



THE

RAMS READER

Williams Township PTA Newsletter

Issue No.2

December 2012

The President's Pen:

Dear Williams Township Elementary School Families,

It has been quite a year already. Clearly the hurricane left all of us displaced and unsettled. Several days without power will do that to a community. Please note the change in school calendar to make up the days we lost due to the hurricane.

As I think of the Thanksgiving season I would like to express my THANKS to the many parent volunteers which have taken time out from their very busy schedules to assist with our children. I am so proud to be part of a school in which parents are so dedicated to the children.

Our parents have been assisting children at lunch everyday and it is so appreciated. Thank you to Tricia Gilmore for coordinating the lunch volunteers and Rachelle Gibbs our new lunch coordinator. The Halloween Party was a spooktacular event thanks to the planning of Beth Koehler and the support of the parent volunteers. American Education week had the many different parents to meet and greet and that does not include the parent volunteers in the classroom and going on field trips. It is incredible to think of how many people help our children!

Roughly we have had 150 volunteer opportunities and plenty more on the way. If you have not had the chance to come in yet there will be plenty of opportunities. Remember, December lunches and the Winter Carnival. We would love assistance with Enrichment and Talent Show planning. Again, thank you for your time and devotion to our children and our school.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Shunk

WTES PTA President



Updated School Calendar!

Due to school closings during Hurricane Sandy, the students will have school on the following days.

- Monday, January 21, 2013
- Monday, March 25, 2013
- Tuesday, March 26, 2013
- Wednesday, March 27, 2013

How do I see a school calendar?
Find it ON-LINE!

Go to www.wilsonareasd.org

The printable calendar for Wilson Area School District is now located on the center of the home page. It is the same calendar that previously was mailed. It is quick and easy to print your own copy!

You can also choose any other calendar you need and print that as well!



How do I Volunteer?

Fill out your paper work and send it back.

Make sure you have your clearances.

WTES uses sign up genius frequently. If you are on our Global Email List you should be receiving messages for signup genius. If you are not on our email list or currently receiving emails contact Cathy Mueller at cmueller@neostrata.com.

If you are interested in helping at an event please contact the Co-ordinator prior to the event.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK: The season of giving....

Have a bountiful and Happy Holiday!

The season of giving and thanksgiving is upon us. It is the time of year that we teach our children what it takes to be a community member in the truest sense of the word. We are all part of a world larger than ourselves. We are connected to so many, a valuable and valued link to others. As a school community, we create opportunities for our students to build important character traits including generosity, caring, and community citizenship. Look for information coming home on how you and your children can participate in special activities over the next few weeks.

For those of you who were able to attend the November PTA Meeting, you were part of a very spirited discussion about school assessment. Mr. David Wright, Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the WASD, shared our school's PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) and DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Early Literacy Skills) scores. He told us why these assessments are important and how the assessment measures are used. I valued the discourse that followed. I urge all of you to be sure to attend PTA Meetings to share your ideas and benefit from the ideas of others. The PTA does amazing things for our children, so please take an active part.

With the advent of winter, remember to prepare your children for the eventuality of weather related closings, delays, and early dismissals. Early dismissals can cause children to be fearful, especially if parents haven't discussed the family plan for them. Reassure your child that you will know about the early dismissal and that there will be appropriate care if the school dismisses early. The district has added a new system, WASD Alerts System for all emergencies including weather related emergencies. This is in addition to the methods of communication already in service, including radio and television announcements. Being well prepared will ensure that you and your family can enjoy even the worst of winter's weather.

I wish each of you a happy holiday season. My greatest gift is the opportunity and pleasure of working in this school district with my talented and dedicated staff and our great children and their families.

Mrs. Dale Ann Brown, Principal WTES



LOOKING BACK: Just a few notes as to how our 2012-2013 school year is going!

Thank you to all who helped with and brought your children to the Halloween party!

The kids had a blast and it was so much fun!



\$352.00

This is our profit from Giant Food stores so far this year!

How did we do it?

We registered our rewards card number with Giant!!!!

THIS IS THE EASIEST MONEY OUR PTA EVER MADE!



ANNUAL COOKIE SALE...



OUR COOKIE SALE WAS AN AMAZING SUCCESS!

EARNING OUR PTA A BIG \$2333.95!!!

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED AND TOOK PART IN HELPING WITH THIS SALE!



A Big Thanks to all who came out to our family nights out!

Featured restaurants were
Sophia's
and
Solo Mia

They were a big hit, the food was great, and lots of fun too!



Winter Carnival

Our annual Winter Carnival will take place on **Friday, December 21st** (the last day of school in 2012!) On this day, 3 classrooms will be transformed into a Winter Wonderland Carnival with various themes. The children will play games, create a craft and compete with their singing voices. We hope to also receive a visit from a special guest that day to pass the season's joy to all the ... (of course this would depend on the "guests" busy schedule, but we hope to receive confirmation from the north shortly!) In addition, back by popular demand, we are requesting that DJ Mr. H. will lead the popular Karaoke room with various holiday songs.

There are many opportunities for anyone with clearances to participate in this fun filled event as we will need volunteers to help us with part or all of the day. (Look for the sign ups on SignupGenius.com)

So...on Friday the 21st, when you greet your child after school, make sure you ask them about their



START THINKING NOW ABOUT...

FUN EXPERIMENTS FOR THE SCIENCE FAIR!

COMING IN MARCH...

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN

JANUARY!

QUESTIONS ALREADY?

CONTACT HEATHER FREDERICKS @ 610-258-8697 OR

SAVE THE DATE...

WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP PTA PRESENTS:

TRICKY TRAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2013

*Please start saving empty coffee cans and baskets.

*If you know of a business willing to donate, please contact:

Jennifer Batdorf 610-252-8067 mommyb@rcn.com

Lisa DiBiagio 610-253-2373 ldibiagio@rcn.com

Joan Gillent 610-253-2129 gilly3jms@aol.com

Julie Pektor 610-838-1722 cipektor@verizon.net

OUR LAST ONE WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!



Heritage Day

We are proud of the diversity of our students at Williams Township Elementary, and the PTA and teachers would like to celebrate it with our first annual Heritage Day Festival!

When: Monday, January 21, 2013

Where: WTES Gym

Time: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Want to participate?

Please refer to form that was sent home with your children if you are interested in participating.

Please return form to your child's classroom teacher no later than December 21st!

PTA FUNDRAISING: Help out with these ongoing, simple, and fun Fundraisers!

BOX TOPS:
The winning Teacher/Class? is....

KEEP SENDING IN THOSE BOX TOPS AND WE WILL POST THE LEADING CLASS IN OUR NEXT NEWS LETTER!!



Scrip is Fundraising While You Shop!™



Shopping with gift cards is an easy way to support our organization every time you shop. We offer a great variety of brands in addition to your weekly gas and grocery purchases. From dining and entertainment to home improvement and beyond, we have all your shopping needs covered!

There are so many opportunities to generate rebates for our organization with gift cards. Sharpen your shopping skills and visit ShopWithScrip.com to find a complete list of National and regional retailers.

START TODAY!

PLEASE CONTACT OUR SCRIP PROGRAM CHAIR- JENNIFER JANIK WITH ANY QUESTIONS. ubjanik@ptd.net 610-333-1799

USE YOUR GIANT BONUSCARD and EARN MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL!

All you have to do is log on to www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus to designate our school online or return form to school (found at end of newsletter)

WILLIAMSTOWNSHIP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ID # 034111

After you register your card, each shopping trip at Giant using your BONUSCARD earns CASH for our school!

FYI... There was a school in Bethlehem that earned over \$19,000.00 for their school! So don't forget to encourage your friends and relatives to register for our school too!!!



LET'S RALLY, IT COULD MEAN THE WORLD TO OUR CHILDREN!



Parents Night Out!

Mark your Calendars and SAVE THE DATE...

PTA FUNDRAISER!!

Friday, January 18th at

Vintage

Watch for the flyer that will be sent home with children in January with more info!

A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO OUR PTA SO GO OUT TO EAT, AVOID COOKING AND SUPPORT OUR PTA!!!





HELP SUPPORT OUR PTA WHILE WE SUPPORT YOUR BUSINESS!

Please contact Shelli Piparato with your Ad Information. shell3405@hotmail.com 610-597-1083

DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL FAMILY EVENT LIKE BIRTHDAY COMING UP?

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CREATIVE GIFT FOR YOUR CHILD, YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER OR A SPECIAL RELATIVE OR FRIEND?

Consider donating a book to the school library in his/her name.

A customized website has been developed to address any potential donor of the needs of the library. Donations are made through the website and all donations go toward the purchase of books for the library.

www.btsb.com/sosl/williamstownshipelementary

Check out the website today for all the information you need!



BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

Mrs. Jennifer Shunk, President
610-252-1264

Mrs. Tricia Gilmore, Vice-President
610-838-5660

Mrs. Beth Meuser, Secretary

Mrs. Dawn Dufal, Treasurer

PTA COMMITTEES:

Assemblies: Donna Petty, dpetty@wilsonareasd.org 484-373-6170

ArtFair: Dawn Martinson, sunflowerdm@yahoo.com 610-253-5265

Book Fair: Heather Houser, alshouer@rcn.com 610-258-9779

Book Swap: Jennifer Batdorf, mommyb@rcn.com 610-515-1221

Box Tops/Labels for Education: Joanne Goodman, jgoodman@rutersin.com 610-438-0717 and Maggie Brinker Mbrink31@rcn.com 610-253-0156

Career Day: Beth Kenny, tbkenny@rcn.com 610-923-9156

Enrichment: Melissa Applebee, Melissa.appleby4@gmail.com 610-438-8988

Family Dinner: Lisa DiBiagio, idibiagio@rcn.com 610-252-2373

Halloween Party: Beth Koehler, bethdavidk@msn.com 610-253-2983

Holiday Bazaar: Jennifer Batdorf and Joan Gillen, gilly3jms@aol.com 610-253-2129

Holiday Gift: Michele Causa, mcausa@ptd.net 610-258-9977

Meeting Speakers and Programs: Jennifer Shunk

Membership: Andrea Errico, aerriox6@yahoo.com 610-252-4061

Newsletter: Shelli Reinheimer-Piparato, shell3405@hotmail.com 610-597-1083

Playground: Harold and Terri Wisner, wku@juno.com 610-838-5125

Reflections: Kim Bandi

Rams Apparel: Tina Freeman, tinafreeman13@gmail.com 610-258-6895

Room Parent: Cristy Mette, cristymette@yahoo.com 610-438-4311

Scholarship: Tricia Gilmore

School Spirit Day: Mike/Heather Houser

Science Fair: Heather Fredericks, heather.fredericks@gmail.com 610-258-8697 and Sue Bulette, sueb@ptd.net 610-253-9100

Scrip Program: Jennifer Janik, ubjanik@ptd.net 610-333-1799

Staff Appreciation: Elena DiLello, Dilelloe@gmail.com 610-252-1879

Talent Show: Tricia Gilmore

Ways & Means: Deana Washburn, veana123@rcn.com 610-253-8560 and Rachelle Gibbs, rachelle.m.gibbs@gmail.com 610-253-4551

Website: Annie Ritter, ritter965@gmail.com 610438-3575

Winter Craft Festival: Julie Pektor, cjspektor1@verizon.net 610-838-1722

Yearbook: Shea Bennett, ljshea@aol.com 610-252-8842 and Jennifer Shunk

Uploading Your Images to the Yearbook Website

Log onto the School Annual online website at www.schoolannualonline.com

On that log-on screen you will enter...

User: Staff

Job Year: 2013

Job Number: 776648

Password: PAStaff



It will open you up to the home page

- Click on Create, then
- Click on Image Library
- Click on the ▶ in front of Activity (to open the folders)
- Click on your grade folder or if multi grades click on the snap shots folder.
- Click on Upload
- then, Add Files
 - Select one or many pictures, by holding down the shift button. Once you click on Open your pictures will automatically upload in the folder. Please wait until the uploading is complete and says done. You now can add more pictures or X out if done.
 - **Please remember to LABEL the photos!**

If you have any questions about the website or uploading pictures, please call or e-mail me; Shea Bennett 610-252-8842 or libshea@aol.com. If you have any other questions about the yearbook please call or e-mail Jennifer Shunk at 610-252-1264 or cishunk@rcn.com.

Please upload any images you can, every picture will help.



Thank you to our November PTA Meeting Speaker
Dave Wright
speaking on PSSA results and changes in PSSA's and what the test is used for.

PTA MEETINGS SCHEDULE: All meetings begin at 6:30 pm.

DEC NO MEETING

1/08: OPEN MEETING

2/12: EXECUTIVE BOARD

3/12: OPEN MEETING

4/09: EXECUTIVE BOARD AND BUDGET PLANNING

5/14: OPEN MEETING AND ELECTIONS

At each PTA meeting we have a speaker to share information with us. A different topic is discussed each meeting. Don't miss out on our next topic of discussion...

Young Children and Sports Injury and Concussions.



Hope to see you all at our next meeting!!



Williams Township Elementary School ID # 03417

All you have to do is:

- Log on to www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus to designate our school online
- OR
- Return this form to school with your child and include :

11-digit BONUSCARD # _____ Last Name _____

After you register your card, each shopping trip at Giant using your BONUSCARD earns CASH for our school! **This is different than gas bonus points and you still keep those points for yourself.**

Remember, even if you registered your card last year, you must re-register this year for our school to receive credit. Attending to this simple process makes a HUGE difference to our school. We need your support. **Please be sure to return this completed form to school.**

Also, don't forget to encourage your friends and relatives to register for our school. It could mean the world to our children.

If you do not have internet access and need assistance, call 1-888-448-4642.