

HARRISON PARK ELEMENTARY
NOVEMBER 2009

PTO NEWSLETTER

PTO Membership

Thank You to Kim Simpson for chairing our PTO Membership Drive which concluded on September 25. She has reported that Harrison Park received 86 single memberships and 138 family memberships with 2/3rds teacher participation! Classrooms with the highest % of parental participation received board and card games to be used during indoor recess. The rewards were delivered on October 14th.

Congratulations to the winning classrooms!

Miss Barr's 4th Grade – 95% participation

*Mrs. Lathom's 3rd Grade – 84% participation and a tie
between*

Mrs. Keilback's 2nd Grade @ Mrs. Hauck's / Miss
Urick's Kindergarten –
78% participation.

Remember, it is NEVER too late to join! Please contact

Kim Simpson @

724.863.0941 at any time during the school year if you
are interested in joining the PTO!

If you would like to be considered for a homeroom party or
chaperone on a field trip – you MUST be a PAID
PTO MEMBER and have your clearances.

You won't want to miss our Tuesday, November 10th
PTO Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. at which, by random
draw, Homeroom Parents will be selected for our Holiday
Party in December! You MUST be present to qualify
for the party coordinator folder!

Want To Know The Meaning Of A Word??

Where do you look??

The DICTIONARY , THAT'S RIGHT!!

Many thanks to the Fort Pitt Chapter Verizon Pioneers (a charitable organization) and **Mrs. Patti Colligan** for securing dictionaries for all of our 3rd grade classes. That's right, every 3rd grade student was donated their very own dictionary to KEEP! Now, some of our teachers may want the kids to use the dictionary in the classrooms, so don't stress if your child has not brought theirs home! They will at the end of the school year!

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

On October 9th, 55 students participated in the Pumpkin Patch Painting Project. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered their time, hair-dryers, and hot glue guns to help this event succeed! Thanks also to Laurie Sweeney and sons from the Norwin Art League who hosted the event!

Young Rembrandts **DRAWING CLASSES AT HARRISON PARK**

A new session began on Thursday, October 22 and runs through December 3rd (no class on November 26th). YR is also providing a special holiday workshop on Thursdays December 10 & 17th! Come join us as we create original ornaments and greeting cards for your holiday festivities!! Registration forms went out in an October THT on pink paper. These classes are educational and fun; expand creativity, attention to detail, and discipline! Your child may join at any time and the class fee will be pro-rated accordingly. Come draw with us today!! Contact Pam Cinti @ 724.744.3835

THE CRAFTY SHACK

Keep your eye on that Take Home Tuesday Folder for the next registration form for another fun Crafty Shack ceramics project to be held on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9th from 3:30-4:45 in the All Purpose Room. This program titled "'Twas The Night Before Wednesday" involves our students - ALL GRADES- to paint their choice of a Snowman or Reindeer! This project will be fired in the kiln

and delivered before our winter break! Contact Pam Cinti @ 724.744.3835 if you'd like to volunteer to help!

DRAMA KIDS INTERNATIONAL

*DRAMA DEVELOPS KIDS AND THE
DIFFERENCE IS DRAMATIC!*

The PTO would like to offer a new After School Program called Drama Kids International directed by Anthe Morris. Registration forms have been circulated and our first session will begin on Thursday, November 12th and finish on Thursday, December 17 (off the 26th). So it's a 5 week session being held directly after school from 3:30-4:30 in the All Purpose Room. The session is \$50 per registration and the program will reimburse the PTO \$5 for every student who participates! The

*classes promote speech training, creative movement,
structured improvisations, and dialogue development.
Enroll Your Drama Kid Today!!! You may call
724-578-8993 for more information!!*

CARTRIDGES FOR KIDS

Cartridges for Kids is now accepting working scientific and graphing calculators as well as all the other goodies! If anyone is interested in a listing of items, log on to www.cartridgesforkids.com

Thanks,
Sherry Zavolta

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The December newsletter entry deadline is November 16th.
Contact Pam Cinti @ tcintihome@windstream.net or
724.744.3835

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU!

Shannon smith

Hi everyone! My name is Shannon Smith and I am now a first grade teacher at Harrison Park! I graduated from IUP in 2005 with a B.A. in Elementary Education. I taught in the Penn

Trafford School District as a long-term substitute in grades 1, 4, and finally 6th. I also taught 5th grade at Sunrise. I reside in Saltsburg with my husband, Rick, and our Beagle named Loca. I love kayaking, reading, and sports. I'm a huge Steeler fan and also love the Tennessee Lady Vols Basketball!!!

MR. JEFFREY FOX

I'm finally getting "in to the groove of things" here at Harrison Park! That's because I love music so much!! I'm Jeffrey Fox and your new Music Class instructor. I attended Waynesburg Central High School and then moved onto West Virginia University where I received my Bachelors Degree in Music Education. My wife Ellie grew up in Penn Township and together we care for our dog, Sadie, who is a Lab/Shepherd mixed breed! Looking forward to a musical year!!

ARBORETUM

A big thank you to Brownie Troop 21114 for helping with the planting of the spring bulbs to help them earn their Gardening Try-It Badge! Make sure you look out for the first catch of Spring in the Arboretum!

Thanks,

Sharon Hartung

FALL FUNDRAISER

Check the December Newsletter for information regarding our profits from the Fall Fundraiser and thanks to everyone who participated!

GET-GO GIFTCARD GIVEAWAY

There is still time to purchase tickets for the *Get-Go Giftcard Giveaway!* The drawing for the winners will take place on Tuesday, November 10th at the PTO meeting. Winners need not be present. Please consider purchasing some tickets to win one of three great prizes and support the Playground Fund!

HOLIDAY PARTY-DECEMBER 23, 2009!

The drawing for the party parents will be on Tuesday, November 10th at the PTO meeting. There will be a brief meeting following the business portion of the PTO meeting for all who have been selected by random draw. To be chosen for HOMEROOM COORDINATOR, you **MUST** be present to receive the information folder for the parties. Please consider donating to your child's classroom even if you are unable to participate during the party. All donations can be sent to Beth Biroscak and Janelle Alberts with your child's name, grade, and teacher on the envelope. Kindly send it to school with your child and have them give it to their homeroom teacher. Thank you for all of the donations we have already received!

Questions???

Beth Biroscak @ 724.515.7669

Janelle Alberts @ 412.480.6337

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Reminder: Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on Tuesday, November 3.
School is closed!

TRICK OR TREAT!

Trick or Treat Night is scheduled on Halloween
Day, Saturday, October 31st from 6-9 p.m.
We need all children and parents to have a safe and
Happy Halloween!!

CLASSIFIED

If anyone is interested in placing a classified ad in the PTO Newsletter (must be school related), contact Pam Cinti @ 724.744.3835 or
tcintihome@windstream.net

REWARDS PROGRAMS

THANK YOU TO ALL THE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES WHO COLLECTED CARTRIDGES,
LABELS, BOX TOPS, ETC. FOR OUR FALL COLLECTION DRIVE!
OUR TOP 3 WINNERS WERE AWARDED THE FOLLOWING PRIZES:

PAUL MARCOZ - Cartridges 2,500 points

Paul received a \$5 Eat N' Park gift card, a McDonald's Value Pack of Coupons, History Center Tickets, a Dairy Queen Coupon for a Free Ice Cream Cone, and one Free Round of Miniature Golf at Kistler's!

OLIVIA NICASSIO- Box Tops 797 points

Olivia received a \$25 WalMart Gift Card, a McDonald's Value Pack of Coupons, a Dairy Queen Coupon for a Free Ice Cream Cone, and one Free Round of Miniature Golf at Kistler's!

HANNAH FICHTNER - Campbell's Labels 340 points

Hannah received a \$5 Eat N'Park Gift Card, a McDonald's Value Pack of Coupons, History Center Tickets, a Dairy Queen Coupon for a Free Ice Cream Cone, and one Free Round of Miniature Golf at Kistler's!

This collection resulted in 5,711 points from Campbell's Labels for Education. These points were added to our balance, thus making it possible for the second grade teachers to select items for use in their classrooms!

In addition, 10,102 Box Tops were collected, thus earning the PTO \$1,010.20! There were many bonus certificates earned from Giant Eagle, which accounted for a significant portion of the Box Tops total. Please continue to save those, as they are a great benefit to us!

Lastly, we collected 213 laser cartridges, 380 ink jet cartridges, 2 DVD's, 2 MP3 players, 2 laptops, 34 cell phones, 7 cameras, and 2 pagers. A monetary value for all these items has not yet been determined, but will be reported as soon as a check is received!

GREAT JOB EVERYONE! LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT COLLECTION DRIVE IN FEBRUARY!

MORE REGARDING REWARDS PROGRAMS

Please continue to shop for items with Box Tops Labels at Giant Eagle. For the month of November, you can get 15 Bonus Box Tops when you purchase any **4** participating General Mills products in a single transaction using your Advantage Card.

The Bonus Certificate will print at the register.

Participating products include:

**Green Giant Vegetables in Cheese and Special Sauce
Complete Skillet Meals**

Pillsbury Simply Bake Bars
Refrigerated Cookies and Sweet Rolls
Grands!, Cinnamon Rolls, & Crescent Rolls
Place N' Bake Crescent Rolls
Bakery Croissants
Ready to Bake Cookies & Pizza Crust
Thanks, Mary Beth Petrosky

KINDERGARTEN KORNER

We would like to ask for a few parent volunteers from each class to help with the production of their class memory book. One of the main jobs for the parent volunteers is to take pictures of your classes. This will help ensure that all of the students will have a great memory book. If you have any pictures that you would like to start giving us, (we would prefer only electronic pictures via e-mail, disc, or zip drive) contact either Tracey Powell @ 724.744.1552 or taprgp3@comcast.net or Ann Kalik @ 724.863.1874 or annkalik@comcast.net
THANK YOU!

SANTA'S SECRET SHOP

It's time for Santa's shop! This year's event will take place on December 7, 8, & 9th in the Library. This is a fun time for all the students and gets everyone in the holiday spirit! MANY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! Sign-ups will be in the THH. A special Pittsburgh sports table will be a new addition! Lisa Tramuta 724.744.7457 for ??

HARRISON PARK HARVEST FESTIVAL

FALL WAS IN THE AIR! IT WAS A FUN NIGHT FILLED WITH GHOSTS, GOBLINS, SUPERHEROES, WITCHES, GAMES, PRIZES, YUMMY FOOD, AND PUMPKINS! WE EVEN HAD GREAT LUCK WITH THE WEATHER! THE SCHOOL GROUNDS WERE FILLED WITH KIDS THAT WORE COSTUMES & TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE BEAUTIFUL FALL NIGHT TO HANG OUT WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY AND HAVE A GREAT TIME! EVERYONE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY GAMES, PAINT

PUMPKINS, AND CREATE FALL-THEMED CRAFTS PROVIDED BY GIRL SCOUT TROOPS 21117 AND 21102.

IN ADDITION TO THE GAMES AND CRAFTS, THERE WERE MYSTERY COSTUME JUDGES AND RIBBONS WERE AWARDED TO THE TOP 6 HALLOWEEN COSTUMES. ALSO, 4 DONATED BASKETS WERE RAFFLED OFF AT THE END OF THE EVENING!

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED THEIR TIME AND/OR ANY DONATION TO THIS YEAR'S 1ST ANNUAL HARRISON PARK HARVEST FESTIVAL!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO TRACY VOIT, DENA MILLER, SHARON HARTUNG, LEANN HAYNES AND CINDY CARNEY FOR EVERYTHING THEY DID TO MAKE THE NIGHT RUN SMOOTHLY! THANK YOU ALSO TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS - THOSE WHO WORKED ONE SHIFT AND THOSE WHO SIGNED UP TO WORK AN HOUR AND ENDED UP WORKING ALL NIGHT!

DONATIONS WERE CONTRIBUTED BY ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

**EAT N' PARK #67 (IRWIN)
FUN PARTY SERVICES (GREENSBURG)
JEANNETTE DISTRIBUTING
JEFFREY P. BRADY (STATE FARM INSURANCE)
BIG MAC MUSEUM (IRWIN)
PT GIANT EAGLE
SCHRAMM FARMS & ORCHARDS
TARGET (GREENSBURG & IRWIN)
WALMART SUPERCENTER**

RAFFLE BASKETS CONTRIBUTED BY: BERARDI FAMILY (DUNKIN' DONUTS), BIROSCAK FAMILY (AVON), CURRAN FAMILY (JUSTICE) & COX FAMILY (BOY'S SPORTS)!

HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE @ NEXT YEARS FESTIVAL1 ANGELA BENDER