



# PTA

See What's  
Brewing at CG

Volume 3  
10/19/07



## THE EAGLE'S EYE

### Center Grove School PTA Newsletter

#### Datebook

<b>Fall Book Fair</b>	October 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> (Evening Hours 10/25 6-8pm)
<b>Red Ribbon/ Safe Schools Week</b>	October 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Internet Safety Seminar</b>	October 29 <sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm (CG Café)
<b>Halloween Parade</b>	October 31 <sup>st</sup> at 2 pm
<b>Yearbook Sales begin</b>	November 2 <sup>nd</sup>

#### President's Message (Cont.)

I hope to see you on Monday, 10/29, when Agent Bill Tsigaras from the Morris County Prosecutor's Office speaks to our elementary school parents about Internet safety. (6:30 pm, CG Café).

Stop me in school, give me a call, or send me an email to tell me what we can do to make CG even better for your kids!

- Heather Sheehan, CG PTA President

#### From the Principal's Desk

It hardly seems possible but Halloween is almost upon us. I am happy to inform you that CG is rolling along 😊

The first ever "principal's coffee" was held this past week. We had a terrific turn out and as expected discussed many pertinent topics. For me, it was a very comfortable forum and gave me a chance to speak informally with many of you. I look forward to the next gathering sometime before the holiday break.

October is jam packed so I will try to bullet items of importance:

- ✓ **Quiet Riot** presented an assembly program on October 16<sup>th</sup> for all grade levels with an inspiring message packaged in an entertaining way.
- ✓ **The October 17<sup>th</sup> PTA meeting** included a presentation on **Responsive Classroom** by our very own Mrs. Laureano. Mrs. Laureano received a PTA grant last year that enabled her to attend a weeklong *Responsive Classroom institute* program during the summer. (More details on her presentation appear elsewhere in this newsletter).
- ✓ Safe Schools Week will be the week of October 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will be having our **first Lockdown Code Red drill** that week. Please watch for additional information under separate cover. The **Randolph Police** will be on hand prior to Halloween to discuss Halloween safety with our students. The **Fire Department** visited Center Grove and gave all students a fabulous presentation with regard to how to stay safe in a fire.

#### President's Message

Finally, the weather is cooling off, but the PTA efforts at school are heating up!

The first "Coffee with the Principal" was held on October 10, and it was a great roundtable forum for parents to discuss issues and ideas with Mrs. Iosso and Dr. Wilkins. The event was well attended, and the issues discussed included student and school safety, the health and wellness committee and policies, bullying issues, and a variety of additional areas. Some great ideas were suggested as well, especially in the area of rewards and recognition for all the great work our kids do.

Mrs. Laureano, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher, gave an **excellent** presentation to the PTA general meeting on Wednesday, 10/17, on Responsive Classroom. The Responsive Classroom program is being implemented at every Randolph elementary school, and affects every child. It is a proven method that integrates the social and academic curriculums through multiple techniques. This presentation gave us a glimpse of how it works in our children's school day. Ask your kids about afternoon meeting, and look for more information in this and future newsletters.

Thanks to all the families who have participated so generously in our fundraising efforts. The upfront fundraising effort has collected just over \$9,000 to date, and the Innisbrook sale has raised about \$6,500 in profit for CG PTA. Our annual budget, which pays for all the wonderful programs our children enjoy, is over \$38,000, so we are about 40% funded!

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## From the Principal's Desk (Cont.)

✓ **Safe Schools Poster/Essay** contest will last until October 19<sup>th</sup>. Each grade level will have a winner who will get to be one of the leaders of the Halloween Parade. In addition, they will win a pizza party for their class. These posters will also be used for the Red Ribbon Week Contest.

✓ **Bill Tsigaras – Agent for the Morris County Prosecutor's Office – will be at Center Grove on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.**

Please try to be on hand. I have personally seen this presentation and can assure you that the information Agent Tsigaras shares is extremely pertinent to what our children are encountering on the Internet.

✓ The **Health and Wellness Committee** met this month to review the implementation of the wellness policy relative to birthdays. The response is overwhelmingly positive. Suggestions are always welcome to continue making improvements to our plan. Mrs. Hicok will be heading the October Physical Challenge the weekend of October 26<sup>th</sup>. Please watch for additional information

✓ The **Halloween Parade** will be at 2:00 pm on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Let's hope the weather cooperates! Class parties will follow the parade. We ask that all visitors stay in the viewing area for the safety of all our parade walkers! Please watch for additional information. **REMEMBER** – weapons of any kind will not be allowed in school including blood capsules, painted faces etc.

✓ The Principal's **Math Problem of the Month** and **Language Problem of the Month** is officially underway for this year. Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Mueller, Mrs. Iwicki, Mrs. Braun and Mrs. Stampone are spearheading this project. Postings are throughout the school and all students can participate if they choose. Certificates earned throughout the year will be tallied in June. The reward earned depends upon the number of certificates earned 😊 The students had much fun with this last year as did the principal 😊

Please watch for information concerning CG happenings in Friday folders and your child's backpack. November notable dates include celebrating **American Education Week** during the week of November 12<sup>th</sup>. This week will hopefully include a Library Open House on the evening of November 13<sup>th</sup>. **Special Person's Day** will be held on November 21<sup>st</sup> – the \_ day before the holiday break.

## CG Visitor Sign-In Policy

Our school is a safe, secure place for our kids, and the PTA manned reception desk is an essential part of maintaining security. All visitors to school **MUST**: enter through the front door, sign in, wear a visitor badge for the duration of their time in the school, and sign out when leaving the building. Please include your small children when signing in; in the unlikely event of an emergency, it is important to be sure that everyone has cleared the building. If you have any questions about this policy, please contact Mrs. Iosso.

## Coming Soon...Special Person's Day

Special Person's Day is coming again to Center Grove on Wednesday, November 21. Mark your calendars and invite a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or other special person to visit your child in their classroom. Look for a flier in the Friday Folder. We are also looking for volunteers to greet the visitors when they arrive at 9:15. If interested or if you have any questions, please call Donna Zolla 973-895-5339 or Michele Ross at 973-537-9842.

## The "Responsive Classroom"

### Presentation – An Overview

At this past Wednesday's PTA meeting a fantastic presentation was provided by one of our 2nd Grade teachers, Mrs. Laureano, on the concepts and implementation of Responsive Classroom. As Mrs. Laureano explained, Responsive Classroom is a philosophy in which social and academic concepts are integrated to achieve a more successful learning environment. Mrs. Laureano said that one of the many principles used to teach the children proper social behavior uses the acronym CARES, which stands for:

**C**ooperation-working together

**A**ssertion-care for your needs in a respectful way

**R**esponsibility-do your job

**E**mpathy-care about how someone else feels

**S**elf Control- acting in control

Mrs. Iosso stated a commitment to train all teachers (K-2 is complete, 3-5 is scheduled for the end of October) and said that there will be a plan to train all staff as well. Watch for more to come on this exciting new initiative!

## Announcing The CG PTA Gift Card Program!!!

The CG PTA is introducing a new Gift Card program this year, just in time for your holiday shopping. Through this program, you can purchase gift cards to a wide variety of stores (retail, grocery, gas, restaurants) at face value, and CG PTA will receive a percentage of the sales. You get one stop shopping, and we raise funds for your children's programs. Look for a flyer and ordering information in the next (November 2) Friday Folder.

### BOXTOP\$ BOXTOP\$ BOXTOP\$

Please be sure to send in all of your Boxtop\$. We need to bundle and send them to receive our money! Remember to keep clipping. We'll have a new contest to announce !!! It's free money for our school!!!

### Kidstuff Coupon Book Sale

Kidstuff books are still on sale. Each book earns Center Grove \$12.50!!! It's chock full of valuable coupons! From restaurants to shopping!!! Send your order form in today!!! Any questions : Call Maureen Stockfisch 973-989-5332.

**ACME Receipts** Remember to send in your ACME receipts. They earn valuable income for our school. Every class has a collection bin. Any questions, call Beverly Mooney: 973-328-8009 or Chantelle Grant: 973-361-9763.

### It's (almost) Eagle Enrichment

**Time!** The kids are looking for **YOU** to teach a mini course for Eagle Enrichment. Several instructors have already signed on for another year. Past courses have included: Yoga, French/Spanish, Jewelry Making, Woodworking, Scrapbooking, and Zany Science. Come up with your own topic! The kids will love it. If interested, contact Michele Ross (billmichross@aol.com), Stacy Gellert (sgellert@optonline.net) or Margaret Clark (mclark0213@optonline.net).

### Birthday Books

Mrs. Smith will soon be ordering nearly 75 new books for the Center Grove library reflecting student interests in science, nature, fantasy, sports, and more. Thanks to the 50 families who participated, and happy reading!  
- Frances Bucien & Carla Little

### Too Many Sweets From Treats?

A collection box will be set up in the lobby of Center Grove School for those of you who feel that the candy piles at home are a bit too large. The candy you choose to donate will be distributed amongst several service organizations. Please bring your donated WRAPPED candy November 1 through November 8. Thanks for your sweet donations!

- Trish Marciano, Mary Ellen Carle, and Trish Coyne (Caring and Sharing Committee)

### Halloween Pix for Yearbook

Halloween is coming and we are asking for photos of all of your ghosts & goblins. We are requesting pictures from the Halloween parade and the Halloween parties. In the past, some of the best pictures came from candid shots taken in the CG hallways. We would also love to get as many photos of the CG staff as possible. WE ARE PLANNING AN EXTRA SPECIAL HALLOWEEN pictorial and we need your help. Please send us a CD of your shots by NOV 2. Any questions, please contact Karen Buch 973-442-9318 or Robin Morris 973-895-9592.

### Summer Reading Challenge

Congratulations to all of the participants on a job well done! You won't believe how much reading our kids have done! Award certificates were sent home earlier this week. The certificate enables the student to receive a \$2.00 discount at the Fall Book Fair. Master lists of all eligible students will be with the cashiers when they check out, so there is no need to bring the certificates to the book fair. If you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail Kristen Haddock at reckie@msn.com or Susan Forstenhausler at msforsty@optonline.net.

## The PTA Council 50/50 Raffle

**"MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE! THE EARNINGS AS OF TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16TH TO BE SPLIT FROM THE PTA COUNCIL 50/50 IS...\$11,500!!!**

Get your purchased tickets to your respective school's main office by November 2nd. We will be providing timely earnings updates on the [rtnj.org](http://rtnj.org) website. The Council's Fundraising committee will be rolling out the next wave of sales and would like to avoid printing fees of new books. So, unused tickets should be returned to the main offices, as well.

Any questions, please contact Sue Matos at [susan@matosfamily.com](mailto:susan@matosfamily.com) or 973.989.0157. We look forward to announcing our big winners on December 17th."

## Board of Education Bulletin: Upcoming Meetings & Agenda Topics

### 1) October 24 - 8 pm at RHS

Cycle 2 results, QAAR, school goals - Thom Kane  
Work force analysis project - Ann Marie McGoldrick

### 2) November 6 - 8 pm at RHS

Sixth grade trip - Georgiana Walsh  
Audit - Bud Jones

### 3) December 12 - 8 pm at RHS

Environmental Education Center proposal - Bob Tackett  
and Laura Hernandez

NEXT ISSUE: November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please e-mail your submissions to [sangitasrinivasa@gmail.com](mailto:sangitasrinivasa@gmail.com). Articles MUST be received by 10:00 PM 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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