

October 2007

# Carderocket



**Carderock Springs Elementary School  
PTA Newsletter**

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[www.csespta.org](http://www.csespta.org)

## **Letter from the PTA President**

Dear Carderock Families:

Fall is upon us at last! As we hear the welcome sound of fallen leaves crunching under foot, we prepare ourselves for the season of candied apples and pumpkin pie, haunted houses and trick-or-treating, and of course our very own Halloween Parade!

In anticipation of our Halloween celebration, our appreciation goes to all of the Room Parents who have been planning a host of fun activities and healthful snacks for our children to enjoy in their classes. Thanks also go to Volunteer Coordinators **Theresa Goldsholle** and **Ana Sanchez** for organizing all of the Room Parents, publishing the Volunteer Job Market, and providing an informative training session, with breakfast, for our Volunteers. Great job!

During this past month Carderock parents re-connected with old friends and met new friends at the Open House Breakfast and the Grade Level Socials. The Open House Breakfast was a huge success, thanks to our Hospitality Chairs, **Maddy Greenwald** and **Leanne Till**. Parents and children were treated to a beautiful *al fresco* feast before visiting their children's classrooms. Moving the event outside was a terrific idea! The Grade Level Socials proved a great way for parents to meet and get to know one another outside of the school setting! Thanks to all of the parents who graciously opened their homes to host these events and to **Jill McClelland**, our Grade Level Socials Chair, for organizing hosts for the socials. I'm sure a good time was had by all.

**Amy Bernhard**, **Holli Goral**, **Diane Hemmersbaugh** and **Karen Schwartzman**, our Community Service Chairs, together with guidance counselor **Clayton VerPlanck**, have put together an enriching program of service projects that dove tails with the Pillars of Ethics. On October 18<sup>th</sup> our children showed their "respect" for our injured soldiers recovering at Walter Reed Hospital by writing thank you notes or coloring a "Thank You" cartoon designed by the White House Commission of Remembrance. We are so grateful to our Community Service team for all they do to remind our children of the importance of giving back to our community.

We are cancelling our November 6<sup>th</sup> PTA meeting so that we may bring in Dr. **Kay Abrams** to give a talk on "Positive Body Image and Self-Esteem" on Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Abrams comes to us through our Parent Education Program chaired by **Christine Fruehwirth**. Christine has also arranged for a speaker later in the year to tackle the subject of "Homework Habits." Thank you Christine for bringing these insightful speakers to talk with us about two very important topics! I look forward to hearing them.

Wishing you all a ghoulishly Happy Halloween!

- *Maxine C. Schnitzer*

## Community Service Committee -- Amy Bernhard and Diane Hemmersbaugh

The Community Service Committee (CSC) has been hard at work!



This month the CSC has been supporting service men and women residing at Walter Reed Army Hospital. The September and October Pillar of Ethics focus is on Respect. When Mrs. VerPlanck met with our children this month, she discussed how soldiers serving our country do so out of the utmost respect for people of all communities - local as well as global. The students considered how we as a school community can express our respect for their efforts and with that in mind, the children undertook a project of decorating cards and writing letters to the soldiers at Walter Reed, sharing positive thoughts and well wishes.

Next month's Pillar of Ethics addresses Responsibility. Because helping others in need is our responsibility as community members, the CSC will direct its attention to supporting A Wider Circle, an organization whose mission is to "End Poverty One Person at a Time." The Carderock Springs community is invited to donate new, unopened, and unwrapped toys for tots to teens. The toys, given to those in need from our local community, will be collected from November 25 to December 7. Please keep an eye out for a flier about this upcoming project November 19.

While the CSC has numerous service projects in the works for the school year, we welcome your suggestions for alternatives. All ideas will be considered thoughtfully by the committee; please know that not all ideas proposed can be implemented - whether due to scheduling or simply not wanting to inundate school members with too many collections or service projects at any given time. We thank you for your support and look forward to receiving your ideas.

## BOOK FAIR -- Trudy Shahabi and Margaret Powell



The Annual Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the CSES Media Center during the week of December 3rd-7th. Please plan on attending this wonderful event. Everything you buy at the fair directly supports programs for our children. Come in and cross a few things of your holiday shopping list.

We will need many volunteers to help us make this book fair a great success. Watch for our ad in the Volunteer Job Market and please sign-up to help with this event. If you are interested in being a co-chair, please email Trudy Shahabi ([Trudypie4@aol.com](mailto:Trudypie4@aol.com)) or Margaret Powell ([margp2@mac.com](mailto:margp2@mac.com)).

**Stay connected! Join the Carderock listserv for emails about school functions and happenings. Go to [carderocknet-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:carderocknet-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)**

## Staff Appreciation Committee -- Suzanne Dritschilo, Ana Sanchez

Cookies! Cookies! Cookies! More about that later.... Thank you to Kristin Russell, Lauren Randel, Amy Kwak, Sharon Keeghan, Saima Siddiqui, Page Dekker, Kristy Keteltas, and Shannon Lindstrom for their incredibly tasty hot entrees and salads for the staff luncheon on the 22nd. Many thanks to Lisa London, Lois Kramer, Lisa Bronfman, and Alison Ewing for rounding out the luncheon with some truly mouth-watering home made desserts. There were also several dishes that were delivered that morning to the front office without us having the opportunity to find out the generous parents who cooked/baked, so Extra Big thank you's to our secret chefs and everyone who helped make the day so wonderful for our staff. Thanks to you, we sent the entire staff back to work after lunch with very satisfied appetites!

Coming up next month, the Staff Appreciation committee will be assembling supply shoeboxes to distribute to our instructional staff on Nov. 5 to help restock supplies that the classrooms seem to run low on this time of year, such as Kleenex, pencils, chalk, and plenty of hand soap. We're also including some customized M&Ms in little plastic bottles. Half of the M&Ms read "CSES Staff" and the other half read "ROCKS!" with instructions to take a blue for happiness, red for stress relief, green for silliness, etc. Thanks for all those shoeboxes you donated for us way back in September too (especially the Prada)! Big Thanks to our dedicated Carderock student helpers, Alberto, Jose, Nicholas and Hannah, who provided the beautiful decoration to the boxes to make them extra nice portable storage bins for the staff after the supplies are replenished.

The following week on Nov. 9 and Nov. 12, SA will be delivering the Conference goody bags for the teaching staff during the parent-teacher conferences. We tried something new this year asking the staff to share their personal preferences with us for drinks and snacks so that we could provide customized goody bags. We'll report back to you in the next newsletter how it went over.

Cookies! Cookies! Cookies! It's coming soon! The Annual Holiday Cookie Exchange is coming in December. Our target delivery date to distribute the cookie platters is Monday Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. We've had 26 bakers respond to join our A-List, and out of 230 families at Carderock, we know there are many more of you out there, so please contact us soon to let us know we can count on you for cookie time. We're playing with the idea of having a wine and hors d'oeuvre cookie platter assembly party the weekend before, to spoil you a little bit before the holidays too, so break out those recipes, because COOKIE TIME is coming!! Smiles from Suzanne ([dtppro@aol.com](mailto:dtppro@aol.com)) and Ana ([awraye@msn.com](mailto:awraye@msn.com)).



*Calling all Chefs! The Holiday Cookie Exchange is coming ...*

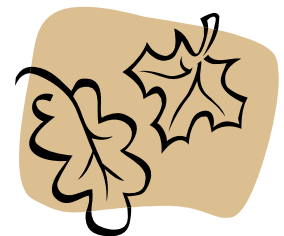
### CALENDAR

#### November

- 1 No School - Professional Day for Teachers
- 5 Parent Education Speaker - 7:30 p.m.
- 9 Early Release Day - 12:35 p.m. - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 12 Early Release Day - 12:35 p.m. - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 16 Bingo Night
- 22-23 Thanksgiving Break

#### December

- 4 PTA Date (Possible Family Night for Book Fair/Hanukkah starts)
- 24 Winter Break Begins



## Sally Foster –Thanks and Keep Shopping!

Thank you for your support of the Sally Foster fundraiser. It is Carderock's biggest fundraiser of the year, and profits from our sales almost single-handedly support activities throughout the year, such as Arts & Literacy Night, International Night, cultural arts assemblies, and other ongoing PTA activities.

As a result of our student and parent efforts, we have raised \$7,500 for Carderock thus far. This is a great success for our school; however, we still need \$1,000 in additional sales to reach our budgetary goal. And it's not too late!



Shop online  
at [www.SallyFoster.com](http://www.SallyFoster.com)  
through January 15 and  
continue earning money  
for our school.

You can shop on [www.SallyFoster.com](http://www.SallyFoster.com) through Jan. 15, 2008, and our PTA will continue earn a 50% profit on all orders placed on our behalf. It's easy –

- Go to [www.SallyFoster.com](http://www.SallyFoster.com),
- View the products,
- Place your order, and
- When prompted, enter our school account number, 501383.

During our official campaign, sales were tracked by student participation. We want to acknowledge our top five sellers: Jake Fechter, Alex Weiler, Will Caudron, Ben Caudron, and Becky Keteltas. In addition, Mrs. Cloherty's 4<sup>th</sup> grade class had the most participants per class. Thank you all for your efforts!

If you haven't already, tell your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers about [www.SallyFoster.com](http://www.SallyFoster.com) – keep shopping and help us achieve our goal!

## Parent Education -- Christine Fruehwirth

The first Parent Education event of the school year will focus on one of the two remaining topics from last year's parent survey, "Developing positive body image and self-esteem in our children." The discussion will take place on Monday, November 5th at 7:30 pm in the All Purpose Room at Carderock. Please note this date has changed due to the speaker's schedule.

Our expert that evening will be Dr. Kay Abrams, a licensed psychologist with Abrams and Associates LLC in Kensington, MD. In addition to her private practice, Dr. Abrams is a clinical consultant and public speaker to schools and mental health agencies. Her areas of expertise are behavioral assessment and management of young children, parent coaching, adolescent psychology, and eating disorders. She is published frequently and appears on local radio and television talk shows. For more information on Dr. Abrams, you can view her website: [www.kayabrams.com](http://www.kayabrams.com).

I am expecting an outline from Dr. Abrams shortly and will be providing more details on the topics she will be discussing later this month. Please contact me if you have questions about the discussion or suggestions to forward on to the speaker.

## Bingo Night Bonanza!!!!

Join your classmates, friends, and neighbors at Bingo Night!!! Friday, November 16, at 7 p.m. at Pyle Middle School. There will be lots of game prizes, door prizes, food, and fun!!!! Plan to come and win!!!! We still need adult volunteers to make the evening great - please contact Lauren Gross at [LaurenGinMD@aol.com](mailto:LaurenGinMD@aol.com) if you can help.



