



PTA

Have a Great Summer!

Volume 19

6/12/09

THE EAGLE'S EYE Center Grove School PTA

Upcoming Programs/Events

CG Datebook

Whole School Meeting/ Unveiling of New CG Flag and Slogan	June 15
Volunteer Appreciation Picnic/ Last PTA General Meeting	June 18 9am – 12pm
5 th Grade Moving Up Ceremony	June 19 at 9:30am
HALF DAY – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL	June 22

Please be sure to check the rtnj.org website for the most recent 2009-2010 school calendar.

Yearbooks on Sale

Yearbooks are now on sale in the front lobby every morning before school begins. Your child can purchase a yearbook for \$17.

Yearbook Chairperson(s)/ Volunteers Needed

Please contact Trish Marciano at pmarciano@msn.com or Trish Coyne at trishacoyne@aol.com if you are interested in organizing this committee or helping out on this exciting and rewarding project!

PTA Meeting & Volunteer Picnic RESCHEDULED for June 18

Please join us on Thursday, June 18, for our last CG PTA meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Picnic. At this meeting we will vote on our bylaws.

We will meet at Heather Sheehan's home, 57 Longview Ave, from 9am to 12pm.

Please e-mail Trish Marciano at pmarciano@msn.com or Trish Coyne at trishacoyne@aol.com if you can bring any baked goods or breakfast items.

Take the Summer Reading Challenge

Get ready for a fun-filled summer – and don't forget to include reading! Be on the lookout for the *Summer Reading Challenge* forms and details which we will send home in June.

IMPORTANT: 5th Grade Parents Must Send in Immunization Documentation

Parents of 5th graders must provide Mrs. Lopez, school nurse, with **written documentation** from the doctor with the date of administration of the **Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis** (TDAP) and **Meningitis** vaccinations in order for your child to enter 6th grade.

If your child has already received these vaccinations, please forward the documentation to Mrs. Lopez's office ASAP. If your child will receive these vaccinations over the summer, please forward the documentation to the RMS health office.

As a reminder, New Jersey now requires a booster dose of **TDAP** (if at least five years have elapsed since the last Tetanus shot) and one dose of the **Meningitis** vaccine for children born on or after January 1, 1997, and who are enrolling in 6th grade for the 2009-2010 school year. Your pediatrician will not administer these vaccines until your student has turned age 11.

If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Lopez at 973-361-7835 ext. 206.



President's Message

By Heather Sheehan, PTA President

Wow, it is hard to believe that the year is done!
(Yes, that is cheering you hear in the background!)

This is my last letter as PTA president, as I hand over the reins to the incredible Dee Pokorney.

It has been a pleasure and an honor to be President. I am so thankful to the amazing PTA Board I worked with. Together, with the support of all our CG parents, we have fulfilled our mission to make this school a better place every day.

Thank you for sharing your children with me. It is an experience I will always treasure.



Thank You! Thank You!

A huge THANK YOU goes out to all of our Market Day customers who order month after month. **We raised more than \$2,400 for Center Grove!**

Keep your eye out in September – Market Day will be back!

Another huge THANK YOU goes out to all of our volunteers who come out faithfully, month after month, to help us unload the truck, separate the products, take inventory and fill the customer orders. This couldn't be done without you.

Thanks so very much!

– *Christine Downtain & Maureen Stockfisch*

We want to thank Karen Pierro for a terrific job as our 2008/2009 school year newsletter editor. Karen, we appreciate all the time, work, and especially the final copies which were always great! Thanks too to those who helped copy each edition.

To our Yearbook Team of Robin Morris and Karen Buch – another great yearbook! Thanks to you and your team for all the hard work.

– *Trish Coyne and Trish Marciano*

On the Fundraising Front...

Pick up Your Market Day Orders

If you placed a Market Day order, **pickup is on Wednesday, June 17, from 3pm to 4pm** in the cafeteria.

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

Stock Up on Gift Cards for the Summer & Back to School

Buy your gift cards to keep around for the summer – for parties, graduations, college students, and every day shopping needs. 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, June 15. Pickup is on Friday, June 19, from 2pm to 3pm at the front desk. If you have any questions, please contact Coleen Barbieri at cbarbieri113@yahoo.com.

Keep Clipping BOXTOP\$ This Summer

Keep clipping out Boxtop\$ over the summer and send them in with your child during the first week of school.

If you have any questions, please contact Maureen Stockfisch at 973-989-5332 or at Mcfisch5@aol.com.

Send in Your Acme Receipts

Please send in your blue Acme receipts. We will have one more pickup next week. Otherwise, save your receipts over the summer and send them in with your child during the first week of school.

If you have any questions, please call Beverly Mooney at 973-328-8009 or Chantelle Grant at 973-361-9763.

Spotlight on Specials

FROM THE SPANISH DEPARTMENT

By Sra. Alison Megaro, Spanish Teacher

Please visit the Elementary Spanish page on the CG website to read the latest edition of the Olé Times!

Simply go to www.rtnj.org, click on Center Grove, click on Elementary Spanish, and read Olé Times.

¡Muchas gracias!

Counselors' Corner

By Ms. Alycia Zemlanicky,
Elementary School Counselor

June's character education theme is Peace and Hope.

The word **hope** means to trust that what has been prepared for, will or should happen; to expect, anticipate, wish and have faith with hopefulness; to look forward to; to be inspired. The word **peace** is the freedom from disagreement or quarrels; harmony; absence of mental conflict; serenity.

Both of these words are essential in our lives. With hope we anticipate and look forward to something in the future. This is perhaps school ending, a family vacation, relaxation, or even the opportunity for a new school year. With peace, we look for freedom from disagreements with others, as well as harmony within ourselves.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Cathy Foley, Susan Forstenhausler, Mickey Myers and Anne Sacco for assembling the character education showcases every month. The time and dedication that these volunteers put into making the showcases look fabulous is appreciated and truly valued. Thank you again to all of the volunteers.

Congratulations and good luck to all of our 5th graders who are moving onto middle school. It is my hope that you will all achieve success.

Have a wonderful summer everyone!

"When we feel love and kindness toward others, it not only makes others feel loved and cared for, but it helps us also to develop inner happiness and peace." – The Dalia Lama

Learning More about Responsive Classroom

By Mrs. Beth Laureano, 2nd Grade Teacher

The final component of Morning Meeting in Responsive Classroom® is **News and Announcements**. News and Announcements is the time when a letter written to the class is read aloud and discussed. This letter is referred to as the **Morning Message**. Here is an example:

June 12, 2009

Dear Math Wizards,

Today is Friday. We have Art. I can't believe we only have 6 more days of school left! We just learned about numbers in the thousands in math. Below, write a number in the thousands.

From, Mrs. Laureano

The Morning Message has a consistent structure to it so that all children can read it. Each Morning Message includes an academic or social question or a 'think about.' This makes the Morning Message interactive and allows each student to participate.

Examples of *social* questions or 'think abouts' are: What is your favorite food? What is a strength that you have? How many siblings do you have? What do you enjoy about school? These questions allow students to make connections with others; they can find out similarities between themselves and other classmates.

Examples of *academic* questions are: What number is 5 tens and 3 ones? What do you know about insects? Write a verb. These questions are good to use for gaining information about what students already know or for finding out what students have learned about a topic.

The goals of News and Announcements are to:

- Help children transition from Morning Meeting to the rest of their day;
- Excite children for the day;
- Develop and reinforce academic skills;
- Build community through the message – all children are reading and interacting;
- Reinforce social skills.

Even though some classrooms are doing Morning Meeting in the afternoon, the Morning Message is read and answered first thing in the morning. This means that some goals will be met through the reading and interacting with the message, and the other goals met when students read and discuss the message at the end of Morning Meeting.

If you want more information about Morning Meeting or have any questions, please e-mail me at elaureano@rtnj.org. I look forward to sharing more information with you as we begin the next school year. Have a wonderful summer!

SPOTLIGHT on the Fifth Grade

5th Grade Achievements

The 5th grade teachers are very proud of the participation of their students in a project called "Kids Helping Kids." In this project, students were paid through the school year for performing chores around their houses. The students donated all the money they earned to the pediatric ward at Morristown Memorial Hospital.

The 5th grade is very proud that they raised more than \$2,000! The money was used to purchase new electronic gaming equipment and accessories for the pediatric ward.

The 5th grade teachers are especially proud of the students who actively participated in this project, enabling it to be a great success. The children at the hospital are very appreciative of this activity. We hope to continue this great and worthwhile project for years to come.

What Has Mrs. Iwicki's Class Been Doing?

Mrs. Iwicki's class did a *Birthdays Buddies* project which used students' research skills and current technology to learn about significant events that took place on their birthdays and about famous people also born on their birthdays. The students then synthesized this information to create timelines of significant events that took place on their birthdays throughout history.

The goals of this project were to have the students use modern research technology to gather historical information and then use it to create visual timelines for a great hallway display. In addition, students also learned about events and famous people born on their birthdays.

The students enjoyed all aspects of this project and responded very well to it. The students enjoyed learning about the significant events of their birthdays while creating visually appealing timelines that contributed to a great hallway display.

Meet Mrs. Karen Iwicki

Position: 5th grade teacher

Years at CG: 26

What person would you like to have dinner with and why? My grandmother because I would like for her to see how much has changed since her childhood in the Roaring '20s to today. Also I would like to talk with her about my life, have her meet my husband and children, and tell her how much of her I see in my children.

Favorite book: *Gone with the Wind*

Favorite game: *Trivial Pursuit*

Favorite line from a movie: "After all, tomorrow is another day." (*Gone With the Wind*)

Describe a good day: Sitting by the pool with my family and reading a good book.

Favorite vacation spot: Bermuda

What was your favorite subject in school? Reading and history

What did you want to be when you were growing up? A lawyer

Most memorable CG moment: When I returned to CG after many years, a former student looked me up and thanked me for everything I did for her, especially for inspiring her to become a teacher.



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