



# Mutual Matters

Mutual PTA Newsletter

[www.mutualpta.com](http://www.mutualpta.com)

September 2009

## Mark Your Calendar

- 8/27 Fall Fundraiser Begins
- 9/1 Ledo's Spirit Night
- 9/3 PICTURE DAY: Volunteer Mtg
- 9/4 2 Hr Early Dismissal
- 9/7 School Closed
- 9/8 OPEN HOUSE & PTA General Meeting
- 9/9 Volunteer Meeting
- 9/11 Fall Fundraiser Ends
- 9/18 Family Movie Night
- 9/29 Room Parent Meeting
- 9/30 Hands On Science Begins
- 10/6 Ledo's Spirit Night
- 10/13 PTA General Meeting
- 10/19-23 Red Ribbon Week
- 10/23 Fall Carnival
- 10/30 'Boo' Grams Distributed
- 11/2-6 Book Fair
- 11/3 Ledo's Spirit Night; Picture Retakes
- 11/4 Book Family Night
- 11/6 4th/5th Gr Dance (fundraiser)
- 11/10 PTA General Meeting



Welcome back! We hope that everyone had a fun and relaxing summer vacation! Are you ready for a school year filled with new and exciting adventures? Because, we have planned a great year!

In the next few months, we have planned a Family Movie Night, Fall Carnival, Book Fair, Dances, After School Clubs, and much more! Look for information coming home about all PTA hosted events.

Our volunteer room, or "Mustang Room", has been moved and is located in the first trailer to the right of the school, second door. Please stop by for a visit...we could always use the help!

In our first issue of our newsletter, *Mutual Matters*, we have supplied you with a wealth of resource information. The newsletter will be distributed monthly and will contain a calendar of events along with updates from the PTA. In support of Mutual's efforts to earn their Green School Certification, the PTA will ask parents to notify us if they prefer to receive the newsletter electronically at [www.mutualpta.com](http://www.mutualpta.com). Please fill out the form provided in the newsletter and return to school.

Our first General Membership meeting is September 8th, between open house sessions at 6:30pm in the cafeteria. This is an important meeting because we will be reviewing and asking for approval of our 2009-2010 MES PTA budget. Please make every effort to attend. It is also a great way to meet Mutual families and staff!

Don't forget our first Spirit Night is tonight! ~ Tuesday, September 1st at Ledo's in Prince Frederick from 4-8pm dine-in or carry out!

Have a great school year!

## MES PTA Board



On August 25th, the MES PTA sent out a 'Welcome' email to all those who subscribed to our free PTA email news last year. If you are a subscriber and did not receive this email, please check your spam settings.

If you would like to become a subscriber and receive our new 'Mustang Minute' monthly email update, please go to [www.mutualpta.com](http://www.mutualpta.com). Complete the subscriber information at the bottom of our home page and you will be added to our growing list of informed Mutual families!

## PTA Executive Board

### President

Tracy Fiore, 410.495.8139

### Vice President

Lara Gladhill, 410.586.9252

### Secretary

Wendy Miller, 410.495.7694

### Treasurer

Kevin Frere, 410.586.1623

### CCC PTA Rep

Sheila Pitcher, 410.586.1421

## MES Administration

Lisa Wisniewski, Principal

Summer Cox, Vice Principal

410.535.7700

## Teacher Rep

Carol Chang-Savoy, Counselor

410.535.7700



A big "Thank You" to Mutual's Faculty. We had a 75% PTA Membership participation before school even started! Congratulations to our Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Chow, who won the Teacher Raffle and received gift certificates to *Educate & Celebrate* and *Subway*. Another "Thank You" to *Educate and Celebrate* for donating a gift certificate for this raffle!

## We Appreciate...

- \* our volunteers for supplying a delicious luncheon to welcome our teachers to a new school year and Christina Ferrara, our Hospitality chair, for organizing all the goodies!!
- \* our dedicated volunteers and PTA Board and Committee members who assisted on Teacher Help Days and Orientation!
- \* our Mutual families who purchased Spirit Wear at orientation to show their Mighty Mustang spirit!
- \* Our Mutual teachers, administrators, and support staff for all their preparation to begin another wonderful school year for our children!

## Upcoming PTA Events



### Volunteer Welcome Sessions

Whether it's your first year at Mutual or you're a returning volunteer, we hope you'll come to one of our sessions to learn the basics of helping at Mutual! We need help in a variety of ways throughout the year and this informative meeting will provide the answers to all your questions! Choose one session:

- **Thursday, September 3rd** from 9-10am OR 6- 7pm in the Mustang Room
- **Wednesday, September 9th** from 1- 2pm in the Mustang Room

### Family Movie Night

Friday, Sept 18th



Join us at our own Mutual 'Movie Theater' at 6:00pm in the gym or the cafeteria for popcorn & a movie! We're starting off the year with a choice of movies, *Ratatouille* or *The Tale of Despereaux!* Pick your family's favorite and bring your blanket for indoor big screen fun! Chairs will be provided.

### Fall Carnival

Friday, Oct 23rd



Come out and join other Mutual families for a fun-filled evening with games, activities, food and prizes! We need volunteers to help, so please consider coming to our planning meetings in the Mustang Room on:

Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am  
 Sept 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am  
 Oct - TBD

If you would like to help, please contact Shannon Kwiatkoski at 410-586-9445 or Heather Wright at 410-586-3118.

### Fall Book Fair

Nov. 2nd - 6th



Our Scholastic Book Fair is always a highly anticipated event with our students and this year will bring raffles, contests, and an incredible book selection. Children will visit during their media time throughout the week.

**Family Night is Wednesday, Nov 4th from 4-7pm.  
 Book Raffles, Food, and Fun for all!**

Please contact Libby Williams [slmjwilliams@comcast.net](mailto:slmjwilliams@comcast.net) if you'd like to help!

### 4th & 5th Grade Dance (Fundraiser)

Friday, Nov. 6th

Fourth & fifth grade students will enjoy dancing to the sounds of a DJ, playing games, and fun with friends from 3:30—5:00pm. All proceeds raised from this rock'n afternoon of dancing will benefit our 5th graders. Please contact Shannon McNeil at 410-586-8907 or Stacy Frere at 410-586-1623 for more information.

### After School Clubs

Our After School Clubs are always well-attended and a big hit with our students! A registration form will be sent home in September. **We need volunteers to lead our fall session classes!**

**Class Times: Mondays 3:30 – 4:30pm**  
**Location: Mutual Classrooms**  
**Sessions: Eight (Oct 5th - Nov 23rd)**  
**Cost: \$40 per student**

Payment must accompany registration and will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Volunteer instructors will have one child attend class for FREE!

**Please contact Dawn Bernard at 410-586-2696 or [dawnbernard@comcast.net](mailto:dawnbernard@comcast.net) for more information.**

### Hands On Science

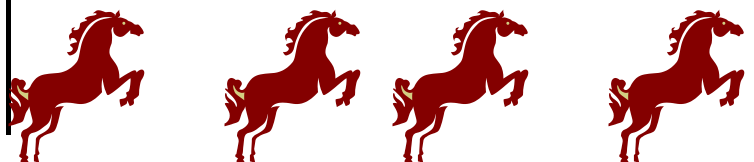
We are pleased to offer Hands on Science Program at Mutual Elementary again this fall. The program is designed to stimulate "science in your life" awareness for children from Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade with active involvement in experiments, games, music and projects. Class sizes are limited to 12 students.

**Class Times: Wednesdays 3:30 – 4:30pm**  
**Location: Mutual Classrooms**  
**Sessions: Eight (Sep 30th - Dec 2nd)**  
**Cost: \$40 per student**

A registration form will be sent home in September. Payment must accompany registration and will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Volunteers are needed as teachers or co-teachers for each class. All classes are provided with a complete Leader's Guide, detailed script and all materials. Volunteer instructors will have one child attend class for FREE!

**Please contact Tracey Williams at 410-586-3411 for more information.**



**PTA Committee Chairs**

After School Clubs  
Dawn Bernard, 410.586.2696

Auction  
VACANT

Book Fair  
Libby Williams, slmjwilliams@comcast.net  
Wendy Jenkins, 410.586.9194  
Karen Wessells, 410.586.1839

Cultural Arts  
Lisa Reid Ragen, 410.586.8165  
Elleen Kane, 410.586.2173

Fundraising  
Tracy Fiore, 410.495.8139

Hands On Science  
Tracey Williams, 410.586.3411

Hospitality  
Christina Ferrara, 410.495.8614

Landscape Maintenance  
Jen Baker, 410.495.7849

Membership  
Jen Roush, 410.586.9780

MES Publishing  
VACANT

Newsletter/Website  
Linda Ward, 410.610.3736

Reading Incentive  
Cindy Rerig, 410.586.8023

Recycling  
Kathy Brennan, 410.586.8476

Special Events  
Shannon Kwiatkoski, 410.586.9445  
Heather Wright, 410.586.3118

Spirit Wear  
Pam Soffos, 410.495.7849

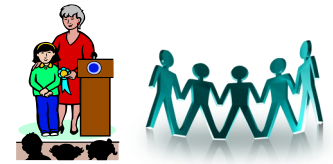
Volunteers  
Cynthia Kelly, 410.586.2354

Ways and Means  
Linda Burke, 410.586.0620

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Reps  
Shannon McNeil, 410.586.8907  
Stacy Frere, 410.586.1623  
Dee Kline, 240.441.5893

**PTA MEETINGS**

Parents and children are invited to our General PTA Meetings. The meetings are an opportunity to acknowledge our Mighty Mustang Students and learn about upcoming school events as well as to enjoy refreshments while meeting other students, parents and faculty. Please join us on September 8th during the Open House break to learn more about our exciting plans for the PTA Sponsored activities and events for 2009-2010.



**What: General Membership Meetings**  
**Who: All MES Families are Invited!**  
**Where: MES Cafeteria**  
**When: 7:00pm, 2nd Tues. of each month**

September 8	February 9
October 13	March 9
November 10	April 13
January 12	May 11
	June 8

Board Meetings will precede general membership meetings at 5:30 in the Mustang Room.



Have you misplaced paperwork sent home from the MES PTA? Simply log on to [www.mutualpta.com](http://www.mutualpta.com) and you'll find updated information and forms regarding MES PTA activities!

**“Join The Stampede And Help Our PTA Succeed”**

**Every membership counts!**

**\*\* As an added incentive for joining the MES PTA early, all members paid by Sept. 4th will be entered in an Early Bird Raffle! \*\***

Membership Forms are available in the school office or at [www.mutualpta.com](http://www.mutualpta.com) or contact Jen Roush at 410-586-9780 if you have questions.


PTA PLANS 2009-2010	
* Volunteer Appreciation	* Spirit Wear
* Staff Appreciation	* Fun Day
* Dances	* Spring Fun Night
* Movie Nights	* School Spirit Night
* Book Fairs	* Fall Carnival
* Hands On Science	* Cultural Arts Events
* Reading Incentives	* Field Trips
* After School Clubs	* Website

**READING INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

Our PTA Sponsored Reading Incentive Program will begin in September. Look for details and reading logs to come home soon!

Until then...

**KEEP READING!!**



**MES Newsletter Request**

In our continuing effort to 'Go Green', the Mutual PTA and School newsletters will be available in electronic format in the 2009-2010 school year. Both *Mutual Matters* and *The Pony Express* will be posted on the PTA website at [www.mutualpta.com](http://www.mutualpta.com) under 'Parent Resources', which will reduce our paper use and help us in our endeavor to become a "Green" school to benefit our environment.

I prefer to get an electronic copy of the MES PTA and MES School newsletters and would like an email reminder that they are available.

Parent(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Oldest child's Name & grade level  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please detach and return to the office, ATTN: "Linda Ward, PTA"

MES PTA Fundraisers provide the means to benefit all Mutual students and staff by funding cultural enrichment programs, educational field trips, improving technological equipment and supplementing classroom resources! We couldn't do it without your participation and support!

## Ways & Means

The ways and means committee works to earn money for our school through programs that incur **no cost** to our students or their families. With your participation, Mutual earned an outstanding \$7,046 through our Ways & Means programs last year. Listed below are the programs in which we participate:

- \* Grocery Programs at Food Lion/Safeway/Giant
- \* SP Recycling Corporation
- \* Wireless Redemption, LLC
- \* Box Tops
- \* Campbell's Soup Labels
- \* Office Depot & Staples Recycling Ink & Toner
- \* Good Search
- \* Direct TV4schools

## Upcoming Contests

Grocery Game in September  
Batty for Boxtops in October  
Campbell's/Tyson in November



## Fall Fundraiser

We've chosen SurreyBrook Farms as our fall fundraiser for 2009 because of the rave reviews the PTA received about this fundraiser in previous years. This fundraiser begins Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> and orders will be collected on Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget out of town relatives and friends can order online and have the product delivered to their door!



**We appreciate your participation & support!**

MES PTA also accepts direct donations from which Mutual receives 100% profit. Your tax-deductible donation can be made securely online with your credit card at [www.mutualpta.com](http://www.mutualpta.com).

## Spirit Wear

The beginning of a new year is a great time to show your school spirit! Spirit wear can be purchased at Open House or throughout the year using the Spirit Wear Order Form located at the front office or by clicking on the Parent Resources link at [www.mutualpta.com](http://www.mutualpta.com).



*\*\*PTA Members receive a 10% discount on spirit wear purchases.*

## Spirit Night

Ledo's Spirit Night will be the first Tuesday of each month from 4-8pm~dine in or carry out! Join other Mutual families for an evening out with food, fun and friends with Mustang Spirit!



**Food for You = Funds for Mutual**

## 4th Annual Auction



The date has been set for our 4th Annual Auction! Mark your calendars for Friday, April 9, 2010. You won't want to miss this event! This is our biggest fundraiser enabling the MES PTA to sponsor and provide so many worthwhile events, activities and educational material to benefit our student body.

Although it's months away, we will need your help to make this a successful event! Our first planning meeting will be scheduled soon and a flyer with more information will be sent home in September.

We are in need of a motivated Auction Chairperson to coordinate the planning for this incredible event. If you are interested in leading the Mighty Mustang charge to benefit Mutual Elementary, please contact Tracy Fiore at 410-495-8139.



## MUTUAL RECYCLES

*These recycling programs are in place to raise money for our school!*

### Printer Cartridges

All inkjet and laser toner cartridges will be recycled!

### Cell Phones

All brands/models are accepted!  
Please use the collection drawers for printer cartridges and cell phones located in the Mustang Room!

### Newspapers

Please place your newspapers in the collection bin located in the side parking area.

*For more information about MES Recycling, please contact Kathy Brennan at 410-586-8476*

**Thank you for your support!**



## Square 1

### Art



Because of the great response from our Mutual families & the satisfaction at the products available, we're teaming up with Square 1 Art again this year to bring you quality products designed from your child's artwork!

Students work on their pictures in art class during the springtime and their best work will be sent to Square 1 to be made into the Keepsake Masterpiece of your choice!