



The Lil Warrior Beat



The Williams Township PTA Newsletter

January / February 2017

The President's Pen



Dear Williams Township Elementary School Families,

With the holiday hustle behind us, we are already off to a bustling start to 2017 at WTES! Our PTA sponsored Holiday Bazaar and Winter Carnival were a dynamic finishing touch to 2016. Our Holiday Bazaar committee coordinated an amazing array of economical treasures for our thoughtful children to shop for and surprise their family members with specially chosen gifts. Our Winter Carnival was an action-packed way to stir up Winter Break excitement with games, making reindeer food and snowflakes, and a visit from Santa! Now we are eagerly waiting to see if any more snowflakes fall over the next few months!

While our children patiently wait for a snow day or at least a few 2 hour delays, we have many more WTES/PTA happenings the second half of the year to keep us energized! Our second session of Enrichment will be starting January 30th. Jump Rope for Heart, 100th Day of School Celebration, Sports' Day, Family Night Out at Dub's, and the infamous Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale will jazz up February. Wacky Wednesday in March, Science Fair March 27th, Tricky Tray April 8th, and Career Day April 20th will spice up our Spring!

All these beloved activities and capturing them in our state-of-the-art yearbook are made possible by many exceptional PTA volunteers! If you would like to join in the volunteering fun, please join us at our next Executive Committee Chair Meeting Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 6:30 pm at ***The View at Morgan Hill***. Bring a pencil and a friend! We have several committee chairs graduating with their 4th graders this year. Thus, the Committee Chair positions for Heritage Day, Membership and 4th Grade Committee as well as the Executive positions of President and Vice President will be open for the 2017/18 school year!! Our next General PTA Meeting will be Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 6:30pm in the Cafeteria. (Childcare will be provided)

Please don't hesitate to contact myself or any of our board members if you have any new ideas, questions, or concerns. If you'd like to volunteer in school and need your clearances, visit our website at www.williams.my-pta.org and click on the Security Clearance tab for more information. For all our current clearance up-to-date volunteers, please continue to check the "volunteer" tab at the top right hand corner of the home page regularly. Our Lunch Duty and After School Enrichment Programs will need daily volunteer participation whenever you have the time to help this winter.

We wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous 2017!

Sincerely,

Sara Aquino, WTES PTA President

jnsaquino@ren.com

2016-2017 PTA Board Members

Sara Aquino,
President

Melinda DiBartola,
Vice-President

Julie Burkart,
Secretary

Kimberly Kressman,
Treasurer

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|---|
| From The Principal's Desk | 2 |
| School Reminders | 3 |
| Kindergarten Registration Science Fair | 4 |
| Committee Updates | 5 |
| Committee Updates Fundraising | 6 |
| Calendar of Events | 7 |

A Message From The Principal's Desk

Page 2

Dear Williams Township Elementary School Families,

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! We are off to a great start this year and the students have returned ready to get to work and improve. Fortunately, the weather has allowed us to consistently attend school and keep moving forward, let's hope this continues. Many of you are aware that the Pennsylvania State Assessment for 3rd and 4th grade students is coming up in April. We will begin with the language arts assessment on April 4th. The math assessment will begin on April 23rd and the 4th grade science assessment will begin on May 2nd. Students and staff have been working very hard, and as always, I will continue to challenge our students to perform and achieve at the highest level possible.



Our students have had great experiences in school and additional opportunities offered by our PTA. The after-school enrichment programs have offered outstanding activities which many students have enjoyed. I want to thank the PTA for organizing these wonderful classes. It takes a lot of work and preparation. PTA has done an outstanding job, not just with enrichment, but in all the areas they help our school. Thank You!

There are always interesting activities going on at Williams Township Elementary. A few fun and interesting events in the near future for our students would be Jump Rope for Heart beginning on February 15th. Also, The Science Fair will be on March 28th and Career Day will be on April 28th.

I want to continue to encourage all parents to keep in contact with your child's teacher. Parent teacher contact is essential for students to be successful. We have high standards here at Williams Township Elementary School. We need the help and support of all parents to ensure our students achieve to their highest level. Please always ask your child about his or her day and the learning that took place. All kinds of interesting activities take place every day, and I am sure your child would love to share these experiences.

Thank you again for all the support you give your children and the staff here at Williams. Together let's continue to make our school "up on the hill" a success. I look forward to continuing to work with all of the students, staff, and families of Williams Township Elementary School!

Warmest Regards,

Kevin Steidle

Principal



REPORTING ABSENCES and REQUESTING HOMEWORK

Parents are required to call the appropriate school office each day that their child is absent from school. This contact serves as a safety measure and notifies the school that your child is not expected in attendance.

If homework is being requested for an absent child, please leave this request with the secretary at the opening of the school day. A teacher will need the full day to prepare your child's homework which may be picked up in the office after dismissal.

REQUEST FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Families planning an educational experience during the school year are required to complete a **Request for Excused Absence from School** form in advance of the trip. Parents also agree to assume responsibility for the child's school work during the period of absence. As per the form absences are limited to five (5) school days. Request for Excused Absence from School forms can be obtained from the school secretary and are maintained on file in the school office.

NEED FOR PARENT COOPERATION

Each school year there are many activities and events that require teacher time. In order to maximize the time our teachers spend with students, we ask for your help in the following ways:

1. Make sure your child arrives to school on time.
2. Make sure your child attends school every day, unless he or she is ill.
Note: *Missing school because of bad weather, visiting others, or waking up late are not legal excuses.*
3. If your child has been absent, be sure that he or she returns to school with an excuse stating the reason for the absence.
4. Please treat all home injuries (cuts, scrapes, splinters, etc.) before your child comes to school.
5. Check that your child has all necessary supplies for the day (lunch money, lunch, books, homework, papers, etc.). *Note: A book bag helps youngsters to stay organized.*
6. Your child is to ride only on his or her regularly assigned bus.
7. Upon entering the school building, all visitors must register in the school office. This is to eliminate untimely interruptions and to insure the safety of all students and staff.
8. Please stand clear of hallways and bus loading zones during dismissal time. Also, please wait until after dismissal to visit teachers, as they are supervising children.
9. Please do not park in the bus or van loading zones.
10. Do not double park when dropping off or picking up children.
11. For the safety of the children, please do not call your child from your car or from between parked cars. Please help them to cross at street corners only.
12. Parents delivering items to the school are requested to leave them in the school office, so that classes aren't disrupted.
13. Please do not permit your child to wear headphones, or ride bicycles, skateboards or scooters to school. These can be hazardous for children when crossing streets or waiting for the bus.
14. Students should not wear flip-flops, sandals or slippery shoes. *Note: Sneakers are recommended for gym classes.*
15. If involved in a custody case, please provide the school with a copy of the custody order.
16. The procedure to discuss or report concerns, problems or complaints is to:
 - A. Contact your child's teacher. If the problem is not resolved then:
 - B. Contact the Principal
 - C. Contact the Superintendent



REMINDER

Williams Township Elementary School kindergarten registration will be held on the following days:

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Thursday March 23, 2017 | 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. |
| Friday March 24, 2017 | 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. |

Registration is by appointment only. Please call **484-373-6170** for appointment.

Children entering kindergarten must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2017.

Please bring child's birth certificate, copy of immunization record from physician, and two (2) valid proof of residence.

Please share this information with friends and neighbors.



Save the Date for the Williams Township Elementary School

Science Fair

This year's fair will be held on **Tuesday, March 28th** from **6-8pm**. Sign-ups will begin in a few weeks, so start thinking about your topics. There are lots of wonderful ideas online, so have fun looking!

The fair is a non-competitive event for students in grades K-4. We have a **HANDS-ON BOOTH** and **SCIENCE SHOW** from Mad Science of the Lehigh Valley during the fair. We can't wait to see you all there and look forward to helping instill a love of the sciences in our little ones!

If you have any questions, please contact Jen Burd at tjburd1219@hotmail.com.



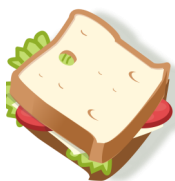
Volunteering

Don't forget that all volunteers (that are volunteering in the school) are required to have their clearances approved and on file in our school office prior to your volunteer date. Plan ahead since some of the clearances cannot be done online and need approval time! See our "Security Clearance" tab on the PTA website for more information.



Lunch Duty

Please consider volunteering for lunch duty at the school. During lunch, you will assist the children in opening lunch items, keeping them in line and helping the staff in any way needed. You must have approved clearances—see the PTA website on the "volunteering"



Enrichment Program



The new session of Enrichment has started. We appreciate your support and assistance with volunteering.

The Enrichment Committee is always looking for members. Planning for the 2017/2018 will begin this Spring.

If interested please email me.
leiah.belizaire@gmail.com

Career Day

We are looking for volunteers that are looking to help or speak at during this years Career Day on April 20th.

If you are interested please contact Molly Sunderlin at
molly.sunderlin@gmail.com



Family Day / Night Out

February 20th
Open till Close!!

Enjoy the day off with the kiddos and help support your PTA at Dubs on 5th!! Flyer will be available online and also sent home. Please present the flyer to your server
Eat in or Take Out. 610-483-3827



TRICKY TRAY

Our Tricky Tray is scheduled for
Saturday, April 8th!!

Planning is in full swing! If you would like to help we really need you!! No amount of time offered is too small.

If you or someone would like to donate a basket or gift please contact Shelli Piparato. Monetary donations are welcomed and will allow us to afford the "big ticket" items. We are a nonprofit so any donation is tax deductible.

Please contact Shelli Piparato
shell3405@hotmail.com or by phone or text at [610-597-1083](tel:610-597-1083)



Yearbook Committee

Please always remember when you are at an event snap off a few pictures that we could use. We always love to get those smiling faces in the book.



We are getting close to order time so get those pictures sent in to Lori!!

Contact Lori Miller if you have any questions or great pics!

Parkplace035@rcn.com

Heritage Day

This year at our 2017 Heritage Day on January 10th, we were able to help organize parents from our WTES family and local international students from Lafayette College to come present to the students about the country they come from (or their heritage). The kids had a packed session as they rotated through each station and learned more about customs and facts of the following countries: Ireland, Dominican Republic, Latvia, Ethiopia, Kashmir, India and Germany. We thank all the parents (and Lafayette students) for taking the time to come share with us during this event.



We also thank the PTA parent helpers for picking up students, transporting them back and delivering lunch! I know I will miss this event next year as my youngest moves to WAIS.

Cathy Mueller

Treasurer's Report

Our next fundraiser is **Gertrude Hawk** !!! It will be starting in February and Will be delivered in time for the Easter Bunny!!



If you need to be reimbursed please submit all expense receipts/requests along with the completed reimbursement form (available on the PTA website) to school in care of Connor Kressman, in Mrs. Silfies' 3rd grade class, Attn: Kim Kressman

Any questions, please email Kim at kimk@rcn.com

Box Tops

Please consider registering your bonus card for ShopRite and to help earn additional money for our school. Shop for participating products from the advertised promotions for the week during your visit. Earnings are automatically credited to our school's Box Tops account!

ShopRiteForMySchool.com

Box Tops also has a new Bonus Box Tops app where you can upload your receipt for any grocery store and get credit for participating items automatically deposited into the school account as well.

If you would like more information please visit the boxtops4education.com website and follow our school earnings!

Our goal this year is \$2000 and every little bit helps! Let's hit our goal!!



Scrip Program

The Scrip program is moving along slowly right now. Please consider purchasing these cards for all of your holiday shopping and gift giving as well as for your every day grocery and gas purchases. Every card purchased results in a profit for the PTA which in turn benefits all the children in our school. There are many popular gift cards that are available any time as ScripNow eCards, i.e. Dunkin Donuts, Sam's Club, WalMart, T.J. Maxx/Marshalls/HomeGoods as well as many, many more. When purchasing cards this way, you receive the e-card immediately, and the PTA still receives the profit. You can order by going to www.shopwithscrip.com. The enrollment code is 9BF8A76712869.

This is a great way to purchase last minute gifts or even to purchase cards for any shopping that you do on a daily basis.

For those of you who would like to have cards for grocery and/or gas purchases on a weekly basis, I can pre-order them and have them available for your to purchase as you need them. Please contact me to set this set up.

Any questions on the Scrip program can be sent to Stephanie Koufalis at stephaniekoufalis@gmail.com or call/text me at [610-392-6756](tel:610-392-6756).



Labels for Education

We are also collecting Labels for Education again. Please make sure only UPCs with the "Labels for Education" logo are sent in. This program allows us to order art and athletic supplies for the school.

A list of participating products and more information is available on the website at

labelsforeducation.com



Giant A+ Rewards Program

Register your GIANT card to benefit our school!



We only have 91 enrolled and have hit close to \$400 in earnings!!! That is awesome, keep on shopping!!!

Remember you can have anyone register their Giant Bonus Card.

PTA receives a percentage of every purchase made between October 7th to March 16th! It's free money and couldn't be easier to help support the PTA.

Please visit: <http://www.giantfood.com/savings-and-rewards/rewards-program/aplus/> to register your card and designate Williams Township Elementary as your benefactor.

You don't lose points they earn for gas or bonus rewards by designating a school. They need a bonus card to designate a school and can register online or by phone 1-888-814-4268 Option 1.

Amazon Smile

This program runs all school year for us. Please make sure you are still taking advantage of the power of smile and donating to your PTA.



The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to Williams Township Elem School PTA. Click here to Support WTES while shopping on Amazon

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7053313>

Please contact Kim Kressman with any questions at kimk@rcn.com

School Closed
February 20th for Presidents' Day



The Executive PTA Meeting is at the
View on February 21st at 6:30pm

The Next General PTA Meeting is
March 14th at 6:30pm in the
Cafeteria
Child Care is provided!

Please contact Paula Tadayesky, with any Newsletter suggestions or comments: ptaddy@gmail.com