



The Owl's Hoot

Sol Feinstone
Elementary School
PTO Newsletter

November 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'd like to begin by thanking everyone who attended our first annual PTO Kick Off meeting on 10/1! We had almost 90 people in attendance and the energy level was high (thanks in part to Dunkin Donuts!). The breakout sessions were a big success because so many great ideas came forth on how to strengthen a PTO that is already very strong. We tackled topics such as Communication, Fundraising, Special Events, Meeting Effectiveness, and Volunteerism. We look forward to sharing the key priorities with you during the 11/5 PTO meeting.

With two months under our belts, we've had a wonderful year so far. Our Committee Chairs have been very busy and

productive already! Our Fundraising Committee, chaired by Lori Gettis, Kim Smith, and Nancy Kovacevich, have run two successful sales: Sally Foster Wrapping Paper and Kids Stuff Entertainment Books. I am so impressed by the enthusiasm and innovative ideas put forth by this talented group of women! Our Assembly chairs, Kris Koseski and Kelly Fischer, brought us a terrific Science assembly called "Albert Einstein and Marilyn." Thanks to Lyn Riley, our HR Coordinator, for hosting an information session for the HR Parents. The session was widely attended so thanks to everyone for coming. The Family Activities Committee continues to crank out the fun!

Continued on page 2

Reminders

10/3	No school
10/5	PTO Meeting
10/13	Spirit Day (Opposite day)
10/19	Report cards
10/23 -24	Early dismissal (Conferences)
10/25	No school (Conferences)

**November's
Words to
Learn by:
Work Together,
Trust, and Thank**

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL: JOHN HARLAN

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to November! It's hard to believe we have been in school for over two months now and the first marking period is just about complete. With the cooler days and longer nights, November brings with it a jammed-packed month full of exciting events and activities.

Don't forget to bring in your box-tops throughout the month of November. By doing so, you give your child the opportunity to rule the school and be "Principal for a Day."

Continued on page 2

Inside this issue:

Counselor's Corner	3
Notes from the Health Office	4
Secret Shop Memo & Volunteer Sign-up	5
PTO Bulletins	6-7

FROM OUR PRESIDENT (continued)

November 2009

Deanna Goulazian and Jane Willenbacher hosted Bingo Night on 10/9, which was a great success. Our Haunted Hayride took place on 10/23 and was the perfect way to get into the Halloween spirit – thanks Denise Michalowski and Randi Bauernshub!

My update for October wouldn't be complete without acknowledging the tremendous support our school put behind Breast Cancer Awareness month the week of October 5th. Over 900 teachers, students, and parents wore pink on Friday, 10/9 and walked for 30 minutes to raise over \$3,200 toward the fight against cancer. In addition, our community submitted over 200 names of loved ones who have been directly impacted by breast cancer. Each name appeared on a ribbon fastened to an "honor boa" that was worn by Mrs.

Jankowitsch during the school walk as well as the 3-Day Philadelphia walk. Special thanks to everyone who volunteered to hand out lemonade and kisses to all the deserving walkers too!

On the docket for the 11/5 PTO Meeting:
The Executive Board will share our key priorities for the year based on the Kick Off Meeting output. Leslie Stiffler and Lori Preston will share how they have revamped what School Spirit will mean to SFE with some exciting initiatives! Please note that "Blue & White Day" is on 10/28, so get that face paint ready! Various committees will give their reports as well, so please join us for our new ONE HOUR format beginning at 9:15!

Jennifer Ceslak
PTO President

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL (continued)

Here is what we have to look forward to during the month of November.

- 1) Election Day (No School)-November 3rd
- 2) PTO Meeting-November 5th
- 3) Children's Author Cheryl Harness visits SFE-November 9th and 10th
- 4) Art Goes to School returns to SFE on November 9th and 10th
- 5) Student Council Spirit Day (Opposite Day)-November 13th
- 6) 1st Marking Period Report Card Distribution-November 19th
- 7) Early Dismissal (AM K Attends) Afternoon and Evening Conferences-November 23rd
- 8) Early Dismissal (PM K Attends) Afternoon Conferences-November 24th
- 9) No School: Morning Parent/Teacher Conferences-November 25th

Let's have a great month together and I wish the entire SFE school community a safe, healthy, and Happy Thanksgiving!!!

Enjoy,

Mr. Harlan

The 8 "L's" of Parenting

1. **LOVE** your child. For your child to be successful, he or she must feel valued. Your gentle touches, smiles and hugs communicate love. Giving your undivided attention, especially at the end of each day, demonstrates caring.
2. **LOOK** for the good in your child and make specific comments on what he or she does well. You must believe in your child's worth before he or she can believe it. If you want your child to have self-confidence and motivation, watch for positive behaviors and comment on them.
3. **LISTEN**, without judgment, to your child express his or her thoughts and feelings. If you do not listen, your child may attempt to gain your attention by misbehaving.
4. **LAUGH** with your child, not at him or her. Demonstrate a sense of humor as you cope with life's difficulties. Laugh and play together.
5. **LABOR** diligently and with pride so that your child will want to work hard, persevere and do his or her best.
6. **LEARN** new information. It is fine to say, I don't know, but then add that you both can find out together. Take the time to read and thus instill a love of learning. On car trips play word games, read or listen to books on tape.
7. **LEAVE** the television and other media off. Many programs and video games desensitize your child towards violence and contribute to fearfulness and aggression. Place computers in central locations to monitor internet use.
8. **LIVE** life to its fullest. Take pleasure in little things like an ice cream cone, a beautiful day or the enthusiasm of your child. Read, pretend, dance, sing, take walks, play games, have pleasant meals, look at photos, share dreams, and enjoy each other.

Remember: Your child will most likely adopt the attitudes and habits you demonstrate daily.

Used by permission of the author, Leah Davies, and selected from the Kelly Bear website [www.kellybear.com]. 7/04

NOTES FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

November 2009

Dear Parents,

According to the CDC and the Pennsylvania Department of Health, one of the single most important measures in preventing the spread of illness, and in staying well, is hand washing. This simple measure is one of the most effective ways to stop the spread of bacteria and viruses that are known to cause a wide variety of illnesses. At SFE, we are putting a great deal of emphasis on hand washing and good hygiene.

Within the first 2 weeks of school this fall, all of the students at SFE received a hand washing lesson, and hand washing homework, as well. Colorful 'hand washing' and 'hygiene' posters can be found throughout the building and in all classrooms. The posters serve as reminders for students, staff, and visitors to use good hygiene practices to prevent the spread of illness. These practices include frequent hand washing, the correct use of Purell and hand wipes, covering coughs and sneezes by doing so into your elbow or with prompt disposal of tissues, having the nurse evaluate and cover open wounds, prompt physician followup when wound infection is suspected, and not sharing any personal items.

I hope you will join with the school community to frequently remind your children of the importance of hand washing and hygiene practices. The more they hear the message on these healthy habits, the better. Although students are reminded to wash hands frequently during the school day, and Purell is available in the cafeteria, perhaps you might consider packing a disposable hand wipe with your child's daily snack or lunch, so they may use it before they eat.

For other general wellness measures known to support the immune system, I hope you'll also be aware of the importance of adequate sleep, good nutrition, good hydration, and not 'over scheduling.' And if your child is absent due to illness, please do allow adequate recovery time, so that illness is not introduced back into the well population at school. Please keep children home until they have been free of fever for 24 hours, without Tylenol or Motrin. This is the policy of the district, and of the Department of Health as well.

Thanks very much,

Mrs. Daniels



Cash Back Program

Beth Mullen (brmullen@yahoo.com)
 Marie Kiefer (kieferfamily9@comcast.net)

Fall Box Top Contest

Here is your chance to RULE THE SCHOOL!



Three students from the grade level that collects the most Box Tops will be chosen at random to be Principal for a day with Principal Harlan!!!

Please submit Box Tops in an envelope marked SFPTO-Cash Back Program. **You must submit at least one Box Top to be eligible. Be sure to note the student's name & grade level.**

Box Tops can be found on your favorite General Mills, Ziploc, Hefty, Juicy Juice, YoPlait, Viva, Cottenelle, Kleenex, Green Giant, Betty Crocker, Old El Paso, Pillsbury, and Kimberly-Clark products, as well as many other products listed on the Box Top website at www.boxtops4education.com. Either drop the envelope in the Cash Back Program collection box in the foyer of the school or end it into your child's classroom. Let's make our Fall contest a huge success for SFE!! Contest ends on Dec. 4th.

Have you registered your Genuardis Club Card at eScrip?

Raise \$ for our school each time you shop at Genuardis using your store club card. Simply go to www.ecrip.com, click on "sign up," enter your Genuardi Club Card # and the Sol Feinstone Group # ID 6630629. Spend a few minutes to register now, and you will earn \$ for your child's school all year long while you shop! Those who have participated in previous years will be automatically renewed so you can continue supporting SFE.

Please continue to send in **ACME receipts** and **Labels for Education**.

You can register your **Target** card at www.target.com with their Take Charge of Education Program. Use the Sol Feinstone ID# 893453.33.

Thanks so much for your support!

PTO BULLETINS

November 2009



Birthday Books

Jeanne Markey 215-321-5017

Karen Mealey 215-493-8658



The following students have recently celebrated their birthdays by donating books to the library:

Samantha Agnew	William Agnew, IV	Carly Blair	Shane Bradley
Adam Browning	Aidan Colavita	Francesca DeMarco	Alex DiMedio
Rebecca Downing	Caitlin Duffy	Isabella Durcan	Chloe Ferguson
Deven Ferguson	Gavin Ferrandino	Rebecca Finkelstein	Simone Finkelstein
Ally Fox	Hannah Freid	Jacqueline Geiger	Ian Gettis
Jeffrey Hennemann	Jenna Khantzian	Kevin Kiefer	Sara Kniaz
Chantz Kouveras	Isabel Lavine	Noah Lavine	Collin Manel
Anna McQuarrie	Megan Markey	Madeline Michalowski	Brendan Moriarty
Holland Moriarty	Lauren Otto	Jackson Palm	Sophia Rainville
William Rampe	Andrew Richter	Julia Righter	Casey Rogerson
Kaitlyn Sargent	Daryn Seigal	Bradley Sendak	Claire Sichel
Julia Silver	Amelia Spring	Blair Strobel	Connor Sweeney
Fionn Sweeney	Libby Tofig	Zachary Topalovich	Logan West
Patrick Woodring	Gabriella Zingarini		

We thank these children and their families for their lasting gift to Sol Feinstone's library.

The New Pavilion & Brownsburg Park Fundraising

The Upper Makefield Park and Recreation Board has been fundraising for Brownsburg Park. Have you seen the new Pavilion? The Pavilion is available to rent through the township so you many want to keep this in mind for future party needs. Of course, it is open to the public, every day during daylight hours. If you haven't checked out the modern play-ground equipment and the newly installed picnic tables, they are a must see!

If you would like to make a contribution toward the Park and show your Community Spirit, there are License Plates (\$15) and Fleece Blankets (\$30) available for sale. These items proclaim "Proud Supporter of Upper Makefield Parks" and feature the George Washington Crossing the Delaware Logo. For more information, please email Donna DeSimone at Donna@Kirkslane.com or stop by the township building. Order forms should be available on the district e-Friday folder in the near future.

Brownsburg Park is located on the corners of River Road and Brownsburg Road, near Jericho Golf Course.