

Charlton Heights PTA Newsletter

PTA:
Every Child,
One Voice

President's Post

Another newsletter means a new month begins and it has been busy! Since the start of the school year, PTA has sponsored many programs and events that are customary at Charlton Heights. Some of the programs are revenue generating programs, which help fund other programs that will take place in the remainder of the school year. Other programs are non-generating, meant for increasing skills and knowledge, changing attitudes, and encouraging cooperation among our students and families.

Our PTA has coordinated the following programs that serve our children and create opportunities for parents, families, and our community to support student success!
**PTA Membership ~ Julia Hayden
**New Family Social ~ Chris Katz
**Sally Foster Fall Fundraiser ~

Tim and Ellen Sinnenberg
**Entertainment Book Sale ~ Debbie Borden
**Children's Garden Harvest ~ Laurie Kruppenbacher and Lori Pirrone,
**Scholastic Bookfair ~ Pam Turczyn and Dee Capella
**Curiosity Shop ~ Sonja Thomson and Lorraine Billings
**School Directory ~ Daphne Jameson and Sharan Zarnofsky
**Shoes for the Shoeless ~ Pam Turczyn
**Make-a-Difference Day ~ Robin Brennan
**School Pictures ~ Barb Becker and Marcia Brino
**Monster Mash ~ Sharan Zarnofsky and Krissy Jackson

We would like to extend great thanks to each program chair and co-chair for the time and energy each of them devoted to make sure these programs happen.

We thank the MANY people who have volunteered however great or small. Together, we strive

to provide positive, educational experiences for our children.

Best of luck to those who are entering their talented submissions and participating in the National PTA Reflections Contest.

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Principal's Piece

Our annual emergency early release drill will be on Tuesday, November 10. Children will be dismissed 15 minutes early that day. The BH-BL Theatre for Children, BY Children, will be presenting their first performance on Friday, November 20, and Satur-

day, November 21, at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Cafeteria. The performance of *Rapunzel* should be a crowd favorite, not to be missed!

November brings many special activities at Charlton Heights, including the first parent and teacher

conferences. The conferences will be held on Monday, November 9, Tuesday, November 17, Thursday, November 19, and Tuesday, December 1. On the half-days, children will be dismissed at 12:00 noon.

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November 2009

Please send your digital pictures burned to a disc to **Dee Capella** via backpack mail Meghan Capella (Mrs. Ollari) Your photos could be chosen for the yearbook!

To inquire contact Dee Capella:

ctrybandit@gmail.com

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The Second Annual “Costumes For Kids”

Wow – you sure know how to make a kid smile! Over 100 Halloween costumes were donated to the Albany Boys and Girls Club. Thanks for making a difference!



Thank you to Sydney Thomson for her efforts!



Student Council News

The Charlton Heights Student Council is excited to be sponsoring the 2009 Thanksgiving Food Drive on Monday, November 9th through Monday, November 16th. Collection boxes will be located in every classroom. All items collected will be used to assist families in the BH-BL community. Sample items might include canned food items, baby formula, diapers, baking supplies, detergents, and personal

hygiene products. Thank you in advance for your support.

Each year the Elms' Farm donates trees to service men and women and their families. It's called the “Trees for Troops Program”. This year Charlton Heights students have a chance to help the Elm's family in their generous efforts. Students will be decorating paper ornaments that will be sent along with these trees.

Lindsey Jameson and Jenna Meaney



PTA Website

CHES PTA Website Underway

The PTA has formed an Adhoc Committee to explore the creation of a CHES PTA website. The website will serve to increase communication between school and home and will allow parents, teacher and the community to access information at the click of a

button. Plus – it's a great way to archive information while “going green”.

We are looking for people who are willing to serve as editors, conduct research, suggest additional features, test for product usability, and so on. If you are interested in becoming a

member, please contact Sonja Thomson at 885-3415 or via email at sonjathomson@hotmail.com



Enrichment Volunteers Wanted

We are Looking for "Club Leaders"- If you have a hobby or special interest that you would like to share, please consider chairing a club. You may either develop your own club (you will be fully reimbursed) or you may choose to lead one of our popular existing clubs such as: *Legos*, Classic Board Games, etc.

Time Commitment: Choose either the first 3 Wednesdays of March or the first 3 Fridays of March from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

We are Looking for "Club Assistants"-

This opportunity allows you to interact with the children while helping the Club Leader during the lesson time to ensure the club is running smoothly.

Time Commitment: you can volunteer any or all of the clubs dates from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. on the first 3 Wednesdays of March or the first 3 Fridays of March.

And remember, our way of thanking you for volunteering is to allow you to pre-register your child(ren) for our popular club programs.

We need a "Curiosity Shop Co-Chair" for next year –

If you are interested in co-chairing this committee next year, please consider "shadowing" the program this year.



To volunteer or for more information:

Call Sonja Thomson at 885-3415 or email to sonjathomson@hotmail.com

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PTA Membership Drive

This is our final month of the PTA Membership Outreach. Did you know...

5 single memberships support the Helping Hands/Sunshine Program.

10 family memberships support the Star of the Week Program.

15 single memberships support the Adopt-a-Book Program.

20 family memberships support the Student Assistance Program for field trips.

25 family and single memberships support

our Parents as Reading Partners Program.

Every membership makes our Student Enrichment Programs possible, as well as helping PTA support activities and learning programs that encourage students to grow to their greatest potential.

If you have joined PTA, your membership is greatly appreciated. Our goal is simple - 100% membership participation! If you have not already joined PTA, please do -

your membership will make a difference.

A family membership is only \$9.50, and a single membership is \$5.00. You can send your check via back pack mail, made payable to the CHSPTA, to:

J. Hayden - PTA Membership. Thank you.

Career Awareness Jamboree

Mark Your Calendars! The Career Awareness Jamboree is on March 31, 2010. Look for a note to come home soon. If you would like to share information about your career, be involved in the planning process, or just take part in the day--sign up to participate in CAJ. The entire school day is devoted to students learning about ca-

reers. We need lots of volunteers for a variety of tasks. Please join us for an exciting and informative day!



If you have questions? Contact Paulette Mahar, 399-6374 or

pdmahar@hotmail.com

Principal's Piece Continued

To make the conference more meaningful, some conference tips are to:

1. Be prepared. Don't expect the teacher to tell you everything. You are your child's first teacher and your insight is very valuable.
2. Write down questions to ask your child's teacher.
3. Address concerns and comments with an open mind. Voice your opinions but also listen to suggestions.
4. Be on time. Teachers usually have a tight schedule.
5. Ask for help. Your child's teacher may have some great resources for you and/or may know where to get some resources.
6. Relax. Remember that student achievement improves with parent involvement. Effective communication with

your child's school is essential to your child's continued success.

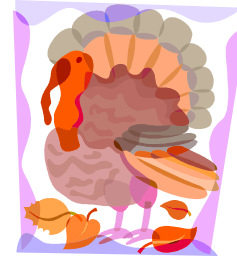
Box Tops for Education- Keep sending in your Box Tops for Education coupons. We have been receiving many coupons so far, and appreciate your support! A check from General Mills will soon be sent to Charlton Heights for **\$1,700**, which is the largest amount we have ever received!

Please remember that New York State requires that cars stop on the road and in parking lots when you see the red stop sign extended on the bus, and the lights are flashing.

Our staff wishes you a Happy Thanksgiving. We hope your holiday is spent in good health with family and friends.

Sincerely,

Tim Sinnenberg



Rapunzel

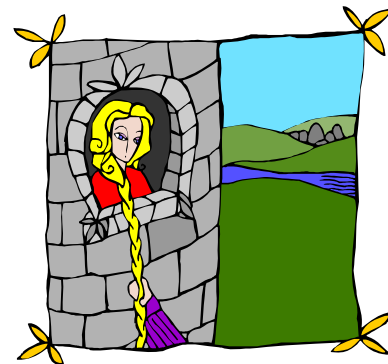
The **BH-BL Theatre for Children *BY Children*** will be performing **Rapunzel** on Fri. Nov. 20th at 7pm and Sat. Nov. 21st at 2pm at the O'Rourke Middle School.

This November we bring you our very first "all children's" cast. In the past our casts have been made up of mostly adults and high school students. You won't want to miss this

inaugural performance by our community's elementary and middle school students.

Flyers with ticket information will be sent home via backpack mail in the next few weeks.

We look forward to seeing you there!



President's Post Continued

Lastly, as things start to slow down a bit, we look forward to a PTA program favored by all...our "Holiday Shop" at Charlton Heights. A priceless event that gives our students an opportunity to independently select and purchase affordable items for their loved ones. This event is a great way to get yourself into the season's spirit. Please consider taking a small part of your day to spend at our Holiday Shop...the more hands the merrier!

Our first two PTA meetings have been well attended!

We are so thrilled to see so many first time parents, both moms and dads!



As we enter a season full of thanks, we are grateful for our supportive school staff, and parents who have added to our successful start of another school year.

We wish your family a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

~Krissy Jackson and Allison Attuil



Tryouts for the spring production will be held January 5 and 6, 2010 at 7pm at the Burnt Hills High School. Tryouts are limited to adults and high school students only. More information to follow.



Please send newsletter items to Sue Hansen at heyhansens@aol.com



Thank you!!!

A huge thank you to all the families who donated shoes to this year's "Shoes for the Shoeless" collection. We collected 314 pairs of shoes, boots and sneakers! These will be distributed through Lions Club International to needy families in the Appalachia regions later this fall. Thank you for your generosity!!



Volunteers Wanted

Volunteers are sought for the following committees:
 School Banking: Brenda Mills 399-8787
 CHESS: Laura Paolina 357-8975
 Holiday Shop: Tara Deluke 280-6422

First Grade News

Happy November! We started the month off with our field trip to see Harold and the Purple Crayon. What a great time we had! The students continued this fun in the classroom with 'Harold' activities. November means time for Thanksgiving! The students will be busy this month learning all about the Pilgrims' voyage, how they got started in Plymouth and about the first Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving songs, Pilgrim villages, Thanksgiving plays and Thanksgiving feasts will be some of the fun these first graders will be having this month. In addition, the students will be learning about Veteran's Day. We will be finishing-up our Solids and Liquids unit this month to get ready for next month's holiday festivi-

ties. There are 3 1/2 days this month for Parent-Teacher conferences and we are looking forward to meeting with all of you to discuss your child's progress! Happy Thanksgiving!

The First Grade Team



Banking News

Charlton Heights Elementary School is participating in the First Niagara School Banking Club. Children can bring their deposits to the School Banking table set up in the school lobby each Thursday morning as they enter the building. The program will run from 8:15am to 8:45am. Each week students, the school's staff and banking volunteers can make deposits into their own school savings accounts. If your child is interested in participating in school banking, they must open an account with the bank. Applications are available at the school banking table so you may have your child pick up an application. Please do not send deposits with your child until they have received their account number in the mail from the Bank. Please contact First Niagara Bank School Banking Department at (518) 233-6543, or by email to schoolbanking@fnfg.com, if you have any questions. **See flyer insert for more details.