

Villa Teresa PTO News

September 2009

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year at Villa Teresa School from the PTO Officers!

What's Inside

Fall Fundraiser	2
Fundraising Opportunities	2
Volunteer Hours Opportunities 2	
VTS Wear	2
Healthy Me	3
PTO Dollars	3
Spring Soiree	3
Villa People	5
Teacher Wish Lists	6

Dates To Remember

Fall Carnival Meeting	9/1
PTO Meeting	9/8
Irmas	9/8
Ice Cream Social	9/11
Grandparents' Lunch (LC3/4)	9/14
(K)	9/16
(1st-4th)	9/17
Johnnies	9/20
Wood Chips	10/2

This years Officers are:

Beth DeGrace, President

Beth is a mother of three children at VTS and is married to Derek. This is her second year as PTO President. Beth is responsible for working with all VTS committees and organizing the PTO meetings. The DeGrace family has been at Villa Teresa since 2005.

Amber Frost, Vice President

Amber Frost is the mother of two children and is married to Matt. They have been at Villa since 2005. This is her 1st year as Vice President. She is responsible for the Villa shirts and hoodies, the Fall Carnival and anything the President may need help with.

Diana Bittle, Treasurer

Diana Bittle is mom to Blaise, a 4 year old in LC4. This is our third year at Villa Teresa. As Treasurer, it is Diana's responsibility to handle the financial transactions of the PTO. This is Diana's second year as Treasurer.

Emily Scott, Co-Secretary

Emily Scott is a mother of three children at Villa since 2006. This is her 1st year as Secretary. She is responsible for the minutes of meetings and heading May/June's service project of Autism Awareness.

Suji Jayasekar, Co-Secretary

PTO Sponsored Events include wood chip placement, ice cream social, fall carnival, book fair, teacher appreciation, spring spruce up and the spring soiree. We have monthly meeting scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30. Our goal is for the PTO meeting to be "30 minutes or less". We will try hard to stick to this, because we know time is valuable! We do offer pizza during the meetings, so you will not go hungry. PTO meetings are a great place to learn about current news/ events and more importantly decide how our PTO dollars should be allocated. Other decisions are made at these meetings, too. You are the PTO, we are the officers.

As always, if you have a question, comment or ideas for the PTO, we are here! Just drop a note in our PTO mailbox or send us an email. Our PTO mailbox is white and outside of the front office in the main building.

Fundraising Opportunities

Donating time and talent - We recognize that the economy is in a recession and will be mindful of the donations we ask. 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

Who knew you could earn money from wrappers! 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 - Local restaurants, Irma's and Johnnies, will make a donation to Villa Teresa when you eat out. Irma's night is always the 2nd Tuesday of the month (9/8). Johnnie's night is always the 3rd Sunday (9/20).

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

Volunteer Hours Opportunities

SEPTEMBER 11

Ice Cream Social – We will be looking for help scooping, topping and tattooing. Look for the volunteer sign up sheets in the main building.

SEPTEMBER 28

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

OCTOBER 2

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!

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.

Ice Cream Social

Please join us for the ice cream social on **September 11th**. We will be looking for help scooping, topping and tattooing. Look for the volunteer sign up sheets in the main building and please come and have some ice cream.

Fall Fundraiser

The fall fundraiser is one of the main fundraising activities for the PTO. Our first fall fundraiser will be "Otis Spunkmayer frozen cookie dough". We have allotted \$5,000 of the proceeds for the annual PTO budget and will vote on how to spend the remaining monies at the first PTO meeting.

Fundraiser materials will be sent home with the children at the end of August. Each child that sells just 18 boxes will win a ride in a Hummer limousine to lunch! Orders and money are due back to the school by September 14th. The pickup day for the order pickup will be Thursday, October 15th. As the cookie dough is frozen, please plan to pick it up that day!

Fall Carnival Planning

The first planning meeting will be **September 1st at 5:30**. We will then have meetings every Tuesday until the carnival. Thank you to all who have already signed up to volunteer. This has traditionally been a big hit for both the young and old at VTS and the surrounding community. Every little bit of your time and energy help to ensure the success!

Snack Day Vouchers

In response to parent suggestion, the PTO is piloting a new program this year for Snack Day Vouchers. Each Friday, the children can purchase a special snack (usually popcorn or a snow cone) for \$1.00. A teacher signs up to host the snack day, and 100% of the funds received from the event will enable the teacher to purchase needed items for her classroom. Prior to this year, parents had to send a dollar with each child so that he/she could purchase a snack. The Snack Day Vouchers are pre-paid tickets that the child can use to purchase the Friday snack. Vouchers are sold in sheets of 10 for \$10. The teachers will retain the vouchers, and when your child runs out of vouchers, a notice will be sent home letting you know your child is out of vouchers. Participation is optional...parents can choose to send money each week with the child. Vouchers can be purchased in the front office and after PTO meetings.

VTS Wear

Exciting news that VTS is catching the zippered hoodie wave! We now offer short sleeved, long sleeved and zippered hoodies. We have extras in the room next to the office. The cost is:

- T-shirts - \$5
- Long-Sleeved T-shirts - \$8
- Sweatshirts - \$10
- Zippered Hoodies - \$20

Please remember that children in LC4 are expected to wear VTS wear each day except for Friday.

Our second fall fundraiser will be headed by Alethea Montgomery and that is turning a child's art project into greeting cards. How cool! Perfect gift ideas for the "hard to buy for" people you know.

PTO Gives Back!

The Villa Teresa PTO provided some much needed items to the school this year! Your generous support of fundraising activities such as the fall fundraiser, Halloween carnival, and Spring Soiree made all of these gifts possible. Thank you so much for your support!

- Walkie Talkies
- Art Tables
- Popcorn Machine (with the help of the VTS Girl Scout Troop)
- Mat Holder for LC3
- After-school toys and games
- Additional Security Camera
- Code panel for the side door
- Vacuum for LC3
- Renovation of boys & girls bathrooms in the big school

Spring Soiree

Spirit of 76 (for 76 years) – Please join Beth DeGrace and Chaya Fletcher for a Spring Soiree kick off meeting to be announced at the first PTO meeting.

Birthday Book Club

We have created a fun way to help our library and celebrate your child's birthday. In your child's birthday month purchase a book of your child's choice and drop it by the PTO box with your child's name. We will place a sticker on the inside with your child's name and present the book to Sr. Joseph Marie, our lovely librarian. Sr. Joseph Marie has asked that the books be hardback so that they will hold together better. If you have multiple children or your child has a friend with close to the same birthday, feel free to purchase one book and we will place all the children's names inside. This is also a fun way for the children to share their favorite book with their friends.

Book Fair

Thank you Constance Burris for once again agreeing to lead the book fair!!! Hooray! This year the Book Fair will be

December 7th - 11th.

Healthy Together at VTS

Parents and Teachers - come join the newest committee at Villa Teresa! The members of the Healthy Together committee are committed to the health and well-being of our children. We plan to help the school increase the nutritional value of meals, add healthy variety to daily snacks, and teach and demonstrate as a school, united with our families, the benefits of an active and healthy lifestyle. Whether you are a registered dietician, or a parent who desires to limit your kid's sweet tooth, 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

How to Read Food Labels

Measuring and estimating are great ways to learn portion sizes.

So are using food lists. But reading food labels will open up your world! Food labels will let you fit any food into your meal plan.

1) Look at the "serving size." This will tell you how much you should eat.

2) Look at the grams of "total carbohydrate." That will tell you how much total sugar you are eating in each serving. So you don't even have to look at "Sugar" on the label. Try choosing foods that are less than or equal to 25 grams of total carbohydrate.

3) Look at the calories and the "total fat." This will tell you if the food is healthy or low in fat. Try choosing foods that are 0-3 gm of total fat for every 100 calorie serving. Or try choosing foods this way: Look at the % of Daily Value for total fat. Pick foods that are 5 to 8% of the Daily Value.

Additional Tips

STEP 1: Avoid all sugar drinks. Try drinking more water.

STEP 2: When you eat—eat less! Eat less food at meals and smaller snacks.

STEP 3: Don't skip meals. Try eating three meals each day.

STEP 4: Shop smart. Shop the perimeter of the market, focusing on fresh, wholesome foods.

Drink Pouch and Cookie Bag Collections

Looking for an easy way to support Villa Teresa as well as teach your children about the benefits of recycling? VTS can now receive 2¢ each for 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

Water Fun at Family Night

NOT packets containing drink mixes). We can also receive 2¢ each for Nabisco brand cookies bag (Oreo, Chips Ahoy, Nutter Butter, Fig Newton, etc.) Donated items will be recycled into products ranging from cell phone holders and laptop sleeves to messenger bags, significantly reducing the amount of waste sent to landfills.

Find more info at: <http://www.terracycle.net>

Additionally, parents/staff are welcome to contact me, Lara Ragland, with questions at:

Home Phone: 495-8775

Cell Phone: 473-5272

Home email: navbrat@cox.net

Work email: lara.ragland@tinker.af.mil

Thanks For Your Support!

Thank you Acme Plumbing and Mid America Roofing and Construction for your donations of time and material support during the bathroom renovation in the main building. We really could not have done it without you!

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.

Advertise Your Business or Services Here For FREE

Contact Beth DeGrace at
beth-degrace@ouhsc.edu

Page 6

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

Mrs Balloon (LC4)

Homeroom Parents: Trasey 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

Ms Angela (LC3)

Homerom 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)

Homerom Parent: Kelly Goebel

Ms Hope (LC3)

Homerom 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)

Homerom 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

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)

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

Homeroom Parent: Linda Aker

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

Mrs Bicks (2nd)

Homeroom Parent: Paula Gander

Mrs Matzek (2nd)

Homeroom 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)

Homeroom Parent: Thy Nguyen

Computer cd's for math, reading &
language arts