



PTA

Happy May!

Volume 16

5/1/09

THE EAGLE'S EYE Center Grove School PTA

Upcoming Programs/Events

CG Datebook

Staff Appreciation Week	Week of May 4
Italian Dinner Night	May 21
Memorial Day/SCHOOL CLOSED	May 25
District Field Day	May 26
Kindergarten Orientation	May 27 at 9:30am
5 th Grade Event/Stardust Pool	June 5
Kindergarten Carnival	June 10
3 rd Grade Picnic	June 11
5 th Grade Moving Up Ceremony	June 19 at 9:30am
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL	June 22

Staff Appreciation Week

We are excited to celebrate all that the teachers do for our children at Center Grove! Staff Appreciation Week will take place during the week of May 4. This year, our theme is *Changing the World, One Child at a Time*.

Please see the "Help Wanted" section on this page for ways you can help contribute during this important week.

If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Constantinides at benxandra@aol.com or Jeanne Stifelman at jstife@optonline.net.

Help Wanted

For Staff Appreciation Week

School Supplies Needed. As part of Staff Appreciation Week, we are asking for school supply donations up to \$5. We will send home a list of supplies requested by the teachers. Each classroom will have a basket set up for these items during the week of May 4.

Thank You Notes Wanted. In addition, we are asking parents and students to write a short note or letter of appreciation to individual teachers, as well as Specials teachers and assistants. Please deliver any notes/letters directly to the teachers in their mailboxes in the main office.

Thank you for your help in making this a special week for those who do so much for our children! If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Constantinides at benxandra@aol.com or Jeanne Stifelman at jstife@optonline.net.

For Teacher of the Year Selection Committee

Mrs. Iosso is looking for two or three parents to be part of a selection committee to choose this year's Teacher of the Year from Center Grove School. If you are interested, please e-mail Mrs. Iosso at diosso@rtnj.org by May 7. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 12, at 9:30am.

For the PTA Newsletter

We are looking for a couple of new editors to help with the PTA newsletter for the 09/10 school year! If you're interested, please contact Karen Pierro at mkpiero@optonline.net, Trish Marciano at pmarciano@msn.com or Trish Coyne at trishacoyne@aol.com.



Italian Dinner on May 21

Come celebrate Center Grove at the annual Italian Dinner Night on Thursday, May 21.

To make your dinner reservations for this fun event, please see the flyer in today's Friday Folder.

Kindergarten Orientation

Kindergarten Orientation day is Wednesday, May 27, from 9:30am to 10:50am. Please make sure you have registered your child before this date so they can participate!

Principal's Message

By Mrs. Debbie Iosso, Principal

Greetings CG community!

This quite possibly has been the fastest school year on record (and I've recorded quite a few!). ☺

Most noteworthy, as I type this column, is the recent information regarding the Swine Influenza that is reaching across the world. Please refer to the information sent home and also look to our district web page for any and all updated information. At this point, the New Jersey Department of Health encourages good hygiene habits and contact with medical personnel if symptoms are present. The following website is one of the places you can go for additional information:

www.who.int/csr/don/2009_04_24/en/index.html.

Center Grove now has a student-generated and voted-upon slogan. Each homeroom submitted two slogans. Then a representative group of fourth and fifth grade students chose the top ten slogans. Finally every student in the building had a chance to vote on their favorite slogan from the top ten list. The winning slogan was submitted by Natalie Brandt in Mrs. Marucci's fifth grade class. And the winning slogan is: ***We Soar High Above the Rest – Center Grove Students Strive for the Best! Go Eagles!***

We will have the winning slogan made into a banner. We will unveil both the CG slogan and the CG flag at the June whole school meeting. What an exciting contribution to the school!

If you were able to attend the first CG Bingo Night a week ago, I am sure you had a great time. What a terrific way to enjoy each other's company, have some fun, and even win a few prizes. But I have a few issues with the bingo caller – he didn't seem to call any of my numbers! ☺ Thanks to the PTA moms who put this evening together – it was great. May is also a time for us to get together during the Italian Dinner Night. Hopefully you have all saved the evening of Thursday, May 21, to have some pasta and view the projects presented by each homeroom. This is always one of my favorite nights.

For third, fourth and fifth grade families, please remember that the NJ ASK testing is coming up: May 4 – 7 for third grade, May 4 – 8 for fourth grade, and May 11 – 14 for fifth grade. You can help by encouraging your child to do his or her best, get a good night's rest, and eat a healthy breakfast. It is also helpful for students to be present for all of the days of the test.

Upcoming Events

Please make a note of the following upcoming events:

- **District Field Day** is Tuesday, May 26, with a rain date of Thursday, May 28. We will send home further information with fourth and fifth grade students.
- **Kindergarten Orientation** is on Wednesday, May 27.
- **5th Grade Moving Up Ceremony** is Friday, June 19 at 9:30am.

***We soar high above the rest
- Center Grove students
strive for the best!
Go Eagles!***

Health Office Reminders

By Mary Sharon Lopez, RN

Immunization Update for 5th Graders

New Jersey now requires the following two additional vaccines for children born on or after January 1, 1997, and who are enrolling in 6th grade for the 09/10 school year:

1. An additional booster dose of **Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis**, provided at least five years have elapsed since the last Tetanus shot, and
2. One dose of the **Meningococcal** vaccine.

NOTE: Your pediatrician will not administer these vaccines until your student has turned age 11 – **so please make your appointment for a date after your student's 11th birthday!** If you have any questions, please call Mary Sharon Lopez, School Nurse, at 973-361-7835 ext. 206.

2009 Kindergarten Registration

If you or someone you know has not yet registered an incoming kindergartener with our school district for September 2009, please call Linda Gordon, District Registrar, at 973-361-0808 ext. 218 to make a registration appointment.

On the Fundraising Front...

Send in Your BOXTOP\$

Please send in your Boxtop\$. They earn valuable income for our school and help fund activities. Collection bins are in each classroom, as well as at the front desk. Any questions? Contact Maureen Stockfisch at 973-989-5332 or at Mcfisch5@aol.com.

Place Your Market Day Orders

Remember, there are two ways to order market day:

1. **ONLINE.** Place your order online at www.marketday.com and enter our account number, 25727. **Online orders are due by 11pm on Thursday, May 14.**
2. **ORDER FORM.** Fill out your order form and send it back to school with your child. A coordinator will input your order. **Paper orders are due in school by Wednesday, May 13.**

Pickup is on Wednesday, May 20, from 3pm to 4pm in the cafeteria. Any questions? Please contact Chris Downtain at 973-328-6602 or at cdowntain@optonline.net.

Shop for Your School!

Gift cards are easy, convenient and a NO COST fundraiser for our school! Here's how to order:

- Go to www.shopwithscrip.com.
- Register to create a family account.
- Use enrollment code 6F3ALLF51554L for CG.
- Choose your gift cards, and place your order.
- Send in your check to CG PTA in an envelope marked "Gift Card Order" with a copy of your order.

Orders are due by Monday, May 4. Pickup is on Friday, May 8, from 2pm to 3pm at the front desk. If you have any questions, please e-mail Coleen Barbieri at cbarbieri113@yahoo.com.

Send in Your 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.

Thank You! Thank You!

THANKS to all the **Science Fair** volunteers for making all of the grade level Science Fairs a HUGE success! Special THANKS to all the grade leaders: Danielle Colombaris, Tara Gerber, Tina Leonard, Andrea Wesolowski, Debbie Douglas, Jenn Lawlor, Trish Marciano, Trish Coyne, Lauren Mueller, Stacey Pinilis, Linda Smith, Terri LaPenna, Diane Stein, Mary Cicalo and Michele Eschelbacher. The Science Fairs couldn't have happened without your hard work and dedication. Thanks again!

– Jennifer Locke, Science Fair Coordinator

THANKS to Michele Ross, Randi Volk, Andria Stampone, Allyson Louro, Lori Knox, Colleen Ryan Meyer, Sherrill Penney, Heather Sheehan and Dee Pokorny for helping out at **Bingo Night**. A special THANK YOU goes to Mr. Dolan for being the caller. It was a fun night for all, and we look forward to doing it again next year!

– Stacy Gellert and Stacey Seligson

The **Spring Book Fair** was a huge success! A special THANKS to all of our wonderful volunteers – we could not have done it without you! Happy reading!

-- Allyson Louro and Stacy Gellert

CG Reader Update

Congratulations to the winners of our third CG Readers raffle which was held last Friday:

- **2nd grade:** Maddie Pokorny
- **3rd grade:** Daniel Kim
- **4th grade:** Devan Bulsara
- **5th grade:** Ashley Nicholas

Each winner received a \$10 Barnes and Noble gift card. Keep reading and complete the review forms available in the library. Our next drawing is Friday, June 12.

Stock Up on Spirit Wear

Please welcome Colleen Ryan Meyer as the new *Spirit Wear* coordinator for the 09/10 school year! We are trying to clear out our *Spirit Wear* inventory. In stock now are:

- Youth and adult zip-up sweatshirts in red and grey,
- Youth and adult red tie-dye t-shirts,
- Magnets, and
- Luggage tags.

Please check your stock of tees and sweatshirts to see if you'll need bigger sizes for next year. Please contact Colleen for size availability and orders at ctrm@optonline.net. Thanks for your support the past two years! – Lori Knox

SPOTLIGHT on the Fourth Grade

By Ms. Konikowski, Mrs. Lambariello, Mrs. Theodoropoulos, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Samuel, and Mrs. Sturdevant

We are proud of our students' accomplishments: They are writing longer, more interesting stories; they are solving difficult math problems; and they are being good citizens by caring for others and the world around them. They are preparing for the ASK tests, and they are looking forward to our trip to the Wax Museum in New York City. The following activities are a sampling of what our 4th graders have been up to in the past few months.

Earth Day All School Meeting. The 4th grade recently ran the April all school meeting on Earth Day and taught the school valuable ways to help our planet.

Little Red Riding Hood Play. Also in April, Mrs. Sturdevant and Mrs. Lambariello's class performed the play *Little Red Writing Hood*, one of the reading selections from the Trophies reading program. After reading the play, the class decided to perform it for friends and families. This gave the students the opportunity to work cooperatively as a team in order to put on the production. The class worked together to design the set and costumes, as well as to add lines and movements to the play. The students really enjoyed themselves. They worked really hard to learn their lines and places. Mrs. Sturdevant, Mrs. Lambariello and Mrs. Vitta enjoyed working on the play with the class – we all know that learning is fun!

Wax Museum. In March, all of the 4th grade classes presented the Wax Museum to Center Grove. The purpose of this project was to help our students strengthen their public speaking skills, learn about historical figures, and have fun.

Each student researched and wrote a biography report on a person who had a positive effect on society. Then the students dressed like the person and gave a brief introduction of themselves for visitors who pushed their button at the "museum." The students loved dressing up and becoming someone else for a day. They were proud of their hard work and efforts. The school enjoyed the Wax Museum speeches and all the great costumes as well.

Adopt a Soldier. From September through February, Mrs. Sturdevant and Mrs. Lambariello's class adopted a soldier through the *Adopt a Soldier* program. The soldier, Keith, is a 21-year-old man who was stationed in Iraq. Students collected items, and made cards and gifts to send to him. They also collected money to send him a birthday cake on his birthday in December. This project gave students the opportunity to feel good about helping someone. They really enjoyed making and giving various cards and gifts to Keith. In February, the class received a notice that Keith would be returning home to the United States. We were all very happy to get the good news!

Spotlight on Specials

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE ART DEPT.?

By Ms. Watson, Art Teacher

Now on display in the front lobby showcase are *Altered-Books* created by the 5th grade Art Enrichment class.

Hanging in CG's hallways are *Blue Rider Horses*, *Colorful Cats* and *Self Portraits* (hanging by the art room) created by Ms. Weiss's art classes.

Also on display from Ms. Watson's classes are: *Radial Weaving* inspired drawings by the 3rd grade; Monet inspired *Water Lilies* by the 1st grade; and a leaf collage of *Symmetrical Butterflies*, *Printed Bugs in a Jar*, and *Caterpillars* created by the kindergarteners.

Special congratulations to 4th graders William Long, Emmanuel Mendoza, Bianca Fusaro, and Noah Feldstein, and 5th graders Michael Deninno, Alexandra Constantinides, Melissa Downes, Alana Libman, and Gianni Caserta. These students now have artwork on display at the RHS Commons for the duration of the Spring Concerts.

As always, the Art Department thanks everyone who donated egg cartons, cereal boxes, toilet/paper towel rolls, fabrics, buttons, etc. for our art projects. Your trash is our treasure and we appreciate it!

NEXT ISSUE: Friday, May 15. Please e-mail your submissions to Karen Pierro at mkpiero@optonline.net. Articles MUST be received by 10pm on the Tuesday prior to Friday's distribution. In an effort to conserve paper, we reserve the right to edit all information.
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