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UXBRIDGE ELEMENTARY PTO NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Books and Beyond at Taft has come to an end this past week. Thanks to Lisa Rooney, Lisa Ackerman and their committee and to Margy O'Donnell for their hard work getting the students excited about reading. Stop by the cafeteria to see how the farm animals multiplied on the stage to represent all of the minutes read by the students (special thanks to Sean Cole for his hours of cutting all those animals!).

Thanks to Beth Rancourt for organizing our last Free Family Fun Night. The kids in attendance thought the laser show was pretty cool! If you weren't able to make it that night, there will be a few more family fun nights before the school year ends.

The 2nd annual raffle calendar fundraiser is in full swing with a week's worth of winners drawn already. You can still buy a raffle calendar if you're feeling lucky – you can print one from the PTO website.

Cheryl Hamel and Kris Holt did a great job planning and running the 2nd annual 4th Grade Father/Daughter dance February 8th. It sounds like everyone had a great night! If you have a daughter entering 4th grade next year and would like to help Cheryl with the 3rd annual, please let her know at j3mc@charter.net.

And finally, this school year ends the PTO Executive Board terms for President, Vice-President (or Co-Presidents as it has been for the past 3 years), one Co-Treasurer position and the Recording Secretary position. Lisa and I, Tracy and Kris have had a great time during our extended stay on the Executive Board but we're ready to hand over the reigns to some other parents interested in volunteering a year or two on the PTO Board. It's a great way to meet other parents, get to know the staff at the ELC and Taft Schools, and have input in how the PTO funds are to be spent. If you're interested in filling any of these positions for school year 2008-2009, please contact anyone on the Executive Board.

Good luck to everyone participating in the raffle calendar drawing and have a great February Break.

Kim DeMers and Lisa Devane

Co-Presidents

The PTO is committed to making our school environment the best it can be. To find out how you can help us, please contact any of the officers listed below

Name	Email	Phone
Kim DeMers	pkdemers@charter.net	278-5435
Lisa Devane	glen.devane@verizon.net	278-0282
Tracy French	frenchjt@charter.net	278-3322
Wendy Walker	wendyleewalker@yahoo.com	278-3079
Kris Holt	jholt15@charter.net	278-2658
Kallie Spaulding	bkspaulding@verizon.net	278-8085

SAVE THE DATE!! APRIL 12th WINE TASTING & BASKETS GALORE

The PTO will be holding its 2nd Annual Wine tasting on Saturday, April 12th from 7pm - 9pm at The First Evangelical Congregational Church on the Uxbridge Town Common. Come and enjoy an evening of wine from around the world provided by Lynch's Wine and Spirits and browse the many baskets and silent auction items. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door. Please **Contact Roann Karns@** roannkarns@yahoo.com for more information.



PTO NIGHT WITH THE WORCESTER SHARKS

Uxbridge Elementary Schools Night at the Worcester Sharks will be held on Saturday March 8th at the Worcester DCU Center. It's a 7:05 pm game against Lowell. All tickets are \$10.50. Deadline to purchase tickets is February 15th. If you have questions please **contact Kay Klos at 278-0866 or Andrea Matkowski at 278-6160**



PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Taft Playground committee's holiday ornament fundraiser had a great response. 101 ornaments were sold for a profit of \$400. Thank you for all your purchases- every dollar spent gets us closer to our goal. Check out our information table located outside the Taft Office which highlights the benefits of the proposed new surface for the playground. Our next meeting is Wednesday February 13th, 7pm Taft cafeteria. Several exciting ideas are being researched for Spring Fundraisers. Everyone is welcome to attend- new ideas and faces are always welcome! If you are interested in joining this committee please contact **Cheryl Hamel at 508-278-4251 or j3mc@charter.net**.



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Our next Box tops submission is scheduled for the end of February, so keep those Box Tops coming. We are always looking for creative new ways to encourage students to clip Box Tops. If you have an idea or maybe a contest prize to donate, contact [Nancy Lemire at lemires@juno.com](mailto:Nancy.Lemire@lemires@juno.com). Please remember that all Box Tops must have a valid expiration date which is clearly visible in order to be eligible for submission and payment from General Mills. Don't forget to check out the Box Tops website www.boxtops4education.com for fun winter activities, recipes, and coupons! Thanks for clipping!



TYSON PROJECT A+

Let's get this program off to a great start. Submissions have been a little slow so we want to encourage you to send in your Tyson labels. Just send in the labels with your child or put them in the collection bin outside the Taft Office. Within Pre-K and ELC labels will be picked up on a regular basis. Remember each label is worth 24 cents to our school. The dollars can quickly add up if we can get the labels coming in. If you have questions please contact our coordinator Paula Garille at hubscuba@msn.com or any PTO officer. Don't forget to check out Tyson's website at <http://www.tyson.com/projectaplus/> to see which products qualify.



NEXT PTO MEETING

THURSDAY, February 14th at 7:00pm – Taft Cafeteria. Help decide how to spend the funds we raise! Projects include Literacy, Playground and more.

PTO EMAIL GROUP

If you would like to join the PTO email list, please email KRIS HOLT at Jholt15@charter.net. Include your name and email address and name of your child's teacher

PTO NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Is the 25th of each month. Please contact Wendy Walker at wendyleewalker@yahoo.com or 508-278-3079 if you have something you would like to submit.



DONATE- A- BOOK PROGRAM

The Donate-a-Book program was established during the 2005/06 school year to bring the needs of our library together with the good will of our community. The response was amazing with 135 books donated during the first year and an additional 120 books donated last year. We want to thank all the students, families, teachers and friends that have generously donated a book. The Donate-a-Book program helps our library resources remain current and relevant to the needs of our students while providing parents an opportunity to recognize a birthday or other special occasion in a meaningful and lasting way.

For each book donated:

- We will place a Bookplate in the front of the book that includes details about the donation and a "special message" from the donor.
- The Librarian will present the book and a small token of appreciation to the child during their library time.
- The child will be given the opportunity to be the first one to check the book out.
- A picture of the child with the book will be taken and displayed on the Donate-a-Book bulletin board.
- The donation will be mentioned in morning school announcements and Taft Tales monthly newsletter.

The Donate-a-Book program is open to all parents, grandparents and friends of Taft Elementary students. If you have any questions please contact Nancy Winters at (508) 278-0669 or email at ngwinters@aol.com. Forms can be downloaded from our website also.



UPCOMING PTO EVENTS

- 2/12 SPECIAL ED PAC MEETING 7pm Whitin Library
- 2/13 Playground Committee Meeting 7pm Taft Cafe
- 2/14 EB MEETING 6pm TAFT LIBRARY
- 2/14 PTO Meeting Taft Café 7pm
- 2/15 Last Day to Purchase Worcester Shark Tickets
- 2/29 Special Event during school hours to wrap up Books and Beyond
- 3/8 PTO NIGHT at Worcester Sharks DCU Center 7 pm
- 3/11 SPECIAL ED PAC MEETING 7pm Whitin Library
- 3/13 PTO MEETING 7pm Taft Café