

# PAW PRINTS

CLOVERLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA NEWSLETTER  
WWW3.MCPS.K12.MD.US/SCHOOLS/CLOVERLYES  
WWW.CLOVERLYPTA.COM

October 2009

Volume 21, Issue 2

## From the PTA President

### Happy Fall!



It is hard to believe that in just a few short weeks the leaves will begin to change color and the autumn season will be in full swing! Kicking off our fall season/new school year was the **PTA Family Movie Night**, held on September 11<sup>th</sup>, and although the weather moved us from the playground to the all-purpose room, a wonderful time was had by all, especially since even though we were inside, we were able to use our newly-purchased inflatable movie screen for the first time! Thanks so much to the Family Programs Committee for such a great event.

Also, I have been so impressed this past month with the new volunteers that have gotten in touch with Susan Quinn, Jill Wingard, Erin Jacobs and I to offer their services in support of our school community. One new program I would like to highlight that really exemplifies this new involvement is the **After School Science Club**. Mr. David Bogart, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, was so generous with his time last year when he facilitated an after school science opportunity for a group of interested students, and now he, Ms. Linda Lawrence, and Ms. Wendy Gill have developed a program that is open to students from Kindergarten up through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Sometimes we forget about the "Teacher" part of PTA, and it is really important to note that not only are there teachers like these who are putting in extra time and effort to provide our children with enriching activities in conjunction with PTA, but historically every teacher at Cloverly Elementary joins PTA annually and enthusiastically responds whenever we have a request for assistance. In addition, when the call went out to parents and families for volunteers to assist these teachers with the club, several individuals, many of them new to involvement, committed their time and energy to make this program happen, helping to provide an affordable after school opportunity for all of our students to take advantage of. To me, this is the type of partnership that makes PTA a success in our school!

And with that, I wish you lots of warm apple cider and the cool autumn nights this month...once again, Happy Fall!

All the best,

Kimberlee Billok

## October Calendar of Events

October 2	Early Release	12:35 p.m.
October 5, 8, 15	Cultural Arts Showcases	9—2:30 p.m.
October 6	PTA Meeting	7:00 p.m.
October 9	Individual Pictures	
October 12, 27	HGC Parent Info Mtgs	7:00 p.m.
October 14	Academic Night	
	PEP	5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
	K – 2 <sup>nd</sup>	7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
October 16	NO SCHOOL	
October 21	Academic Night	
	Autism	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
October 30	Halloween Parade, Parties	1:30 p.m., 2:00 – 2:50 p.m.



### Please Note:


If you have registered 2 or more people for the PTA this year and have not received your free car magnet, they are available in the front office.


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


---

# From the Principal

Dear Cloverly Families:

 It was a delight to meet and greet all of the new and returning Cloverly families at *Movie Night* and at *Back to School Night*. Thank you for your continued interest in and support of our outstanding programs and activities. We look forward to working in partnership with you throughout this school year.

 We are extremely proud of Cloverly and hope that every parent will be an active participant in our school community. We welcome and invite any parent who wishes to volunteer in the classrooms, at lunch and recess, during arrival and dismissal times, and during after-school activities. Due to safety and liability, younger children siblings should not participate in volunteer activities.

 We are continuing our efforts to ensure that Cloverly Elementary School is a safe and secure school for students and staff. We will continue to work together to ensure the safety of our students. We appreciate your cooperation in observing the following safety procedures:


Staff members are now wearing ID badges.

All visitors and volunteers should first sign in and obtain a visitor pass/ID badge in the office before reporting to a classroom.

All visitors must enter through the main doors. Reminder signs are posted at the entrance doors.

If you need to pick up a student before dismissal, please sign him/her out in the office before 2:50. You may be asked to provide identification.

We will call the classroom teacher and have your child sent to the office area where they will meet you. Teachers have been instructed not to release a student unless they have been authorized by a call from the office.

 In addition, we will not release a child to someone other than a parent UNLESS that adult is designated as the emergency contact on the yellow cards or on the pink emergency release information sheet. This is a good time to make sure that all emergency information is complete and turned in on the yellow cards and pink sheets. You may stop by the office to double-check your emergency information or to make sure your child has indeed returned a completed card/pink emergency sheet to the school.

Parents dropping off children should utilize the traffic circle: **Please drive slowly and safely.** While in the traffic circle, children must exit vehicles at curbside instead of walking between cars to get to the sidewalk.

Information about crisis preparedness, in the event of a Code Red or Code Blue, will be distributed to students in their Friday folders. Please bring any questions or concerns you may have about school safety to the PTA meeting on October 6th.

In an effort to reduce paper, we will be communicating school information such as newsletters and updates about H1N1 on our Cloverly website at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/cloverlyes/>, by email, and by phone. Please make sure your child's teacher has your current email address, home address, and telephone numbers. As indicated before, make sure your yellow cards and pink emergency cards have been updated with most current contact information.

~Continued on page 3~



## What is the Sally Foster Gift Card Tree?

Walking through the school lobby this week, you may have noticed the Sally Foster Gift Card Tree on display as a fun new incentive for participating in this year's fundraiser! By selling items from the Sally Foster Gift Catalog to benefit the Cloverly PTA, each student involved will have an opportunity to be chosen to select a gift card tag off of the tree for such fantastic establishments as McDonald's, iTunes, Domino's Pizza, Discovery Theater, and much more! Will it be \$5, \$10, free tickets...the possibilities are endless! At least one student from each grade will be randomly selected to have a chance to choose. To be eligible, please turn in your Sally Foster order packet or place an order online at [www.sallyfoster.com](http://www.sallyfoster.com), using the Cloverly school number 0501326 and indicating the student your purchase should be credited toward for his/her name to go in the drawing. **Remember, 50% of all purchases goes to the Cloverly PTA!** Questions? Please contact Heather Duffy at 301-384-6461 / [hduffy0410@aol.com](mailto:hduffy0410@aol.com).

~From The Principal Continued~

Please be aware that many of our students have severe food allergies. Before purchasing store-bought food items that will be consumed by students at Halloween, carefully check food labels for items containing nuts or have been processed by equipment that was exposed to nuts. Be on the lookout for additional communication from classroom teachers about other foods you should not purchase due to food allergies. We will be following the same procedures as we did for last year's parties where food was brought to the AP room in the morning for a label check on the day of the party. Cut-up fruit is allowed; however, we prefer that you send in packaged, pre-cut fruit by a manufacturer. Parents will be contacted by 11:00 am on the day of the party if any purchased food cannot be consumed at the parties. Halloween parties start at 2:00 p.m.

**Academic Night** for each grade level will be taking place over the course of two evenings during the month of October. **Academic Night** dates and times are as follows:

Wednesday, October 14, PEP (5:30 – 6:30 p.m.) and Grades K-2 (7-8:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, October 21, Autism (6:30 – 7:30 p.m.) and Grades 3-5 (7-8:00 p.m.)

Each grade level will present important academic skills specific to their grade level. Grade levels will be sending out reminders and additional information about agenda items for **Academic Night**.

The George B. Thomas Learning Academy is a tutoring and mentoring program that enhances the academic performance and achievement of students in grades 1 through 12. On Saturday mornings from October 10th through May 1st, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., certified teachers and volunteer tutors work with students on core subjects and teach successful learning/studying strategies. The closest Learning Academy Centers to the Cloverly community area are located at Springbrook High School and at Paint Branch High School. Interested parents must register in person and pay a one time registration fee of \$20.00. All students and their parents are required to attend the Orientation Session on October 3rd which begins at 8:30 a.m. For more information, please call 301-785-4562 (Springbrook H.S.) or 410-868-1666 (Paint Branch H.S.).

If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas about Cloverly's instructional program, please do not hesitate to contact me at 301-989-5770 or by email [Melissa A Brunson@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Melissa.A.Brunson@mcpsmd.org). My door is always open to you!

Sincerely,

Ms. Melissa Brunson

Principal



## CLOVERLY SPIRITWEAR ORDER DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 2!!

Is your Cloverly cub wanting to show school spirit? We have just what you need! Order your Cloverly Spiritwear by October 2nd to receive it on October 16th. The next delivery date isn't until December so be sure to order today!

Short sleeve and long sleeve t-shirts, crew neck, hoodie and zip sweatshirts, polo shirts, sweat pants, shorts and more. New designs for girls, as well as new bags on hand! Show that Cloverly pride and purchase your apparel today.

Ordering is simple:

1) Go on-line to view the selection and place your order at <http://www.amimprints.com/>

username: CES

password: cubs

Don't forget to purchase the Cloverly Car Magnet(\$5)also! Just make a note on your order form to include the magnet. If you have any questions, please contact Tracy Kiras at [tkiras@umd.edu](mailto:tkiras@umd.edu) or Ann Johnson at [johnsonzool@verizon.net](mailto:johnsonzool@verizon.net)

## IN-SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM TO RETURN!

The Cloverly PTA has partnered with Sandy Spring Bank to establish In-School Banking. This program gives students an opportunity to open a "Young Savers" account and participate in a savings program right here at Cloverly! It aims to reinforce basic math skills, give children a sense of responsibility in handling money and emphasizes the importance of saving.

The minimum opening deposit is \$10.00 with a \$0.50 minimum deposit thereafter. All students who open accounts will receive a Sandy Dog's Savings Club kit containing deposit slips, coin holders, and a Sandy Dog's Savings Club Savings Passbook. Students with existing accounts can continue bringing deposits for those accounts.

Once the program begins this month, a Sandy Spring Bank representative will be at Cloverly every Friday morning in the media center to accept deposits and open new accounts. Students will be called to the "banking center" during morning announcements.

Information will be distributed soon in all Friday folders.



## **ATTENTION: EXCITING THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT WWW.CLOVERLYPTA.COM!**

Haven't had a chance to visit the PTA website in a while? Get ready for an exciting new look, user-friendly links and postings, copies of current fliers and registrations, and much more! Check out [www.cloverlypta.com](http://www.cloverlypta.com) for everything PTA!

## ~Montgomery County Elementary Centers for the Highly Gifted (HGC)

Applications for the Elementary Centers for the Highly Gifted (HGC) were recently mailed directly to all parents of Grade 3 students in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). This is a reminder that if you are interested in having your child considered for the HGC, you must complete the application and return it by November 9, 2009, to:

HGC Application  
Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services  
11721 Kemp Mill Road  
Silver Spring, MD 20902

If for some reason you did not receive an application in the mail, and are interested in the program, contact the school or access it from the website at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/). The packet also is available in Chinese, French, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese. If you need a translated application, please contact the school.

There will be two parent information meetings about the HGC on the following dates beginning at 7:00 p.m. The same information will be presented at each meeting. Feel free to go to the one most convenient for you.

10/12 Parent Information Meeting at John F. Kennedy High School  
1901 Randolph Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20902

10/27 Parent Information Meeting at Quince Orchard High School  
15800 Quince Orchard Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Students who submit their applications by the deadline will be tested in their current school during January 2010. Notification of the testing date and time for your school will be mailed to the homes of those applying.

## Safeway Grocery Receipts = Money for Cloverly



Please save your Safeway receipts between September 18<sup>th</sup> and October 13<sup>th</sup>! These receipts have a redemption code on the bottom which when submitted online will give Cloverly 10% cash back on grocery purchases. Please put all your receipts in an envelope marked PTA – Safeway Fundraiser. Return the envelope to your child's classroom teacher. Our PTA/Safeway coordinator will enter these codes online. Cloverly E.S. can potentially receive a significant amount of money through this simple fundraiser...no special purchases necessary, just your regular grocery shopping – so please save your receipts and turn them in.

Any questions? Please contact Linda Dolan at [thedolans4@verizon.net](mailto:thedolans4@verizon.net).



## Cloverly YEARBOOK for 2009-2010 We Need You!

It is very easy to volunteer on the yearbook committee...

If you have a digital camera...simply take pictures at the school events and submit them! We are currently accepting pictures from "Open House", "First Day of School" and "Movie Night".

If you have a computer...help create the memory pages your child will enjoy for years to come! Information about training will follow soon.

### Guidelines for submitting pictures:

- \* All pictures **MUST** be submitted on CD/DVD in .jpg file format.
- \* Mark the CD/DVD with your name and your child's grade or teacher. (ex. Melanie Everett/4<sup>th</sup>/Shaffer)
- \* The file name for each photo should contain the event description. (ex. openhouse1.jpg, openhouse2.jpg, 1stday1.jpg, etc.)
- \* All photos must be digital...no hard copies!
- \* Discs should be addressed to PTA/yearbook and given to your child's teacher or placed in the PTA mailbox.
- \* Discs will be the property of the Cloverly PTA.

If you have any questions about the yearbook committee or about the process for submitting photos, please contact Melanie Everett at [got2livlyf@aol.com](mailto:got2livlyf@aol.com).

## Electronic Newsletter Request

If you would like to receive the Cloverly PTA PawPrints monthly newsletter electronically, please contact Kim Billok at [kbilok@yahoo.com](mailto:kbilok@yahoo.com) with your request. Please include the name(s) of your student(s) and their grade(s)/teacher(s). Requests received by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month will be honored for the next issue. Please note: by requesting the newsletter electronically, your family will no longer receive a paper copy.

**Calling all artists, photographers,  
directors, dancers, writers and  
musicians!**

**What is Beauty to you?**

Has your child ever wanted to enter a piece of artwork or a creative endeavor in a contest? If that is the case, then PTA Reflections is the program for you. The six different artistic categories are dance, film production, music composition, photography, literature, and the visual arts, and there are two different age groups, pre-k – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade – 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Tell us what beauty is in one of these categories, and your entry may be selected to go on to competitions at the local, state, or even national level! To submit a piece of art, follow the rules for the specific category and fill out a student submission form.

To receive a copy of the rules please contact Colleen Sullivan at [colleensuv@comcast.net](mailto:colleensuv@comcast.net). Please indicate whether you would like the rules in electronic form or if a hard copy is preferred.



A big thank you to the West Family, the Simpson Family and First Alliance Church parents and kids who helped with the Cloverly Courtyard Clean-up. Check out the courtyard while it still looks fresh and clean. In no time, it will be covered in leaves and ready for our next clean-up! :)

As we enter October, we have a variety of fundraisers under way, including Sally Foster Sales, KidStuff Book Sales, and Direct Appeal. Thanks to all of the fantastic volunteers who are making these efforts successful, and to our entire school community, whose active participation in these programs is so important to our organization.

**PTA Reimbursement Information**

For any PTA members needing reimbursement for purchases made for the PTA there will be two deadlines for turning in your reimbursement requests. For purchases made from August until December of 2009, reimbursements need to be turned in by January 15, 2010. For purchases made from January to June of 2010, the reimbursement requests need to be turned in by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your help with turning in your requests in a timely matter.

Jill Wingard, PTA Treasurer



**Childcare During PTA Meetings!**

To reserve a space for your child for childcare for this month's meeting, please contact Jackie Stock by 7pm the evening before the meeting, so that there are enough caregivers on hand for the children present. Children must be out of diapers (3 or above) and although some quiet activities will be available, parents are encouraged to have their children bring additional toys and activities. Parents may provide a nut-free snack, but otherwise, food will not be available. Questions? Feel free to contact Jackie at 301-384-8315 / [jackie.stock@jhuapl.edu](mailto:jackie.stock@jhuapl.edu) for more information.





## This Month's Green Box Issue is...

Communication—we are always trying to improve the way we get information out concerning programs, events, etc. What do you feel is the most effective and most responsible way for the PTA to communicate with our community? What suggestions do you have for our organization concerning communication?

We look forward to your written thoughts on this issue! Please e-mail your response to [kbillok@yahoo.com](mailto:kbillok@yahoo.com), or fill out a green box issue sheet at the October 6th PTA meeting.

## CULTURAL ARTS

The goal of the PTA Cultural Arts Committee is to bring high-quality performances representing a variety of arts and sciences to Cloverly to enrich our students' educational experiences. We are still seeking volunteers to attend free showcases of performers. The showcases will be held on October 5th, 8th, and 15th, at the Carver Educational Center Auditorium, 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD, from 9 am to 2:30 pm each day. A different performer is presented every 15 minutes, and each day features different performers.

Please attend any of these performances so you may provide input for our cultural arts programming. No pre-registration is necessary. For more information, please contact Cultural Arts Chairperson Betsy Sirk at [betsy.sirk@nasa.gov](mailto:betsy.sirk@nasa.gov) or 301-421-1294.



## Babies, Bosses, Busy Schedules...

### 5 Flexible Ways This Month to Participate in PTA-Related Activities

1. Volunteer to help out with the organization and distribution of Sally Foster orders by contacting Heather Duffy at 301-384-6461 / [hduffy0410@aol.com](mailto:hduffy0410@aol.com)!
2. Interested in helping out with PTA projects occasionally from home or work? Contact Kim Billok at [kbillok@yahoo.com](mailto:kbillok@yahoo.com) to be placed on an on-call list for tasks and to-do's that come up throughout the year.
3. Motivated to learn some new computer skills? Contact webmasters Karim Phillips and Rex Patel to assist with all of the new updates and features at [www.cloverlypta.com](http://www.cloverlypta.com) now that the website has become even more user-friendly than ever!
4. Turn in BoxTops to benefit the PTA! Or, to help sort and organize them, please contacting Nancy Bryant at 301-384-1661 / [whbnab@verizon.net](mailto:whbnab@verizon.net).
5. Attend this month's PTA meeting on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>—your presence is greatly appreciated!

Instrumental Music Classes are starting up this week. We have some students that don't have an instrument to use to play this year. If you have any instruments sitting around your house that are not being used please consider making a donation to our school.

It is fully tax deductible.

Our concerts for this year are:

Winter Concert: December 15 (snow date Dec. 17)

Spring Concert: June 1

For more information contact  
Tammy Ripley, Instrumental Music Teacher



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](mailto:newsletter@cloverlypta.com).

