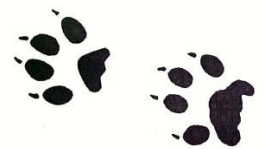


The Whitt Wolf Call



Volume 3, Issue 1

Whitt Elementary PTA

September 2010

Room Parents Needed

Help us to "build" great classrooms for our students. Volunteer to be your child's Room Parent.

An informational form and sign-up went home in the first week packets.

Any questions? Contact Amy Pinner, Room Rep. Coordinator, amypinner@verizon.net



We're Going Electronic

For the rest of the school year, we will be distributing our newsletter electronically in the Wylie ISD Community News and on our Whitt PTA website.

If you do not currently receive the Wylie Community News – go to <http://www.wylieisd.net/wcnweb> and enter your email address or visit our webpage www.whittpta.net to download.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept 7** Carnival Planning Meeting 7:45 am
- Sept 9** Fall Fundraiser Kick-off
- Sept 14** PTA Meeting 6:45pm
Watch D.O.G.S. Kick-off
- Sept 17** Wolf Howl 1:30pm
- Sept 23** Chick-fil-a Family Fun Night 5:00pm-7:30pm
- Sept 24** Fundraiser Orders Due

From the President:

Welcome to our third year at Whitt Elementary. The PTA has planned numerous activities and programs to enhance and enrich your child's experience as a Whitt Elementary.

The Whitt Elementary PTA board has already been busy planning a great year with lots of fun events coming up. Please look for our upcoming events on our website at www.whittpta.net/upcoming-events-and-programs - we will be posting important dates, helpful information, and events all year long.

Some of the activities planned for this year include:

- International Walk to School Day
- Red Ribbon Week (Say No to Drugs)
- Reflections Art Recognition Program
- Fall Carnival
- Monthly Family Fun Nights
- Student fun including the great parties put on by our room parents throughout the year and the school-wide Splash Day in May
- Field Day

If you love to volunteer, we are looking for you. There are so many opportunities to volunteer at Whitt. Please fill out the volunteer survey on page 6 of this newsletter or on the website. We have committees forming now in many different areas. **In whatever capacity you choose to serve, we welcome you, we appreciate you, and we value your input as Whitt PTA Members.**

We have some new spirit items available this year. You can purchase spirit wear and spirit items by printing the online form from our website and sending it in or we will have a table set-up at the Wolf Howls and at every regular PTA meeting. Every Friday is Spirit Day at Whitt, so get your t-shirt and show your Whitt Wolves pride!

Our next general PTA meeting will be held September 14, 2010 starting at 6:45 pm in the cafeteria. We will be having a regular PTA meeting along with the Watch D.O.G.S. kick-off. Dads bring your kids and we'll see you there!

I had a great time meeting so many of you at Meet the Teacher night and spending time with the kindergarten parents at the 3rd Annual Boo-Hoo breakfast as they dropped their little ones off for their first day of school. We are so fortunate to have Dr. Slaten, Mrs. Morton, and all the great teachers and staff here at Whitt. I look forward to working with all of them and each of you in the coming school year.

I wish you and your children a successful year at Whitt Elementary.

Building for Success,

Kari Hunt, Whitt Elementary PTA President



Mark your calendars and plan to join us as the Whitt Wolves participate in International Walk to School Day Wednesday, October 6th. Watch your child's backpack for more information as the date gets closer. If you have any questions please contact Angela Warren at angieandabby@yahoo.com.

Stay in the Loop

Welcome back to another great school year at Whitt! We were so fortunate last year to have so many wonderful volunteers. All of our school fundraisers and events could not have been successful without the help of all our hard working parents and volunteers.

Most of our volunteer sign-ups are done through email. If you are interested in "staying in the loop" about volunteer opportunities throughout the year, please send your contact information to me directly or fill submit on the web at www.whittpta.net.

Erin Wilson, Volunteer Coordinator
ewilson@swbell.net

Fall Frenzy is coming!



Mark your calendars for **Friday, October 22, from 5:00 - 8:00 pm**. We will be having lots of fun with games, prizes, inflatables, and food. You won't want to miss this fun annual event.

Contact Deonna Osborn, Carnival Chairperson, at 214-912-5217 or deonnao@gmail.com for more information or to find out how you can get involved.

We will see you there!



Fall Fundraiser



Hello Whitt parents, teachers, and staff! Every Fall, Whitt Elementary PTA hosts a large fundraising project in order to make all of our events and special programs throughout the year possible. Last year was a huge success and we were able to sponsor many fun things for the kids including: fall carnival, field day, splash day, Watch D.O.G.S. for dads, class parties, teacher appreciation week, book fairs for the library, and several programs at PTA meetings. We want to make this year just as exciting for our precious kids! So, we will be selling frozen cookie dough, kolaches, pretzels, and other desserts again this year.

Below is a calendar of events in relation to our Fall Fundraiser:

- 9/9: Assembly for Kids and Official Kick-Off of Fall Fundraiser
- 9/9-9/23: Dates to collect catalog orders
- 9/24: All orders due
- 10/27: Delivery of items to school (ONE DAY ONLY -- volunteers will be available into the evening to distribute)

Please consider helping your child participate so we can have another fantastic year at Whitt! This is our second year using this fundraising company and we have some tremendous prizes planned. The cookie dough is very tasty and comes pre-portioned so you can bake one cookie or the whole box. The pumpkin rolls are also VERY good and arrive at the perfect time in late October!

We will be sending home packets and parent letters after the official kickoff on September 9th.

Thank you,
DeAnn Smith, 4th Vice President - Ways and Means
Trey.deann@gmail.com

Fall Carnival Planning Meeting

We will be holding our first Carnival Committee planning meeting on Tuesday, September 7th at 7:45am, in the cafeteria. If you are interested in helping out with the Fall Frenzy, please come and join us. We will need lots of help to make this year's event a success for the kids. If you would like to help out, but cannot attend the meeting, please contact Deonna Osborn, Carnival Chairperson, at 214-912-5217 or deonnao@gmail.com. See you there!

PTA...Building For



Help build the success of tomorrow by joining the PTA today!

If you haven't done so already, now is the time to join the Whitt PTA. Memberships dues are only \$7.00 per person. There is a membership drive contest between the classes, so do your part to help your child's class. The class from each grade with the most PTA memberships will get to have a popcorn or snow cone party. **The contest ends October 14th!**

Jamie Hodges, 3rd VP Membership
PinkDramaMama@yahoo.com



Box Tops for Education and Labels for Education

During October we will be "Batty for Box tops"

Please continue to clip and save your box tops and Campbell labels. Information will be coming home soon. Last year Whitt earned approximately \$1,500 from box tops to help fund our activities.

GET MORE BOX TOPS!!!!

From now until September 8th there's a special way to get even more box tops for Whitt with Bonus Box Tops!! You can earn from 10 to 25 bonus Box Tops via a coupon from Kroger that prints out with your receipt by purchasing certain items.

Also those who go to www.rewardyourschool.com will receive 5 bonus box tops just by registering their Kroger card. Once you register, choose Don Whitt Elementary as your school. It is really easy and Whitt will earn \$.50 for each registration.

Noreen Smith, Family Fun Night Chair
Noreensmith07@verizon.net
Stephanie Bush, Box Top Coordinator
beansmommy30@gmail.com

Your 2010-2011 PTA Board

Officers:

President – Kari Hunt karihunt@verizon.net
1st Vice President – Aide to President – Christi Johnston
kcjohnston19@yahoo.com
2nd Vice President – Programs – Angie Warren
angieandabby@yahoo.com
3rd Vice President – Membership – Jamie Hodges
pinkdramamama@yahoo.com
4th Vice President – Ways & Means – Deann Smith
Trey.deann@gmail.com
Treasurer – Theresa Evetts theresa.evetts@verizon.net
Secretary – Kelly Criss kelcriss@verizon.net
Parliamentarian – Noreen Smith noreensmith07@verizon.net
Historian – Rikki Gildert kemperdawn@verizon.com

Chairs:

Arts in Education – Julie McKeown juliemckeown@gmail.com
Book Fair – Karen Bosse kc.bosse@verizon.net
Carnival – Deonna Osborn deonnao@gmail.com
Citizenship/Legislative – Jennifer Parker
jennifer_parker1@verizon.net
Communications/Publicity – Lisa Ybarra lisa@the-ybarras.com
Council Delegate – Christi Johnston cjohnston19@yahoo.com
Council Delegate – Rebecca Lindsey reblindsey@verizon.net
Directory – Amy Roe Amy.Roe@pepsico.com
Environmental/Beautification – Stacie Smith sirs48@yahoo.com
Family Fun Night/Community Partners – Noreen Smith
noreensmith07@verizon.net
Field Day – Kelly Detloff keldetof@msn.com
Golf Tournament – Deonna Osborn deonnao@gmail.com
Health Ed/S.A.G.E./Youth Protection – Carmen Dorsey
cdorsey28@yahoo.com
Holiday Store – Erin Becker beckers131@tx.rr.com
Hospitality – Angela Harmony angelaharmony@yahoo.com
Room Rep Coordinator – Amy Pinner amypinner@verizon.net
Spirit – Amy Embry amyembry@yahoo.com
Teacher Appreciation – Fiona Xayaphanh
maemaehan@yahoo.com
Volunteer Coordinator – Erin Wilson ewilson@swbell.net
Watch D.O.G.S. – Jennifer Cheung jennybee7@gmail.com
Yearbook – Karen Andiel karenandiel@gmail.com

Fridays are Spirit Days at Whitt!



Don't forget to wear your spirit wear every Friday. We'll be having a weekly contest among the classes in each grade level to see who has the most spirit! Each winning class per grade will get to keep Wylie the Wolf in their class for the week.

If you don't have your spirit wear yet, the PTA has a selection of t-shirts for purchase. There is a table set up at every Wolf Howl and the order form can be printed from our website, www.whittpta.net or you can pick up a form in the front office. Just send it in with your payment and we'll deliver your order to your child's classroom.

Thanks for your support and don't forget to show your Whitt Wolf spirit!

Family Fun Night



117 E. FM 544
Murphy, Texas
(972) 509-2700

SEPTEMBER 23, 2010

5:00-7:30 pm

This is a great way to raise money for the school and parents get a night off from cooking!!

Some of your favorite teachers will be there to support the cause. This month Ms. Shirley, Ms Sandoval and Ms. Burnett are coming!

There will be prizes for the classes with the most participants!!!

Note: Drive thru orders count as well! Just mention Whitt Elementary when ordering.

Calling Dads, Grandfathers, Uncles . . .



Have you heard about the Watch D.O.G.S. program?

WATCH D.O.G.S.[®] (Dads of Great Students) is a K-12 program that invites fathers, grandfathers, uncles, or other father figures to volunteer at least one day all day at their child's/student's school during the school year. Watch D.O.G.S. volunteers perform a variety of tasks during their volunteer day including monitoring the school entrance, assisting with unloading and loading of buses and cars, monitoring the lunch room, or helping in the classroom with a teacher's guidance by working with small groups of students on homework, flashcards, or spelling.

It's a great way to help the school and show your kids how special they are to you! We'll be having sign-ups at the General PTA Meeting on Sept. 14th or contact Jennifer Cheung at jennybee7@gmail.com

Booster Seat Fines Begin

Fines Begin for Drivers Who Fail To Properly Utilize Booster Seats When Transporting Children

AUSTIN - Texas PTA, the largest child advocacy organization in Texas, reminds Texas parents that this week public safety officials begin to ticket adults who do not safely transport children in booster seats. Passed in 2009, the law makes booster seats mandatory for children younger than 8 years of age or shorter than 4'9".

Safety experts, including the Texas Department of Public Safety and National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, recommend children use booster seats until they can fit safely into an adult seat belt. Prior to its passage in May 2009, Texas was one of only 5 states that had not revised their child passenger safety law.

"Nothing kills more children than car crashes. Safety seats, including booster seats, are very effective in reducing injury and preventing child death in crashes," said Texas PTA President Sharon Goldblatt. "Our primary goal in seeking this law has been to protect children. Since the bill's passage, we have worked to educate parents about it and to facilitate opportunities to obtain booster seats for families who cannot afford them."

Booster seat laws raise booster seat use by 40% and their use reduces the risk by 59% of severe head, spinal cord and internal organ injuries sustained when children are restrained in an adult seat belt before they are physically big enough to safely use them.

"Help us spread the word. Children should be in booster seats until they are 8 years old or until they are 4'9" tall. Tell your friends and neighbors. Buckle Up your children safely. It's the law, and we believe this law will save children."

WHITT BIRTHDAY WISHES

Want to wish your child a special happy birthday this year? Purchase a Whitt Wish line on the marquee sign in front of the school for \$20.

Get a form on www.whittpta.net or contact Lisa Ybarra at lisa@the-ybarras.com

Mark your calendars: Family Day is Sept. 27!!!

Family Day - A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children™ is a national movement to inform parents that the parental engagement fostered during frequent family dinners is an effective tool to help keep America's kids substance free. *Family Day* reminds parents that *Dinner Makes A Difference!*

Whether you're cooking a gourmet meal, ordering from your favorite take-out place or eating on the go, rest assured that what your kids really want during dinner-time is **YOU!** Family meals are the perfect time to talk to your kids and to listen to what's on their mind. The more often kids eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink or use drugs.

Become a Family Day STAR!

I commit to:

S- Spend time with my kids by having dinner together

T- Talk to them about their friends, interests and the dangers of drugs and alcohol

A- Answer their questions and listen to what they say

R- Recognize that I have the power to help keep my kids substance free!

Visit <http://casafamilyday.org/familyday/> to pledge to become a Family Day STAR and for more information on this movement.

Carmen Dorsey
Youth Protection / Health Education / SAGE Chair

Beauty is...

The National PTA Reflections Program is an arts recognition and achievement program for students. The Reflections Program provides opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and to receive positive recognition for original works of art inspired by a pre-selected theme, while increasing community awareness on the importance of the arts in education.

Students may submit an entry in any of the six arts areas listed below. Only original works of art are accepted. Each piece of artwork must be the work of the student only. Assistance from teachers, parents, or friends is NOT permitted except in special cases (such as for those with visual or physical disabilities). Depending on local PTA guidelines, students may enter more than one work of art. The six arts areas are as follows:

- Literature
- Musical composition
- Photography
- Visual arts
- Dance Choreography
- Film/Video Production

You can pick up a registration form in the front office of the school. You can also access the entry form online at <http://www.txpta.org/programs/reflections/>. More information will be coming home shortly. Let's set the standard this year and make art a priority in our children's lives!

Julie McKeown, Arts in Education Chair
juliemckeown@gmail.com

MIX UP YOUR CHILD'S LUNCHBOX!

Mix and match some of these ideas to bring variety to their meals.

Breads

Bagel, baguette, bread sticks, crackers, English muffin, pita bread, flatbread, pizza bread, rice cakes, rolls, wheat sandwich bread, tortillas

Condiments

pizza or tomato sauce, almond butter, apple butter, avocado (mashed), banana (mashed), brie cheese, cashew butter, cream cheese (lowfat), honey, hummus, jam (spreadable fruit), ketchup, mayonnaise, mustard, pesto

Fruits

apples, plums, strawberries, apricots, pineapple, pears, papaya, grapefruit, blueberries, cranberries (dried), nectarines, peaches, grapes (red or green), kiwi, oranges (sliced), bananas, cherries, raspberries, melon, mango, raisins

Fillings

carrots (shredded), tuna salad, green leafy lettuce, cheese (light/low-fat), chicken, chicken salad, egg salad, hard-boiled egg, nitrite-free hot dogs, tofu, sliced avocado, sliced cucumber, smoked salmon, turkey

Vegetables

Asparagus, bell peppers, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic toast, green beans, green salad, lettuce, mushrooms, cottage cheese with fruit, snap peas, soy beans (edamame), spinach, squash, sweet potatoes, yams, zucchini

Treats

apple crisp, applesauce, baked chips with salsa, dried fruit, fruit bar, fruit leather, granola, homemade cookies, notes from home, popcorn, pretzels, stickers, trail mix, vanilla yogurt with fruit

Carmen Dorsey
Youth Protection / Health Education / SAGE Chair



2010 ~ 2011 Whitt Elementary Volunteers

“Building for Success”

The purpose of our volunteer program is to provide support within Whitt so that the individual needs of our students are better met. At Whitt there are many opportunities to volunteer; assisting teachers, working in the library, working within a specific program, and through PTA. There are many volunteer opportunities throughout the year and we welcome volunteers to participate on a regular basis, a short period of time, or only for special events.

In order for our PTA school events to run successfully, we feel that it is important to form strong committees. Each committee will be responsible for meeting to plan their event(s) and/or projects. Listed below are different committees that will soon be forming.



Please check below if you would like to volunteer for a specific committee or receive more information about any of the committees.

Art/Reflections Program _____ Directory _____ Health Education & Welfare _____ Teacher Appreciation _____ Carnival _____ Membership _____ Holiday Store _____ Yearbook _____	Book Fair _____ Family Fun Night _____ Hospitality _____ Environmental/Beautification _____ Golf Tournament _____ Field Day _____ Spirit _____ Newsletter/Website/Publicity _____
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Name:	Phone #
Email	

Please feel free to contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Erin Wilson, at ewilson@swbell.net with any questions or for more information.