

SWANSFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Got Tissues?

We are in the height of runny nose season and our teachers are short on tissues. Please consider sending a box in to your child's classroom, your child's teacher will love it!

PTA Activities

Are you wondering what the PTA is up to these days? We are busy on many fronts, but here are a few...

- Putting together a **green schools** accreditation application. Interested in helping us help the environment, contact Becky Ramsing at bramsing@verizon.net
- Putting together a **Healthy Schools** certification application. Interested in keeping our kids fit and fantastic, contact Becky Ramsing at bramsing@verizon.net
- Forming a **nominating committee** to fill leadership positions in the PTA next year. Interested in shaping the PTA's future, contact Jen Mallo at jenmallo@verizon.net or 410-884-1938
- Running an engaging set of **after-school classes**
- Staffing 24 half hour slots in the **Carson Reading Room** each week. If you have a half hour to spare, contact Jeff Beaudry at beaud@toad.net
- Trying to put together news and information every other week of things going on in the school. If you can help work on it, contact Brynn Conover at brynnconover@verizon.net
- Gearing up for **International Night**, our amazing celebration of all our families' world cultures. Want to get involved, contact Darka Nebesh at dnebesh@hotmail.com
- Attending a showcase of different **cultural arts** available for next year. Want to be involved in picking out some of the amazing performers for next year, contact Jean Boone at jboone10@msn.com
- Planning a great **family fun and fitness night** for March 18. Want to get in on the action or have something to contribute, contact Becky Ramsing at bramsing@verizon.net
- Supplying snacks to all students taking standardized tests (MSA and SAT-10). Can you help purchase (using PTA funds) a couple hundred granola bars or bananas? If yes, contact Jen Mallo at jenmallo@verizon.net or 410-884-1938
- Collecting **Box Tops**, batteries, and cell phones to raise money. Don't know what to do with the stuff, contact Karen Miner at karen@nonsanity.com
- Working with the administration to keep you informed and lines of communication open
- Planning to kick off **science fair**. This energetic committee could always use more committed volunteers. Please contact Tricia at tricia-rob@comcast.net
- Starting up an **Evening of Excellence** committee. Want to help with this celebration of our student's achievements this year (academic, musical, artistic, and enrichment). Please contact Jen Mallo for more information at jenmallo@verizon.net or 410-884-1938

Family Fun and Fitness Night—Save the Date

Family Fun and Fitness Night has moved to March 18, 2010. Mark your calendars now for the fun to come.

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When Will School Be Done?

The Board of Education approved the following changes to the calendar to make up the missed instructional days. The five days designated as inclement weather makeup days on the academic calendar will be used to make up five of the eight days, making June 23 the final instructional day for the 2009-2010 school year.

The Professional Development Day scheduled for Thursday, April 22 and the Professional Work Day for Articulation scheduled for Friday, May 14 will be used as instructional days to make up the sixth and seventh days. The Superintendent will apply for a waiver of the eighth day and any subsequent days that may need to be used for inclement weather during this school year.

Kindergarten Registration

Registration for new students or students entering public school kindergarten in August 2010 will be held in all Howard County public elementary schools Monday through Friday, March 1 – 5, 2010, between 9:00am and 3:30pm. Let your neighbors and friends know. For more information see

http://www.hcps.org/news/releases2010_02feb.shtml#news2009_109



Volunteer Spotlight

Our kudos go out to our superstars—

Robin Downard and Tammy Brock

We thank both of them, who help write late passes, work in the Carson Reading Room, and step up often when there is a need at the school. Keep up the good work!

What are MSAs?

MSAs are the Maryland Standardized Assessments given in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades on reading and math to assess each student's competency.

What about Conferences?

Parent Teacher Conferences, originally scheduled for February 10, 11, and 12, will not be rescheduled. Parents who have concerns about their child's progress are asked to contact the individual teacher to make arrangements to discuss their concerns. Teachers are asked to provide opportunities for parents to discuss concerns through phone calls and individual meetings.

Upcoming Events

- Feb 25 & 26 Jump Rope for Heart in PE
- Feb 25 MSAs—get the facts, 7-8pm
- March 1-5 Kindergarten and New Student Registration for the 2010-2011 school year
- March 8-10 Reading MSAs
- March 15-17 Math MSAs
- March 11 PTA Meeting, join us for information and sharing
- March 19 Interim progress reports sent home