



RAMS READER

Williams Township PTA Newsletter

Issue No.3

January 2013

The President's Pen:

No Winter Blues in Williams Township,

We have lots of fun activities to keep both parents and children busy this year! I know our parent volunteers have been going, going, going in 2012 and nothing is about to change in 2013!

Our Parents, Teachers and staff are definitely "in it for the kids"! So, check out the details of all of our events in January, February and even March. We have Jump Rope for Heart, Book Swap, Craft Night, Science Fair and don't forget we are almost to the 100th day of school already!

Please come out and enjoy the many fun activities we have for the children this winter, and if you have an idea for a new event or activity or fundraiser let us know. We are always open to new ideas!

Thank you for all your time and commitment to our school and our children. Have a safe and healthy new year.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Shunk

WTES PTA President

Treasurers Report:

Our Goal for the 2012-2013 school year...

\$20,520.00.



We are remarkably almost halfway to our goal at \$9,100.00.

With the Tricky Tray, Gertrude Hawk, Scrip, Giant A+, Family nights out, and Box Tops we are on pace to make our Goal!

Also a Thank You to all who get their receipts to me in a timely manner, it is appreciated.

If parents don't know how to get info to me all you need to do is send it with your child in an envelope with the following info:

Attn: Dawn Dufal Treasurer
Mr. Reagan's Class



**WE
WANT
YOU!**

Elections will be here before you know it!

If you are interested in becoming a board member or heading a committee please contact Jennifer Shunk 610 252-1264 or 610 730-4666 or jennifershunk@gmail.com.

We welcome new members and new ideas!

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK: Although a constant need...

January, 2013

Although a constant need, at times an open hug to the world is even more pertinent. This is one of those years especially with events that preceded the winter holidays. In that spirit, the students of Williams Township Elementary School have participated in community service projects for the last decade. We learned that sharing with those less fortunate, shows we care about others, and it feels good! Mrs. Dickson, Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. Moser, Mrs. Silfies and the Kids That Care Committee joined with Manraj Matharu, a Wilson High School graduate and current Lehigh University student to conduct a "Cans for Christmas" project. The committee accepted canned goods over the twelve days of Christmas (December 3 to 19, 2012). The response was over whelming, providing special meals for those who seek aide through the Safe Harbor Homeless Shelter of Easton.

We embarked on a new initiative this year. Our teachers, Mrs. Moser, Ms Kimmet, Mrs. Carvis, along with PTA liasons Mrs. Baily and Mrs. Hughes, planned our First Annual Heritage Day. Parent volunteers brought in samples and examples of their family's cultural background to share with our students. All students had the opportunity to visit the exhibits to learn about customs different from their own. The event, which was held on Monday, January 21, 2013 was a great success. Thank you to the individuals who made presentations of their cultural heritage, and all others who helped in numerous ways to make this a very special event. We hope to have increased interest in the future and to host additional presenters.

Third and fourth grade students will be taking the PSSA Writing Field Assessment the first week of February. This assessment will be to test writing items to be used for the PSSA Reading and Language Arts Assessment for 2014. Student scores will not be recorded for this assessment. The same grades will be administered the PSSA Reading and PSSA Math Assessments beginning on April 8, 2013. Fourth grade students will also take the PSSA Science Assessment beginning on April 22, 2013. Student proficiency targets have increased to 89% in Math and 91% in Reading. We have successfully reached the proficiency targets each year since the first tests in 2002. We expect to the same this year, despite the increase. Our teachers do an exceptional job instructing our students and preparing them to take this important measure. Your part is to ensure that your children attend school regularly all year and to provide your children with adequate rest and a good breakfast each day of the testing window.

Enjoy the hopefully short winter season!

Mrs. Dale Ann Brown, Principal WTES



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

RAMS APPAREL SALE

Our Rams Apparel Sale has come to a close, however...

We have inventory of rams vinyl window clings and water bottles available for cash sales for \$6 each. Send an envelope to Mr Reagans class and Cooper will bring it home and return the request the next day or email Tina directly, tinafreeman13@gmail.com

We will also have the inventory cash and carry in the gym on the winter craft night on a first come, first serve basis.



\$672.83

This is our profit from Giant Food stores so far and...

We have 97 designations (or people registered) 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!



Logo for "Winter Carnival" in a blue, stylized font.

A big THANK YOU goes out to everyone who helped our kids have fun the day before their "long winter break"!

On Friday, December 21, each class room had a chance to visit 3 rooms (all staffed by awesome PTA volunteers!). The game room was buzzing with a winter bean bag game, holiday bell games (including a take home penny), basketball and build a snow man contest. Holiday Karaoke was a favorite with DJ Houser and jingle bells. Santa came to visit in the art room where each child received a book (from Santa) and was able to ask him for their holiday wish. Everyone went home with reindeer food that they could put out anytime during their winter break!

Thank you again for all who spent part or all day helping at this event...everyone including the volunteers had a great time!

Logo for "HOLIDAY Bazaar" with "HOLIDAY" in blue block letters and "Bazaar" in a cursive font.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the Holiday Bazaar a success. The students put a great deal of thought into buying the perfect gifts for friends and family. We hope everyone was happy with their efforts!

Learning how to take care of your heart, jumping rope and helping kids with special hearts.



Jump Rope for Heart will be upon us in a few weeks!

Mr. Hannis could use 4-5 volunteers per class. Please contact your child's room parent if you would like to volunteer. If you are available for additional times please contact Cristy Mette at cristymette@yahoo.com. Jump Rope for Heart volunteers help children in gym class with jump rope activities! Clearances are necessary.



WTES Science Spectacular: Sign-Ups Coming Soon!

"Science Fair and Rizzo's Reptiles"

Tuesday, March 5, 2013 from
6:00pm-8:00pm
WTES Gym

Experience a night with our student's
Science Fair projects and Live Animal
Demonstrations!

Rizzo's Reptile Shows at: 6:15pm and 7pm



For Science Fair questions, contact Heather
Fredericks @
[610-258-8697/](tel:610-258-8697)

heather.fredericks@gmail.com or Susan
Bulette @ [610-253-9100/sueb@ptd.net](tel:610-253-9100) .

Check out this website for great ideas:
[http://www.sciencebob.com/sciencefair/
ideas.php](http://www.sciencebob.com/sciencefair/ideas.php)

**(Project Drop-Off Date is
Monday, March 4, 2013 from
5:30-7:00pm)**

SAVE THE DATE...

WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP PTA PRESENTS:

TRICKY TRAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2013



10 AM until 4 PM... drawings start at 4.
You do not need to be present to win!

*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 cjpektor@verizon.net

**OUR LAST ONE WAS A HUGE
SUCCESS!**

Winter Craft Festival



It's that time of year again for the annual
Winter Craft Festival....

Mark your calendars for Tuesday 2/5. It is fun for all ages
(K-4), boys and girls. Everyone should come out and
have fun being creative!!

Keep your eyes open for the flyer with additional
information coming home about a week prior to the event!

Please Contact Julie Pektor if you would like to help with
this event. cjpektor1@verizon.net

PTA FUNDRAISING:

Help out with these ongoing, simple, and fun Fundraisers!

BOX TOPS:

We have earned \$653.80 as of November!!!
Our Goal is \$1000.00, we are sure to reach
and surpass our goal!

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



The Sweetest Sale of the Year... Gertrude Hawk Candy Sale!

Start Date: 2/01/2013

End Date: 2/15/2013



Tentative Pickup date: 3/12/13

Please Contact Rachelle Gibbs with any
questions.

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)

WILLIAMS TOWNSHIP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ID # 03417

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!



Family Night Out

**Bella's Ristorante in
Hellertown**

**Wednesday
February 20th
and
Thursday
February 21st**

**Enjoy a night with your
family and a night off from
cooking while helping out
the PTA!**





**HELP SUPPORT OUR
PTA**

**WHILE WE SUPPORT
YOUR BUSINESS!**

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



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Williams Township Elementary School
2660 Morgan Hill Road, Easton
Phone: 484-373-6170

**Thursday March 14, 2013 from 9:00 a.m.
to 3:00 p.m. &
Friday March 15, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to
3:00 p.m.**

Registration is by appointment

only. Residents living in Williams Township
and Glendon (west of 25th Street Bridge) call
Williams Township Elementary School.

Children entering kindergarten must be 5
years old on or before September 1, 2013.

**Please bring child's birth certificate, copy
of immunization record from doctor and a
valid Proof of Residency. Driver's license is
not an acceptable form for Proof of
Residency.**



It's time to clear off your bookshelves and make room for new reading material. Our annual book swap will be held on February 5th during school hours. Donations of gently used, appropriate material books will be accepted in each classroom January 28th through February 1st only. The swap only works if everyone donates! We appreciate as many books as you would like to donate. Please try to send some books at your child's reading level, otherwise we don't have much selection for the older students. All books that remain after the students choose (and the teachers if they would like) get donated to a local nonprofit organization. Everyone goes home with a new book the day of the swap!



**Get on dancing shoes and get ready to show
your TALENT!**

**Williams Township Talent Show is a go...
A flyer will be sent home soon with the details!**

Quick Tips for Better Photos

Keep heads at top.

It's natural to put people's faces in the middle of the frame, however we end up with wasted space over their head. See more of your subjects by putting their heads near the top instead.



Turn camera vertically.

When taking a photo of one or two people, you can get a more pleasing composition by turning your camera vertically and getting more of your subject in the frame. Be sure to keep their head at the top.



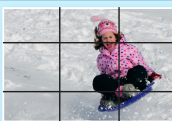
Fill the frame.

By zooming in or getting closer to your subject you can eliminate distracting items in the background, allowing your subject to really jump out of the photo.




Rule of thirds.

One element of great composition that is easy to do is to move your subject slightly off center. Create a more dramatic image by dividing your photo into thirds, and placing your subject where two of these lines intersect.



Fill-Flash.

When photographing people outside set your flash to 'Fill-in' by selecting this symbol . This fires just enough flash to fill-in harsh shadows on faces so your subject is better exposed and easier to see.



Use scene modes.

Your camera likely has a Scene Mode for just about anything you're going to photograph. Shooting in these modes tells the camera what you are trying to accomplish, allowing it to fine tune settings to help you get the best result.



Stop by either store location for free one on one guidance.



Recommended accessories →

Recommended Accessories

Dan's friendly experts will help you choose the right items to improve your photos and your enjoyment of them, no matter where your camera was purchased.

Screen Protector

Keep your screen clean and free of distracting scratches, with soft options for touch-screens and hard covers for standard screens.



HDMI Cable

Your photos & videos will look stunning on your HDTV. This inexpensive cable allows you to share your memories in the convenience of the family room.



Spare Battery

Always be ready with a spare charged battery. Capture every moment by having a spare handy in your bag.



Lens Hood

Like shielding your eyes from the sun, lens hoods help to reduce glare and provide richer colors.



Filters

From protecting your lenses, to filtering UV rays, you'll be amazed at the difference you will see in your photos after using one.



Flash

Professional looking flash photos are easy with an external flash. With more power, and best of all, softer light these make a substantial difference in your photos.





Dan's Photo University

Whether you want to learn all the ins and outs of your camera or how to shoot in various situations, Dan's has the perfect class for you. We have over 30 classes to choose from and the area's best instructors to guide you in capturing better family memories or taking your hobby further.



Learn more and register online at danscamera.com/dpu

Need something else?

-  = Recommended for Point & Shoot
-  = Recommended for SLR

Allentown Location

610.434.2313

M & Th 10-8; T, W, F 10-6; Sat 9:30-4
1 Block South of Rt 22 at 15th St
1439 W Fairmont St
Allentown, PA 18102



Easton Location

610.829.2313

M, Th, F 10-8; T & W 10-6; Sat 9:30-5
Routes 33 & 248 - Next to Wawa
3812 Easton Nazareth Hwy
Easton, PA 18045

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!!

A HUGE THANK YOU TO MIKE WOODLAND, CO-OWNER OF DAN'S CAMERA CITY, FOR AN AWESOME PRESENTATION AS OUR SPEAKER AT OUR LAST PTA MEETING! WE HAD A GREAT TURN OUT FOR A JANUARY MEETING!

PLEASE SEE ABOVE FOR SOME GREAT TIPS AND INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DAN'S CAMERA CITY.

PTA MEETINGS SCHEDULE: All meetings begin at 6:30 pm.
2/12: EXECUTIVE BOARD
3/12: OPEN MEETING
4/09: EXECUTIVE BOARD AND BUDGET PLANNING
5/14: OPEN MEETING AND ELECTIONS



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.