



# Eagle's Nest

The PTA Newsletter  
Bridging home, school,  
and community

October 2010

## Centreville Elementary



We're on the Web!

[www.CentrevillePTA.org](http://www.CentrevillePTA.org)

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## From the President

Greetings everyone!

Now that school is in full swing, I hope you and your children are having a great year, enjoying both school and their extracurricular activities. The PTA has been very busy organizing a variety of programs and activities to be held throughout the school year, including several of which have already started. You can find details on these programs and clubs in the newsletter - please take a few moments to check them out.

I would like to thank everyone who has already volunteered on behalf of the PTA since the start of the school year. We have accomplished so much! We have already sponsored a CES cleanup day, sprucing up the school grounds to welcome students and staff back to school; assisted the office staff by stuffing those first day packets; hosted the annual Back to School staff luncheon as well as a welcome breakfast for families new to the community; sponsored the annual Walk to School week, and held our first skate night. Additionally, I would like to say a special thank you to Lynne Ward for her assistance with creating maps for the teachers on their annual Welcome Walk and chairing our very popular Reflections Program;

she has had a very busy start to the year helping out the PTA.

It's been a great start, and I thank everyone - moms, dads, kids, and staff for your support and involvement!

Please, think about becoming involved in whatever way you are able, whether it is by volunteering for a PTA committee or by supporting your classroom teachers. If you are able, please join us at the monthly PTA meetings. They are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00pm in the school library.



Volunteers are the heart and soul of the PTA and we always welcome new volunteers! There are many opportunities throughout the school year, and it's wonderful to see the smiling faces of the kids when their parents and families volunteer in their classrooms and in their school.

As you can see, all of what we do is possible only through the dedicated efforts of our volunteers. I welcome and encourage your participation. Suggestions, inputs, and comments can be sent to me at [susie927@verizon.net](mailto:susie927@verizon.net).

Sincerely,

*Susie Collier*

### Executive Committee—2010/2011 School Year

President	Susie Collier
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President (Ways and Means)	Deb Smith
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Events, Programs, and Clubs)	Kathy Taylor
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President (Membership)	Michael Munsterman
Recording and Corresponding Secretary	Robin Costanza
Treasurer	Connie Christiansen



## Bingo Night

(Colleen Herklotz)

Where: School Cafeteria

When: Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup>  
6:30pm-8:30pm

Details: Some of the prizes to be won include gift certificates to local restaurants, laser tag tickets, free bowling cards, free rollerskating passes, and much more!

Please contact Colleen at [cherklotz1801@gmail.com](mailto:cherklotz1801@gmail.com) with any questions.

## Book Fair

(Deb Smith)

The CES Book Fair is just around the corner. Here is the schedule for previews and sales:

October 21-22	Student Preview Days
October 23	10:00am-2:00pm, sale begins
October 25	9:30am-2:30pm
October 26	9:30am-7:00pm
October 27	9:30am-4:00pm
October 28	9:30am-1:00pm, sale ends

Come join us for fun and great books! We are still in need of a few volunteers. If you are interested in helping, please contact [debgsmith@aol.com](mailto:debgsmith@aol.com).

## After School Spanish

### Classes at CES

(Robin Costanza)

After school Spanish classes begin the week of November 8 at CES. Space is still available for 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders in the beginning and intermediate level. If you would like to register your 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grader, please contact Robin Costanza at [robin.costanza@verizon.net](mailto:robin.costanza@verizon.net) or (703) 222-0728. You can also go on-line to register at [www.fcps.edu/aceclasses](http://www.fcps.edu/aceclasses). **Please note that the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade beginning class is sold out.**

## Outdoor Learning

(Elaine Tholen)

Our schoolyard gardens are coming along nicely at Centreville. The main section of the Eagle's Nest has lots of mature plants that are attracting a number of birds and insects. We all had a good time observing a walking stick the other day. We've seen Fall warblers, monarch and swallowtail caterpillars, praying mantis, goldfinches, chickadees, huge grasshoppers, etc. With all of these visitors, we are about to finalize our application for a Audubon Society Wildlife Sanctuary Certification. Audubon "Lets the Animals Decide" so we must see a certain number of different animals using our habitat to qualify. Our students have been recording their animal sightings since school started and we will be visited by an Audubon naturalist next week to get our certification.

Our new meadow area survived the hot, dry summer but needs some care and additional planting. We will be moving some plants from The Eagle's Nest to the meadow area. We've been weeding and marking plants we don't want to weed during recess.

Our outdoor learning program is becoming stronger and more heavily used by the teachers. We need your help! Here's what we can use:

1. Parents that can come by during recess periods to help students with garden activities such as weeding, planting, and mulching. You will be given complete instructions and can work during any time slot, 11:00am-2:00pm, Tuesday-Friday.
2. Fourth grade would like to do a small garden in the shape of Virginia. We need help in getting supplies, working with kids outside, measuring, etc. We want to ring the garden in stones or bricks. Do you know of a place to get these supplies at a low cost?

We will be holding a Family Work Session on Saturday, October 23, from noon until 3:00pm. Please contact me with any questions or information at [evtholen@fcps.edu](mailto:evtholen@fcps.edu).

## Look What's Coming to CES

(Farah Chohan)

This is to let you know that our school has teamed up with Original Works – the #1 art based program in the country – to offer a very special program. This program allows you to have your child's very own artwork reproduced onto a selection of over 20 quality products. These products range from magnets, mugs and mouse pads to t-shirts, tote bags and tiles. The wide selection of professionally produced, full color products offers something for everyone.

Your child will be creating their artwork in school, using the regular art curriculum as the basis for their work of art. You will then have the opportunity to order whatever products you wish with your child's own artwork featured on each and every product.

We are thrilled to be participating in this unique and innovative program. Look for complete program, product and pricing information coming soon.

Additional product and program information, as well as customer testimonials, can be found at [www.originalworks.com](http://www.originalworks.com). If you have any questions, please contact Farah Chohan at [farahac@aol.com](mailto:farahac@aol.com).



## Club Activity

(Kathy Taylor)

### Art Club

Ms. Burrows will be exploring the world of clay. Students will discover clay works using a variety of building techniques, experience how clay fires in the kiln and learn multiple glazing techniques to bring their own clay creations to life. This is a new adventure for the CES PTA and what an exciting response! There were over 120 people who wanted to register for this club...all 40 slots in the class were filled, with a huge waiting list. The next session will be offered after the winter break.



### Athletics Club:

Mr. Lanier and Mr. Mydlinski will be hosting an after school athletics club on Tuesdays this fall. Participants will build strength, discipline and self esteem through activities designed for students of all skill levels to enjoy the excitement, community and physical development of after-school sports. With another tremendous response in registrations both classes filled quickly. There will be another session offered in the spring.

### Technology Club

Our very own School Based Technology Specialist, Joann Hardy, will guide students in grades 4-6 through the basics of Scratch, and see the possibilities this programming tool has to offer. What is Scratch? Scratch is a free, downloadable program created by students at MIT. It is a programming language that allows students to create interactive stories, animations, games, music and art. Through the use of Scratch students will develop and learn important mathematical and computational ideas, think creatively, and work collaboratively.

### Mad Science

These hands-on, one-hour science classes are learning all about Secret Agent Science this fall. Children engage in exciting hands-on activities, watch spectacular demonstrations, participate in inquiry-based discussions and take home things that they have made themselves like model rockets, periscopes, code breakers, and fingerprint finders. We have 37 students participating in the program this fall, and will be offering classes again in the spring.



### Girls on the Run

Girls on the Run of Northern Virginia offers a curriculum-based youth development program for girls in the third through eighth grades. The goal of the program is to educate and prepare girls for a lifetime of self-respect and healthy living. Coaches Dunbar and Foley will teach the curriculum in a 10-week session and culminate the course in a celebratory 5K running event, The Reindeer Romp held at Reston Town Center on December 4, 2010. Centreville Elementary will be represented by 18 runners (and their running buddies) this season!



## Walk to School Week

(Krista Jastrzembski)

Walk to school week started out a little soggy this year with a rainy Monday. But, by the time Friday rolled around the weather was perfect for walking. Nearly 400 students, parents and siblings walked to school on Friday alone. Centreville Elementary students weren't alone... thousands of families and communities representing over 3,200 schools participated in walk to school day! Even First Lady Michelle Obama sent her congratulations to everyone participating.

This year we were lucky to have some great sponsors donating items for our student walkers. CLIFBar and McDonalds were kind enough to donate some healthy snacks! Fairfax Pedestrian Programs came through once again this year with the reflective slap bracelets. And of course, the PTA got into the act with the pencils!

I want to thank all of our student and parent volunteers as well as our spectacular crossing guard and members of the safety patrol. Keep walking and I can't wait to everyone all next year!

## Volunteering for the PTA

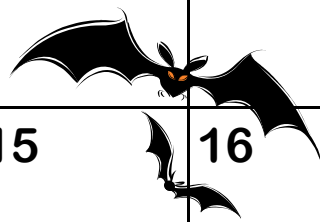
(Stefanie Ragano)

Interested in volunteering on behalf of the CES PTA? It's never too late to sign up for whatever might interest you! Please contact Stefanie Ragano, PTA Volunteer Chair, at [stefanieragano@yahoo.com](mailto:stefanieragano@yahoo.com). Stef can help you place your talents and interests in a volunteer position you will enjoy. Volunteering is a great way to show your child how important a great education is!

### **Newsletter Submissions**

If you have news items or photos that you would like published in the next newsletter, please email them to Melissa Coughlin at [Centreville Newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:CentrevilleNewsletter@yahoo.com). In general, the submission deadline is end-of-business-day of the Wednesday preceding each PTA meeting and the updates deadline is at noon on the Friday following the PTA meeting. All submissions are subject to approval.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
18	19	20	21 Book Fair Preview Day	22 Book Fair Preview Day
25 Book Fair 9:30am-2:30pm	26 Book Fair 9:30am-7:00pm	27 Book Fair 9:30am-4:00pm	28 Book Fair ENDS 9:30am-1:00pm	29 Homeless Walk
1 Teacher Workday NO SCHOOL	2 Teacher Workday NO SCHOOL	3	4 PTA Meeting 7:00pm, Library	5 State PTA Convention
8	9	10 Fall Picture Make-up Day	11	12 Bingo Night 6:30pm-8:30pm Cafeteria
15	16	17	18	19 Thanksgiving Luncheon
				20
				21
				23 Book Fair OPENS 10:00am-2:00pm
				24 Outdoor Learning Family Work Session 12:00pm-3:00pm
				30
				31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN
				6 State PTA Convention
				7 State PTA Convention
				13
				14



### Future Events—Mark Your Calendars!

- November 24 2-Hour Early Release
- November 25 Thanksgiving Holiday
- November 26 No school
- December 2-3 Barnes & Noble nights
- December 9 Vendor Night, 5:00pm-7:00pm
- December 23 Winter Break begins



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