

The Colts' Corral

A publication of Carmel Elementary School PTA

www.carmelpta.com
www.georgiapta.org
www.pta.org

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Carmel
PTA

everychild.onevoice.®

Carmel PTA Kicks Off Annual Fall Fundraiser

By Jeanne Figdore, Ways
and Means Co-Chair

With the start of school comes the start of Carmel PTA's annual Fall Fundraiser. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and is much needed to support all the wonderful PTA programs and to support all the teachers here at Carmel. The PTA Board chose JAXCO as our fundraising company this year for their extensive product line and our success with them in two previous years.

With concerns about interrupting the students' academic day, we went with a video presentation this year versus the kick-off assembly. We will also not be having a party or limo ride for the same reason. ALL THE STUDENTS will, however, get to WATCH the teacher of the Top 10 Classes with the highest percentage of participation in the fundraiser, THROW A PIE IN THE FACE OF AN ADMINISTRATOR! What FUN!! Also, each class that watched the video was put in a hat for a

chance to win 1 of 2 ice cream parties. The winning classes were MRS. EMANUEL'S 1st grade and MRS. TAYLOR'S 6TH grade!

The fundraiser kicked off on August 11th and runs through the 25th, with final orders being accepted through September 2nd. At the writing of this article, we had not reached this date, so we will update you on our progress in the next issue. Our goal is to sell at least \$60,000 worth of product, to net us close to earning \$30,000. One great thing with JAXCO is that you and your friends and relatives can order throughout the school year and Carmel will still earn the same percentage of your sales!

Each student who registered online and sent out 10 invitations to family and friends received a cool bendy pencil. Also, each day 2 students' names were drawn from the daily coupons turned in to win a Kung FU Panda Character. And each day 2 classes were drawn to have a

GIANT stuffed PO, the Panda or SHIFU, the Kung Fu Master, visit their classroom for the day. Congratulations to all the lucky winners!

All students who sold at least 20 items will be put in a drawing for a Webkinz, Karaoke Machine, Stunt Vehicle, Touch Panel Phone w/ PDA, Kung Fu Panda Prize, and Free Ice Cream for 2 weeks or 1 month! And the top 10 sellers will receive, in order: IPod, Bike, portable stereo system, portable DVD player, prepaid cell phone, hand held game, remote controlled robot, dance mat, lightning ball, and an MP3 Player! All this is on top of your Prizes awarded for the number of items sold!

Thank you for all the families who participated to help Carmel PTA raise the money that will continue to fund all the wonderful programs and projects and to support all the teachers and students of our wonderful school!

Volume 10 Issue 1
September 2008

Dates to Know

Grandparents
Lunches begin
September 9

CCSD Fall Break
September 15-19

Annual Fall Festival
October 11

Fall Book Fair
October 27-31

General PTA Mtg.
October 28

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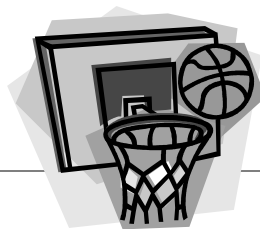
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Thank You Gold PTA Members

**purchased 6 or more memberships*

Jody & Matt Barkman
Barbara & Nick Bonatucci
Adam & Natalia Brodofsky
Don & Linda Carey
Susan Costa
Cole & Theresa Daum
Mario & Yeis Janissa Espinosa -
(20 memberships)
Randy & De Gale
Cindy & Jeff Garrison
Richard Gilbert
Rick & Rosa Gilbert
Lisa & David Grisham
Brian & Joy Gurley
Kim Harrison (20 memberships)
Suzanne Hay
Elizabeth & Dempsey Hickman
Lisa Hogue
Sharron Hunt (10 memberships)
Margaret Hunt
Mike & Angela Jensen
Andrew & Holly Loeb
Kristy & Curtis Meusel
Kimberly Miller
Kelly & Terry Mosley
Lamar & Susan Norris
Chris & Amy Parman
Tracy & Cyndee Pearson
Karen & Timothy Preston
Robert & Jodie Rodriguez
Adam & Tina Staton
DeAnn & Steven Taylor
Tim & Pamela Thompson
Anthony & Virginia Vanderyt
Gary & Amy Weissel



Carmel Basketball FAQ's

When does registration begin? Registration will be open now through September 30th. You can send the completed registration to school with your child. Please mark the envelope: PTA Basketball. All registration forms must be received by September 30th. Forms received after this date will not be accepted. **Absolutely NO refunds will be issued after October 4th! No Exceptions! Registrations that do not have an accompanied payment WILL NOT be accepted.**

Is space limited? Limited roster spots are available. Registrations will be processed in the order received. Leagues fill up quickly and it is quite possible we may close registration for some age groups prior to Sept. 30th. To assure your child a roster spot, please register as early as possible.

When are evaluations? The evaluations are tentatively scheduled to take place on Saturday, October 4th. A representative of the league will contact you with regards to the specific times of the evaluations.

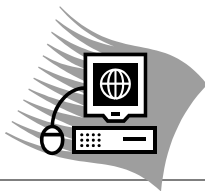
When does practice start? The first week of practice is tentatively scheduled for the week of Monday, October 20th. Your child's coach should contact you regarding your practice schedule one week prior to your first scheduled practice.

When do games start? The first week of games is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, November 1st. Game schedules and league rules will be passed out one week prior to the first week of games.

Can I volunteer to help? Please contact us if you will be able to coach, assistant coach, or volunteer in any way.

Whom do I contact with more questions?

Please visit www.carmelpta.com (click on Basketball) for additional information regarding the league. Or, contact Rebecca Hayes, PTA Recreation chair, at hayesgirl@bellsouth.net or 770-516-7092 or Michele Kaiser, PTA Recreation Co-Chair at dmkaiser@bellsouth.net or 770-592-3702 for more information.



Important Media Center Information

A Carmel
Tradition!

Annual
Fall Festival
Saturday
October 11
1:00 to 5:00

Featuring
Petting Zoo
Moon Walks
Basket Raffle
Games
Food
Fun

* Ticket sales
information
coming in
September

Information Literacy Lessons

We have welcomed our students back to a new year in the Media Center with a new direction. Our students will be learning Information Literacy Skills throughout the year as they come to our Media Center with their classroom.

Information Literacy is the ability to know when there is a need for information, to be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively use that information in their daily lives at home, school or the workplace.

We will begin our Information Literacy lessons (Grades 2-6) with: *What's private in cyberspace?* I will be teaching your children to ask a parent or teacher if it is okay to give out private information over the internet.

What is private information? I will tell your children that a name, street address, school address, e-mail address, phone numbers, passwords, parent's work place and photos are private information.

Be aware that most children's websites have an interactive component. Children may inadvertently release private information. On many websites children are asked to *click here* to reply, *click here* to write a story, etc. Please discuss this with your children.

For further information see:

www.becybersmart.org

Thank you.
Sylvia Gaillard
Media Specialist

Help Your Children With Their Homework— Online

The Media Center has put a special sticker in each child's agenda Grades 3-6. This sticker has the address to the Carmel website. From here you can access the Media Center and the Destiny On-line catalog, which contains our complete collection. You can help your child select a book and find the Accelerated Reader information here also.

Also on this sticker are the addresses, log-ins and passwords to all the databases provided by the county for our students to use. Encourage your

children to use these databases as the information is aligned to our state and county standards—not so with random Google searching.

Grolier Encyclopedias—set of six encyclopedias.

GALILEO--Georgia on-line library. An excellent resource with many databases containing varied information.

Netrekker DI—database of websites approved by our county.

Junior Geographer—maps.

Our History Atlas—historical maps.

Nystrom World Atlas Maps 101—for the beginner.

Noodlebib—a bibliographic citation tool.

For further information contact the Media Specialist at sylvia.gaillard@cherokee.k12.ga.us.

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.

Grandparents!

Join your grandchild for lunch in the Carmel cafeteria during our special Grandparents Day Lunch.

**6th grade families:
Tuesday, September 9th**

**1st and 4th grade families:
Wednesday, September 10**

**2nd, 3rd and 5th grade families:
Thursday September 11**

Sign in and purchase a lunch ticket (\$3.00/adult guest) at the school entrance.

2008 PTA Reflections Program: "Wow!"

This fall, Carmel Elementary students will again have the opportunity to explore and express their creativity by participating in the PTA Reflections Program. This National PTA program is designed to provide opportunities for students to express themselves and to receive recognition for their artistic efforts. Although participation in this project is voluntary and not required of any students, it is a unique opportunity to encourage students to develop an interest in cultural arts through the creation of original artwork. This year's theme is "**Wow!**"

Each year a new theme is chosen and students create artwork in any of six categories: literature, film production, music, photography, dance choreography and visual arts. Students may submit as many entries as they like in each category, but each entry must have an individual entry form attached to it. Entry forms will be sent home with each student and additional copies will be available in the Reflections Notebook by the Reflections Entry Box in Carmel's media center.

Entries are due on or before September 24, 2008. Each entry should be placed in the Reflections Entry Box, which will be located in Carmel's media center. All participants are required to fill out and sign, along with their parent, an official entry form, in its entirety, for each project entered. Students who have not completely filled out the form will not be eligible to participate in the program.

As with any student activity, parent involvement and support are very important. Students must create

their own works independently, however. By creating their own literature, musical compositions, dance choreography, film production, photography, and visual art students not only learn about the arts, but, more importantly, they learn about themselves and the world we all share. Please encourage your child to participate in this outstanding program.

An Award of Excellence, Award of Merit and Honorable Mention will be awarded individually, for each category, in each grade level. Entries receiving Awards of Excellence and Awards of Merit will be sent to the district level program to represent Carmel Elementary School.

The Reflections Program is a National PTA program and there are very specific rules and guidelines for entries in each of the categories. A complete set of rules will be available, in both English and Spanish, in the Reflections Notebook by the Reflections Entry Box in Carmel's media center. You may also visit the PTA state and national websites at www.georgiapta.org and www.pta.org for more information, a complete set of the rules and to view entries from prior years. **Please review the complete set of rules with your student before they begin their project as any entries that do not comply with the rules are automatically disqualified.**

Please feel free to contact Tessa Basford at: Tessabasford@bellsouth.net or 678-445-8118 if you have any questions.



*Get Your
Carmel
Spirit Wear!*

Spirit Wear Sales
will be available
each Friday in
September
7:00-8:00 a.m.
And at all PTA
General Meetings
And most other
PTA functions.

Wear you Carmel
Colors with Pride!



Safe Ride: Seatbelt Reminder

By: Lynette Farmer and Lisa Grisham

dashboard as possible.

It is a known, researched fact that motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of accidental injury-related deaths among children age 14 and younger. Fifty percent of children ages 1 to 14 who die in crashes are unrestrained.

Do not secure your infant in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger-side air bag unless you have a manual cut-off switch and have turned it off.

Did you know that a properly used child safety seat can reduce the risk of death by more than 70% for infants and nearly 55% for children ages 1 to 4?

Booster Seats: Since an adult lap or shoulder belt will not correctly fit a child who weighs more than 40 pounds and is less than 4 feet 9 inches tall, a booster seat is needed to help position the vehicle belt correctly.

The safest place for children younger than age 13 is the backseat; however, if you have no choice, make sure your child is correctly buckled for his age and size.

Look for the Buckle-Up Station at the front of the school to check the weight and height of your children. This will let you know exactly how they should be riding in the car. If you have questions please email Lisa Grisham at grishamdj@bellsouth.net or go to the Safe Kids World Wide website at www.safekids.org.

Your child is ready to use a safety belt when he can keep his back against the vehicle seat and his knees are completely bent over the seat edge; his feet rest flat on the floor; the lap belt is low and snug across his upper thighs; and the shoulder belt crosses the center of his chest and collarbone. Also, move the vehicle seat as far back from the

Remember to Buckle-Up EVERY ride.

A Great Year for Boxtops and Campbell's Labels

The easiest way to earn money for our school involves only a pair of scissors and a few seconds of your time. Cutting Boxtops and Campbell's labels from products you already buy such as Goldfish and Pillsbury products will earn us money and free products. Campbell's labels provide us with free products and we earn 10 cents per Boxtops. If everyone sends in just 20 Boxtops we will earn over \$3000—every single Boxtop counts.

Two contests have already ended:

1st-6th Grade teachers were invited to turn in Boxtops they received on donated products such as Ziploc® bags and Kleenex® for a chance to win a classroom supplies gift certificate.

A contest to welcome the Kindergartners ended on August 29th. The class that turned in the most Campbell's labels and Boxtops won a dessert party.

Thanks to all who turned participated. Look for other contests throughout the year.

Go to www.btfe.com and www.labelsforeducation.com to learn about the programs. Be sure to sign up as a Carmel Elementary School supporter on the Boxtops website. Any online ordering through the Boxtops marketplace earns us percentage without any additional cost to you.

Thanks for your support!

Discount Offer



Zoo Atlanta Membership has donated to the Georgia PTA a Rare Care Sponsorship of the Sumatran Orangutan, and it has extended its educator discounts to Georgia PTA members.

Mention Georgia PTA when purchasing a Zoo Atlanta Membership by phone (404.624.WILD) or in person to receive \$10 off an Individual, Dual, Family, or Family Escape Membership. Note that the discount is not valid for online purchases.

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CARMEL ELEMENTARY PTA 2007-2008		
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2nd Co-VP	Lisa Grisham	678-494-3157
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Treasurer	Elizabeth Hickman	770-928-9630
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Campbell Labels	Judy Hamby	678-494-5080
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Cultural Arts	Tessa Basford	678-445-8118
Dads' Club	Gary Parks	770-517-5048
Co-Chair	OPEN	
Donations	OPEN	
Co-Chair	Monika Balke	678-445-8011
Environmental	Robbin Walker	770-926-1237
Exceptional Children	Tammy Smith	770-517-8630
Co-Chair	Susan Norrell	770-591-4224
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