



Villa Teresa PTO News

OCTOBER 2009

HAPPY OCTOBER!

Notes from the President:

Thank you to all of those who helped with the ice cream social! It was a wonderful night of topping, scooping and face painting.

So many of you have shared your positive comments about our newsletter. Jennifer Hopkins agreed to take over the newsletter. We will email the newsletter to those who have email accounts, otherwise we will place a hard copy in your child's mailbox. The newsletter will also be located on the Villa Teresa School web site.

Thank you for attending our first PTO meeting. Although we promised pizza, we tried a healthier choice... sandwiches. The sandwiches were a bit late, because when Diana showed up to pick up the six 6 foot sandwiches only one had been made. Eeks! So thank you for your patience. Our first meeting went a little long, but I think that is to be expected for the first meeting. We will try to be very sensitive and stick to our 30 minutes or less rule. During the October meeting we will have a principal report, committee updates, discussion of old business and permit time to discuss new business.

If you have not done so, please take the opportunity to meet your homeroom parent representative. The homeroom parents will be working closely with the PTO this year. They will be communicating with you to arrange items for the fall carnival, teacher appreciation days and the spring soiree classroom contribution.

Feedback is always welcomed. What can we do better? Do you have new ideas? If you would like to email me your comments, I will be happy to share with the other officers. If you wish to write your comments, we do have a PTO mailbox next to the door for the front office in the main building. The mailbox is white, with PTO written on the outside.

Thank you Amber Frost and all of the subcommittee chairs. Your enthusiasm is impressive!

Thank you Trisha Angiollo and Paula Lewis for your hard work organizing the fall athletic teams!

Notes from the Vice-President:

YEAH! The shirts finally arrived. I am so sorry for the delay but we encountered numerous problems with our supplier. If you ordered shirts and have not received them feel free to contact me at socialauditor@gmail.com or stop by the front office and Mandy can help you. As the weather starts to get colder we can place another order for sweatshirts and long sleeve shirts if need be. Shirt orders and payments are always accepted in the front office. Thank you for your patients.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Wood Chips	10/2
<i>*****Double Volunteer Hours*****</i>	
Halloween Carnival Meeting	10/6
	10/13
	10/20
PTO Meeting	10/13
Irmis	10/13
Johnnies	10/18

Fundraising Opportunities

Donating time and talent - We have encouraged the teachers and staff to think of ways that we parents can help them with our time and talents in lieu of donations.

Box Tops! Thank you Mrs. McKinley for agreeing to head the box top collection this year. She has some very exciting things in store for us.

Drink Pouch and Cookie Bag Collections

Bring in your drink pouches (the kind where you punch in the straw and drink directly from the pouch) such as Capri Sun, Honest Kids, etc. (NOT juice boxes and NOT packets containing drink mixes) and each Nabisco brand cookies bag (Oreo, Chips Ahoy, Nutter Butter, Fig Newton, etc.). Our school can earn 2¢ for each pouch & bag.

Eat Out and Help Villa Teresa - Irma's night is always the 2nd Tuesday of the month (10/13). Johnnie's night is always the 3rd Sunday (10/18).

Shop at HOMELAND - Associate your HOMELAND shopper card with the VTS code 61119, and we will earn money with every purchase.

Volunteer Hours Opportunities

OCTOBER 2 - DOUBLE VOLUNTEER HOURS

Wood Chips – Get your shovels, wheelbarrows, rakes and backs ready for the annual wood chip extravaganza. We are going to place 200 cubic yards of wood chips. Food and drinks will be provided by the PTO and you will receive **Double Volunteer Hours!!**

OCTOBER 24

Fall carnival - We need volunteers for set-up, decorations, games, food, bingo, clean-up. Volunteer sheets were included in your student handbook and will be posted in the main building.

OCTOBER 26

Faculty meeting - We need volunteers for after-school care during the staff faculty meeting.

Halloween Carnival

The Halloween Carnival is fast approaching and the excitement is mounting in my house. We have been meeting every Tuesday at 5:30 to make plans for the carnival, if you are able please join us. Each of the teachers has selected their class basket theme to be raffled off at the end of the carnival. Your help in filling these baskets is vital to the success of the raffle and all of the funds raised will be returned to the teacher to be used in their classroom. The LC-2 ½ and LC-3 will be collecting cans of soda, juice, and/or water to be sold at the carnival. LC-4 through 3rd grade will be asked to bring cakes, pies, breads, or a 2 dozen cookies or brownies for the bake sale and cake walk. These items can be brought in the Friday before the carnival. The 4th graders are responsible for bringing suckers for the sucker pull. We will also be sponsoring our annual pumpkin decorating contest. Pumpkins need to be brought to the school Wednesday, October 21st. Finally, it takes so many volunteers to successfully run the carnival and this is a way to have fun and complete some of your volunteer hours. Sign-up sheets are located outside the cafeteria in the main school and beside the sign-in/sign-out books in LC-3 and LC-4. I would like to say thank you to all of those who have agreed to be subcommittee chairs and to all of those who have already signed up to volunteer. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me, Amber Frost, at socialauditor@gmail.com.

Birthday Book Club

Please remember to bring in a hardback book that has been selected by your child during their birthday month. The child's name will be placed in the front of the book and given to Sr. Joseph Marie to be placed in the library.

Fall Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Fall Fundraiser a huge success!!! Together we sold \$25,145 in cookies and brownies...for a total income of \$10,058!!!! Way to go everyone! This will help the PTO fund the various projects and activities for this school this year. The cookies will be delivered the week of Oct. 12th-Oct 16th, so mark your calendars now!

Annual Wood Chip Extravaganza

Many hands make light work! Please consider bringing your rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows, wagons, play tractors, etc... to the Annual Wood Chip Extravaganza on October 2nd. We will have huge piles of wood chips to move onto the 3 playgrounds and in the area between LC-3 and the big school. The PTO will provide pizza, drinks and other snacks to ensure that you are fed and hydrated! I bet we could move the piles in less than 3 hours! We will start "wood chipping" at 4:30 that day. If you plan to help, would you please email me (beth-degrace@ouhsc.edu). Thank you!

Parent Mentoring/Buddy System

One thing we talked about last year was starting a parent mentoring/buddy system. For example, if your child was in LC-4 last year you could be available for answering questions of parents in LC-4 this year. Is this something we should pursue? Let Beth know!

Spring Soiree

Chaya Fletcher and I would like your help in organizing the spring soiree. We are specifically looking for individuals who are interested in item acquisition, decorations and marketing. Please contact me (beth-degrace@ouhsc.edu) if you are interested in helping and we will find a time for the committee to meet.

Ms. Angela's Classroom News

For those with children in Ms. Angela's LC-3 class, you can find her classroom news by visiting her web site at:

<http://sites.google.com/a/villateresaschool.com/pink-flamingos/>.

PTO 2009-2010 Goals

The three goals for this year include:

1. Completing a "welcome to Villa Teresa booklet" from the PTO. I envision this as a booklet written in a Q & A format for parent questions and then pictures/stories for the new children as a way to ease the transition into a new school.
2. Connecting volunteer work with family time and trying to make volunteer work, volunteer play.
3. Establishing a Healthy Together initiative at Villa Teresa. A way to promote healthy eating and leisure choices. An ad hoc committee headed by Theresa Seitz, Leslie Saenz and Jill Shaunel has been established.

Ice Cream Social



Healthy Together

Encourage healthy choices.

Help your child learn to make healthy food and lifestyle choices by following these steps:

- Be a good role model. Practice the eating and exercise habits you'd like your children to have. Your example is your child's most powerful learning tool.
- Increase active time. Make physical activity a part of your family's daily life. Set limits on your child's daily TV and computer time to no more than 2 hours a day.
- Eat breakfast. Having breakfast with your child can help start a lifelong healthy habit.
- Involve your child in meal planning and grocery shopping. When your child is old enough, teach him or her about food preparation, cooking and food safety and, later, how to use food label information. While giving your child a role in decision making, remember that you have the final say in food planning.
- Involve your child in cooking. Children enjoy helping out, and they learn easily with hands-on experience. They can also use other skills, such as math, when counting or measuring ingredients.

Source: <http://www.webmd.com/parenting/tc/healthy-eating-for-children-changing-your-familys-eating-habits>

We would love to have your ideas and input. Sign up to join the committee at the first PTO meeting, or email one of our co-chairpersons:

Theresa Seitz - seitztm@oge.com

Leslie Saenz - lsaenz@kpmg.com

Birthday Bash

Mrs. Bicks' (2nd grade) celebrated her birthday last month with her class. Her homeroom parent, Paula Gander, planned an extra special day for her. They started the day with Krispy Kreme donuts for the teachers and staff of Villa Teresa. Later on, the kids enjoyed cupcakes and the rest of the Villa staff shared a ½ sheet of cake in the cafeteria. Her class also gave Mrs. Bicks a small rose bush and a gift card to Target. She seemed to really enjoy everything and told the kids they really made her feel special today.



Q & A

Q: *Do kids dress up for the fall carnival?*

A: Yes, many kids do dress up in the Halloween costumes and some parents do too! Please remember that we have games and inflatable's, so you may want to put your child in a costume that "works" with these activities.

Q: *I feel bad that I cannot make it to the PTO meetings or volunteer my time at most of the scheduled PTO events, what can I do?*

A: First of all, we have enough guilt as parents...do not feel guilty about not making it to meetings or scheduled PTO events. There are number of volunteer opportunities that have flexible hours (e.g. item acquisition for the spring soiree, helping teachers prepare classroom activities). We also welcome your thoughts and ideas on ways to volunteer your time.

Q: *How do I log volunteer hours?*

A: You can log volunteer hours at the front office in the main building or keep a log of your own hours and turn these into Sr. Veronica.

Q: *What is "Cram the Can"?*

A: Each teacher is collecting items for her classroom gift basket that will be on display at the fall carnival. Rather than a silent auction, tickets can be purchased for \$1. On the tickets you will put your name and contact information. You then "cram the can" by placing your ticket in the can that belongs to the basket you hope to win. After the drawings, the tickets are counted, and the teacher receives the money raised by her basket to spend on items for the classroom! The PTO guarantees a minimum of \$100 to each teacher that participates. Without your support in both basket donations and ticket purchases, the teachers would not receive these much needed funds for the classroom.

Villa People

We are going to offer newsletter space for families, teachers and staff to advertise their companies and talents. Examples include; guitar lessons, plumbing services, painting, roofing, construction, beauty services, etc. Please contact Beth DeGrace (beth-degrace@ouhsc.edu) with the name, description and contact information and we will include it in the upcoming newsletter.

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Teacher & Staff Wish Lists

Ms Emily (LC3)

Homeroom Parent: Melanie Stucky

Play-doh
Water toys (for water center)
Sand toys (for sand center)
Bag of Sand
Dress-up outfits
New baby dolls
Food & dishes for kitchen
Stencils (letters, numbers & shapes)
Science & math games

Ms Angela (LC3)

Homeroom Parent: Theresa Seitz

Play-doh
Music CD
Music toys (for music center)
Soft toys
Dramatic play clothes for girls & boys
Dishes (for kitchen center)
Baby dolls &/or Barbies with clothes
Barbies for boys
Toys for boy (any)

Ms Marilyn (LC3)

Homeroom Parent: Kelly Goebel

Ms Hope (LC3)

Homeroom Parent: Kelli Bass

Reams of color copy paper
Play-doh
Wooden (golf size) beads
ABC Sing-a-long CD
Puzzles for 2 & 3 yr olds

Ms Ellen (LC3)

Homeroom Parent: Susan Kane

Kitchen sink
Cups and board
Baby dolls
Dress up clothes for girls and boys
Play-doh
Dress up shoes for girls
Clothes' hanger
Cars
Trucks
Trains

Mrs Balloon (LC4)

Homeroom Parents: Tracey Gipson

Joleen Harris

Melissa Simmons

Gift cards: WalMart, Target, Michael's,
Mardel, Lakeshore
Circle/group time rug
Access to internet

Ms Mary (LC4)

Homeroom Parent: Amber Frost

DS236 - Giant dancing scarves
TC172 - Moon sand (3 pkgs of 5 lbs ea)
RA503 - Magna cars & trucks
BT750 - Bristle block starter set
LC1415 - 15 player rhythm set
DD544 - Play all around dollhouse furniture
DD658 - Super safe magnifiers
PX2128 - Liquid tempera (1 gallon, all colors)

All items are from 2008 Lakeshore catalog



Sr Mary Frances (LC 4)

Homerom Parent: Amanda Putman

Treasures for the treasure box
Floor puzzles
Music cd's
Tinker toys and legos
Finger paint
Stickers
Calendar numbers

Ms Rikki (LC4)

Homerom Parent: Diana Pierce

Keena Hargrove

Books by Eric Carle or any that
refer to shapes/numbers/alphabet/emotions

Mrs Hill (K)

Homerom Parent: Lara Ragland

Kathy Johnson

Dress up clothes
Old uniforms
Shoes
Board games
Movement cd's
Up to date pocket chart and stand

Sr Ha (K)

Homerom Parent: Amy Foreman

Leslie Saenz

Ms McKinley (K)

Homerom Parent: Judith Munai

Donna Nguyen

Unifix cubes
Teddy bear counters
Old adult T-shirts (for painting)
Puzzles
Building blocks (legos/lincoln logs tinkertoys/etc.)
Gift cards to WalMart, Lakeshore, Mardels
Dress-up clothes
Kitchen, tool bench, or anything for dramatic play
(2) Pkgs - Expo markers
Velcro
Counters (2 color), clear, checkers

Sr Loan (1st)

Homerom Parent: Brandi Salsman

Non-jammed stapler
Tape refills
Dollar Tree gift card

Ms Herd (1st)

Homerom Parent: Linda Aker

Clorox disinfecting wipes
White copy paper
Board games
Non-fiction books

Mrs Bicks (2nd)

Homerom Parent: Paula Gander

Electric Stapler,
Any Frog and Toad books
Storage shelves
Jan Brett Books
Headphones
Books on tape with three books of the story
Gift cards to Dollar General, Walmart
Hand sanitizer
Clorox wipes
Card stock paper

Mrs Matzek (2nd)

Homerom Parent: Stacy Nix

Listening center - books, player, tapes, earphones,
computer programs for second grade level
Magnets and experimental items, science center,
Books - easy readers - for reading at DEAR time

Mrs Valentour (3rd)

Homerom Parent: Thy Nguyen

Computer cd's for math, reading & language arts

Ms Ciupak (4th)

Homerom Parent: Stacy Lewis, Kelly Ashworth

Wlenyeno Browne

Carpet for Reading Area
Bean bag chairs (1-5)
Pillows
Computer - new or gently used
Flat screen monitor
Small podium
Water pitcher with filter
Mavis Beacon typing software
Small kneeler - 2x4 covered & padded

Ms Sofia (Spanish)

Spanish book for kids
Bilingual books for kids

Ms Nancy

Access to internet

