

Shark Report



SCHNECKSVILLE ELEMENTARY

JANUARY 2010



MR. BOWEN'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! I hope this year brings you health and happiness. The second marking period is over at the end of this month and we are in the heart of the school year. It is important that we keep the lines of communication open as the school year progresses. I encourage you to contact you child's teacher if you have any concerns with your child's education. By being proactive, we can eliminate any potential problems.

WINTER WEATHER DELAYS AND CLOSINGS

In the past, the winter weather always affected the school in some way. This year seems to be no different. With the new ConnectEd system, you get a phone call and e-mail for all weather-relayed dismissals and cancellations. You can also check the District's website, <http://www.parklandsd.org/>, or other local media to find out about any cancellations or delays. Please do not call the school. Calling the school ties the lines up and the website usually is updated before we get a call. Please remember that we will not skip a day in the 5-day cycle in the event of a school closing.



Student Council is conducting a fund drive during lunch the week of 1/19-22 to raise money to aid quake victims in Haiti.

Hands Helping Haiti

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy New Year! The PTO Board has welcomed a new member, Toni Kinsley. Toni has graciously agreed to take over as VP of Social Events for Karen Diaz. Karen's son, Reese, has joined the cast of the National Tour of Disney's Beauty and the Beast, so they will be spending the next few months on the road. We wish them luck in their new adventure.

The PTO is working on getting organized for the 2nd half of the year. The Volunteer Survey was sent home with the students last week. Please consider getting involved with something that you would enjoy. We are also in the process of publishing an Update to the Student Directory. If you would like your child's contact information updated or corrected, please complete the Directory Update form that was also sent home last week. If you did not receive one of these forms, they can be found on our website, <http://schnecksvillepto.com>.

In December, the PTO organized the Staff Appreciation Holiday Breakfast. The event, which was attended by current and retired staff, School Board members, Dr. Donahue and PSD Administrators, was a tremendous success. I would like to thank Ruth Tobia, Andrea Averill, Brian Bell and Jeanine Snyder for planning and organizing this event. In addition, many members of the Yearbook Committee were involved in collecting videos of the students thanking staff members and these were converted into a DVD presentation by Jim Averill. I would also like to thank parents, over 40 of them, who donated breakfast items.

Last month, the PTO hosted the Annual Holiday Shoppe. I am grateful to Teri Fejes for organizing and running this event that the students really enjoy. I would also like to thank Louella Joyner's parents, Larry and Grace Myers, for making a very timely visit that allowed the kids to deliver their Wish Lists personally.

Finally, I would like to ask for your help. Preparations are under way for the Third Annual Basket Raffle in March. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and it is an "all hands on deck" type of event. We are currently in the process of soliciting donations. If you would be willing to visit a small group of area businesses or solicit a personal or professional contact you have with an area business, it would be a tremendous help. Please contact me at 610-769-4411 or laurabronzo@yahoo.com for additional information.

Hope to see you all at Family Bingo Night on the 15th!
- Laura

MONTH AT A GLANCE

- 1 - New Year's Day - School Closed
- 4 - Back to School
- 12 - PTO Board Meeting
- 12 - School Store Open
- 14 - Yearbook Mtg @9:30 am Cafe
- 14 - Basket Raffle Mtg @6:45 library
- 15 - Family Night Bingo @7 pm Cafeteria
- 18 - School Closed
- 19 - Market Day Order Pick Up
- 21 - General PTO Mtg @9:30 am Cafeteria
- 22 - Snow Date for Bingo Night
- 26 - School Store Open
- 29 - Early Dismissal
- 2/5 - K-2 Skating Party @IFFC 6:30-9 pm

FREE & REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATION REMINDER

Although applications were sent home with all students at the beginning of the school year, we realize that over the course of a school year, unforeseen circumstances occur and household financial circumstances can change. Therefore, please take time to review the free and reduced lunch information at <http://www.parklandsd.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/lunchletterdec2009.pdf> to determine whether your household may now qualify for this benefit. Students who qualify for free or reduced lunches remain anonymous to other students and teachers as information is kept confidential.

IF YOU CURRENTLY RECEIVE THIS BENEFIT, YOU DO NOT NEED TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION.

Completed FREE AND REDUCED APPLICATIONS should be brought back to school and returned to the building secretary **OR** mailed to the **Food Service Department at 2219 North Cedar Crest Boulevard Allentown, PA 18104** no later than **Friday, February, 26, 2010.**

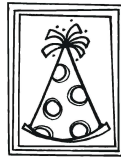
5TH GRADE WINTER CONCERT OUTSTANDING!

The 5th grade winter band and chorus concert was held December 4th and it was wonderful!! Many, Many thanks to Vicki Sidleck, Fawn Albert, Mary Braccili, and students Blake Sidleck, Stuart Albert, Matt and Lauren Braccili, Mackenzie, Zachary and Garrett Fitzgerald for helping set up the decorations in the gym. Thank you for your time after school and your creativity. Thank you also to all the fifth grade parents who donated baked goods, cups and juice for the reception after the concert; the children devoured them!!



FAMILY BINGO NIGHT!
January 15th at 7 pm in the

Cafeteria.



Birthday table volunteers for December were Jeanine Sotack, Tara Carrigan and Melody Terrano. Thank you!

A STAR IS BORN!

Did you know? 4th grader Reese Diaz is on Tour with *Beauty and the Beast* in the role of Chip. You can follow his adventures at <http://reesesebastian Diaz.blogspot.com>. Leave him a comment – he'd



love to hear from you! The show opens on February 9th, so he is busy preparing for opening night. The show rolls into Scranton, PA on June 1 – June 6th. <http://www.beautyandthebeastontour.com/>

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION



Our Snowball contest was a huge success! Congrats to Mrs. Reichard's

class for earning the most snowballs. Our next contest has started and runs through February 19th. The class collecting the most BoxTops wins a trip to an Iron Pigs baseball game!! There's only one caveat – your class must collect at least 1000 BoxTops before February 19th. *The BoxTops you brought in for the snowball contest count toward this contest as well.* You can use the collection sheets we sent home or just put your BoxTops in a bag with your name on it and put it in your classroom collection box. And remember, the student donating the most BoxTops over the course of the year will win a \$25 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble. Any questions, please contact Jeanine

Snyder at 610-799-5266 or morgdylcam@ptd.net.

CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS

Campbell's rewards us with free merchandise like playground equipment, school supplies and electronics just for sending in the UPC labels from the backs of the cans. It's easy to do. Just clip the UPCs from the labels and send them in to school. There is a collection bin near the PTO box for you to deposit them in. If you have any questions or would like to help count and trim labels, please contact Ruth Tobia at rtobia@ptd.net or 610-769-4760.



TARGET VISA CARD

Do you shop at Target? Do you use a Target Visa Card? If you've answered yes, please consider registering your card at



www.Target.com/tcoe to support our school. 1% of all your Target purchases and ½% of all other purchases is donated to our school at no additional cost to you. We have earned over \$3000 from participating in this program. And, it's absolutely **FREE!** Please sign up today!

PRINTER CARTRIDGE RECYCLING



Our school earns **FREE** money and we help the environment by recycling used printer cartridges. Simply drop them in the collection box by the Main Entrance.



Next Meeting:
January 21st @
9:30 am
in the
Cafeteria

GIFT CARD SALES

Weis, Weis, Weis!!! With the holidays behind us, you may think gift card



sales are no longer needed. Not true! **We earn 5% of all**

Weis and Giant gift cards purchased.

And you can use these for your weekly grocery shopping. We keep these cards in stock as well as several others so place your order today and help out our kids! 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 with "Scrips" on the box. Your gift cards will be delivered to you in about a week. If you have any questions, or need an additional order form, contact Jeanine Snyder at morgdylcam@ptd.net or 610-799-5266. The most up-to-date order form is also available at www.SchnecksvillePTO.com.



Market Day

Our next Market Day pickup is on Tuesday, January 19th. If you have any questions or are able to help with the sale, please contact Tammy Staudt at tekkstaudt@aol.com or 610-799-5871. 2/16 - Market Day Pick-Up.

THIRD ANNUAL BASKET RAFFLE AND TALENT SHOW



Our 3rd Annual Basket Raffle will be held the weekend of March

19th. If you are interested in helping plan this event or would like to make a donation, please contact Jeanine Snyder at 610-799-5266 or morgdylcam@ptd.net for more information. More information on the Talent Show will be coming soon!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE

THANK YOU! 11 boxes were packed up at the conclusion of the Soldier drive... 3 boxes of letters, cards and ornaments from the children and 7 boxes for the soldiers, full of food and personal care items. Special thanks to Student Council and Mrs. Marzano and Mrs. Sweeney for their help! Thanks to North Whitehall Township for shipping the boxes!



From the soldier...

My whole platoon is grateful that you've sent so much to us. Everything is put to use. We read every card from every package. We hope to send you a video, assuming we can get a hold of a CD or DVD to write it on.

Being a Combat arms unit, we have no females. We have a platoon of Military police here that do have females but they do their own thing and we hardly have time to interact. The mountains are as high as the sky and covered in snow. We climb them from time to time to make sure there aren't any bad guys up there trying to hurt us or the towns people. We frequently patrol the towns to meet with the local elders to see what help they need and to help the afghan national army to take charge so we can one day leave this country for good.

Thanks for everything, we have to go out and patrol in a while. Let us know if the kids have any questions about Afghanistan.

Spc Smith
Airborne Cavalry Scout

Next Up for Community Outreach... Clean closets!

via We will be holding a **clothing drive** to benefit VIA from 1/19 – 1/29. Fliers with details will be coming home soon (no sorting necessary!). Please contact Joyce Smith smith1017@gmail.com with questions or visit www.vianet.org/ for more information about the organization.

YEARBOOK

We will be taking advance orders for our awesome **FULL-COLOR** 2009 - 2010 yearbook from 1/11 – 1/22. Don't miss this opportunity to snap up your yearbook at the discounted pre-sale price of \$13.75!

Next Meeting: 2/11/10 @9:30 in the cafeteria.

CAC

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL
12/16/09: We toured the TV/video room at PHS and watched a taping of the morning announcements.

Next Meeting: 1/21 7 PM Ad

Center: *Role of Superintendent/School Board*, Dr. Louise Donohue, Mrs. Roberta Marcus. Minutes from previous meetings:

http://www.parklandsd.org/?page_id=1112



SCHOOL STORE

Jan 12 & 26
During lunches.
Email Sherry if you can help from 11 – 1.

sherry796@aol.com

BONUS BOX TOPS! JUST IN TIME FOR THE FEBRUARY BOX TOPS CONTEST!

Weis is offering **Bonus Box Tops** from January 17th through January 23rd. Purchase 6 participating** General Mills items - receive 30 Bonus Box Tops. Purchase 8, receive 50 Bonus Box Tops. You must use your Weis Club Card and purchases must be made in one shopping visit.

** Go to schnecksvillepto.com to see a list of the participating General Mills products.

Next Edition: Feb 5th