

CARDEROCKET



Carderock Springs Elementary School
PTA Newsletter

www.CSESPTA.org

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Principal
Susan D. Thompson

PTA President
Kristy Keteltas
kristy.keteltas@verizon.net

Newsletter Editor
Marlee Margulies
margulies@mindspring.com

Our Next PTA Meeting

will be Family Night for the Book Fair, Tuesday, December 5.

Entertainment will be provided for children

Letter from the PTA President

Kristy Keteltas

Dear Carderock Families:

Well here we go- the madness begins! Wishing all of you good cheer and lots of energy in the busy month to come. Between holiday celebrations, and all the events and recitals and end-of-year wrap-ups, I am confident that everyone in this community has a busy few weeks coming up. **School is no exception, and the kids will be busy finishing up units and getting their work done, so we thank the parent volunteers who do their part to enrich the kids' experience with opportunities and fun when they are done with the work.**

To begin with, the children have a pleasant environment, and grounds they can be proud of thanks to the hard work of **Annie Carlson and Alison Lepard**, our **Buildings and Grounds** chairs. If you notice something new growing, it is thanks to them. I am sure you have seen Annie in her overalls at school on many occasions- we don't even pay her! We are all grateful for their hard work and beautiful plants. And many of the kids have had opportunities to work in the Habitat Garden within the curriculum, thanks to **Habitat Garden** czars, **Alison Lepard and Kristina Valencia**. Providing our kids with an outdoor classroom and a place they can be proud of is an invaluable gift to all of us.

Funding for all of the PTA enrichment our volunteers provide is possible because of the work of MORE volunteers. We are very lucky to have had **Sharon Keegan** run the **Sally Foster** sale this fall. The Sally Foster sale is responsible for a large portion of our PTA spending budget, and we are very grateful to Sharon for taking on this monumental job with competence, cheerfulness and efficiency. Thank you, Sharon!

We can also thank **Debbie Stone and Laura Friedman** for their part in the PTA fundraising effort. As chairs of the **Giant Gift card sale**, they fill orders for those of us who pre-purchase gift cards to use while shopping at Giant. We usually raise \$5,000 with this sale, which does not cost us anything- but the valuable time of our volunteers, which we deeply appreciate. Thank you both!

And another effort that benefits our kids with enrichment and specifically equipment they can use to play and unwind at recess, or to use creatively in the classroom, comes from the Giant and Safeway **Bonus Bucks** program, administered by **Amy Kwak**. When Amy collected your numbers this fall, she ensured that every grocery purchase you make counts toward points for our school to get the opportunity to buy equipment that we need at school that is not provided by the County. Thank you, Amy, for your efforts this fall!

Finally, a big thank you to **Theresa Barton**, who organized another successful **Skate Night** at Cabin John Ice Rink. It is always really fun for the kids to get together outside of school for pure fun- and we thank Theresa for that opportunity.

It is a difficult job to balance work, activities, and the need for some carefree FUN in our children's lives, and in December, that point is clearer than ever. Many thanks to all in this community who work hard to strike that balance and let our kids be kids.

Kristy Gertsen Keteltas

Come to the **Scholastic Book Fair, December 5-8**, and give the gifts that give twice! Everything you buy at the **book fair** supports programs that directly benefit your children. Our school will earn up to 25% of the total sales, so come get a head start on your holiday shopping.

Books, games, CD-roms and small gifts will fill the tables in the media center; you're sure to find something for everyone on your list. Teacher 'wish lists' will be on display if you want to purchase a book for your child's classroom. Students will also have an opportunity to preview the book fair and bring a 'wish list' home, so you'll know exactly what to buy.

The **Scholastic Book Fair** will run from **Tuesday, December 5** through **Friday, December 8**. Hours are 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, daily.

Potomac Pizza Night to Benefit Carderock Chronicle: A Huge Success

The Potomac Pizza Night to benefit publishing the Carderock Chronicle was a huge success. It started at 4:00 on Monday November 13. By 6:00 there was standing room only. Carderock ES received 20% of ALL proceeds, whether they be dine-in or carryout, Carderock families or the community. Carderock ES made \$560 from this evening. This will be used to help cover the costs of publishing the winter issue of the Carderock Chronicle. Donna Long's Fourth Grade Class was the overall winner with the highest amount of receipts!

The PTA would like to thank the Carderock families and friends, and the community as a whole.

Please take a moment to update the following information in your CSES PTA directories:

Ms. Ginny Hampton's email address should read Patsy_V_Hampton@mcpsmd.org on page 6.

Kindergarten Parents' Social

The kindergarten parents' social was held at the home of Elizabeth and Luqman Ghauri. The dinner and desserts included many delicious offerings, including cream cheese and salmon appetizers, lots of lasagna and creme de menthe brownies. Partygoers ate, drank and traded classroom stories about the color-coded behavior charts and color-coded bus routes that we all hear about. A great big thanks to the Ghauri family for sharing their home with everyone and special thanks to Deb Livornese, Sandy Rauh, Lisa Bronfman, Marcy Markowitz and Becky Spicer for their invaluable help!

1st Grade Parents' Social

A big thank you to Page and David Dekker, hosts extraordinaire for a wonderful first grade parents' social! The guests enjoyed a beautiful setting in the newly renovated Dekker home which provided a stunning background for a fun night out. The food provided by all the parents was delicious — thanks to all who brought their favorite dishes! And last but not least, thank you to Sharon Keegan for coordinating the event and for designing the beautiful invitations.

3rd Grade Parents' Social

The third grade parents' social was hosted by Lora and Dave Bevirt at their beautiful home. There was a great turnout on a chilly fall night! The food was fabulous - a great pot luck of everyone's favorites! A wonderful evening was enjoyed by all! The evening kept going as some parents continued on to hear fellow parent Melanie Caudron sing in her band! A big thank you to Lora and Dave for hosting and to Sharon Keegan, Melanie Caudron, Marlee Margulies, and Lynda McIntyre for helping to plan and coordinate a great social!

5th Grade Parents' Social

Huge thanks to Heather and Jack Maier for hosting this year's 5th grade parent social. Despite being rescheduled and the invitations lost, it was great. There was a small but fun turnout and the hit was Molly Raymond's homemade spring rolls! The parents never left the kitchen and talked until past 10!

International Night

Bob Erdman & Ned Hodgman

International Night lives! Many thanks to Ned Hodgman and Bob Erdman, our International Night Chairs for this year! Look for information from them in the new year about how you might contribute and participate in the fun!

Variety Show

Nancy Holden, Karen Hutchinson & Lynda McIntyre

*What? Can it be? Are they looking for me?
Should I sing? Should I dance?
Will I take the chance?
March 2nd is the date for the Variety Show!
Start the choreography! Let it flow!
Warm up those instruments! Vocal chords, too.
Our show is the greatest-
Because the star is- YOU!*

Start thinking how you can be a part of our awesome Variety Show! More details to follow.

Ribbit, Ribbit. Quack, Quack...HONK!

Coming soon, Pyle Middle School will be performing the musical based on the classic Hans Christian Anderson story of 'The Ugly Duckling'. Show dates for Honk! are Wednesday through Friday, December 6, 7 & 8 at 7:30 pm. Tickets will cost \$7.00, and go on sale at Pyle during lunch (11:00am-1:00pm) beginning Thursday, November 30th. This year we will again offer open seating only. Ticket holders can line up outside the cafeteria until doors open at 7:00pm.

If you think you know all there is to know about the Ugly Duckling, this will be an entertaining surprise. You will want to meet Ugly, Ida, Drake, Cat and the rest of the barnyard gang and find out what the farmyard fuss and fun is all about.

Expect to be touched and amused as you watch Ugly come to terms with looking and sounding different and dealing with all the barnyard ridicule. As if that isn't enough, he gets lost while trying to escape from a hungry cat, finds himself in the middle of a duck shoot, eventually makes friends with a frog, then gets caught by a hunter, and much more!

What can be more fun than seeing your friends from Pyle transformed into humanized animals that dance and sing in this wonderful, uplifting story? Look for these former Carderock students in the cast: Jane Bernhard, Sarah Cali, Ani Carlson, Molly Koch, Grace Laboy, Alex Rosen, Nick Tosini and Katie Wollmer. For more information contact Janice Huey at hueyjb@verizon.net.

4th & 5th Grade Book Club

We had two more well attended, fun and interesting Book Club meetings on November 16th.

The 4th graders had a lot to say about making snap judgements (or being judged unfairly) when discussing *A Week In The Woods*, by Andrew Clement. As it was their second Andrew Clement novel, they identified similarities between the two books. We found that many of his other books that students had read on their own, also have common characteristics (setting is usually a school, main character is often a student, teacher is the foil, who learns from the student a great lesson). It was a fun exploration and a very well received book! On December 14th, they will be discussing *Trading Places with Tank Talbott*, by Dori Butler.











The 5th graders unanimously enjoyed *The 7 Professors of the Far North*, by John Fardell. They found it to be a fun, sometimes wacky, adventure book in which kids are called upon to save the world. The kids pointed out that many books written for their age group often involve brave and bright children helping to save the world - in ways that the adults cannot! The next book that they will read *The Ravensmaster's Secret: Escape From the Tower of London*, by Elvira Woodruff, on December 14th, not surprisingly involves a similarly brave young boy as the main character - but takes place in London in 1735!

There are extra copies of each book in the media center (thanks PTA!).

Happy Reading - and we'll see you for lunch on December 14th!!

December 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 	5 	6 	7 	8 	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 	26 	27 	28 	29 	30

Dec. 4-8
 Dec. 5
 Dec. 25-Jan. 1
 Jan. 2

Book Fair
 Book Fair Family Night
 No School, Winter Break
 Classes Resume