

The Colts' Corral

A publication of Carmel Elementary School PTA

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www.pta.org

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Carmel
PTA

everychild.onevoice.®

Top Ten Reasons to LOVE the Book Fair

10. It's a fall tradition! This year's book fair sales start Monday, October 27 and continue all week.

9. There is always a fun theme! This year it is a Book Fair Safari!

8. Kids get a chance to preview! With the help of teachers and volunteers, students get a sneak peek the week of October 20th and complete their own Wish List to take home to share with parents.

7. There is something for everyone! Parents, teachers and students can shop for books for all ages and interests. There will also be media, fun school supplies, and posters.

6. It helps raise funds for our Media Center! 25% of the sales stay in our school specifically to meet the needs of new books and Media Center materials. Last year's combined spring and fall book fairs raised almost \$12,000 for the Media Center!

5. One For Books! This program allows individuals to donate a dollar into a fund that is shared with students in need so they can purchase a book.

4. Book Bucks! These are "gift certificates" given to your teacher to purchase books from the book fair for the classroom.

3. Teacher Wish Lists! You can choose a book from these lists to purchase and give to your teacher. You'll even get a Dedication sticker to place inside just from you!

2. The Media Center Door! You just have to stop by and see how the doors get decked out in the Safari theme to really get the excitement started.

And the Number One reason to LOVE the book fair...

Those funny and informative skits put on each morning by Media Specialist, Sylvia Gaillard, and the amazing Town Hall Kids! They really know how to get us excited about the great books at the book fair!

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October/
November 2008

Book Fair Safari Hours

Mon. 10/27
7:30am-2:30pm

Tues. 10/28
7:30am-8:00pm

Wed. 10/29
7:30am-2:30pm

Thurs. 10/30
7:30am-6:00pm

Fri. 10/31
7:30am-1:00pm

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Dates to Know

Presidential Fitness Event

October 20-31

Stevie B's Night

October 22

Fall Book Fair

October 27-31

General PTA Mtg. & 1st Grade Performance

October 28

School Bus Driver Appreciation Week

October 27-31

Skate Night

November 6

Thanksgiving Break

November 24-28

Please keep collecting your Nestle water bottle labels and have your child turn them in to the P.E. Department.

We were able to redeem labels collected last year to get jump ropes, stop watches, and a whistle.

The more we turn in, the more rewards we are able to get.



Up and Coming Events in P.E.:

The Presidential Physical Fitness Challenge will be held during P.E. classes October 20-31. The students will be challenged by five different components of fitness to determine their fitness abilities. They will challenge their strength to see how many pull-ups they can do or how long they can hang with their chin over a bar. They will challenge their strength endurance to see how many sit-ups they can do in one minute. They will challenge their speed and agility to see how fast they can complete the shuttle run. They will challenge their cardiovascular endurance to see how well they do in the ½ mile run (3rd grade), 1 mile run (4th, 5th & 6th grade). Last, they will challenge their flexibility in seeing how far they can sit and reach.

The highest award earned for these skills is The Presidential Award, for which students will receive a patch

and a certificate signed by the President. The next award they can earn is The National Award, for which they receive a certificate. And for participating, all students will receive The Participant Award as we cheer them on for giving outstanding effort.

If you want to find out more, the website to go to is www.presidentschallenge.org. Please make sure your children are appropriately dressed for these events.

Your P.E. Coaches,
Arnold, vonMinden, and Krug



Book Drive October 27-31

Our annual collection of gently used books will again be held during the week of our Fall Book Fair. Please place your gently used books in the collection boxes that will be located in the main hallway. This is always a very successful community outreach program that provides books to children through local service agencies.

Thank you to all those generous Carmel students, parents and teachers who donated school supplies during the collection for Louisiana flood victims. Despite a very brief collection period, three boxes of supplies are on their way to students in Houma, Louisiana.



Important Media Center Information

Computer Passwords

Our passwords protect our computers and our private files from being tampered with by strangers. They also protect our private identity information, including your screen name and e-mail accounts. **I have told all Carmel students that their parents should know their passwords.** As a parent, you have the right to know your children's passwords and know what web sites they are visiting and the content of their email. *Children should not be doing anything on the Internet that you cannot know about.*

Children should NEVER give their passwords to anyone else—not even their closest friends. (This person could unwittingly do something wrong and your child would be blamed.)

A few pointers about selecting a password:

- Never use passwords that are too easy to guess—like a nickname, your pet's name, or hobby. For example: if your child is a big University of Georgia football fan and their room is filled with UGA items, their password should not be "godawgs" or "ugabulldogs".
- Combinations of letters, numbers, and symbols are the

safest way to go. For Example: Mickey Mouse could have the following password: mimo71orl. **Mickey Mouse moved to Orlando in 1971.**

- Change passwords regularly. Never use any private identity information in a password.

As your children get older and approach middle school age, it is especially important for their passwords to be more secure.

Sylvia Gaillard
Media Specialist

Internet Chat Room Safety

As I teach Information Literacy classes about behavior on the Internet, I am learning from Carmel Students that most of them (3rd grade and up) have been to an Internet chat room. These chat rooms are connected to popular web sites for children, gaming sites, sports sites, etc. These chat rooms can be really fun for your children BUT there are certain rules they need to be aware of.

Never enter an unmonitored chat room. *Most children's chat rooms have a monitor, host or moderator who makes sure that everyone uses good manners and appropriate language. Many gaming site chat rooms do not have moderators and are really for adult use. These sites can be potentially dangerous for*

children.

Never give out private identity information without parental consent. *(first and last name, school name and address, sports teams, email address, phone numbers, passwords, calling card numbers, mother's maiden name, parents place of work, or a photo of themselves)* I have asked your children to train their mind to hear "alarm" bells in their head when anyone asks for private information.

An Internet friend is really a stranger. *Your children do not know if this person is male or female or how old they really are. Children should not tell private identity information to a stranger.*

If an Internet friend asks for private information I have instructed students to say, "*I can't tell you. That's not safe.*" or "*That's private information.*" If the private ID questions persist I have instructed your children to get out of the chat room.

Children should NOT agree to meet an Internet friend without parental permission.

I have told your children that many people on the Internet are NOT whom they appear to be. Some are up to no good. It is most important for them to follow the above mentioned chat room safety rules to be safe.

Sylvia Gaillard
Media Specialist

Congratulations to Reflections Award Recipients

Each year, the National PTA sponsors the Reflections Program as a way for students to explore their creativity. This year's theme was "Wow!" and the best way to describe the entries that were received is to say, "Wow!" The number of entries increased this year and Carmel students again proved that they are incredibly talented and creative!

The Carmel Elementary School PTA is proud to announce that the following student entries received awards from the Reflections judges:

Film Production:

Matt, - 4th grade "Cades Cove Reflections Video" - (Award of Excellence)

Literature:

Hanna - 3rd grade "Wow! The First Men are Going to Mars" - (Award of Excellence)

Daria - 5th grade "The Dreadful Depression" - (Award of Excellence)

Musical Composition:

John - 5th grade "Blues E" - (Award of Excellence)

Photography:

Jacob - Kindergarten "Brothers Reflection" (Award of Excellence) and "Seagull on the Light" - (Honorable Mention)

Tyler - Kindergarten "Camouflaged" - (Award of Merit)

Olivia - 1st grade "Peanut butter and Precious" - (Award of Excellence)

Anna, - 3rd grade "How Bees Work!" - (Award of Excellence) and "Horses!" - (Award of Merit)

Nicole - 4th grade "Seashells at the Beach" - (Award of Excellence)

Matt - 4th grade "The Smoking Mountains" - (Award of Merit)

Daria, - 5th grade "Flag on the Rock" - (Award of Excellence) and "Mountain Breeze" - (Award of Merit)

Leigha - 6th grade "All Dressed Up" - (Award of Excellence)



Abigail, she received an Award of Excellence for her artwork "Color Explosion" which she is holding in the picture. She is in Mrs. Elliott's third grade class.

Visual Arts:

Parker, - Kindergarten "The Daffodils Grow" - (Award of Excellence), "Pooh Bear Sees Bees" - (Award of Merit) and "The Bus Takes the Kids to School" - (Honorable Mention)

Emily- 1st grade "Playing on the Playground" - (Award of Excellence) and "Picking Apples" - (Award of Merit)

Kaylin - 2nd grade "Wow" - (Award of Excellence)

Dylan - 2nd grade "Kookoo Bird" - (Award of Merit) and "King of Fire" - (Honorable Mention)

Abigail - 3rd grade "Color Explosion" - (Award of Excellence)

Entries that received Awards of Excellence and Awards of Merit have been forwarded to the Cherokee County PTA for county level competition. We will proudly announce those results when they are received.

Wow! The judges were impressed by all of the students who participated in the Reflections Program. The Carmel Elementary School PTA congratulates each of them on their achievement!



Emily, Mrs. Emanuel's 1st grade, received an Award of Excellence for her visual arts entry "Playing on a Playground" (in her right hand) and an Award of Merit for her visual arts entry "Picking Apples" (in her left hand).

Did You Know...

When you join our local PTA you are automatically a member in the Georgia and National PTA, the largest volunteer child advocacy association in the nation.

PTA's vision is: Making every child's potential a reality.

PTA's mission is:

- **A powerful voice for all children**
- **A relevant resource for families and communities**
- **A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.**



*Get Your
Carmel
Spirit Wear!*

Spirit Wear Sales will be available at all PTA General Meetings And most other PTA functions. Order forms are available in the office.

*Wear you Carmel
Colors with Pride!*

Boxtops Contests and Prizes

Wow! The Kindergarten Boxtops and Campbell's labels contest was a huge success with all 12 classes turning in a total of 2475 Boxtops and Campbell's labels. Together they raised \$179 worth of Boxtops. That's amazing! In 3rd place with 363 was Mrs. Amos' class, 2nd place with 368 was Mrs. Oakes' class and the winner of the class dessert buffet with 404 Boxtops and Campbell's labels turned in was Mrs. Miller's class. Congratulations and thank you to all who participated!

Thank you to all 41 teachers who turned in Boxtops for the PTA Teacher's Boxtops round-up contest. Together you turned in 1,898 Boxtops, earning Carmel \$189.80. For every 5 Boxtops you turned in, 1 chance was earned to win a \$25 gift certificate for classroom supplies.

Announcing the newest "You Choose the Party" contest. The next class that turns in the most Boxtops and Campbell's Labels gets to choose the prize—an ice cream sundae bar or a pizza party. The deadline is October 21st.



Join the Carmel Family!

Dads! Looking for a way to get involved with Carmel, the PTA, and your children? Well, the Dads' Club is a perfect way to start. We are still in the planning stages for what projects we hope to do this year, so your input is needed and appreciated. Also, if you have not received a Welcome email about the Dads' Club this school year, then I do not have your email address. Please email me your email address so that I can add you to the Dads' Club email distribution list. Email is the main way that we will send information. Also, if anyone is interested in co-chairing this committee, please let Gary Parkes (Dads' Club Chairperson) know. For more information or to be added to the distribution list, please email gmparkes@gmail.com.

Help Wanted: School Beautification Committee

The Carmel PTA board is currently forming a special PTA committee that will work on a School Beautification and Improvement Plan. The committee will be responsible for developing plans for a landscaping and grounds maintenance project to enhance the aesthetics of our school grounds. Keep in mind this will be an ongoing project between PTA and Carmel.

Once a plan is approved, we will send out more information requesting help in the actual implementation of the plan.

We would like to have a list of interested committee volunteers by November 10th. If interested, please contact Kristy Meusel at ckmuesel@netzero.net or (770)516-6773 or Kelly Mosley at kgmosley@bellsouth.net or (770) 517-8957.

Free Parenting Series 2008-2009

Sponsored by Peachford Hospital
and Georgia PTA...Active Parenting
Encourages Family Connections

November 19, 2008 - "Model Perfect or Are They?"

Learn about the importance of
establishing realistic body image
versus what is portrayed as perfect
and the best ways to help children

February 4, 2009 - "Cries, Tries, and Suicide"

Learn more about warning signs of
depression and suicide

All programs are in the conference
center at Peachford Hospital, from
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM, and are free
of charge; no RSVP is neces-
sary. For more information contact
Pat Giuliani, Georgia PTA Youth
Services Chairperson at
Pat.Giuliani@parentcorps.org or
Margot Houser, Account Manager,
Peachford Hospital at 770-986-1821
or mhouser@houserwalker.com.

Each program will feature valuable
parenting tips, discussions
and Q & A

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Secretary	Karman Skeens	678-494-5349
Treasurer	Elizabeth Hickman	770-928-9630

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON/PHONE

Campbell Labels	Judy Hamby	678-494-5080
Communications	Stacie Parkes	770-517-5048
Community Outreach	Simone Alsop	678-445-6790
Cultural Arts	Tessa Basford	678-445-8118
Dads' Club	Gary Parks	770-517-5048
Co-Chair	OPEN	
Donations	OPEN	
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Fall Festival	Steve Hoofnagle	770-516-9092
Family Development	Kelly Frasor	770-592-6862
Co-Chair	Synethia Tucker	770-924-1460
Grant	OPEN	
Growing Up	Monika Balke	678-445-8011
Health & Safety	Lynette Farmer	770-592-9470
Co-Chair	Lisa Grisham	678-494-3157
Historian	Samantha Hackett	770-880-5772
Co-Chair	Cathy McNamara	770-517-3037
Holiday Gala	Lisa Grisham	678-494-3157
Hospitality	Lori Karnes	678-445-6682
Literacy	Stephanie Parsons	770-924-2648
Co-Chair	Elizabeth Hickman	770-928-9630
Media Center	Kristy Meusel	770-516-6773
Membership	Cindy Garrison	770-517-9618
Newsletter	Stephanie Weber	770-591-3894
Parliamentarian	OPEN	770-928-2584
Public Relations	Susan Moore	770-516-2633
Co-Chair	Amy Weissel	770-928-0466
Room Parent Coord.	Lori Karnes	678-445-6682
Recreation	Rebecca Hayes	770-516-7092
Co-Chair	Michele Kaiser	770-592-3702
Skate Night	Shawna Herring	678-402-8161
Spirit Wear	Jere McCorkle	678-494-5399
Volunteer Coordinator	Karman Skeens	678-494-5349
Ways and Means	Jodie Rodriguez	
Co-Chair	Jeanne Figdore	770-592-1264
Web Site	Keith Weber	770-591-3894