

Red Mill PTA

Happy Halloween
Newsletter

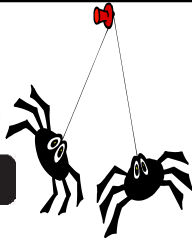
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Red Mill Elementary School

PTA
everychild.onevoice.®

President's Note



Dear Red Mill Families,

Fall weather seems to be approaching and I hope you and your family took the time to enjoy the last of the warmer temperatures before they left. Our school year is off to a smooth start thanks to our wonderful volunteers and our highly motivated Volunteer Coordinator, **Teresa Carver**, who makes every event possible at RMES. In addition to her already demanding job, she also took the time to organize **Pastries for Parents**. Thanks to all the parents and grandparents that came to enjoy some time with their family and to all the volunteers that provided juice and created such a warm and inviting atmosphere. (I'm sure the staff appreciated the students' sugar fluctuations!!)

Congratulations to all members! We have received 100% membership (based on last year's numbers). Due to your timely response in joining the PTA, we are eligible to receive several PTA state awards, including the **Cardinal Award** (for reaching at least 75% of total membership by Dec. 1st) and the **100% Membership Award** (for reaching 100% members based on last year's enrollment). **Donna Valdepena** (3rd VP) has done a tremendous job entering nearly **700 members** into the National PTA's online database and distributing membership cards & legislation ballots. (Please don't forget to return your ballots by this Friday so your voice can advocate for a child). Please keep in mind that it's never too late to join our PTA; membership is ongoing! We are in hopes of achieving another award (**The President's Challenge**) for this year. We are only **43** members away! We will be eligible for this award if we receive enough members to represent our current enrollment. Please consider having a relative join our PTA.

The board is very grateful to three other PTA Chairpersons (**Darlene Kwiatkowski**, **Cheri Seery**, and **Lori Granger**). **Darlene** has been fast on her feet with reading logs for Summer Reading, **Cheri** has been pushing through mountains of fundraising paperwork, and **Lori Granger** has been diligently organizing the **Reflections Program**. Please make sure to read the Reflections article and get student entries in on time so they can be eligible for judging in this national PTA program. **The PTA is celebrating its 40th year with Reflections!**

As always, please don't hesitate to call if you have questions.

A personal "Thank you" to all the board members and additionally to the volunteers working behind the scenes. The work you do is priceless and the children shine because of your heart and commitment!

Terri Wernick, PTA President
748-5811, RedMillPTA@aol.com

Calendar Corner

- Oct. 1, 15, 29 Decorated Dolphins
- Oct. 16 Legislation Deadline
- Oct. 19 - Nov. 9 Virginia Diner Sales
- Oct. 19 & 20 Reflections Drop off-
7:30-8:15 AM
- Oct. 22 Summer Reading Assembly
- Nov. 1 Daylight Savings Ends
- Nov. 2 - Dec 18 Coats for Kids
- Nov. 3 Election Day - Go Vote!!
- Nov. 4 PTA Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- Nov. 12 - 24 Spirit of Giving
- Nov. 13 Turkey BINGO / PTA Gen.
Meeting at **Ocean Lakes HS**
- Nov. 26 & 27 Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 12 Santa's Workshop 8AM -1PM

Silent Auction

This year's Silent Auction is scheduled on **December 12th** and it is sure to be a great event! We already have some terrific items donated by local businesses. We are sure you won't want to miss the opportunity to take some of these great items home! To make this a more successful auction, we would like to ask our Red Mill Families to consider donating a service item (i.e. lawn service, hair styling etc.) or a new or unused gift item. By doing so, you are helping with many PTA programs and RMES student enrichment. Don't forget that all business donations are **100% tax deductible**. With your help the event will surely be a success! Please contact me if you are able to donate or have any questions.

Margaret Osipovs,
Silent Auction Chairperson, 754-0885
Kristin Benderoth & Nicole Andre

Craft Show

Attention Craft Vendors!!!! We invite you to be a part of our 9th Annual Santa's Workshop and Craft Show on **December 12th** from **8 AM until 1 PM** in our school's gym. Only 50 spaces are available on a first come, first serve basis. Registration forms are available on Red Mill's website under the PTA link or by contacting the chairperson below. Spaces (6 foot wide by 8 foot deep) can be reserved with a \$30 donation and we can provide a table for an extra \$10 donation.

We hope all Red Mill families and friends will visit the craft show at this year's Santa's Workshop. We will have a variety of items for sale including: jewelry, wooden creations, NFL and college items, lighted glass bottles, natural hot/cold packs, knitted blankets, and many, many more!!! Don't fight the crowds at the malls---get all your Christmas shopping done in one place!

Kathy Cannon, Craft Show Chair,
426-6628, KCannon836@aol.com

1860 Sandbridge Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Principal: **Dr. Steven Scarcelli**
President: **Terri Wernick**
Editor: **Kathy Cannon**

Fundraising

Fall Fundraising is Underway! Remember to send in your "Stress Free" donations and Entertainment Book orders. The deadline for these fundraisers is **October 13th**. If you do not wish to purchase the demo book that was sent home, it needs to be returned to school. Information on our **Virginia Diner** fundraiser will be coming home on **October 20th**. Remember, if we raise enough money with these fundraisers, we will be finished for the year. If each student raises just \$20 for the school, we will meet our goal. This can be accomplished by a direct donation, selling two books, or purchasing \$50 worth of products from The Virginia Diner. Thanks for your support!

Cheri Seery, 2nd VP Fundraising
426-0063, cheriseery@cox.net

Reflections

"Reflections" is an annual, National PTA Arts in Education program, offering students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. The Red Mill PTA is sponsoring this year's program and the theme is **"Beauty is..."**. The categories are literature, musical composition, photography, visual arts, dance choreography, and film/video production. Students may enter as many categories and as many times as they wish. Please contact me if you are interested in participating but need help with ideas or rules. My schedule is flexible and I would love to help. All participants will receive recognition.

Reflections drop off dates are **October 19th & 20th** from **7:30-8:15 AM**.
The deadline for all entries will be October 20, 2009.

Lori Granger, Reflections Chair
453-6759, redteam@frostyscorner.com

New PTA Officers

Congratulations to the following officers for their newly elected positions. Both of these spectacular volunteers have been working all summer to prepare for the success of both of their committees.

Cheri Seery: PTA 2nd Vice President
(Ways and Means/Fundraising)
Donna Valdepena: PTA 3rd Vice
President (Membership)

The Red Mill PTA Board



Decorated Dolphins

Have you ever wondered what it means to be a decorated dolphin? This PTA sponsored program is an opportunity to recognize students for being the best they can be! Approximately every two weeks, each teacher selects a couple of students to be honored for their good behavior, helpfulness to other students and teachers, and for following the rules. In essence, it is a Good Citizenship Award. Students are chosen that morning to attend a recognition ceremony with Dr. Scarcelli. Let's all congratulate the **September's Decorated Dolphins!**

Thanks to **Cathy Patullo and Brigitte Carpenter** for their continued assistance.

Cindy Rebeck, Decorated Dolphins
cjrnb@aol.com

Preschool:

Jack Matthews

Kindergarten:

Sadie DesRoches, Alex Page, Lucas Barakey, Jack DesRoches, Max Kuhle, Addie Oehlerich, Ava Giese, and Rebecca Sun

1st Grade:

Shane Collier, Ryssa Malibrán, Maddie Gray, Meadow Gallant, Luis Park, Nate Page, Lauren Husing, Nicholas Edmonds, Connor Hale, and Madysen Edington.

2nd Grade:

Nicole Anthony, Brittan Kirkland, Chris Luke, Brooke Cannon, Madi Briller, Ally Bastable, Collin Morris, Kevin Stevens, Bryson Spell, and Felice Brown-Powell.

3rd Grade:

Gabbie Ferran, Eddy Gekosky, Grace Kleppe, Shawn Hamilton, Simone Fromen, Jared Stauffer, Tommy Sekerak, Timmy Sekerak, Cameron Miller, and Emma Kate Smith.

4th Grade:

Sarah Collier, Leaha Shinn, Madison Stearns, Jared Tapper, Caitlynn Olah, Nicole Del Duca, Ryan Kearney, Michael Pellegrino, Leonard Park, and Owen Mohrman.

5th Grade:

Nick Barnas, Bailli Boyd, Ashley Wadsworth, Nick Eason, Aubrianna Williams, Ben Berg, Salma Ledezma, Trevor Seim, Kelly Wiegand, Nathan Clements, Savannah Marshall, and Nathaniel Gilbert

Coats for Kids

Have you noticed the weather getting chillier? Do the winter coats from last year no longer fit your children? If so, PLEASE consider donating these coats to the "Coats for Kids" campaign!

WAVY TV 10 is once again sponsoring this program. Coats are collected all over the Tidewater area, cleaned and then given to local children in need. Last year Wavy TV collected **19,850** coats!

Monday, **November 2nd** through Friday, **Dec. 18th** there will be a drop-off box in the school's foyer for any gently used or new coats you'd like to donate. Thank you for your generosity in keeping a child warm!

Maureen Sidbury,
Health/Safety/Welfare Chairperson
4sidburys@cox.net

Summer Reading

212 students participated in the PTA summer reading program, a **40% increase** from 2008! Congratulations to those students who read regularly this summer! Awards will be presented to students in their classrooms the morning of **October 22nd**. All Participating students will be invited to an assembly afterward.

Darlene Kwiatkowski, Summer Reading
cowski@verizon.net

Spirit of Giving

During this month of "Thanksgiving", when we take time to reflect on the things we are most thankful for, let us also take time to bring some cheer to some of our Red Mill families who may need a little assistance this holiday season. Thursday, **November 12th** through Tuesday, **November 24th**, our annual "Spirit of Giving" tree will be on display in the foyer outside of the cafeteria. Donations will be collected during lunch. When a donation is made, the student (or adult) will write his/her name on an ornament and display it on the tree. With each additional \$.25, he/she will receive a star to place on their ornament. All funds donated will benefit some of our Red Mill families in need! This is a very special way Red Mill students can help make a difference during the holidays!

Maureen Sidbury,
Health/Safety/Welfare Chairperson
4Sidburys@cox.net

Volunteer Corner

Our fabulous volunteers are already off and running! During the month of September, over 100 volunteers cumulatively donated 1,087 hours of their time (and energy) to our children, teachers, and school.

This month, please join me in congratulating **Margaret Bain** and **Lynn Lutz** – **September's Volunteers of the Month!** **Margaret** has been an active volunteer at Red Mill for many years, and chairs the School Tuesday Folder Program. Her son, Chris, is a 6th grader at PA Middle, and her daughter, Melissa, is in Mrs. Cappello's 3rd grade class. In September alone, Margaret donated an overwhelming 61 hours of her time! **Lynn** came to Red Mill only two years ago, but didn't hesitate to begin volunteering. During the month of September, Lynn spent a whopping 29 hours helping to keep our lunch hours running smoothly! Lynn's son, Connor, is in Ms. Hare's 2nd grade class, and she has an active preschooler at home.

Looking for a rewarding way to donate some of your time? We are still actively seeking **PREP** volunteers. If you are interested in this program, or if you have any questions pertaining to it, please contact the PTA PREP chairperson, **Melissa Gunter**, at **630-9821** or by email at, **Melissa@thegunter4.com**.

Thank you all for everything that you do to make Red Mill the very best!

Teresa Carver, Volunteer Coordinator
RMESVolunteer1@aol.com

Bingo Night

Bring the whole family out for a night of fun at Red Mill PTA's **Turkey Bingo** on Friday, **November 13th**. Bingo starts promptly at **7:00 PM** at **Ocean Lakes High School** in the Cafeteria. There are lots of prizes to win! There is no cost to play bingo; however, refreshments and drinks will be sold throughout the evening. Pre-bingo dinner pizzas will be available at 6:30 PM and will be with prepaid orders only. Look for order forms coming home in the Tuesday Folders.

Liz Piskin, Bingo Chairperson
Lpiskin@hotmail.com

Corporate Programs

Thank you for clipping and sending in labels, receipts, box tops and bags last year! We had a very successful year and this is what your efforts reaped for our students: **BoxTops 4 Education: \$1,572.10**, **Campbell's Labels: Banked 11,672 points** (which will help support Art, Library, PE, and/or Technology), **DirectTV: \$150.00**, **Farm Fresh Receipts** totaling **\$55,000** in points (supported P.E. and Art), **Food Lion: \$1,129.74**, **Office Depot: \$767.15**, **Target Red Card: \$394.61** and **Harris Teeter: \$1,016.58** (we took 3rd place last fall and won \$250 and took 2nd place last spring and won \$500 for collecting plastic bags.)

A flyer was sent home in your child's open house packet detailing all the programs that we will be participating with this year (this flyer is also available in the front office): **BoxTops 4 Education**, **Campbell's UPC and Caps**, **DIRECTV**, **Farm Fresh receipts**, **Food Lion MVP card**, **GoodSearch**, **Harris Teeter VIP card**, **Office Depot**, **Target Red Card**, **Tyson Project A+**, and the **Verizon Velocity** program. We are looking at adding a few more programs. Detailed flyers will be coming home during the coming months.

Melissa Haggerty, Corporate Programs
635-2456, ctrtls@cox.net

Membership

Our PTA Membership drive has reached 100% of last year's enrollment. In order for us to reach 100% with our new **2009-2010** enrollment numbers, we must keep aiming for our goal. In support of our mission, "Every Child, One Voice" – it is our goal to have an adult sponsor for each child. Therefore, if you have 3 children at RMES, we'd like 3 adults to join...even out-of-state, adult relatives can be members! Additionally, if possible, please consider sponsoring a child less fortunate by including an additional membership. If you haven't had a chance to join, it is not too late...it's never too late! You can help us reach our goal! Simply fill out a membership form, enclose your **\$5.00 (per adult)** payment and return it to the school. Additional membership forms are available in the foyer and on the school website (link to PTA). Congratulations to **Kathy VanGundy** and **Jamie Lee**. They each won a \$25 Target gift card in our Membership Door Prize drawing.

Donna Valdepena, 3rd VP Membership
301-9824, Donnareetx@hotmail.com

Tuesday Folders

No more worrying about lost checks, information, or wrinkled pictures! The School Tuesday Folders were specifically designed to help secure all those important papers and keep everyone informed of school and PTA events. **PLEASE do not use them for classroom work, assignments, front office or teacher correspondences.** The eldest child in each family will bring their folder home every Tuesday that school is opened and should be returned no later than Thursday that same week. If your family hasn't been receiving a folder, please contact one of us immediately.

Margaret Bain, Tuesday Folder Chair
mabain40@yahoo.com
Heather Forbes, Hmforbes7@yahoo.com
Casey Welsh, Caseymwelsh@gmail.com