



OAKHURST NEWS

A combined publication of School and PTA

Oakhurst PTA
everychild.one voice.

Pinellas County Schools

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Largo, FL 33774
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October, 2009

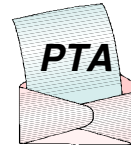
www.oakhurst-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us

Volume 11,

Issue 2



The Principal's Corner



A Letter from the PTA President

Dear Oakhurst Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your patience as we try to settle into the new school year. We were notified in mid September that we were losing a fourth grade unit and gaining a first grade unit. The teachers worked very hard to make the transition seamless. And, with wonderful support from the parents, the students adjusted beautifully. We have a tentative move in date for the new building for October 30th. I will keep you informed as I hear more information.

We are very pleased to announce that Mr. Fuller, Melody's dad and one of the WalMart managers at the new location on Walsingham Road, selected Oakhurst Elementary to be the recipient of the "Teacher Rewards" program. Ten of our classrooms were randomly selected to receive \$100.00 to go toward classroom supplies. The following teachers were the lucky recipients: Mrs. Foley, Mrs. Booth and Kubek, Mrs. Cheshire, Mrs. Jacobs, Ms. Barrese, Mrs. Rice, Mr. Cuzzucoli, Ms. Fiegle, Mrs. Lopez and Mrs. Lundquist.

Our Book of the Month for October is The Summer My Father Was Ten by Pat Brisson. It is a beautiful story that a father shares with his daughter of something he did as a young boy and how he took responsibility for his actions. Be sure to ask your child about the book.

Have a great October and Happy Halloween.

Sincerely,
Nanci B. Wilson
Principal

Well fall is upon us & over these past two days it has actually felt like it!! We have a busy month in front of us & I am so excited that we can now follow everything going on at our school at our **awesome new website**. At oakhurstpta.com you can find out daily what is happening at Oakhurst. When we asked Beckie Bigling to put this together for us & get it off the ground we had no idea how informative & spectacular it would be & it is!! Thanks Beckie for keeping us in the loop!!

We are kicking off our new "School Spirit T-shirt Contest" for this year & I hope everyone will participate. We have such a cool new T-shirt this year; I think the kids & the adults really love it. But remember to help your class to qualify you can wear any Oakhurst T-shirt you may have from this year or years past. We just want to see that school spirit walking up & down the halls every week. It's the Mustang Way!!

I wanted to say congratulations to all our students who worked so hard to make this year's fundraiser a success. The magic show is November 3rd & I can't wait to see who gets levitated?? Thank you to our new VP of Ways & Means, Michelle Fox, she worked so hard & really made it all happen. We are lucky to have her on the PTA board this year & a huge thank you also to Deb Smith for all her hard work. Michelle & Deb made quite a team!! They are pretty "duddy" in my book, thanks ladies!!

(PTA President Cont' page 2)

Fall Fundraiser Update

(PTA President Cont')

We don't have the exact numbers in yet, but it appears that our Fall Fundraiser went over just "ducky"!!! The kids showed a lot of enthusiasm collecting all of the different styles of ducks and eagerly awaited the "lucky duck calls" on Mustang News.



A **HUGE "THANK YOU"** goes out to everyone who helped make the first fundraiser run smoothly especially Debora Smith, Stephanie Martin, Nicole Heath, Michelle Alfred, Erika Thornsberry, Tabitha Connell, Marci Edmiston, Christina Graves, and Christine Reichert. Thanks also go out to the entire school staff that put up with all the yellow ducks everywhere and the disruptions through out the lunch hours!

The magic show for the students who sold 3 or more items will be held on Tuesday, November 3rd. Invitations to the show will be sent home with each child who qualified in late October.

The winning class of the "Ring Around The Teacher" who won a pizza party for the entire class and the winners of the "Mr. Bacon" Pig Race will be announced in the next newsletter.

Mark your calendars; our next fundraiser will be our "Cookie Dough" sales. The date of the sale is November 6th through the 20th.



All of the monies raised during any of our fundraisers go right back to the school to support all the wonderful programs that Oakhurst Elementary has. Birthday Books, the Spike Reading Program (where each child that participates gets free books), Mustang Publishing, Fifth grade celebration, the monthly hospitality luncheons for our teachers and so many more programs could not be possible without these funds.

Thanks for supporting our **WONDERFUL** school!

Between dinner at DeLosa's, the Walk to School Day, Grandparents Lunch Week & our first Skate Night of the year I hope to see all of you this month at one or all of our upcoming events. There are so many ways to jump in & volunteer at school or at one of these events, if you have some free time & would like to help please feel free to give me a call anytime. My cell # is 727-644-2486

Have a safe & Happy Halloween

Nicole Heath
PTA President



Picture Day

Is Coming!

Thursday October 8th



Halloween Safety



**Be Safe,
Be Seen
This
Halloween!**



Hey kids! Check out these Halloween safety tips with your parents and have a fun and safe Halloween!

Streets:



Drivers can see my costume in the dark.

Be original with a glow-in-the-dark costume or carry a reflective trick-or-treat bag. Use a flashlight or glow stick when walking at night.



I'm trick-or-treating in a group.

Don't go it alone while trick-or-treating. Kids, if you're under age 12, make sure you go with an adult. Older kids should always go with buddies.



I cross streets at crosswalks and intersections.

Stop at street corners. Look left, right and left again before crossing and don't cross between parked cars!

Remember, never step into the street without looking to see if a vehicle is coming.

Treats:



I make sure my parents check my treats before I eat them.

Pick only wrapped candy when you trick-or-treat. Ask your parents to check all treats to make sure they are safe.

Costumes:



My costume is short and snug.

Baggy sleeves or billowy capes and skirts can trip you up and catch fire if they brush against jack-o-lanterns or candle flames.



My shoes fit.

Big, floppy shoes (clown shoes, adult shoes)—that are hard to walk in may make you fall.



My costume props are flexible.

Costume props can hurt you badly if you fall. Make sure swords, knives, etc. are made of flexible plastic or rubber.



The eyeholes in my mask are wide enough.

Make sure your mask fits properly and the eye holes allow you to see fully. Don't wear a mask that is too loose; it can slip and block your vision. Even better, paint your face instead of wearing a mask.



Proud Program Sponsor



Adopt A Class

Thank you to the following for your generous contributions and adopting a class.



Watch for the rest of the generous contributors in the November, newsletter.

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sheryl & Randy Walter | Lorraine Tesney |
| Jennifer & John Harry | Jeffery & Aimie Peterson |
| Paul & Michelle Fox | S&S Professional Landscaping, INC. |
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| Michelle & Thomas Montgomery | |
| | |

Oakhurst Elementary PTA would like to thank the following business:

For their generous donations

Since 1983

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Thank You

OCTOBER

October 7  Walk & Roll To School

October 8  Picture Day

October 12  Columbus Day

October 13 PTA Board Meeting (5:30pm)

October 13  It's a Hoedown Lounge
(PTA Hospitality committee)

October 16 School Closed for students


October 19 Kindergarten Grandparent Lunch

October 20 1st Grade Grandparent Lunch

October 21 2nd Grade Grandparent lunch

October 22 3rd Grade Grandparent lunch

October 23 4th,5th, Autistic Grandparent Lunch

October 27  Skating Party Super Skate (6-8)
Costume contest



October 31  HALLOWEEN

NOVEMBER

November 1 Daylight savings time ends
(Fall Back)

November 4 Cookie Dough Fundraiser begins

November 10 PTA Board meeting
(5:30)

SAC Meeting

November 10 (6:30) Thanksgiving Feast
Library
(PTA Hospitality committee)

November 12  Picture Retakes

November 13 Report Cards K-5

November 18 Great American Teach In

November 18 Final turn in Cookie Dough fundraiser

November 23-27  Thanksgiving Holiday School Closed

Oakhurst Elementary Mission



Oakhurst Elementary is a community of caring mentors who are committed to motivating students to become lifelong learners and productive citizens by promoting "The Mustang Way" Respect, Responsibility and Honesty.

Spike News



Dear Oakhurst readers,

Please don't forget to turn in your September reading logs to your teachers. Keep up the good work for an additional two months to be part of the first of three book giveaways.

Also, every time you send in a completed calendar, your teacher has the opportunity to earn books for your class library.

Any parents interested in joining in on the calendar counting fun, we will meet in the cafeteria immediately following drop off on Tuesday, October 6th.

If you have any questions, contact Stephanie Martin at 593-3426.

BENEFITS OF PTA MEMBERSHIP

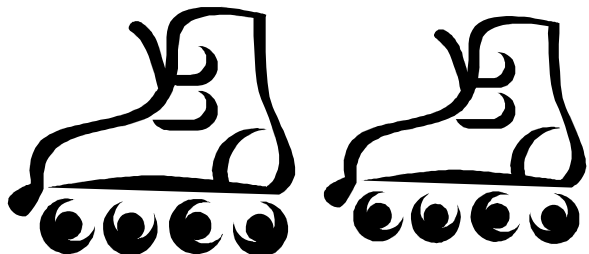
To become an Oakhurst PTA member, please visit our website, Oakhurstpta.com and click on the membership tab. There will be a link there to download a membership form. Simply print it, fill it out and attach your \$5 to the form and either bring it into the front office or have your child give it to his/her teacher. We really appreciate your support! Without members, we would not be able to offer the PTA sponsored programs here at Oakhurst. Your membership = successful programs.

For only \$5.00 per member, when you join the Oakhurst PTA you automatically become a member of the National PTA, the largest child advocacy group in the nation. Your membership fees help to support the mission and purpose of the National PTA, as well as that of the Oakhurst PTA. You do not have to volunteer your time or attend meetings, but you show a commitment to children and families by joining. PTA memberships are done annually, so even if you joined last year, you would need to re-join and submit the \$5 dues this year to count for this year's membership. You will receive a membership card shortly after joining. This card will be valid for one year. With your PTA membership, you will also have access to tremendous discounts with several national companies such as MetLife, T-Mobile, and Barnes and Noble. Please follow this link to check out the discounts for PTA members: http://www.pta.org/local_leader/1981.htm

Thank you for supporting our Oakhurst PTA!

If you have any questions, please email me at dculbertson@tampabay.rr.com.

FAMILY SKATE NIGHT



Tuesday October 27th
Wear your Halloween Costume

FAMILY SKATE NIGHT at
Superskate (9185 Ulmerton
Road) from 6:00 – 8:00!

The cost is \$4.00 per child
and parents skate FREE!

Everyone who buys a ticket
in advance gets a free drink
at the skating rink.

Remember, there must be an
adult with every child.

FRIDAYS Are Oakhurst T-Shirt Day!!



Don't forget to buy your
new Oakhurst shirt for only
\$8.00 each (\$10.00 for an
adult 2X).

If you get a magnet and a
shirt it is only \$10.00
(magnets sold separately
are \$3.00).

Show your school SPIRIT
and get one today!

And the survey says....

The results of the character education survey completed by parents, students and staff last year have been posted. They can be accessed by clicking on the character education link on the left hand side of the Oakhurst Elementary website – www.oakhurst-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us. Please take a few moments to look at the results as well as the comments. The character education committee has taken these results and is using them to continue to increase our commitment to character education.

PTA REFLECTIONS

Theme
"Beauty Is..."

Oakhurst PTA is happy to, once again, participate in the National PTA Fine Arts program...Reflections. Students can participate in a number of areas:

- Visual Arts
- Photography
- Musical Composition
- Literature
- Dance Choreography
- Film Production

Students can pick up an entry form in the front office. Students may enter in multiple categories. All entries are due by Friday, December 4th.

PTA Hospitality Committee



Teacher and Staff Appreciation Luncheons 2009-2010 Schedule

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday, October 13 th | It's a Hoedown Lounge |
| Tuesday, November 10 th | Thanksgiving Feast Library |
| Tuesday, December 15 th | Holiday Feast – Winter Wilderness Library |
| Tuesday, January 12 th | A Fresh Start Lounge |
| Tuesday, February 9 th | That's Amore! Lounge |
| Tuesday, March 9 th | Mustang Pride Lounge |
| Tuesday, April 13 th | The Ants Go Marching...Lounge |
| Tuesday, May 25 th | Island Getaway Library |

PTA Hospitality Committee



Our September luncheon was great!

Thanks to a fabulous team of Hospitality volunteers, we had quite a taco fiesta with our "Viva Piñata" theme! We want to say a BIG "Thank You" to all the volunteers for their donations for the September luncheon.

We also want to thank Carmelitas for their gift certificate for our drawing.

Congratulations to Mrs. Kubek for winning the drawing!

Our next luncheon will be on Tuesday, October 13th. Bring your cowboy boots and hat 'cause "It's a Hoedown!"



If you have not joined the Hospitality Committee, but would like to help, please feel free to call me, Michelle Alfred (584-8180) or Kim Reed (773-5589).

It's a great way to give back to the teachers and staff here at Oakhurst who do so much for our children!

DINNER



DILEMMAS

Character Word of the Month
Cooperation
Getting along with others and working together to accomplish a goal.

By Mary Hart,
Oakhurst Guidance Counselor

You, as a family, are encouraged to discuss a separate ‘situation’ each week of the month, presented as a “Dinner Dilemma”. You could decide how the character quality relates to the situation presented. Additionally, you could discuss how the character quality of the month applies to each family member. The character word for the month of October is **Cooperation**.

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Week 1</p> <p>Situation: One evening Sam’s dad says he will take the family out for ice cream after the kids clean-up the kitchen. The ice cream shop closes in 20 minutes. Sam’s brother was not helping. Dilemma: On one hand Sam knew he could do both jobs. On the other hand Sam felt his brother should cooperate to help get the task completed as quickly as possible. Discussion: What advice do you have for Sam?</p> | <p>Week 2</p> <p>Situation: Sue and Sam arrived at the kickball field at the same time. Both volunteer to be the pitcher. Dilemma: On one hand they knew only one of them could be the pitcher. On the other hand neither one wanted to play another position. Discussion: How could they cooperate to solve this situation?</p> |
| <p>Week 3</p> <p>Situation: Sam and his best friend are writing a play to be performed by their club. They disagreed as to the ending of the story. Dilemma: On one hand Sam thinks his ending is better than his friend’s. On the other hand Sam wants to cooperate with his friend. Discussion: What advice do you have for Sam and his friend?</p> | <p>Week 4</p> <p>Situation: Working in a cooperative group, each person had a specific job to do. One member of the group was not contributing to the group’s goal. Dilemma: On one hand they could attempt to solve the situation within the group. On the other hand they could report to the teacher that one person was not cooperating. Discussion: What advice do you have for the group?</p> |

Pinellas County School Board
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Oakhurst Elementary
588-6801

Nanci B. Wilson
 Principal

Kelly Kennedy
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Mary Hart
 Guidance Counselor



PTA email: oakhurstelementary@yahoo.com

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