

The BUZZ

Tomahawk Elementary PTO Newsletter

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THAT good without a lot of practicing. Those gold medals will always be precious, but eventually they will be framed or secured in a vault; they won't be used every single day...

There will come a day when Michael Phelps won't swim, and Nastia Liukin won't be turning double-twisting back handsprings; however, every single day of our lives, we read. Sometimes we read for pleasure, and sometimes for information...but it's a skill we need and use daily. Just like swimming, gymnastics, football, dancing or piano, reading is a skill that our children need to practice. If it's important enough to spend an hour each day practicing their sports or their music, isn't practicing reading equally important? Our teachers strive to teach their students the skills, and nothing warms my heart more than sharing the joy of a wonderful book with a child, but we can't practice for your child. Please try to set aside a time in your daily schedule (20 - 30 minutes minimum) for reading. It's a golden opportunity to help your child to succeed. The rewards may not be as dazzling as an Olympic gold medal, but they will be something that will affect your children every day of their lives.

By-Laws Updated, Meeting/Business News

Barbara Rypkema

The TES PTO By-Laws were reviewed, updated and approved by the PTO Board at the meeting on August 7th. Anyone wishing to view the revised By-Laws may do so at www.tespto.org. Or contact Barbara

Rypkema at 525-7124 or rypkema@verizon.net to receive a copy.

Based on the updated By-Laws all there will be two regular PTO membership meetings and one annual membership meeting throughout the year. The first regular PTO meeting will take place the night of Open House, Thursday, September 4th at 7pm. The second regular meeting will take place on the second Tuesday (10th) of February at 7pm. The annual meeting will take place the first Tuesday (5th) of May at 7pm.

Meeting minutes, financial statements, board member information and business/incorporation information may also be found on the PTO website or by sending a request to Barbara Rypkema or Tammy Slade.

Fitness Facts...

Woody Wooldridge, P.E.

We would like to welcome all students as well as parents back from hopefully a restful summer.

We would also like to welcome to our staff Claudia Hamilton who will be working with your children in the mornings and at Leesville Road Elementary in the afternoon.

Parents you are a major influence in your child's growth. Make sure that your children are getting some type of vigorous activity daily. Get them involved in an outside activity that will help in their physical, mental, and social growth. Encourage your children to eat healthy snacks and emphasize the importance of good nutrition. Habits are developed by children early in life. If you can guide them in the right direction, then

hopefully they will make these lessons a daily part of their life.

Having fun, feeling successful, experiencing a variety of activities, and feeling that having an active lifestyle is their own choice are just some of the reasons that could turn your child on to fitness.

Putting winning above all else, never improving, doing the same thing over and over, not having a say in the sports that they play, and frequent injuries are just a few of the reasons that could turn your child off to fitness.

If you ever have any concerns about your child, please do not hesitate to contact us. We want to make your child's Physical Education experience an enjoyable one as well as one that may carry on with them throughout their lifetime.

Physical Fitness testing will begin for all 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders during the week of September 15. Please make sure that your child dresses appropriately not only on these dates but for all P.E. classes. Tennis shoes are a must!!

Thank you for your support and once again welcome back!

The Buzz is published monthly by the Tomahawk Elementary PTO, September - June.

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Parents:
Please feel free to email your ideas or suggestions for future issues of our newsletter to the email address above.



From The Principal's Hive...

Mrs. Donna Brown

Oh the Places You'll Go was the last book written and illustrated by Dr. Seuss and is often given as a graduation gift from high school or college. I have given this book often to graduates, but often



reflected that it is also pertinent for the beginning of each school year with all of the new experiences, expectations, and challenges.

You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself any direction you choose.
Your mountain is waiting.
So....get on your way!

I welcome each student and parent to our school and hope that each

will find it a year full of excitement, learning, and adventure...your mountain is waiting so get on your way....just think of the places you can go!

We have several new faces here at Tomahawk Elementary School. Welcome to Tomahawk Elementary school.

Ms. Meghann Dailey-Kindergarten.
Mrs. Shelia Wimmer-First Grade.
Mrs. Charity Morton-Fifth Grade Science.
Mrs. Laurel King-Resource teacher.
Mrs. Misty Arthur-Aide for Destination Reading.
Mrs. Amy Preston-PALS Aide.
Mrs. Beth Matherly-Pre-K Aide.
Mrs. Cora Porter will assist Mrs. King.
Ms. Claudia Hamilton-Physical Education Teacher.
Mrs. Carrie Wilmer-Odyssey Teacher.

Returning to Tomahawk is Mrs. Resa Payne...glad you are with us!

PTO President's Buzz...

Tammy Slade, PTO President

WELCOME TO TES PTO!

I know some of you are new and some are old hands at this beginning of the school year rush. Welcome to a wonderful new year. We have an exciting school year planned and I hope all come out to support and enjoy our various activities. If you have any concerns or need information regarding PTO events please feel free to contact me. I would encourage all adults that are involved in the lives of the children to be active in their child's school career. Get to know the many teachers who work with your child(ren). It will help you and your child succeed.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Caren Bowling, she is a 3rd grade teacher and Vice President of the PTO. If you have not noticed yet we have a new piece of playground equipment located behind the school. Caren worked with the company closely, throughout the summer, so that we could have this piece installed before school started. She also contacted Brookville High School football players to come and spread mulch so that the equipment was safe for kids to play on. This took a lot of time and effort on her part. I just want to say THANK YOU for all her hard work in organizing this project. Also I would like to say thank you to all the men, women and children who came out and helped us with this project.

I hope everyone has a safe and wonderful school year.

SEPTEMBER DATES

Mon. 9/1	Labor Day School Closed
Thurs. 9/4 7pm ~ Gym	Open House PTO General Mtg.
Sat. 10/4 11am to 3pm	PTO Fall Carnival

NEW SCHOOL YEAR NEW ART TEACHER

Cindy Watson, Co-Chair Art Program

We are pleased to announce that we have a **new art teacher, Mrs. Kelly Glinski** for our 2008-2009 school year. She is excited to explore art activities with the students of TES.

Mrs. Glinski has lived in Lynchburg for the last 8 years. She has a wonderful husband, Jerry, two daughters, Sarah - entering 6th grade at Brookville Middle and Morgan - entering 3rd grade at TES, and one son, Jared -entering 1st grade at TES. Also the Glinski family has a dog named Jake, a 12 year old black lab mix. Sarah, Morgan, and Jared have attended Leesville Road Elementary until now. They moved into the Tomahawk district and are excited to attend TES & BMS this fall.

For fun, Mrs. Glinski likes to express her creativity through scrapbooking. She also enjoys outdoor activities and traveling with her family. This summer they traveled to New Jersey, Delaware, and South Carolina to visit friends and family.

For the last 3 years, she worked at a preschool in Forest and enjoyed creating art projects with the students at Leesville Road Elementary.

Some items that the Art Program could use this year includes 1or 2 inch American flag stickers, white bed sheets (flat or fitted), burlap fabric scraps, popsicle molds, and 1 or 2 liter clear plastic bottles

Don't forget the FUNdraisers!

As a reminder! The PTO collects all of the following items as part of our on going fundraising efforts!

Box Tops for Education – Last year TES raised over \$2,300 through the Box Top program and was the number one school in the area! Throughout the year funds are raised through the Box Top program. The next Box Top contest deadline will be October 30th! A grand prize winner from Pre-K & K, and also from T-1 through 5th grade will be awarded based on the number of Box Tops collected. Each grade level winner, excluding the grand prize winners, will also receive a special treat! Each teacher has a box in their room for collection of the box tops. Also, don't forget to visit their website, www.boxtops4education.com, and see what all they have to offer, what products are featured and much more!

Campbell Soup Labels – Campbell Soup labels are used to purchase gym equipment. Save your UPCs from qualifying products and return them into the school for TES to receive credit. Visit www.labelsforeducation.com for a complete list of qualifying products. There is a collection container in the lobby for you to place these in or have your child turn them in with their box tops.

Printer Cartridges and Cell Phones – We collect used inkjet and laser cartridges and cell phones for recycling and earn cash in the process. There is a donation box in the lobby for you to place these items.

Tyson Labels – Tyson has a program called Project A+ in which you turn in the labels from qualifying Tyson products. Please visit www.tyson.com/projectaplus for a list of qualifying products. These can be turned in to your child's teacher with their box tops.

Nestle Pure Life Water Labels – We also collect the full label from Nestle Pure Life Bottle Water. With these, we are able to purchase recess equipment for the teachers. There is a collection container in the lobby for you to place these in or have your child turn them in with their box tops.

Kroger Shopper Credit – Kroger offers a shopper credit program. This program only is available during the school year and is currently being revised by Kroger so it better benefits the school! Sign up for this program will start later in the year. Information will be sent home as soon as it becomes available!

Food Lion – Food Lion also offers a shopper credit program. Their program is available all year. You can either go online at www.foodlion.com and register your MVP card or return the enclosed form to the school.

Questions? Contact Susan Litchford at 832-8166.

Join the PTO TODAY!

PTO membership is **ONLY \$5** per family! By joining the PTO you are helping to provide resources to your child's education. The monies collected through membership and fundraising are used to fund the Artist In Education Program, Performing Art Programs, Playground Equipment and much much more! You are not required to volunteer with the PTO when you join... although you are strongly encouraged to help out in some way.

This year when you join the PTO you will receive a membership card and an exclusive PTO member directory! So, JOIN today by completing the membership form on insert page and help to make your child's education a winning experience!

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(new and rinsed out with no lids please.)

Also, mark your calendars for **TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2009** for our fabulous TES Art Show!

Please email Art Program Co-chairs Cindy Watson at cindy@cindywatson.com or Jennifer Onuffer at pennhills@verizon.net, or Mrs. Glinski directly at jglinski@jetbroadband.com with any questions concerning the art program at TES.

From the School Nurse...

Susan Anderson, RN, TES Nurse

Welcome to the 2008/09 school year! Just a few reminders:


*All medications are dispensed through the school clinic. This includes prescription and over-the-counter meds, which need to be in their original container. Before medication can be dispensed to any student, a medical

authorization form must be signed by a parent or guardian.

*Only parents or a designated adult may deliver or pick up medicine at the school clinic. Medications cannot be sent home with students.

*Please make me aware of any new medical issues your child may have during the school year. I can't emphasize how important this is for the health and safety of your child.

*If your child misses school due to an illness or injury, please let the attendance clerk or myself know. Doctors usually recommend that children should be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. If you're not sure, please

 The PTO would like to say a **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped to install the new playground equipment! We couldn't have done it without you!

And a very special **THANK YOU** to the BHS Football team and coaches for helping out as well!

call your doctor for advice. Remember too, to bring in a note regarding your child's absence for our school records.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please call or come by the school clinic, now located across from the Library, anytime.

Library Tales

Kathy Meredith, Librarian

I've often heard the saying, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it". I believe several parts of our library program most assuredly "ain't broke"...so we will continue to support both Accelerated Reader (AR) and The Virginia Readers' Choice Program for grades T/1 – 5th.

I'm looking forward to a new "staff" of 5th grade library helpers, and also anticipating the opportunity to expand our "Library Lunch Bunch" to more students this year.

My most hearty thanks go out to our new and returning library volunteers. We've still got a few slots open, and would love to have you come and join us. Volunteering in the library is a great way to help out for just a couple of hours once a week. You get to help children of all ages choose and check out books to enjoy...you might even find some YOU'D like to read!

As I write this, the Olympics are in full swing. It's been absolutely thrilling to see the world's greatest athletes compete. As I watched Michael Phelps, and Nastia Liukin, I thought about how many hours *and hours, and hours* they had to practice to be able to perform at that high level. Nobody is ever