



THE FALLSMEDIUM

ISSUE #3

OCTOBER 2009

A monthly newsletter of the Fallsmead Elementary School PTA

www.fallsmeadpta.org

EVENTS SCHEDULE

October 2009

- 16 Friday**
No School - MSTA Convention
- 19 Monday**
Student Picture Day – Blanton Studios (make-up date 12/3/09)
- 24 Saturday**
Kids Club, 6:00 pm -9:30 pm
- 30 Friday**
Halloween Parade/Parties
First Marking Period Ends

November 2009

- 2 Monday**
No School – Professional Day
- 3 Tuesday**
PTA Meeting, 7:15 pm APR
- 6 Friday – 13 Friday**
Book Fair, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Media Center
- 11 Wednesday**
Early Release for Students
Report Cards Distributed
- 11 Wednesday**
Book Fair Family Night, 6:00-8:30pm, Media Center
- 12 Thursday**
Early Release for Students
- 25 Wednesday**
Early Release for Students
- 26 Thursday – 27 Friday**
No School - Thanksgiving

NEWS & NOTES

Show Your Staff Appreciation

Show your thanks to teachers and staff by delivering a loaf of quick bread (store bought or homemade), wrapped and labeled, to the main office on Monday, October 19th, or by 10:00am on Tuesday, October 20th. Please call or email Sandra Zinselmeier (zinsel@comcast.net or 301-279-2532) with your quantity to be sure all staff is provided for – we need 70 loaves!

Book Fair Coming to Fallsmead in November!

The Scholastic Book Fair will be from November 6th through November 13th, 2009, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm in the Media Center. The Family Night is on Wednesday, November 11th, from 6:00-8:30 pm in the Media Center. There will be food, crafts, and fun activities on Family Night. For more information, please visit the Book Fair Homepage <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/fallsmead>. Volunteers are needed to make this a success. Please contact bookfair@fallsmeadpta.org if you can help.

PTA Meeting on November 3rd

The next PTA meeting is scheduled for November 3rd at 7:15 pm in the APR and will feature information on science fair, book fair, our new FalconWear line, and school improvements. You don't have to be a PTA member to attend—all are welcome!

Calling All Kids! Kids Club Deadline Approaching!

Kids Club is back for another year of kid-friendly fun. Fallsmead students join their friends one Saturday evening each month from 6:00-9:30 pm for parent-supervised music & dancing with a DJ in the APR, sports in the Gym, other fun activities and a movie! **Kids Club will begin on October 24, and the deadline to register is October 21st.** Don't wait to register. Return completed registration form with payment to the front office. Registration forms are available at www.fallsmeadpta.org.

Scripts Malls

Bring Your Checkbooks!!! The PTA will be selling SCRIP cards at Kid's Club, Halloween, and the Book Fair! You can select the following from our inventory: Giant, Safeway, GameStop, Starbucks, Great Harvest Bread, Barnes and Noble, and Shell. Remember you can always place your order online at www.shopwithscrip.com, Code: E4FB2B2121943. **Scrip Prize!!!** \$10 STARBUCKS Gift Card! The family with the most SCRIP orders through October 31 will win a \$10 Starbucks gift card.

From the Co-Presidents

The school year has just begun and already we've seen our volunteers do amazing things! Sonja Linn provided a wonderful New Parent Welcome for all of our new, and some returning, families. Staff Appreciation, Brenda Mitchell and Sandra Zinselmeier, made sure all of our teachers were well fed during Back to School Night. Also, we're happy to announce that Faith Klariach has been placed on the Montgomery County Parent Advisory Council for a two year term.

Our SCRIP program is off to a great start but we would love to see increased participation. It's a great way to give to the PTA without spending any extra money. We've been using them for groceries, gas, iTunes, and even spa-finder for a hair appointment. What can you use SCRIP for?

Principal Payne and the school specialists spoke during our October PTA meeting. We got some great information about the specialists, the H1N1 plan, and student achievement. We had a good turnout and had some wonderful conversation about items affecting our area. Come to our next meeting on November 3rd for information on the science fair, book fair, our new FalconWear line, and School improvements.

Have a great month and see you November 3rd!

Jamila & Lyn



FACEBOOK: Become a Fallsmead Fan!

The Fallsmead PTA Facebook Page will have updates and reminders for PTA and school events throughout the year. Become a fan to receive instant updates.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Fallsmead-PTA/103185306924>

REMINDERS: There is no school on Monday, November 2. In addition, Wednesday, November 11, and Thursday, November 12 are Early Release Days. Students are dismissed at 12:35 p.m. Wednesday, November 25th is also an Early Release Day, and there is no school on November 26-27 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

2008-2009 Fallsmead PTA Officers

Co-Presidents
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

Jamila Bell & Lyn Mullinax
Lisa Merkin
Andrea Samborn
Michele Goodman

president@fallsmeadpta.org
vp2@fallsmeadpta.org
secretary@fallsmeadpta.org
treasurer@fallsmeadpta.org

Group Piano

Group Piano still has two spaces available for grades 2-5! Spaces are available in the 6:00-7:00pm beginners class, and the 7:00-8:00pm beginners class. Contact Nora Blum for more information or to enroll at piano@fallsmeadpta.org.

Join the Fallsmead Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

The Fallsmead Elementary School PTA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, volunteer organization, which works to enhance the educational experience for our children. We operate a large number of programs around the school, ranging from after-school programs and clubs to celebratory events and fundraisers, all aimed to support the school and enrich the school experience.

The Fallsmead Elementary School PTA is a member of the local (Montgomery County), state (Maryland), and national PTAs. If you have any questions about the PTA, please email to president@fallsmeadpta.org.

You have two options to join:

1. **Online** at <http://www.fallsmeadpta.org/> click on Membership and pay online using Paypal.
2. Print out the membership form found at <http://www.fallsmeadpta.org> and send in the form and check with your child, or drop off in the PTA mailbox at the school.

Congratulations to our September Drawing Winners



Anya Bijlani
Courtney Carr
Connor Cruz
Julianne Wong

The Box Tops for Education Program offers three easy ways to make a difference through everyday activities: buying groceries, shopping online and purchasing books. School budgets are tighter than ever, and Fallsmead is asking for the support of families and community members like you.

Please have your children place coupons in the Box Tops for Education collection box located in the Front Office. Please place coupons in a small plastic baggie with the student's full name and grade written on the outside of the bag. Each month there will be a drawing and four students will receive a prize for participating in the Box Tops program. **The PTA is hosting a Box Tops Grand Drawing Winner at the end of the school year. All monthly Box Tops winners will be automatically entered in the end of year drawing, making them eligible to win a piece of Falcon gear!** For more information, visit boxtops4education.com or contact Sabrina Altman at boxtops@fallsmeadpta.org.



Help 4th & 5th Grade Musicians at Fallsmead Dress for Success

The 5th grade chorus and 4th and 5th grade instrumental music programs are requesting donations of clean, gently used boy's white dress shirts and boy's dress black pants (boys 8-10 years old). Mrs. Arellano would like to start a stash of extra shirts and pants to keep on hand for any chorus, band, or orchestra member who does not have these items at home.

These can sometimes be difficult items to find in stores, especially for boys. Donations of girls dressy white shirts, black dress pants, or black skirts are also welcome! The first concerts are scheduled for January. Your donations before then would help immensely!



Is your daughter interested in Girl Scouts?

Opportunities are available for girls in all grades, including kindergarten! For more information about Girl Scout Juniors (4th & 5th grades), Brownies (2nd & 3rd grades) and Daisy Scouts (K and 1st grades) at Fallsmead Elementary, contact Pauline Griffith at pwgriffith@yahoo.com or (301) 838-0308. For information about Girl Scout Council of the Nation’s Capitol: www.gscnc.org.



Don’t forget to register your Giant Food Bonus Card for the new school year. Once registered, Giant will make a donation to Fallsmead Elementary (ID 00701) based on registered purchases made at Giant throughout the school year. Register online or at the store.



Cub Scout Pack 1753 Wants You!

- ★ Hiking, Camping & Outdoor Skills
- ★ Character Building & Citizenship
- ★ Family Field Trips & Activities
- ★ Sports & Games
- ★ New Friendships!

Boys in grades 1-5 can join the fun. Pack 1753 meets one evening each month at Fallsmead Elementary School. Additional small group/den meetings are held throughout the month. For more information,

call or email Cubmaster Jim Richardson, at 301-424-2374, JRich65@comcast.net.

If you shop at other area grocery stores, you can still earn money for Fallsmead. Fallsmead participates with Harris Teeter’s Together in Education (TIE) program (for information on enrolling your VIC card in this program, go to the Harris Teeter website at : http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/tie.aspx.

Fallsmead also participates in the Safeway “10% Goes Back to Schools” program – see store for details.

Wootton High School Center for the Arts

Presents

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU

Thursday, November 5th, Friday, November 6th and Saturday, November 7th at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 for adults (general admission only) and can be purchased at the Wootton Box Office Monday, November 2nd through Wednesday, November 4th from 3-6 pm, and two hours before show times on performance days. Ticket forms are available online at:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/woottonhs/academics/art/YCTIWYTicketOrderForm.pdf>

Tickets may also be purchased online at:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/woottonhs/woottonShop/wShopOne.html> (and click on the “Center for the Arts” heading)