

Bear Facts



Volume 27, Issue 8

CEDAR GROVE PTA NEWSLETTER

May 2014

PTA President: Michele Tregoning
Principal: Mr. Lee Derby

Vice Presidents: Lori Andrus and Macie Mogot
Treasurer: Lori Marshall

Secretary: Shobha Rajan



PTA President's Message

- Gr 3 FIELD TRIP - CHS May 1
- Gr 1 FIELD TRIP - ROSE HILL MANOR (DAVIS AND STRONG) May 5
- Gr 2 & 3 FIELD DAY May 5, 9:30 – 11:30am
- Gr 1 FIELD TRIP- ROSE HILL MANOR (CARROLL, SEFCIK AND GARDNER) May 6
- Gr 2 & 4 FIELD TRIP – CHS May 6
- PTA MEETING May 6, 7pm
- KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION – NO SCHOOL FOR K STUDENTS May 7,8 & 9
- Gr 4 & 5 FIELD DAY May 12
- PROGRESS REPORT SENT HOME May 12
- Gr K & 1 FIELD DAY May 14
- SGA SPIRIT DAY May 14
- PATROL PICNIC May 15
- WIMS K ORIENTATION May 15, 16
- Gr 4 FIELD TRIP St. MARY'S CITY May 16
- Gr 5 FIELD TRIP HERSHEY PARK May 16
- Gr 5 CLASS PHOTO May 23
- NO SCHOOL- MEMORIAL DAY May 26
- IM CHORUS SPRING CONCERT CG May 28, 2-3pm
- IM CHORUS SPRING CONCERT CHS May 29, 7-8pm
- BOOK FAIR BEGINS May 30
- Gr 4 AUTHOR'S TEA May 30
- FAMILY PICNIC May 30, 5 pm

Dear Cedar Grove Families,

I hope everyone enjoyed Spring Break and was able to spend some quality time with your family! We are down to our last two months of school, but it always seems like that is when we are busiest with all of our school activities. I hope you will have a chance to attend our last few PTA events of this school year!

Thank you to Kristie Scott who chaired the always popular Spring Dance! Coming up this month we have our Family Picnic and Book Fair. Those are two events you won't want to miss!

As we end this year, we also need to be thinking about next year. There are plenty of ways to become involved in the PTA. Jen Coakley, Mrs. Hirschhorn, and Mrs. M & M have been busy gathering nominations for Board positions for next year. We are thankful for their efforts. If we do not have people to step up for the PTA next year, our children may miss out on many fun and educational programs and activities. If you have questions about how you can get involved, where you can help out, or the time commitment needed for something, please feel free to [contact me](#). I know I can find a spot for you to best serve our Cedar Grove community!
Happy Spring!!

Sincerely,
Michele Tregoning (PTA President)

Shobha Rajan, Editor
shobharajan@yahoo.com

Field Days! Mr. Jansson



We need your help for our Field Days. On May 5, May 12, and May 14, we will hold our annual Field Days. But they cannot be successful without your help. Ideally, each station Mr. Jansson sets up should be "manned" by a grown up so that students have guidance and instruction as they move through the stations. Mr. Jansson usually has between 12 and 14 stations, so you can see that we need your help. Please consider [contacting Mr. Jansson](#) and offering a few hours of your time. This event is one of the highlights of our students' school year, and we want to be able to continue it. Thank you very much.



Read-a-Thon Michele Tregoning

Cedar Grove Families- you are amazing!! This year's Read-a-Thon was very successful thanks to all of your hard work. We had over 81% of our students participate and earn lots of prizes along the way. We had a school goal to read 165,000 minutes and raise \$11,000. You crushed both of those goals by reading 263,918 minutes and raising \$13,928!!! The best part about that is ALL of that money raised stays here at Cedar Grove to support our programs and give the school the new technology it needs to keep up with the new curriculum.

The class that read the most minutes and the winner of a popcorn party is Mrs. Birrer's class with 3,231 minutes. That is also the winning class for most funds raised with \$1,323.70- AMAZING!! Adam Levine and Ethan Rizzo each won the drawing for the Kindle Fire for raising the most money in grades K-2 and 3-5. Just before Spring Break the entire school got to enjoy a Popsicle at lunch for the Seuss-ibration. Thank you to Jen Coakley, Annie Karp, Lori Marshall, and Catherine Powell of helping with that celebration!

Thank you to my committee for stuffing envelopes, copying papers, bagging prizes, and counting money and minutes: Jen Coakley, Annie Karp, Lori Marshall, and Catherine Powell.

We also had some local businesses donate prizes and we are thankful for those as well. Thank you to Wai Ling Wang (first grade parent) from Baja Fresh, Sweet Frog, Famous Dave's, Bowl America, Shadowland, and the Powell Family (Kindergarten parent). A BIG thank you to ALL the families who supported this by gathering sponsors, sending in money, and encouraging your child to READ!! WAY TO GO CEDAR GROVE!!



The Intersection

Mrs. Karina Hirschhorn

We are so excited that the Readathon has been such a success. Thank you so much for supporting such an excellent cause. A big thank you to Michele Tregoning who has done such an excellent job with this fundraiser. Thank you, too, for arranging the Billy B. assembly, which fit in so nicely with all the Green messages we relay to our students and school community every day. The Spring Dance was also a huge success. Thank you for continuing that tradition, our students love it. Earth Day would not have been such a success without the help of many parents and our young volunteers, but a special thanks goes out to Michele Tregoning and her family for supporting us once again. We are looking forward to a very, very exciting end of the year and hope that you will join the PTA and our school community by attending all of the exciting events planned as we look towards the conclusion of this school year.

Dear Parents/Guardians: *The date for our Spring concert has changed. Please be sure to save the date and mark your calendars.*

1. **What:** The Spring Concert – In School
When: Wednesday May 28, 2014
Where: Cedar Grove APR
Time: 2:00 pm
Attire: Black bottoms, black shoes (no tennis shoes please) & white top

2. **What:** The Spring Concert – Evening Performance
When: Thursday May 29, 2014
Where: Clarksburg High School Auditorium
Time: 7:00 pm (chorus members should between 6:15 and 6:30 pm)
Attire: Black bottoms, black shoes (no tennis shoes please) & white top

**Mrs. Jackson is also looking for a few musically inclined parents to perform a song with us at the Spring Concert on May 28th and May 29th. The instrument parts are as follows: Shaker and Agogo; Cowbell; and Bass. If you're interested please contact [Mrs. Jackson](#).



Media Moments

Mrs. Karina Hirschhorn

In spite of spring break and further testing (yet again), Kindergarten is in the midst of their Museum research project. We are slowly learning museum lingo (listen for "artifact," "exhibit," and "display"!), how to create questions that are researchable, and getting ready to create our

own Kindergarten Heritage museum. Please respond to the notices from your child's teacher. **We need to know what artifact you and your Kindergartner have picked to tell us about your heritage so your student can create questions for the artifact interview with you!**

Each first grade class is in the process of researching one of these topic areas: Saving Energy; Saving Water; Respecting Nature: Recycling; and Picking up Litter. We will take a discovery walk to activate our knowledge about how we share the earth and play a concept game to categorize positive and negative ways we do that. We will practice evaluating the best resource for our research and explore different ways to take notes. Then, we'll capture our information on a graphic organizer and synthesize it for our writing.

As we research our notable person, each second grade class is focusing on the different ways to take notes, and using two different graphic organizers to capture our information – another way to ensure that students see there's more than one way to achieve our goal.

Third grade has explored the elements of an issue and is now proceeding to research issues such as whether or not school uniforms should be allowed in school, whether cats or dogs are better pets, or whether we can count graphic novels for our reading minutes. We chose topics our students might feel strongly about, to engage them in the research process. We are also using different note-taking methods and capturing our information on different graphic organizers, depending on the purpose of the end product. We are slowly getting used to the idea that we have to "own our research" and use strategies that work best with our individual thinking!

Fourth grade continues to be exposed to different ways to get information about soil erosion. After researching print and Web resources, we have worked with the Environscapes from the Audubon Society and are planning on having an expert talk to us, as well. We will synthesize all this information into a persuasive article.

For our 5th grade Career inquiry project, we have explored occupations from various time periods. Then we focused on occupations that are available today by having an excellent career fair. The information we get from our interviews will help us write a persuasive article about potential careers in the future – how various factors such as society's needs, available resources, and innovation will prompt those future changes. It is extremely exciting for me that our students had the opportunity to speak with parents in various occupations. There is nothing like a person to person interview for primary resource information. I am so grateful that many of our parents have generously donated their time to this excellent event.

The best news for the media center program is that because of our projected population next year, we will have a "full time" media assistant. Mrs. Wilson will be with us for 7 hours, which is going to have such a positive effect on our program. This is not to say we won't need our parent volunteers again next year – so plan on being part of our program!

Spring Picnic Cheryl Moss

It's Almost Here! Spring Picnic and Carnival!

Mark your calendars today and plan to join the teachers, staff, students, and PTA for our annual spring picnic on **May 30, 2014** from **5:30 - 7:30 p.m.** We are excited to host a carnival themed event this year - complete with food, games, prizes, temporary tattoos and crazy colored hair stations, and some big surprises! The picnic is the can't-miss event of the year – we hope to see you there. It takes a village to run any event, and the picnic is no different. **We need your help!** If you can volunteer for one-two hours or if you have a high school student who would like to earn SSL hours, please contact [Cheryl Moss](#). Thank you for your support and we look forward to hosting your families at the picnic!



Join the PTA

We encourage you to please join the PTA today! There is no better way to know what is happening in our school than to be involved! We play an important role in supporting our school's educational programs and building improvements. The PTA is a perfect opportunity to put your creativity and skills to use for a great cause – your child! If you haven't already done so, please download the [membership form](#) to fill out and send in with your child.

PTA Meeting Minutes

Please note that the monthly Cedar Grove PTA meeting minutes will be published on the PTA website, as well as sent out via the PTA listserv, instead of being published in the Bear Facts newsletter. The April PTA meeting minutes can be found at: www.cedargrovepta.org, under Main Menu, Meeting Minutes.
