

November 1, 2016

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Coming Up

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Wed, Nov 2 | PTA Meeting, 9:30 AM |
| Thu, Nov 3 | Family Night Dinner, 5-7 PM |
| Fri, Nov 4 | Rocket Art sent home |
| Mon, Nov 7 | Kids Voting |
| Mon, Nov 7 | Loaves & Fishes and Coat Drive begins |
| Tue, Nov 8 | No School – Teacher Workday |
| Wed, Nov 9 | Picture Retakes |
| Fri, Nov 11 | No School – Veteran's Day |
| Mon, Nov 14 | Spirit Night at Jersey Mike's @ Plantation Market, 5-9 PM |
| Wed, Nov 16 | Reflections Deadline & Rocket Art Deadline |

Next Rocket Review on Tue, Nov 15

Contacts

Julie Cho, PTA President
julieheintzcho@gmail.com
 Amy Mahaffey, PTA President-Elect
mahaffey5clt@gmail.com
 Genie Ombach, Rocket Review Editor
gombach@gmail.com
 Jen Taylor, Rocket Review Editor
taylor8@carolina.rr.com
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From the Principal

"The death of democracy is not likely to be an assassination from ambush. It will be a slow extinction from apathy, indifference and undernourishment."

-Robert Hutchins, President of the University of Chicago and a member of the "Paideia Group"

"The price of apathy towards public affairs is to be ruled by evil men."

-Plato, student of Socrates and our first philosopher

"The future of this republic is in the hands of the American voter."

-Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th President (Republican)

"We preach the virtues of democracy abroad. We must practice its duties here at home. Voting is the first duty of democracy."

-Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th President (Democrat)

Dear Families,

I was having a talk with a fellow administrator the other day and we were discussing a topic that truly worries us. Think about this comparison for a minute – **what were the Presidential races like when you were growing up?** What did the candidates talk about and how did they talk about it? Did they hurl insults at each other or did they talk about the issues that impact us all like public education, the environment, and the creation of new jobs that would give families the means to have a secure quality of life?



My first election memory was learning about Dwight Eisenhower and his war record, listening to adults discuss whether or not his success on the battleground would translate into success running a country and asking for and getting my first campaign poster with the smiling middle aged and balding general waving with the campaign slogan, "I Like Ike." My colleague had similar memories from her early years.

Alas, our children, are bombarded with a much different experience out in their real world as insults are hurled, and as news commentators rudely interrupt each other.

Civil Discourse has become decidedly uncivil. Honesty is monitored by professional fact-checking and opinions are not backed up with facts and in-depth analyses.

(Continued on [page 2](#))

(Continued from [page 1](#)) Our children may be studying the Founding Fathers and their speeches in school but their world, the only political world they know, has sunk to a low never seen to before by their parents, by their grandparents and so on. This divisive, self-serving, loud and disrespectful political arena is all our boys and girls know **hence the increasing importance of our upcoming “Kids Voting at PSE” program here at Providence Spring.**

The schedule of events is now going on in our classrooms and includes:

- *Student voter registration (required for voting in the PSE election)
- *A school-wide writing assignment outlining what the student would do if he/she were president.
- *Election trivia questions (begin on November 1st)
- *School-wide seminars will also be held on November 1st (K-2 Flag Protocols, Grades 3-5 Preamble to the Constitution)
- *And, on November 7th, students will be invited to wear red, white and blue as they cast their ballots for the candidate they believe will serve our country best.**

In all of our political discourse here at school, students and teachers have promised to:

- *Call the candidates by name** - not nicknames meant to insult



- *Be kind and respect each other** and listen to the ideas presented
- *Be **curious** and **open-minded**
- *Speak up** when civility is violated
- *Explain** our thinking to others
- *Get involved** with thinking about and discussing the issues and
- *Thinking critically**, checking facts and reading more about the content of political issues.

We are a school where good character forms the foundation of our school culture or “the way we do things here.” We feel strongly that our children deserve role models who act honorably and who will work hard for the collective good. **We hope that their school experience and the high standards you set at home for them will give them a perspective on voting**, a tradition as old as our country itself, **that is worthy of our country’s history and the generations before us who have fought for the ideals upon which we were founded.** And, we trust that if the school and the home work together to deflect the anger and dysfunction of the current voting season coming into our living spaces through the media, this next generation in a few short years may return to a similar dignity and statesman-like behavior that we see in our history books here at school.

Trusting in this next generation,
Diane Adams

Kids Voting at PSE is made possible through the Charlotte nonprofit GenerationNation, which connects classroom education with hands-on learning to build civic literacy and leadership from an early age. Programs include K-12 curriculum and teacher support, the annual student mock election, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Youth Council, and Youth Lead Charlotte-Mecklenburg. Nearly 1 million Charlotte-Mecklenburg students have built and applied civic knowledge and experience through GenerationNation programs.



It's Loaves & Fishes Time

Food Drive



Each year, our school proudly participates in one of Charlotte's local food drives, Loaves & Fishes. We will be collecting canned and nonperishable food items from **November 7 through November 22** in order to help replenish their shelves.

(No fresh or frozen food, and no glass, please!!!)

As in past years, we will have a school-wide competition, awarding the class that brings in the greatest number of cans/boxes of food. The winning class will be awarded the coveted "Caring Turkey Trophy."

If you would prefer to make a monetary donation (checks only), please make checks out to "Loaves and Fishes." Checks can be given to your child's teacher.



Please encourage your students to help make a difference in the lives of our neighbors who rely on Loaves & Fishes to feed themselves and their families.



November's
Character Trait:
Honesty

Coat Drive

As you prepare for the cold weather, please consider donating new or gently used coats to PSE's annual winter coat drive benefiting Charlotte's Crisis Assistance Ministry. Boys and girls coats in all sizes are needed, as well as gloves, mittens, scarves, and winter hats. The coat drive will run **Nov 7 through Dec. 2**. There is a donation box in the front hallway at PSE.



Rocket Art is Here!

Coming home soon will be your child’s custom catalog featuring their artwork. Help make your child feel like an accomplished artist by purchasing keepsakes for the whole family containing their masterpiece: items such as beach bags, coffee mugs, ornaments, canvas art, etc. The school earns profit from every order.

All online and paper order forms must be turned in by November 16. (No late orders can be accepted.) Together, we can help support PSE, build your child’s self-esteem, and create lasting keepsakes from your child’s artistic achievements.

THREE EASY WAYS TO ORDER KEEPSAKES:

- *A paper order form will be sent home attached to their custom catalog
- *Online at www.square1art.com/shop
- *Phone Customer Care 888-332-3294



Orders will arrive the week before the Winter Break and make great holiday gifts for family and friends!



A huge thank you to Ms. Martin who worked with the students to create over 900 individual pieces of artwork.

Questions? Please contact Karen Barnash at KLBarnash@yahoo.com or Laura Stevenson at LGStevenson@carolina.rr.com.

PSE Directory Cover Art Winners

Earlier this fall fourth and fifth grade students were invited to submit original and independent digital art for publication in the PSE Student Directory. The artwork submitted reflected this year’s theme, Stay “Plugged In” at PSE. The winner’s artwork is displayed on the front cover. The finalist’s work is on the back cover and two honorable mentions are printed alongside the ad pages. Congratulations and job well done to all of our artists!

Winner: Ola Ombach



Finalist: Claire Fogt



Honorable Mentions:
Grace Finn (above),
Evelyn Jenkins (left)

PSE PTA Profit & Loss for September

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Opening Balance 9/1/16 | \$79,154.27 |
| Ordinary Income/Expense | |
| Beautification Income | 134.00 |
| Brick Campaign | 400.00 |
| Capital Donations | 4,737.22 |
| GoPlaySave* | 15,450.00 |
| Directory | 1,206.00 |
| Field Days Income | 4,23.00 |
| Food Fundraisers | 984.00 |
| Interest Income | 3.32 |
| Membership | 1,666.00 |
| Publications Income | 1,702.00 |
| Sales Tax Refund | 2,612.42 |
| School Store | 182.00 |
| School Supplies | 1,315.00 |
| Spirit Wear | 2,057.00 |
| Yearbook | <u>4,995.00</u> |
| Total Income | 41,466.96 |
| Expense | |
| Food Fundraisers Expense | 125.00 |
| PTA-PSE Educational Expenses | |
| Cultural Arts | 1,565.00 |
| Hospitality & Staff Recognition | 919.29 |
| Principal's Discretionary | 793.76 |
| School Security Expense | 8.60 |
| Tech and Ed Fund | <u>4,991.07</u> |
| Total PTA-PSE Educational Expense | 8,277.72 |
| PTA Operational Expenses | |
| Bank Fees | 765.06 |
| Discretionary - Administrative | 84.57 |
| PTA Operational Expenses - Other | <u>19.98</u> |
| Total PTA Operational Expenses | 869.61 |
| Total Expenses | 9,272.33 |
| Net Ordinary Income | 32,194.63 |
| Other Income/Expense | |
| Gallery Walk - Music | 195.00 |
| Technology Wish List | 442.94 |
| PY Tech & Ed Fund | <u>4,584.61</u> |
| Total Other Expense | 5,222.55 |
| Net Income | 26,972.08 |
| Ending Balance 9/30/16 | \$106,126.35 |

* Note: We will be paying GoPlaySave 1/2 this amount to cover the cost of the books

Your Rocket Dollars at Work!

Thanks to your generosity, we are pleased to report that your Rocket Dollars provided these items in August and September:

-  Toner (ink for printers)
-  Computer lab moving costs
-  New computer lab printer
-  Rugs for the new classrooms
-  Access to the AR program
-  Children's Theater onsite presentation
-  Teacher professional development
-  Community Paideia Seminar
-  Health Room supplies
-  Novel sets
-  Hands-on math tools
-  Outdoor improvements
-  Back-to-school luncheon for all staff
-  Pre-Open House dinner for teachers

THIS WEEK!

PTA Board Meeting
Wednesday, Nov 2 @
9:30 AM, PSE cafeteria

All are welcome!!!

Nature Tales from the Outdoor Classroom

During the week of October 17, our kindergarten children were given a wonderful experience in the Outdoor Classroom. They took part in the Nature Tales program thanks to the generous gift of time and talent by two very special PSE volunteer community members, Jack and Pat Meckler.



The fall air was gentle and pleasant this week, the colors in the dappled shade were golden-hued, and the students were mesmerized. Mr. and Mrs. Meckler provided the Nature Tales program for our kindergarten students in collaboration with Ms. Bridges and the Kindergarten teachers. Taking students outside one class at a time, the Mecklers led the children on a nature walk in the glorious setting of our Outdoor Classroom, and conducted a read-aloud as well as a full lesson. It was a pleasure to see them knowledgeably viewing a squirrel nest in the crook of a tree, examining the holes created by insects and decomposition in a log or stick, listening to bird calls and learning about the sound of hummingbird wings. We are looking forward to additional Nature Tales experiences scheduled later this year.

We are so thankful to have the Mecklers in our corner of the world!



Did you know?

The **K-8 school lunch menu** is available on the CMS website.



The menus are updated monthly, so bookmark this link to always have access to the latest!

<http://www.cms.k12.nc.us/CMSDEPARTMENT/S/CNS/Pages/MenuCardsAllergens.aspx>

PSE FALL BOOK FAIR

NEW SIGNATURE FAIR

A LARGER FAIR CONTAINING THE BEST COLLECTION IN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE.



SALES: OCTOBER 26TH - NOVEMBER 3RD 7:45AM - 3PM

ASEP SHOPPING: OCTOBER 27TH 4 - 6PM

THIS FALL - SHOP DURING PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31ST 9AM - 1PM

FAMILY NIGHT DINNER: NOVEMBER 3RD 5 - 7PM

OPEN 7:45AM DURING SALES. STUDENTS MUST FIRST GO TO THEIR CLASSROOM AND GET A HALL PASS BEFORE COMING TO THE BOOK FAIR.

PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO SHOP WITH THEIR CHILD'S CLASS.

| BUYING TIME | WED, OCT 26 | THURSDAY, OCT 27 | FRIDAY, OCT 28 | TUESDAY, NOV 1 | WED, NOV 2 | THURSDAY, NOV 3 |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 8:15 - 9:00 | SIMPSON (K) | | LYNCH (2) | TREVISAN (2) | | HINTON (K) |
| 9:10 - 9:55 | RICE (1) | SAFRAN (1) | NOYE (1) | SHELTON (1) | STEWART (1) | MAYER (1) |
| 10:05 - 10:50 | BOBBINS (K) | BRIDGES (K) | BUBANY (K) | KIRCHENDORFER (K, 1) | WHITE (K) | AQUILONE (K) |
| 11:00 - 11:45 | DEJUNES (2) | EDWARDS (2) | HAMILTON (2) | McMURRAY (2) | ROMIG (2) | CHAPMAN (2) |
| 12:20 - 1:05 | BLASZAK (5) | FLETCHER (5) | GRABON (5) | SANFORD (5) | SHIPMAN (5) | BERNIER-LUCIEN (5) |
| 1:15 - 2:00 | COLUMBUS (4) | McCROCKLIN (4) | PISTORJO (4) | SURRATT (4) | NIDO (3) | ARBO (4) |
| 2:10 - 2:55 | BROWN (3) | HORGAN (3) | LANGELAND (3) | LANGLOIS (3) | VICK (3) | ADAMSON (3) |

SHOP THE PSE BOOK FAIR ONLINE OCT 26TH - NOV 6TH

[HTTP://WWW.SCHOLASTIC.COM/BF/PSEFAIR](http://www.scholastic.com/bf/psefair)

BOOKS WILL BE DELIVERED TO YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM FREE OF CHARGE.

LEVINE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL DONATIONS - IN SUPPORT OF OUR SCHOOL WIDE SERVICE PROJECT & CMS'S NORTH STAR LITERACY INITIATIVE, WE WILL BE ACCEPTING VOLUNTARY DONATIONS OF NEW BOOKS FOR THE LEVINE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

QUESTIONS? EMAIL TERRI SUEN-LEE (TERRI.SUENLEE@YAHOO.COM), ERIN WILLIAMS (ERINMARIE607@AOL.COM), MICHELLE KIDD (MISHUR777@YAHOO.COM)

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