

Cloverly PTA

PAW PRINTS

Volume 22, Issue 4

December 3, 2010

Letter from our PTA President

PTA GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS
7PM IN THE MEDIA CENTER

September	7
October	5
November	3
December	7
January	4
February	1
March	1
April	5
May	3
June	7

Cloverly Families,

It's already the holiday season!!!! During this season I hope that everyone remains healthy, relaxed, and warm. These may be lofty goals for December, but 2011 is just a blink away, and 2010 will be behind us.

Nevertheless, many of our PTA volunteers have been extremely busy during the past month, providing us with an array of programs and activities. Many thanks to... the Family Programs Committee for a fantastic ice skating event; the coordinators of our teacher gift cards for classroom supplies; our Staff Appreciation Committee for snacks during conferences; the glScrip gift card coordinator, and all of the other volunteers and committees in our PTA. Thanks for all you've done!

Along with the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, we have several events that are coming up this month. I hope that you take time to attend our annual Book Fair and another one of our fabulous Cultural Arts performance. Even though it is a busy time of the year, I hope to see you, next Tuesday, at the December PTA meeting.

I wish you and your family a season of togetherness and joy.

Your Partner in Education,
Hollie Taylor

Calendar of Events



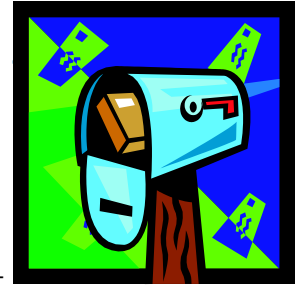
Date	Event	Time
December 6-10	Book Fair	
December 7	PTA Meeting	7 pm
December 8	Parent/Principal Coffees (K-2nd grade) Book Fair Family Night Cultural arts-"General Foolishness"	9:30-11:00 am 6:30-8:30 pm 7:00 pm
December 9	Parent/Principal Coffees (3rd-5th grade)	9:30-11:00 am
December 14	Chorus and Band Winter Concert Evening Concert @ BCMS	9:30 am 7:00 pm
December 16	Winter Concert-SNOWDATE	
December 17	SGA Spirit "Twin" Day	
December 23	Cultural Arts-Mad Science PEP, K-2nd Grade 3rd-5th grade	1:00 pm 2:00 pm
December 24-31	WINTER BREAK-NO SCHOOL	
January 3	Students return to school	
January 4	PTA Meeting	7:00 pm

"What we want is to see the child in pursuit of knowledge, and not knowledge in pursuit of the child."

- George Bernard Shaw



Letter from our Principal



Dear Cloverly Parents,

I hope that all of you had the opportunity to relax and spend time with your families during the Thanksgiving break.

Many thanks go to our wonderful PTA who provided delicious snacks for our staff at parent conference time. We appreciated this token of appreciation during this busy time of the year.

Starting the week of November 29th and again on the week of January 3rd, our students in grades 3-5 will be taking an MSA practice test. We will use the assessment results to prepare focused instruction for the upcoming months leading to the actual test which is scheduled to take place in March. Therefore, it is highly imperative that students come to school, on time, and in attendance, during this time. We thank you for your cooperation.

Our *Lost and Found* is full and overflowing! We have many coats, jackets, hats, shirts, lunch boxes, etc. Please have your students "find" their "lost" articles. When you visit the school, you may wish to check yourself. The *Lost and Found* is located near the main office area.

Use the following resources for information regarding early dismissal, late, or delayed opening:

- MCPS Cable TV Channel 34 (Comcast)
- MCPS Emergency Hotline 301-279-3643
- MCPS Webpage, www.mcps.k12.md.us
Local Radio and Television Stations

As I had mentioned at a previous PTA meeting, we have two main focus goals for our school improvement plan (SIP):

Students (95% and above) at Cloverly Elementary School, **with a focus on Hispanic, Special Education, and FARMS populations**, will demonstrate increased academic achievement and performance in math on MSA.

Students (98% and above) at Cloverly Elementary School, **with a focus on African American, Limited English Proficient, and Special Education population**, will demonstrate increased academic achievement and performance in reading on MSA.

An analysis of the achievement data shows revealed that our students continue to make gains in both achievement areas. Ongoing progress of students is monitored during Chat and Chew meetings, weekly grade-level team meetings, and staff meetings. To view a copy of our SIP, please go to our website at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/cloverlyes/ on or before December 15th.

I'm inviting all parents to join me for an open discussion about our instructional program. Grade-level Parent/Principal Coffees will be held from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. followed by an *optional* grade-level walk-through on the following dates:

- December 8, for primary grades (PEP, K – 2)
- December 9, for intermediate grades (Autism, 3-5)

Refreshments will be provided.

Congratulations to Michelle Lehmkuhl, third grade teacher, for earning her National Teaching Board Certification. She is one of three teachers at Cloverly who received such an honor.

Continue to have a safe and wonderful school year!

Sincerely,
Ms. Melissa Brunson
Principal



265 Capri Sun drink pouches in one week and 495 in two weeks!

Thanks to Jake and Josh Taylor for helping to count the recycled Capri Sun containers. We are continuing this effort to encourage students to take responsibility for the environment by recycling their Drink pouches. A container has been placed in the cafeteria for students to use at lunch. Having a party... using drink pouches? Gather the used pouches in a bin and send them to school to be recycled. In addition, the Terra Cycle committee is looking for students/parents that are interested in helping to count and package juice boxes for recycle every Friday after school.

The effort only takes about 30 minutes.

For more information please contact Hollie Taylor at hollie_taylor@yahoo.com.

*"The length of your education is less important than its breadth,
and the length of your life is less important than its depth."
-Marilyn vos Savant*

Cloverly Courtyard Cleanup

Sunday, December 5, 2010 9:00am-Noon

Our beautiful courtyard is covered in a blanket of leaves! Save the date to rake leaves and burn off those extra Thanksgiving calories! Come at any time with your rake and gloves.

Call Susan Kirk at 301-879-5059 or email susan_kirk88@yahoo.com with questions.



"It's Book Fair Time Again!!!

Our fall book fair begins Monday, December 6th and runs through Friday, December 10th. Don't miss Family Night on Wednesday, December 8th from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm with the show starting at 7:00 pm.

General Foolishness will delight families with a zany fast-paced Clown Theater program that brings children and adults together in a celebration of laughter.

Cloverly children who attend will have a chance to win \$25 in free books for themselves and \$25 in free books for their teacher.

If you would like to volunteer for any part of the book fair please contact

Susan Quinn at cojana@verizon.net.



Cloverly Newsletter...Going GREEN!!

Beginning with the January 2011 issue of Paw Prints, the Cloverly PTA newsletter will be distributed electronically.

For the environment and the PTA...this change means savings in trees, dollars and labor hours!

Here is what the change will look like for you...

- ⇒ If you already receive the newsletter via email...No change!
- ⇒ If you have been receiving the newsletter as a document in your child's Friday folder and...
 - ...your email address is in the PTA directory, you will receive the newsletter via email.
 - ...we don't have your email address on file, you will be able to access the newsletter from CloverlyPTA.com.
- ⇒ If you would like to have your email address added to our files, please submit it to newsletter@cloverlypta.com by December 23, 2010.
- ⇒ If you wish to continue to receive the paper copy of the newsletter, a form will be sent home in the Friday folder on December 10, 2010. Please complete and return it to the teacher by December 17, 2010.



Thank you in advance for your patience during the transition!

Holiday Greenery-Pickup

Greenery orders will be available for pick-up on Friday December 3rd from 3:30 – 5:00 in the Staff Lounge. There will also be a few extra pieces on hand that will be available for purchase.

Please forward questions to hollie_taylor@yahoo.com.

Math Olympiad

Thanks to Mr. Bogart and Julie Gerhardt for putting together a lunch hour full of Mathematical problem solving and snacks.

The 4th and 5th grade children that participated in the program had a great time solving the challenging problems.

Holiday Gift Card Updates

Thanks to all the families that participated in the holiday gift card program. Many families are very interested in having another opportunity to purchase gift cards in the spring.



Please keep your eyes open for another running of the gIScrip program.

Cultural Arts News

The PTA Cultural Arts Committee will be bringing another fabulous assembly to Cloverly on Thurs., Dec. 23rd. Mad Science of Washington will be performing *Spectacular Science*, a show featuring bubbling potions, amazing chemical reactions, and even indoor fireworks! Parents and other family members are invited to attend.

Presentations begin at 1:10 (kindergarten - 2nd grade) and 2:10 (3rd-5th grades).

This is sure to be a memorable holiday treat for our Cloverly Cubs!





800 Briggs Chaney Road
Silver Spring, MD 20905

Cloverly Elementary School

www3.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/cloverlyes

www.cloverlypta.com

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 for more information.



Yearbook Committee News!



The Yearbook Committee is currently accepting photos from open house, first day of school, Movie Night, Butterfly Release Ceremony, Help the Homeless Walk, Halloween, and fall field trips. If you took pictures at any of these events, PLEASE consider submitting them!

Submission deadline for all fall 2010 activities is Fri., Jan. 7, 2010.

Guidelines for submission:

* All pictures MUST be submitted in .jpg file format.

* The file name for each photo should contain the event description. (exc. openhouse1.jpg, openhouse2.jpg, 1stday1.jpg, etc.)

Photos may be submitted:

* on a cd/dvd (Please mark cd with your child's name and teacher and send to school in an envelope marked, "PTA - Yearbook.")

or

* via email (Send .jpg files to CloverlyPhotos@aol.com, and please send only 4 pictures per email.)

If you have questions about the process for submitting photos, please contact Melanie Everett at CloverlyPhotos@aol.com. If you're interested in joining the Yearbook Committee, contact Jenn Gruber at jenngruber@msn.com or 301-879-6928.

Thanks for your help!

Happy Holidays! See you in 2011!

