

PAW PRINTS

CLOVERLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA NEWSLETTER
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May 2009

Volume 20, Issue 9



From the PTA President

It may seem as if this monthly note is a bit short and sweet, but it is because newsletter space is very valuable this month...due to all of the exciting upcoming events we have from now until the end of the school year! So here are the highlights...

Many thanks go to the Variety Show Committee for their fantastic production! Kudos also to volunteers for Kindergarten Orientation, lunch duty during the Special Elections, and the many other events and programs that flourished in April.

Please note that there will be a **Fundraising Meeting** for the upcoming school year on Monday, May 18th at 9:30am in the Staff Lounge. If you are interested in providing input on Fundraisers for 2009-10 but are unable to make the meeting, be sure to provide feedback to be utilized at the meeting by emailing me or submitting a Green Box response at our general PTA meeting.

And finally, **VOLUNTEER!** With the 5K Walk/Run, the Finish Line Fair and Auction, the Spring Plant Sale, the Science Fair, and a host of other activities coming up, we are very much in need of assistance from anyone and everyone to make our scheduled events a success. Not sure what you might like to participate in? Please contact me at 301-384-4710 / kbillok@yahoo.com with your schedule and interests and we will find the perfect fit for you!

All the best,

Kimberlee Billok

May Calendar of Events



May 4 & 5	5 th Grade Science MSA Testing	
May 4-8	Staff Appreciation Week	
May 5	Author Visit-Ginger & Frances Park	
	PTA Meeting	7:00pm
May 8	First Grade Mother's Day Celebration	
	Spring Plant Sale Pick-up	2:30-6:00pm
May 13	Cultural Arts – Ball in the House	K-2 nd 9:15am 3 rd - 5 th 10:15 am
May 11-17	Children's Book Week	
May 14	Science Fair	
May 18	2009-10 Fundraising Meeting	9:30am
May 19	Special General Election	
	Volunteer Tea	3:30-4:30pm
May 20	Field Day K – 2 nd	
	5 th Grade Panoramic Picture	11:30am
May 21	5 th Grade Living Wax Museum	1:30-2:50pm
May 25	NO SCHOOL – Memorial Day	
May 26	Family Reading Night	7:00-8:00pm
May 19-29	4 th Grade Poet in Residence	

PTA General Membership
 Meeting Dates
 Tuesday's at 7:00 PM

September 2nd

October 7th

November 5th **

December 2nd

January 6th

February 3rd

March 3rd

April 1st**

May 5th

June 9th

**Wednesday Meeting

Special Interest



Many thanks go to Cloverly parent Matt Pack of Terra Gardens for generously supplying the merchandise for our Spring Plant Sale. Support the PTA and local business by making your purchase today!

800 Briggs Chaney Road
 Silver Spring, MD 20905
 (301) 989-5770

From the Principal

Dear Cloverly Families,

Happy Month of May! And, happy Mother's Day to all of our wonderful mothers. A HUGE thanks to all of you for sending your children to us each day excited about Cloverly and ready to learn. We thank you for sharing your "pride and joy" with us each and every day.

We have completed our two weeks of MSA testing for grades 3-5 and GT Global Screening and TN/2 for grade 2. I was very impressed with how well the testing went during these weeks. Thanks for sending your children to school with a positive attitude and the perseverance to do their best! Science MSA for our 5th graders will be taking place May 4-5th.

I would like to thank all of the parents (Mrs. Ann Johnson, Mrs. Karen Franklin, Mrs. Susan Quinn, Mrs. Diane Tregoning, Mrs. Lori Sciannella, Mrs. Robin Boyer, and Mrs. Ana DeBonis) who participated in Kindergarten Orientation. Our 60+ children and their families commented on the hospitality of our staff and parents. Additional packets are available in the front office for those parents who could not attend.

Our *Lost and Found* is full and overflowing. If your child is missing any clothing items, it's likely that it is in our *Lost and Found*. If clothing items aren't picked up by Friday, May 29th, they will be donated to a local charity.

April Showers bring May Flowers and many more activities as we draw close to the end of the school year. Parents, please be on the lookout for written correspondence that helps us plan and prepare for the 2009-10 school year. *Return to Cloverly* and *Class Placement Parent/Guardian Input* are two important communications that have gone home to parents and should be returned to your child's teacher as soon as possible. Additional forms are in the main office. Additional information will be coming by way of grade-level newsletters.

As the school year draws to a close and as the weather gets warmer, I am asking that you continue to encourage your children to complete their homework, projects, and class assignments. Encourage positive interactions with peers and continued adherence to school rules in all settings, including the bus. We must continue to work in partnership – parents and school staff – to ensure the momentum of our students until the last day of school.

We also welcome Jenn Potter, Cloverly's on-site director of the before/aftercare provider Kidsco. If you are interested in applying or need any additional information about Kidsco, you may call them directly at 301.740.9600.

Sincerely,

Ms. Melissa Brunson
Principal

2009 Cloverly Science Fair

The Annual Cloverly Science Fair is just around the corner. Students received information about the event prior to Spring Break. The goal of the Science Fair is to get as many students involved in science as possible.

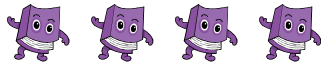
The Science Fair will take place on Thursday, May 14th in the All Purpose Room at Cloverly. Projects will be on display for the students during the school day on May 14th. Parents, students and friends are welcome to view the projects on Friday evening, May 14th from 6:30pm until 8:00pm.

If your student is interested in doing a project but has not submitted a sign-up form, please contact Mary Goodenough (PTA Science Fair Coordinator) at (301) 879-9395 or at mary_goodenough@merck.com.

Volunteers are still needed for the Science Fair. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Mary Goodenough. Thank you for supporting the Cloverly Science Fair!

Exciting Children's Book Week News

Children's Book Week has traditionally been celebrated the week before Thanksgiving. However, after the 2007 celebration, **Children's Book Week** is now held the **week of May 11-17, 2009**. It is an annual event that began in 1919 to promote the love of reading and children's literature. In 1944, the [Children's Book Council](#) was established, and it has administered the celebration ever since. During Children's Book Week, public libraries, school libraries, and bookstores generally have special activities for children that are designed to encourage a love of books.



Cloverly will recognize Children's Book Week by hosting the **Annual Cloverly Book Swap!** Students will be allowed to bring in 1-3 gently used books from their personal home library that they no longer want to keep. During their media time that week, students will be allowed to "swap" for another gently used book (s). Any books left over will be donated to the spring fair book cart. It's a fun and inexpensive way for students to acquire more reading material. Questions? Please contact Media Specialist Valerie Boyd for more information.

The Cloverly 5K Run/Walk Committee Needs Your Help!

The excitement is building for our upcoming event, but we are still in dire need of volunteers to assist with the 5K Run/Walk. Some of the help we need includes:

- *registration organization and other administrative tasks
- *material prep for distribution the day of the race
- *check-in table assistance
- *help along the race route
- *assistance with the final lap of the Cloverly Cubs Marathon

If you or anyone you know would like to become involved, please contact Anthony Chadwick at 301-384-8477 / healthy_anthony@gmail.com. Most opportunities are flexible and are not time-consuming. We look forward to hearing from you!

PTA Meeting Childcare

To reserve a space for your child for childcare for this month's meeting, please contact Teresa Wellens at 301-384-1123 / tawellens@verizon.net by 7pm the evening before the meeting, so that there are enough caregivers on hand for the children present. Questions? Feel free to contact Teresa for more information.

Instrumental Music News

The Spring Instrumental Music Concert will be held on Tuesday, June 2nd at 7pm. If you have a student in the Instrumental Music Program, please put that date on your calendar and make arrangements to be here for a great evening of music. The daytime concert for the school will be at 10am that same day. The end of the year instrumental music picnics will be on June 3rd for 5th grade and June 10th for 4th graders from 12:00 -1:00pm in the Cloverly Park. I can always use parent help for these picnics. The students will not need their instruments at school after the concert on the 2nd so please return school owned instruments that night and keep student owned/rented instruments at home for the remainder of the school year.

I wish good luck to the 5th grades moving on to middle school and hope to see all the 4th graders back in Instrumental Music next year.
-Tammy Ripley

Family Reading Night Is Coming Soon!

When: Tuesday, May 26th
7:00-8:00pm

Where: Cloverly Elementary

Hosted by: School Staff and PTA



Last week, students received information concerning the Family Cereal Box Book Reports and our exciting upcoming event, Family Reading Night. We are so excited to see these family projects and to have everyone join us on the 26th! Remember, the Family Book Reports are due on May 15th and will be on display from May 18-26th. Questions concerning Reading Night or interested in volunteering to help with the event? Please contact Kim Billok at 301-384-4710 / kbilok@yahoo.com for more information.

Staff Appreciation Week is Right Around the Corner!!

Staff Appreciation Week is **Monday through Friday, May 4 – 8**. The PTA Appreciation Committee is full of ideas about how to make the week special for our hard working staff. We are planning a breakfast and lunch for two of the days – would you like to contribute a breakfast item or provide a dessert to serve after their catered lunch? Please contact Taryn Potts at [Tand- JPotts@aol.com](mailto:JPotts@aol.com) (or 301.879.7894) to volunteer. Perhaps you are not a chef but would like to help the day of the event...that would be *wonderful* too!!

Also, there will be a General Election on Tuesday, May 19th. In the case of a Special Election, our children eat in their classrooms with their teacher. We are looking for volunteers to cover the classrooms for the 30-minute lunch period so our staff can have that time to regroup, make copies or eat lunch. We are looking for volunteers from 11:30am to 1:00pm; this coverage would not include recess as that is handled by our fabulous Recess Aides. You can contact me at the above email to volunteer. First callers get to cover their child's class!!

Also, aside from our PTA events, Staff Appreciation Week is a great time for you to do a little something special for a staff member (or two!)...a small treat or a note of thanks would be *so appreciated*. Please take a moment to say "thanks."

Don't forget to contact us with what you'd like to do to be part of this wonderful week!!

Auction Update

You should have recently received a bright orange reminder notice asking whether you'd like to make a donation to this year's auction, to be held on Sunday, June 7. Please return the form by Friday, May 8th, to let us know what you'd like to contribute. If you'd like, you may drop off auction items at the Cloverly Park pavilion after school on Friday, May 8th, from 2:30-6pm, at the Cloverly Plant Sale pick-up. (Only new, unused items, please!) To make alternate pick-up arrangements for auction items, please contact Jenn Gruber at 301-879-6928 or jenngruber@msn.com. See you at the Finish Line!

Cloverly Author Visits

Thanks to the generous support of our PTA, Cloverly students have been able to take advantage of wonderful author presentations this school year. Visiting authors talk to students about the writing process, and encourage them to write stories of their own.

May 5th, sister authors Ginger and Frances Park will hold presentations for all grade levels. They live in the Washington, D.C. area, and own a popular boutique, Chocolate Chocolate. They co-authored the books, [My Freedom Trip](#), [The Royal Bee](#), [Goodbye, 382 Shin Dang Dong](#), [The Have a Good Day Café](#), and [Where On Earth is My Bagel?](#)

Mike Knudson spoke with students in grades 3-5 in February. His presentation kept the students engaged. He explained how he came up with the ideas for his two very humorous books, [Raymond and Graham and the Dancing Dudes](#), and [Raymond and Graham Rule the School](#).

Author and Cloverly grandparent, Joyce Simard, volunteered to speak with Mr. Gravell's 4th grade class (her grandson, Sean Sarvi is in Mr. Gravell's class) and Mrs. McGurl and Mrs. Garner's second grade classes about her book, [The Magic Tape Recorder](#). It is a children's book about having a grandparent with Alzheimer's disease. Her wonderful presentation helped students understand how Alzheimer's disease affects families.

Books by all three authors were purchased for our school library. Thanks for your support, PTA!



Spring Courtyard Clean-Up!

As the flowers are starting to bloom, so are the weeds in our beautiful Cloverly Courtyard! Join us on Sunday, May 31st from 9am - noon in the courtyard to pull out weeds, mulch and beautify the courtyard for our special events that close out the school year. Please bring gloves, gardening tools and your family! (Note: Sunday mornings are chosen primarily because of school accessibility.) For questions, contact Susan Kirk at 301-879-5059 or susan_kirk88@yahoo.com.

This Month's Green Box Issue Is...

What suggestions do you have concerning fundraisers for the upcoming school year?

We look forward to your written thoughts on this issue at our monthly PTA meeting. If you are not able to attend the meeting but would like to participate, please e-mail your response to kbil-lok@yahoo.com.

Attention: The Spring Plant Sale deadline has been extended to Tuesday, May 5th. Additional order forms are available by the Main Office, and be sure to check out the gorgeous hanging baskets on display at the school. Order yours today!!

2009 20th Annual African American Festival of Academic Excellence

The African American Festival of Academic Excellence is a program to promote and acknowledge the educational achievements of African American students. One of the program's primary objectives is to encourage and assist African American students to strive for academic excellence. Elementary students in grades 3 and above must have a combined grade average of B or above in Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies for the first and second grading periods of the 2008-09 school year. The festival will be held on Saturday, May 23rd from 9:00am – 12:00 noon, in the Comcast Center in College Park. The public is invited to attend. Cloverly congratulates the following honorees on their academic achievements:

**Students names are not published in our
online version of the newsletter.**

Submitted by Valerie Boyd, Media Specialist

The Used Book Sale Needs Your Donations!

The Cloverly Used Book Sale, which will be held during the Finish Line Fair and Auction on Sunday, June 7th, is now collecting donations of used books and DVDs. If you would like to make a donation, please bring your items to the main office at school. If you have questions concerning the sale, please contact Laura Wellen at 301-989-5770 / Laura_P_Wellen@mcpsmd.org



Don't Miss All the Fun and Excitement...THE 2009 CLOVERLY RUN/WALK AND FINISH LINE FAIR AND AUCTION!

Sunday, June 7th Run/Walk: 8:30am-12pm Fair and Silent Auction: 12-4pm

First-Ever 5K Run/Walk...Fantastic Silent Auction Bargains...Awesome DJ...Used Book Sale... Cloverly Marathon Final Lap...Priceless Teacher/Staff Donations...New and Exciting Moon-bounces...Carnival Games and Prizes...Fabulous Performances...and much, much more!

Many thanks to the following individuals and businesses who have made contributions to this year's Silent Auction:

AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center * American Visionary Art Museum * Andy's Liquors * Annapolis Symphony Orchestra * Arthur Murray Dance Center * As Kindred Spirits * Aspen Hill Club * Audobon Naturalist Society * Babe Ruth Birthplace & Museum * Baltimore Ravens * bd's Mongolian Barbeque * Berkeley Plantation * Berrywine Plantation/ Linganore Wine Cellars * Beth Maroles * Bike the Sites * Brunswick Columbia Lanes * Betty Jo Gemmill * Blockbuster, Inc. * Blueberry Gardens Yoga * Bossie Family * Bowl America * Bowl America Gaithersburg * Bundles of Cookies * Butler's Orchard * California Tortilla * Calvert Marine Museum * Capitol Steps * Carol Elliott * Carolyn Northrup * Cartoon Cuts * Catch Can * Catoctin Wildlife Preserve and Zoo * Chen Family * Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum * Cindy Zarchin * Cinthea Thurman * Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at Maryland * College Park Aviation Museum * Color Me Mine * Crayola Factory * CREATE Arts Center * Creative Cakes * David Bogart * David Cline * Della Latta * Disney Worldwide Outreach * El Andareigo Restaurant * Erin Kinnear * Fairway Hills and Hobbit's Glen Golf Club * Fire Museum of Md. * Flagship Carwash Center * Gardens Ice House * Giffords Ice Cream * Gold's Gym - SS/White Oak * Goodenough Family * Hair Cuttery * Hard Times Café * Highlights for Children * Hills Gymnastics * Hillwood Museum & Gardens * Inn at Hendersons Wharf * Insectarium * Janet Lopez * Jennifer Grey * Jennifer Kalita * Jessica Prorok * Joan Davis * John Vigna * Johnson's Florist & Garden Centers * Joy of Motion * Karen O'Brien & Family * Kings Dominion * Kristin Brooks * Kristy Delikat * Land of Little Horses Farm Park * Landmark Theatres * Laura Wel-len * Lisa Soule-Richters * Little Gym * Lori Rabberman * Luray Caverns * Madame Tussauds Washington DC * Mamma Lucia Restaurants * Maneth Gravell * Marrakesh Restaurant * Maryann Miller * Maryland Historical Society * Maryland Science Center * Maryland Youth Ballet * Melissa Brunson * Michelle Lehmkuhl * Miriam Goldstein * Montgomery County Historical Society * Montgomery County Revenue Authority / Hampshire Greens Golf Course * Mt. Vernon Ladies Association of the Union * Musical Theater Center * Mykonos Grill * National Aquarium * National Museum of Dentistry * National Wildlife Federation * Nicole McGurl * Old Pro Gold * Original Pancake House * Panera Bread * Pearl Spa * Penn Camera Exchange * Pepino's Trattoria Italiano * Phoenix * PlayWise Kids * Potomac Riverboat Company * Pump it Up * Puppet Co. * Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania * Reddemeade Equestrian Center * Red Hot & Blue * Rehoboth Beach-Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce * Rita's Water Ice * River Riders, Inc. * Rivermist Kennels Inc. * Robin Shaffer * Silver Diner * Sam Marvis * Second Story Books * Shadowland Columbia * Ski Roundtop * Skyline Caverns * Smithsonian Theaters * Southwest Airlines * Stadler Nurseries * Strathmore Hall Foundation, Inc. * Talk of the Town * Tammy Ripley * Timothy Swain * Toby's - The Dinner Theatre of Columbia * Today's Image Salon * Top of the World Observation Level * Tregoning Family * Two Tomatoes Records, LLC * University of Maryland * USS Constellation Museum * Valerie Boyd * Valorie Burgess * Verizon Wireless Cloverly * VisArts * Washington International Horse Show * Watermark Cruises * Western Md. Scenic Railroad * Wheaton Studio of Dance * Willow Street Yoga Center * Wintergreen Resort * Woodlawn Plantation * Woolly Mammoth Company * XP LaserSport *

We also thank the following 5K Run supporters: Army Ten-Miler Organization, Century 21 Trademark Realty Inc., Godwin Motors, Inc., and Platinum Tees

Paw Prints is a monthly publication of the Cloverly Elementary School PTA. **Submission must be received by**

the 20th of each month. Submissions should be emailed to the Newsletter Committee at newsletter@cloverlypta.com.



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER REQUEST

Interested in receiving the newsletter electronically? Please contact kbillok@yahoo.com with your request.