



THE BANNOCKBURN BANNER

PTA NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2004



Co-Presidents' Letter

We should all feel properly welcomed -- better late than never! -- following a fun evening at last Friday's Welcome Back Picnic. We hope you all made it and were able to catch up with some of the people you have been too busy to see so far this school year. Thanks go to Kristi Peterson who organized the event (twice!).

Teachers and staff members also welcomed us and invited us into the school and into the classrooms for the Open House this Monday. As part of the parent community we appreciate this opportunity for a quick look at what our children's school day is like.

As the school year progresses, we want to applaud Sheryl Israel and Heidi Bumpers for their ongoing efforts to organize ways that we can contribute to those who need help in the greater DC & MD community. Coming up next is the Help the Homeless Mini-Walk which will take place at recess on Wednesday, October 20 (rain date October 27). All proceeds will benefit the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless, so we hope you will encourage your kids to participate. Parents who would like to help out should contact Sheryl Israel (301) 229-8587 or Heidi Bumpers (301) 229-8395.

Also coming up this month is the Courtyard Renovation Day on October 23rd. Jim Mahaffie, Rebecca Dils and others have worked together with Mrs. Bosnic to come up with an inspired proposal. But we will need your help to put it into effect. Please come out with your gardening tools and help clean up and revitalize this wonderful space. Your kids as well as Bannockburn staff members will love being able to use the courtyard again when we are done.

Continued on page 2



Bannockburn students, families and staff at the Welcome Back Picnic on Friday, October 8.

Volunteer Training Video Available

If you could not attend the training and would like to be a volunteer, video tapes of the session are available for viewing, thanks to Mrs. Hardy. The video takes approximately 30 minutes to watch.

You may take home a copy from the volunteer mailbox in the front office or from the media center. A third copy is in the "training room" which is in the yellow hallway next to Mrs. Shaw's room. The training room copy is for viewing in that room only and cannot be removed. Please check with the front office to see if any meetings are scheduled for the training room before you plan to watch it in there.

In consideration of others, please return the office copy to the volunteer mailbox the day after you take it home, and return the media center copy directly to the media center.

Volunteer sign up/registration forms are available with each video tape. Completed forms should be placed in the volunteer mailbox after you view the video. Contact Lori Karaosmanoglu with any questions at lorikara@yahoo.com.

The PTA thanks all the parents who attended the required Volunteer Training session on Wednesday, September 22nd as well as Lori Karaosmonglu, Trish DiRuggiero, Kim Collette and staff members who worked with Mrs. Bosnic to set it up. Look for details in this newsletter on how you can watch the video so that you may volunteer in the school.

And we do not want to forget to thank the VP's on our executive board for the hard work they have put into getting the school year underway. In particular several have stepped in to fill some key positions because we were unable to find volunteers. Anne LeBeau will co-chair Mayfair this year, Tundi Agardy will chair the No-Show Fundraiser, Kim Moulard is co-chairing Staff Appreciation, and Trish DiRuggiero is co-chairing the Homeroom Liaison program. We of course want to thank the many, many parents who have also volunteered to chair our long list of programs and activities, but these folks deserve an extra hand for doing double duty! And while on the subject, we are still hoping to find one more co-chair for Bingo Night, and co-chairs for the Talent Show in the spring -- we can't have this favorite event without your help.

Another way you can help? Support our Bake Sale on Election Day, November 2nd. Money raised will go directly into the PTA scholarship fund that helps families in the school who cannot always meet the cost of some of our before and after-school activities. If you can contribute a baked item, contact Kate Kuhn (another VP who volunteered to do more -- thanks Kate) at 301-263-9351 or katekuhn@hotmail.com.

And finally, we'll see you at the Halloween Parade on Friday, October 29th at 1:45 pm. Be prepared to be amazed, enchanted, and maybe even a little scared by all the fantastic costumes!

Our next PTA community meeting is Tuesday, November 9th at 7:00 pm. At the request of parents attending the October meeting, we are exploring other meeting space options. We will be sure to let you know where we will be...we hope you can come.

Janice Huey

Meredith McGuire

hueyjb@msn.com

merrywrites@aol.com

Media Center Donation Update

The Class of 1966 has now collected \$1966.00 to present to the Media Center for the purchase of books. Class member Ken Wagman wrote that they felt there was "a delightful symmetry to that amount and that it would give other classes an easy target for themselves" as well. Mrs. Hardy has been communicating with class member Beth Brooks, who has an MLS from Simmons College, so that we can look forward to some wonderful additions to our library over the next few months. Three members from the class, Steve Zeisel, Jim MacGillivray and Dan Cohen, attended our picnic on Friday, and presented the school with the bookplates that will be put into each new book purchased with the donated money. Thank you again to the class members still living in our community as well as those around the country.

Volunteers Needed

We still need to fill these positions for this school year:

Bingo Night co-chair

No-Show Fundraiser co-chair

Talent Show co-chairs

And we are looking ahead to fill these positions for the 2005-2006 school year -- by signing up now you will get a significant head start with very little time put in this year:

ICB Representative

Volunteer Recruiting co-chairs

Volunteer Coordinator



BES teachers wait to be introduced at the picnic last Friday.

The Bannockburn Banner

Published monthly during the school year by the Bannockburn PTA.

Principal

Kimberly Bosnic

PTA Presidents

Janice Huey

Meredith McGuire

Editor

Chelle Parsky

ChelleParsky@Parsky.org

Design

Mario Finelli

Mario@TwoHomePros.com

Help The Homeless Mini-Walk Activities

All students will participate in the Help the Homeless Mini-Walk at recess on Wednesday, October 20 (rain date October 27). Registration is not required, but we encourage everyone to return the registration form that went home last week. Registration for students is \$15 and all proceeds will benefit the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless. In addition, all registered participants will receive a great t-shirt.

To better inform the students of the issues regarding homelessness and to encourage compassion for those in our community who have less, the school will be conducting several activities in preparation for the Mini-walk. The BES T.V. News will feature an interview with members of the Coalition, who will discuss the number of people who are homeless in Montgomery County and actions that students and their families can take to help. On Friday, October 8, all students had an opportunity at recess to make posters about the Mini-walk. These posters are now hanging throughout the school. Students in the third grade had an afternoon Fun Friday workshop on homelessness with members of the Coalition. We will be putting information up on the bulletin board inside the front door about the Coalition and the Mini-walk -- look for photographs of the students, which will be posted after the Mini-walk.

We would like to have parent volunteers come on October 20 from 11:30 to 1:30 to help with the Mini-walk and also register to participate. Please contact Heidi Bumpers (301)229-8395 or Sheryl Israel (301)229-8587 if you can help. Parents who can't attend are also encouraged to send in the registration to support this worthy cause and receive a t-shirt. Registration for adults is \$25.



Walt Whitman High School

Presents Les Miserables

November 18th, 19th, and 20th at 7:30 PM.

Tickets are: \$10 adult / \$7 student -- general admission; \$15 reserved

A limited quantity of reserved tickets sold only on advance ticket sale nights.

Payment by cash or check only.

Purchase tickets at the Whitman box office 7100 Whittier Blvd. Bethesda, MD

Box office hours: Advance Sales: November 3, 9,10,16 - 6:30-8:30 PM

Performance night sales: 6:00-7:30 PM

For further information call the box office at 301-320-6569.

To be assured of a seat for this Broadway hit purchase your tickets early!

Ledo's Pizza Nights

Mark Your Calendar! It's Bannockburn Elementary School Nights at Ledo's Pizza on Monday, October 18 and Tuesday, October 19. Starting at 5:00 p.m. dine in and join other BES families or carry out!

Ledo's donates 20% of your tab to the PTA. Make sure to mention that you are with BES. Ledo's Pizza is located on 5245 River Road, Bethesda, MD, in the Kenwood Shopping Plaza next to Fresh Fields.

See you there!

Sally Foster

Deadline Is Oct. 15th.

Buy now for your school!!! 70% class participation buys your class a pizza party. Top selling families get an ice cream party with Mr. Mills. Please don't miss this opportunity to contribute to your school in an easy and painless way!!!

Notes From Our School Counselor

Elizabeth Whiting

The MCAP Program

An informative parent meeting was held October 7th describing the Child Assault Prevention (CAP) project which 2nd graders will experience on October 13th and 14th. Mr. John Lewis from the Metropolitan Center for Assault Prevention talked with parents about the program, answered questions and gave each parent a resource handbook. Second grade families not at the meeting will also receive a handbook. These will be sent home with children the day they have their workshops.

CAP teaches children to listen to their instincts, recognize early the signs of an unsafe situation, say no, get away to safety and get help from trusted adults. CAP concepts and skills are outlined on pages 1 and 2 of the handbook. Activities for parents and caretakers to use to reinforce the concepts children learned in the workshops are also included. CAP stresses a child's right to be Safe, Strong and Free. Any parent in any grade who would like a copy of the handbook may request one from me.



Principal Kim Bosnic introduces BES staff.



Picnic Fun! Mrs. Shaw can do the Electric Slide.

This Is Your PTA Newsletter!

The Banner is one of the best ways to communicate to all Bannockburn Elementary School parents. If there is anything you would like to include in the newsletter, email your text to ChelleParsky@parsky.org. Or you may leave a disk in the PTA mailbox in the school office. Deadlines for the newsletter are generally the Friday following the monthly PTA meetings. Next month's deadline is November 12 at 3:30 pm.

Classifieds:

Classifieds cost \$5 for up to 30 words – checks should be payable to the Bannockburn PTA and sent to the PTA treasurer. Send the text to chelleparsky@parsky.org.

Parent Program On Anxiety And Stress In Children

Sonya Braverman, a clinical social worker in private practice, will present a parent program on anxiety and stress in children. All Whitman Cluster parents are invited to Bannockburn Wednesday, October 27, at 7:30 in the Media Center, to hear this important topic discussed. Babysitting will be provided by Bannockburn's PTA.

Ms. Braverman will talk about the difference between anxiety and stress and why some children become anxious and others don't. Pressures on children that contribute to stress and anxiety will be discussed. She will offer strategies for what parents and children can do to control and contain anxiety and answer the question of when you should seek professional help for your child.

Our School Web Site Address

Is <http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/bannockburnes/>

Check it out! Benno Schmidt and Mrs. Hardy have done a great job making this web site useful and easy to use. And if you have anything you would like to contribute, please contact Benno at ardenroad@mac.com.



Picnic Ants! BES girls march through the blacktop to music by Bristol Sounds.

Calendar

October 15	Professional Day No School
October 20	Help the Homeless Mini-walk
October 22	The Artist in Residence Performance has been postponed.
October 23	Courtyard Renovation Day
October 29	Halloween Parade, 1:45 pm
November 1	Professional Day No School
November 2	Election Day No School
November 9	PTA meeting, 7 pm
November 10 & 11	Teacher conferences Early Release Days (No Kindergarten)
November 10 - 12	Sally Foster gift wrap pick-up
November 12	Craft Night, 7 - 8:30 pm
November 25 & 26	Thanksgiving Holiday No School



Picnic Reunions. Former Principal Jane Butler hugs one of her "kids".