

# Shark Report



SCHNECKSVILLE ELEMENTARY

DECEMBER 2009



## MR. BOWEN'S MESSAGE

The winter months are upon us even though the recent warm spell makes you think twice. This brings up an issue about recess and the weather. It is my responsibility to make the decision if the weather is suitable for outdoor recess. The students will go outside on most days even if it is cold. Elementary schools cancel recess when the real feel temperature reaches 20 degrees. Please make sure your child(ren) is dressed appropriately. Recently, I have seen students only wear a sweatshirt and in a couple of cases shorts, to school. This will not be sufficient when the cold winds blow across the field around the school. In addition, the walk to and from the bus stop can be a cold adventure. I recommend that children have gloves, hats, and heavy coats, as we get further into winter.

In addition, we have come across a situation where parents forget either to send in a pick up note or call at the last minute in an attempt to have a child meet them at parent pick-up. Please send in a note if your child will be parent pick-up.

Thank you and Happy Holidays.  
- Mr. Bowen



## HOLIDAY BREAK

December 24 –  
January 1  
See you on January 4<sup>th</sup>!



## WINTER CONCERT

Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>  
@ 7 PM

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's December already and this month will go by quickly. With less than 3 weeks before the Holiday Break, the PTO has a lot going on this month. We will be hosting a Reception after the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus and Band Concert on the 4<sup>th</sup>, along with the Poinsettia Sale Order Pick-up the same night. The Holiday Shoppe will be open the following Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> and we are expecting a "Holiday Guest" at 6pm. Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> is the Staff Appreciation Breakfast. This is a highly anticipated annual event that all Staff, District Administrators, retired Staff and School Board members are invited to. The Decorating Committee transforms our Cafeteria into an elegant winter wonderland and a hot breakfast buffet is served, thanks to delicious donations by dozens of parents.

This year the PTO has arranged for Christmas City Studios to photograph our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band and Chorus members in school on the day of the concert. We felt that parents may appreciate the opportunity to order commemorative photos and also send a message to the students that this event, and the work they put into it, is a "picture worthy" accomplishment. Since this is the first time we are trying this, I would appreciate any feedback you are willing to share.

I would like to thank Denise Bartynski and Brian Bell for chairing the Poinsettia Sale and Teri Fejes for chairing and running the Holiday Shoppe.

The PTO has arranged a Schnecksville Day at Independence Family Fun Center on Wednesday, December 30<sup>th</sup>. On this date, all Schnecksville Elementary Families will receive half price Admission and Laser Tag games will be reduced from \$5 to \$1.50. The idea was that the kids (and parents) may be getting a little itchy to see

their friends and this could be a win/win for everyone.

In early January we will be sending home a Student Directory Update form. If your contact information has changed or if there was an error in the Directory published in October, this is your opportunity to have the correct information distributed. This form will also be available on our website, [schnecksvillepto.com](http://schnecksvillepto.com), in January.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a joyous Holiday and a Happy New Year!

- Laura

## POINSETTIA PICK UP

Pick up plants on  
**Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>** from 4 – 5 pm,  
and during the 5<sup>th</sup> grade concert  
**7:30 – 8:30 pm** in  
the Cafeteria.



## DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

- 4: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band & Chorus Concert & Reception
- 4: Poinsettia Sale Order Pick Up
- 7: Market Day Order Pick Up
- 8: PTO Board Meeting
- 8: School Store Open
- 11: Holiday Shoppe
- 17: Staff Appreciation Breakfast
- 18: Crazy Hat Spirit Day
- 22: School Store Open
- 24 – 31: School Closed
- Jan 4: Back to School

KidStuff books make great gifts! They are available for \$25. Please contact Denise Bartynski at 610-799-9836 to order.



## SCHNECKSVILLE STUDENT COUNCIL

Seventeen students have been elected by their fourth and fifth grade peers to represent them as 2009-2010 Schnecksville Student Council. In addition, seven 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are returning as Classroom Representatives, having been elected by their peers last year. The Student Council is advised by Mrs. Cathy Sweeney, Reading Specialist, and Mrs. Andrea Marzano, Instructional Support Teacher, with the support of Mr. Bowen and the PTO. The following students are Schnecksville Student Council Representatives:

Mr. Hoffman's Class: Jenna Lehr, Charlotte Reid, & Christian Kinsley

Mrs. Lesser's Class: Makenzie Wolfe & Robert Carlson

Mrs. Mandry's Class: Christiana Lenzer & Connor Baker

Mrs. Wilder's Class: Katrina Olenwine & Blake Shalbert

Mrs. Andreoli's Class: Rachel Laird, Heather Ludwig, Erica Reyes, Max Stempel, & Kevin Wertz

Mrs. Hausman's Class: Lisa Conte, Kaitlyn Monkiewicz, John McCauley, & Michael Kupres

Mrs. Marshaleck's Class: Autumn Carrigan, Zachary Bacz, & Tanner Rice

Mrs. Urban's Class: Mackenzie Fitzgerald, Lauren Madeira, & Aaron Gober

On Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009, an election was held to select the 2009-2010 Student Council Officers. The candidates for each office gave a speech on "Shark Files" before the students voted. Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 went to a voting booth near the library to cast their ballot. The newly elected Student Council Officers are:

President: Mackenzie Fitzgerald

Vice President: Kaitlyn Monkeiewicz

Secretary: Rachel Laird

Treasurer: Lauren Madeira

**Congratulations to all the Student Council Representatives and Officers!**



## PTO SCHOLARSHIP

A \$250 scholarship will be awarded to two Parkland High School graduating seniors who will be attending an institution of higher learning. Students must have attended Schnecksville Elementary School for at least one full academic year, with one of the years being 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Two letters of recommendation must be submitted, with one reference from a Parkland School District faculty member. The following essay question shall be answered:

*"Which Schnecksville Elementary School staff member had the greatest influence on you, how did he/she influence you, and how will, or have you, used this influence?"*

Deadline: March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Visit <http://schnecksvillePTO.com/forms.html> to download the application.

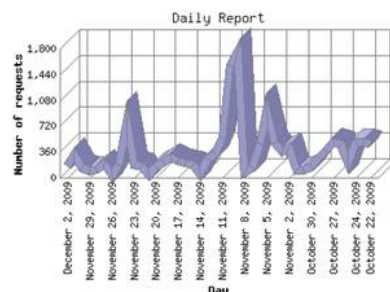
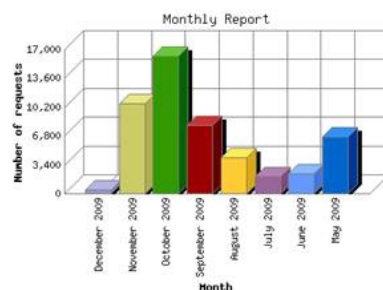
## HOLIDAY SHOPPE



The Holiday Shoppe is **Friday December 11<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm**. Additional help is still needed

with set-up starting at 2pm and clean-up starting at 7:30. If you can help out, please contact Teri Fejes at [trggsfej@ptd.net](mailto:trggsfej@ptd.net) or 610-769-4169.

## WEB SITE STATS



## HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

The school staff members have asked us to convey their thanks to the parents who donated snack items during Conference Week. Special thanks go to Fawn Albert and Barbara Brown for contacting parents and coordinating the donations. The committee kept the staff full with fruit, granola bars, and cheese and crackers and of course baked goods and chocolate!!

## Schnecksville Day @ IFFC



Half price admission and \$1.50 Laser Tag for all Schnecksville families on Wednesday

December 30<sup>th</sup> from 10am - 8pm.

This is not a private event, however this special offer is for Schnecksville Elementary families only.

Admission Tickets will be sold at the door that day. Just tell them you are from Schnecksville and you will receive the reduced rates. Skaters are the only ones charged an admission fee. Parents or guardians that do not plan on skating will not be charged. IFFC does allow patrons to bring their own indoor roller skates/inline skates. For questions, contact Laura Bronzo at 610-769-4411 or [laurabronzo@yahoo.com](mailto:laurabronzo@yahoo.com)

## FAMILY BINGO NIGHT!



Mark your calendars!  
**January 15<sup>th</sup>** at 7 pm in the Cafeteria.

## YEARBOOK

Get ready for our yearbook pre-sale – coming in January! We will be taking advance orders for our awesome **FULL-COLOR** 2009 - 2010 yearbook from **January 11 – January 22, 2010**. Get ready to order! Don't miss this opportunity to snap up your yearbook at the discounted pre-sale price of \$13.75! Next Meeting: December 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 in the cafeteria

## THE GREAT SCHNECKSVILLE SNOWBALL FIGHT

Starting December 1<sup>st</sup>, for every 10 BoxTops a class turns in, they will receive a Snowball of Kindness to "throw" at another class of their choice. The classroom throwing the most snowballs and the class receiving the most by December 16<sup>th</sup>, will meet for The Great Schnecksville Snowball Fight on December 21<sup>st</sup> in the Gym.



The Snowball Fight will actually be a friendly game of Dodgeball using soft, squishy Phys Ed class gym balls and it should be great fun for the kids. For this event, a special collection sheet will be sent home with the students next week. Additional sheets can be obtained outside the main office. All BoxTops collected during this event will be counted towards the ongoing 1000 Box Tops-Philly Pretzel Party incentive and the soon-to-be-announced February BoxTops Contest.



Our next Market Day pickups are on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and January 11<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions or are able to help with the sale, please contact Tammy Staudt at [tekkstaudt@aol.com](mailto:tekkstaudt@aol.com) or 610-799-5871.

### SCHOOL STORE

Dec 8<sup>th</sup> and Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>

## Spirit Wear

Sales are complete for now.  
Look for another in the spring!

## COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 11/19 Topic: Funding for Special Education Programs, Budget Mandates/ Legislation by Mr. John Vignone, Rob Thornburg

### Revenue Resources:

- *Local* (82%) = \$103,642.698 including the use of \$4,500,000 of the fund balance and a \$500,000 transfer to the Capital Reserve Fund
- *State* (16.3%) = State contributions (including game dollars) of \$20,568,835
- *Federal* (1.5%) = Federal contributions of \$1,914,706

### Expenditures:

- *Instructional Programs* - 58% = \$75,731,316
- *Services in Support of Instruction* - 29% = \$37,773,868
- *Other Financing Uses including Debt Services* - 12% = \$16,537,457
- *Non-Instructional Services* - 1% = \$1,383,598

**Next Mtg:** 12/16 PHS Tour & Concert

## SCRIPS GIFT CARDS

Our Scrips gift card fundraiser runs all year long. We have cards available for places you visit regularly, such as **Weis Markets**, **Giant Foods**, restaurants, department stores and more. Have a birthday party coming up? How about a Toys R Us gift card! Consider purchasing a Scrips gift card for all your shopping and gift giving needs. These cards are easy to use and you can purchase them at *no additional cost to you*. Simply fill out an order form, enclose a check made out to "Schnecksville PTO" and put it in an envelope marked "Scrips". Your gift cards will be delivered to you in about a week. If you have any questions, contact Jeanine Snyder at [morgdylcam@ptd.net](mailto:morgdylcam@ptd.net) or 610-799-5266. The most up-to-date order form is also available at [www.SchnecksvillePTO.com](http://www.SchnecksvillePTO.com)

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Thanks4Giving! 11 boxes of food were delivered to Agape Food Pantry on Saturday November 21<sup>st</sup>.



North Whitehall Township has adopted 3 Pennsylvania soldiers currently serving in Iraq through the non-profit organization Adopt-a-Platoon. The Community Outreach Committee and the Student Council have teamed up with the Township to bring holiday cheer to local servicemen and women. Our students will be writing letters and decorating holiday cards and ornaments in class. We will also be donating items for a holiday care package that NWT will pack and ship. Collection dates run from December 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> and boxes are located in both lobbies. If you have any questions, please contact Nina Weiss ([nweiss@ptd.net](mailto:nweiss@ptd.net) or 769.5898).

### DAILY NUMBERS



Numbers are posted online at <http://schnecksvillepto.com/numbers.html>

**Friday December 18<sup>th</sup>  
Crazy Hat Spirit Day!**



Next Meeting:  
January 21<sup>st</sup> @ 9:30 am  
in the Cafeteria

*Next Edition: Fri Jan 8<sup>th</sup>*