



Letter from PTA President Sara Bhatia

Dear Carderock Parents:

Did anyone else's kid hop off the school bus last week excited about yogurt and granola parfaits? You'll recall that a few weeks ago, Carol Simpson, a Food Services Supervisor at MCPS, spoke at our monthly PTA meeting, and solicited suggestions from parents about the lunch offerings. Carderock is one of 35 schools she supervises, and she is interested in building a relationship with our community. As promised, she came to school last week with trays of yogurt & granola parfaits for the kids to taste test, for possible inclusion on future menus. According to my sons, the yogurts got a big thumbs up -- I think the kids were delighted not only by the freebies, but were flattered to be asked their opinions! If you did not have a chance to attend the PTA meeting last month, but have comments you'd like to send to Ms. Simpson, please email them to Leanne Till, a Carderock parent who kindly offered to serve as CSES' liaison to Ms. Simpson's office (leannetill@hotmail.com). Thanks Leanne!

Last week's Bingo Night was a blast -- special thanks to PTA chairs Stephanie Rehmann and Lisa Anzelone, who stepped up to chair this event.... without ever having attended a Bingo Night! Bravo!!

Have a great week (and remember to send in those sandwiches for Martha's Table tomorrow, and coins to contribute to the Haiti relief fund)!

Sara



This week's Electronic Backpack Mail contains the flyers and forms listed below.

- * **Coin Drive to benefit children and families affected by the earthquake in Haiti**
- * **Carderock Springs Postal Service Returns (Feb 1-12)**
- * **Help Wanted for Mathathon - Tues Feb 16**
- * **Box Tops for Education - Due February 28**
- * **Save the Date for March Madness Carderock Style! Fri March 5 from 7-11pm**
- * **Hunger Helpers -- Reminder to bring sandwiches in tomorrow!**

Just a reminder -- all PTA forms including **membership, Giant Gift card program, Bonus card program, note pad order forms, and t-shirt order forms** -- can be found on the PTA website, at <http://www.csespta.org/forms.html>

Also, if you have PTA related information that you would like to post in the weekly electronic backpack mail, please send it to Alison Ewing, backpack mail editor, at alisonhewing@aol.com. If you have information of interest to the community (but not related to the school), please send it to Goldsholle@verizon.net. We will compile the notices and send them out every Wednesday.
Thanks!



Carderock Cares!

Help children affected by the earthquake in Haiti! Bring in your spare change and drop it in the collection bottle in the school lobby.

All money collected will be donated to Save the Children. This leading national organization is distributing emergency supplies such as tents, medicine and toiletries to children and families in desperate need.



Carderock Springs Postal Service Returns!

Carderocks annual fully functional postal service, run entirely by fifth grade students, will return during the first two weeks of February (2/1-2/12).

Stamps (25 cents each) will be sold during all lunch periods (11:30-12:45), and all proceeds will go towards funding the upcoming Fifth Grade Play.

Students love to send (and receive) mail. Parents are more than welcome to participate as well Simply affix one stamp to a letter and address it to your child:

Joe Smith
Mr. McMahons Class
Room 17

Feel free to also send packages (but add a few extra stamps)! Collection mailboxes will be placed around the school, and there will be one directly by the front door of the building. Postal workers will be collecting, sorting, and delivering the mail on a daily basis (pick-up time will be 12:15 every day).

Please direct any questions to either fifth grade teacher:

Rob Obstgarten (Robert_A_Obstgarten@mcpsmd.org)

Jeff McMahon (Jeffrey_K_McMahon@mcpsmd.org)



Help Wanted -- Mathathon

Our new date for the Mathathon is **Tuesday, February 16, 2010!** We are again looking for volunteers for each grade level to lead math games in the All Purpose Room and also for volunteers to help cover lunch since the children will be eating in their homerooms. Please contact Ms. Veihmeyer (marypat_p_veihmeyer@mcpsmd.org) if you would like to help.

Schedule for Math games in the APR

- Kindergarten: 9:10-10:10
- 1st and 2nd grades: 10:15-11:20
- 3rd grade: 11:30-12:40
- 4th grade: 12:45-1:55
- 5th grade: 2:00-3:10

Schedule for Lunch coverage (**this is different from the regular lunch schedule)

- 2nd and 4th grades: 11:30-11:55
- Kindergarten and 1st grade: 11:55-12:20
- 3rd and 5th grades: 12:40-1:05



I love Box Tops!

Baking up sweet treats for your Valentine? Dont forget to check the package for the Box Tops for Education coupon. The next deadline for coupon submission is February 28th, and it would be a sweet treat for our school to receive an even bigger check than the last one. Please deposit coupons in the collection jar on the counter next to the front office. *We love* getting free money for our school! Thank you for your support!



Did you get your invite to:

March Madness . . .

Carderock Style

Friday, March 5, 2010

The Pony Express Bar & Grill at the Bolger Center in Potomac

This sports themed night will include a dinner buffet, live band with lead singer Melanie Caudron (a Carderock Mom), drinks, raffles, a silent and live auction and lots of surprises! You won't want to miss this party!

Pay for your tickets by February 12, 2010 and your name will be entered in our "Early Bird" raffle to win a Great Prize!

Last year's early bird winner won a portable DVD player!!!

Don't forget to make a donation to the silent auction.

If you don't think you have anything to donate . . . Think again!

Offer your skills, hobbies or talents such as cooking lessons, sewing help, sports coaching, babysitting, decorating, dog walking, gift wrapping, tutoring, music lessons, cleaning help, a basket of books from book club, or host a party with some friends -- appetizers, wine & cheese, pool party, crab feast, cookie decorating. Be Creative! Have fun with it!

All proceeds are earmarked for playground equipment, upgrades to the athletic fields, landscaping, plants for the habitat garden, and additional technology for the classroom.

Lost your Donation Form?

All forms can be found at WWW.CSESEF.ORG where you can also check out the growing list of businesses and families who have already made generous donations!

Tomorrow is our **Thursday Hunger Helper Project!**

LETS BREAK OUR RECORD AND COLLECT more than 300 SANDWICHES THIS WEEK!

If everyone in the school brings in at least 1 sandwich we can do it!

Please remember to ask your child to make and **bring extra sandwiches** to school which will be collected and picked up by Marthas Table each Thursday morning. We ask that **each student simply drop off the sandwiches in the collection boxes** located in the school hallway. Please have each student wear a pair of latex gloves or parents please ensure that your childs hands are clean and washed prior to making the sandwiches.

We are looking for the following:

- * Whole wheat bread or Whole Grain Bread (no white bread please)
- * Sliced turkey breast or ham
- * Cheese
- * No condiments to be used on the sandwich (if you want to throw in a pack in the baggie that's fine)

Thanks so much for your support!

CSES Community Service Committee

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