

# PAW PRINTS

CLOVERLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA NEWSLETTER  
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WWW.CLOVERLYPTA.COM



February 2010

Volume 21, Issue 6

## From the PTA President

### PTA General Membership Meeting Dates

September 1st

October 6th

\*\*November 4th

December 1st

January 5th

February 2nd

March 2nd

\*\*April 7th

May 4th

\*\*June 2nd

\*\* Wednesday Meeting

It is the month of Valentine's Day, after all, so in light of the upcoming holiday, I would like to tell you about some of the things I *love* about the Cloverly Elementary community.

**I love the importance our community puts on education.** Family Reading Night was a perfect example of parents and educators making reading a priority for our children. Thank you to everyone who participated...your involvement was much appreciated!

**I love that we are a community that is not afraid to act on our convictions.** This year's discussions concerning our new grading and reporting system really exemplify our willingness to take action on the issues that matter to us most. The advocacy committee is moving forward to put your input to good use at the county level—please contact them if you would like to be more involved in this movement!

**I love the commitment our faculty has to our students.** From directing the 5<sup>th</sup> grade musical to emceeding the Variety Show and coordinating Celebrate Our World Week...our staff goes above and beyond the classroom to make Cloverly an exceptional place to be learn.

**I love that we are always looking for new ways to help our students be their best.** Last year, we were fortunate to have the opportunity to host the CelebrateCalm program for a lecture on parenting. This year, even with busy schedules and various commitments, an enthusiastic group of parents have asked that we again sponsor this type of program—their interest makes clear that our community is always looking for ways that we can support our students from home.

**I love that we like to have fun!** Anyone who has attended a Cloverly Bingo Night can tell we enjoy each other's company! If you haven't already, be sure to buy your tickets and join us for this entertaining event.

I could go on, but I think I've made my point...this Valentine's Day, I encourage you to look within our community and find the many reasons why you are glad to be a part of Cloverly Elementary School. And loving so many aspects of our community makes it a pleasure to represent you as your PTA president. Maybe that's a job you might like to consider for the upcoming school year?

All the best, Kimberlee Billok

## February Calendar of Events

|             |   |                               |
|-------------|---|-------------------------------|
| February 2  | PTA Meeting<br>Presentation by BCMS Principal | 7:00 p.m.                     |
| February 3  | Report Card Distribution                      |                               |
| February 5  | Bingo Night at BCMS                           | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.              |
| February 10 | Variety Show Dress Rehearsal                  | 5:30/7:00 p.m.                |
| February 12 | Valentine's Day Parties<br>Variety Show       | 2:00 p.m.<br>6:00 - 9:00 p.m. |
| February 15 | No School – President's Day                   |                               |
| February 19 | Career Day grades 1-5                         | 9:00 a.m.                     |
| February 23 | Club/Group Pictures                           |                               |
| February 26 | Early Release                                 | 12:35 p.m.                    |





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

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# From the Principal




Dear Cloverly Families,





It's hard to believe that we are half-way through the school year. I am proud that our students continue to show lots of growth, both academically and socially, and are motivated to put forth maximum effort. Once it is distributed, please review your child's report card with your child and if there are any questions and concerns, confer with your child's teacher.





I thank all of the parents who attended the Parent/Principal Coffees last month. I was extremely impressed with the depth of our conversations and the feedback I received regarding our amazing instructional program. Remember, it is the collaboration of the parents and staff that makes Cloverly a great school.




Cloverly's SGA is collecting money donations through February 12<sup>th</sup> to support the relief efforts in Haiti. Our contributions will be sent to the American Red Cross. Each classroom has a contribution box labeled, *Money for Haiti*, and all students, staff, and visitors are being encouraged to provide a money donation.





Cloverly students will be celebrating Valentine's Day on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, with parties beginning at 2:00 p.m. Exchanging of valentines is a fun, but voluntary, activity. However, if your child chooses to send valentines, please make sure there is one for every student in the class. Also, be mindful of students with severe food allergies, particularly foods containing nuts. Only store bought foods with labels can be shared with students. We will be following the same procedures as we did for the Halloween parties where food was brought to the AP room for a label check on the day of the party. Cut-up fruit is allowed; however, we prefer that you send in pre-cut packaged fruit by the manufacturer.




During the months of December and January, we have been experiencing frigid temperatures of 32 degrees and below with substantial wind chill factors in the teens and single digits. In order to protect the health and wellness of our students, we limited outdoor activity and held indoor recess most of the time. Join us as we encourage students to dress warmly with winter gear on such as coats, gloves/mittens, and scarves.



**Reminder!** Our school day begins at 8:50 a.m. Students arriving after 8:50 a.m. are considered tardy and will be marked as tardy.



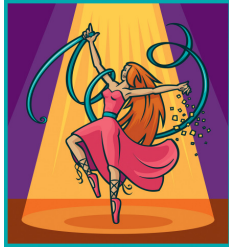
**Reminder!** Please mark these dates on your calendars. The Maryland Schools Assessment (MSA) will be administered to all 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students during March 8-17. Science MSA will be administered to all 5<sup>th</sup> grade students between April 21 and May 11. Terra Nova (TN/2) will be administered to all 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students between April 26 and April 30. It is important for all students to be present during the administration of these tests. Please do not schedule vacations or make appointments for your children on these important dates.



Sincerely,



Ms. Melissa Brunson



## PTA Variety Show Update!

Get ready for a great night of entertainment! This year's Variety Show is scheduled for Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the Olney Theatre. The dress rehearsal will be held at 5:30 pm and 7pm on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, and is mandatory for all participants. Act representatives will be contacted with their assigned dress rehearsal time within the next week.

Questions? Please contact Angela Edwards 301-421-5927 / [are1000@comcast.net](mailto:are1000@comcast.net), Jill Doll 301-384-6914 / [jilldoll@comcast.net](mailto:jilldoll@comcast.net), or Colleen Sullivan 301-879-9346 / [colleensuv@comcast.net](mailto:colleensuv@comcast.net) for more information.

## BOXTOPS – for Education

The next drawing will be held during the Valentine's parties on February 12<sup>th</sup>! The last day to submit Box-tops in order to be eligible for the drawing is Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> (information came home in Friday Folders). Everyone who submits at least one Boxtop coupon will be eligible for the drawing. Keep clipping and collecting – there will be one more submission at the end of the school year! The student that collects the most (for the whole school year) will receive a prize and the class that collects the most (for the whole school year) will get a Popsicle party!

If you have any questions regarding the Boxtops for Education program please call Nancy Bryant at 301-384-1661.



## 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.



## Farquhar Middle School: 2010-2011 Registration & Course Information for Parents of Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

Thursday, February 11, 2010

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Farquhar MS Cafeteria

This meeting will give you an opportunity to:

- meet principal Mr. Murphy and administrative team, 6<sup>th</sup> grade team leaders, counselor, department chairs, and current 6<sup>th</sup> grade students
- learn about courses, registration process, math curriculum, & Honors courses
- hear about a typical day for a sixth grade student
- ask questions of teachers, counselors, and administrators

**Snow Date: February 18, 2010**

**Contact Person: Mr. Jason Ingram**

**[Jason\\_R\\_Ingram@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Jason_R_Ingram@mcpsmd.org)**



## Don't miss Cloverly's Bingo Night!

This year's Bingo Night will be held on Friday, February 5th from 7 – 9pm at Briggs Chaney Middle School. Make sure you have your tickets so you don't miss the fun! Prizes, snack and 10 bingo games – all for just \$5 at ticket. A small door prize for all the kids when they leave so that everyone walks away a winner!!

For additional information, please contact Lynette Scaffidi at [Lynette.Scaffidi@comcast.net](mailto:Lynette.Scaffidi@comcast.net).



## **Cloverly Elementary PTA Golf Tournament Regis- tration Forms Are On The Way!**

Registration forms for tournament participants will be sent home in backpacks in the next two weeks, and will be available at [www.cloverlypta.com](http://www.cloverlypta.com), where participants will also be able to pay online. Additionally, if you or your business would like to sponsor an aspect of the tournament, please contact Mickey McLaughlin at [mickeymclaughlin1970@yahoo.com](mailto:mickeymclaughlin1970@yahoo.com) or Susan Bossie at [SusanBBossie@aol.com](mailto:SusanBBossie@aol.com) for more information.

**We look forward to seeing you on the links...  
get your foursome together today and get  
ready to golf!**

## **PTA Elections Are Coming Up**

It is time for us to start thinking about who will be our PTA officers for 2010-11! If you are interested in running for a leadership position for the coming school year, please contact Susan Quinn at 301-879-7199 / [cोजना@verizon.net](mailto:cोजना@verizon.net) for more information.



## **A Trio of Traffic Circle Tips**

1. Make sure your children have all of their belongings before they exit your vehicle.

***For safety reasons, let your child out of your vehicle at the sidewalk of the circle. Any child observed walking across any part of the road will be redirected unless there is an adult escort present.***

2. Pull around in the circle as far as you can. This allows more vehicles to fit in the circle.
3. Stay in your vehicle when in the circle. Never leave your car unattended.

If your child requires assistance when exiting your vehicle or if you need to go into the school, park in the school's parking lot or next door at Cloverly Park.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Ms. Carrie Conley, Assistant Principal



## HOW TO ENJOY CALM 24/7

Doesn't that sound wonderful? If you would like to enjoy calm 24/7, then join us on Monday April 12th at 7:00 pm for Cloverly PTA's 2<sup>nd</sup> presentation given by the CelebrateCalm program. At this free workshop, parents and teachers will hear how to:

- \*Enjoy stress-free morning, dinner and bedtime
- \*Regain power over emotions, attitudes and moods
- \*Help kids be calm in the car, classroom and places of worship
- \*Reduce stress over homework, finances and siblings
- \*Eliminate defiance and meltdowns

This event is open to the community, so bring a friend and enjoy a 2 hour presentation full of ideas and strategies to help us all ENJOY CALM 24/7!



### \*\*\*YEARBOOK\*\*\*

**Below, is important information as we look toward completing the yearbook for this school year!**

#### Upcoming Photo Opportunities...

1/28 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Musical \* 2/5 Bingo Night \* 2/12 Valentine's Day parties & Variety Show

Photo Deadline... All photo submissions **must** be made prior to February 26, 2010.

Order Forms: To be included in Friday Folders on February 5, 2010

#### Guidelines for submitting pictures:

All pictures **MUST** be submitted in .jpg file format.  
The file name for each photo should contain the event description.  
All photos must be digital...no hard copies!

#### **CD/DVD:**

Mark the CD/DVD with your name and your child's grade or teacher.  
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.

#### **Email:**

Send .jpg files to [CloverlyPhotos@aol.com](mailto:CloverlyPhotos@aol.com)  
Send **only 4 photos** per email

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

### Paint Branch High School Ground Breaking Ceremony

There will be a Ground Breaking Ceremony for the new **Paint Branch High School on Sat. March 20th at 10:00 a.m.** The new school, which will be built on the current Paint Branch ball fields to replace the current 40-year old facility, is the future of many Cloverly Cubs. Come join the celebration! More details will follow as plans are finalized.



## Cloverly Cubs Care Club Update:

The Cloverly Cubs Care Club cookbook is on sale for only \$10. The cookbook boasts 97 recipes and lots of original artwork by the student members of the club. We will be recruiting club members to help sell the books at upcoming PTA events (Bingo Night, Variety Show...) or you can send \$10 in an envelope to PTA/Cubs Care Club. Checks should be made out to the Cloverly PTA. All profits from the sale of the cookbooks will be donated to Heifer International.

Last year and the year prior, the Cubs Care Club hosted a drive for medical supplies for an orphanage and surrounding town of Ouanaminthe, Haiti. There was no earthquake damage to the town of Ouanaminthe where the orphanage is, however, there will be many, many more orphans as a result of the catastrophe in the capital. Many of you have asked what the club is doing in response to the disaster in Haiti. Though we are not focusing a club project on Haiti this year, we are encouraging those who want to help to donate to the SGA's Haiti collection, which will go to the Red Cross relief effort.

The February Cubs Care Club project is making bag lunches for the Men's Emergency Shelter. This is an activity that we've done each year with great success. This is our costliest project and donations are welcome. If you would like to send in a donation for the purchase of food for the project, please make checks out to the Cloverly PTA and send in a sealed envelope to the Cubs Care Club. Any amount is appreciated. Thank you!

## Babies, Bosses, Busy Schedules...

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

1. The Celebrate Our World Committee is looking forward assistance in preparation for the week's festivities. Like to become involved? Contact Cheryl Minus at [cnt14@hotmail.com](mailto:cnt14@hotmail.com).
2. Interested in state-level advocacy? Contact Jenn Gruber at [jenngruber@msn.com](mailto:jenngruber@msn.com) to become involved with the MDPTA effort to make education a top state budget priority. Write a letter, visit an elected official...the possibilities for involvement are endless!
3. Are you a business owner or know of a business that might like to sponsor an aspect of our PTA Golf Tournament? Please contact Mickey McLaughlin at [mickeymclaughlin1970@yahoo.com](mailto:mickeymclaughlin1970@yahoo.com) or Susan Bossie at [SusanBBossie@aol.com](mailto:SusanBBossie@aol.com) to get more info.
4. Send in your Boxtops for this month's drawing!
5. Attend this month's PTA meeting on Tuesday, February 2nd at 7:00 pm—your presence is greatly appreciated!

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

What would you like to see our organization do in light of expected MCPS budget cuts?

We look forward to your written thoughts on this issue! Please place your feedback in the green box at this month's PTA meeting, or e-mail your response to [kbillok@yahoo.com](mailto:kbillok@yahoo.com).



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).

