. Ed. is all about, as well as learning a variety of new movements. Our first through fifth graders have now completed all five physical fitness tests. Ask your children what the tests are!

Soon the upper grades will learn and play *gatorball*, a combination of football, basketball, and soccer. They have been working hard on their jump-rope speed challenge scores, and have started to create their own 100, 125, 150, 175 and 200 clubs.

Fifth graders have tackled their new responsibilities in the locker room, changing their clothes for participation in class, as well as remembering their locker combinations. These skills will prove to be very useful next year at the middle school.

Remember the everyday motto of our Phys. Ed. classes: Try your best and have some fun! Don't forget to check Mr. Fritch's teacher page for updates on jump-rope clubs and other activities. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call.

CG Kids Love to Read!

Student Achievements

CG teachers recommended the following fifth grade students to serve as Pupil Assistance Leaders (PALs) from September through January:

- Kevin Largarcha
- Rachel Fennell
- Ali Karamat
- Evan Dziedzic
- Gabriella Cecala
- Jaclyn Benedetti
- Shannon Edwards
- Nora May McSorley

These leaders will demonstrate responsibility throughout the school year toward classmates, teachers, and the school.

Summer Reading Challenge Rocks

Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the Summer Reading Challenge. Together the students read a total of 94,188 pages! Awesome job!

Last week all participating students received a CG Readers bookmark and a memo explaining that they are eligible to receive a \$2 discount at the Fall Book Fair. The Book Fair cashiers will have master lists of all eligible students when your child makes a purchase.

If you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail Kristen Haddock at reckie@msn.com, Trish Ough at pbndo94@aol.com, or Susan Forstenhausler at msforsty@optonline.net.



Did Your Child Dance the Vitamin C Conga?

Are your kids eating more fruits and vegetables this week? Perhaps you can thank "Jack Sprat and the Low Fat World Tour," last Monday's PTA-sponsored assembly. The performance gave kids a musical lesson in proper nutrition and healthy eating habits.

Be sure to ask your kids how they enjoyed it! We're pretty sure they will "sing" its praises.

CG Readers Can Share Their Opinion

Does your child want to be a CG Reader? To be a CG Reader, your second through fifth grader can read a book and write his or her own review. They can let other students know about the book, tell whether or not they liked the book, and give reasons for their opinion. Review forms are available in the library.

For every review submitted, we will enter your child in a drawing for a \$10 bookstore gift card. The first reviews are due on Wed., November 19. The gift card drawing will be held on Fri., November 21, live on *CG News*.

NEXT ISSUE: Thursday, October 30. Please e-mail your submissions to Karen Pierro at mkpierro@optonline.net. Articles MUST be received by 10pm on the Monday prior to Thursday's distribution. In an effort to conserve paper, we reserve the right to edit all information.

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