

PTA NEWS from up on "The Hill"

Thunder Hill Elementary School PTA eSchool Newsletter
Week of September 16, 2007

Greetings, Thunder Hill Families and Faculty!

It was wonderful to see so many THES families celebrate coming "Back-to-School" at Thunder Hill! On behalf of the PTA Executive Board, I want to say "thank you" to everyone who came out to enjoy food, fun and friendship while picnicking under a beautiful sunset. In addition, we had a wonderful turnout for Back-to-School Night and the THES PTA General Meeting on September 11, 2007. I hope you enjoyed learning about your child's classroom and curriculum, as well as meeting your child's teacher and the rest of the wonderful THES faculty! Congratulations to Mrs. Donna Brackins, recipient of MDPTA's Lifetime Membership Award!

Drum roll please...

I am excited to announce that Thunder Hill Elementary School has WON 3rd PLACE in the Literacy for Life Library Makeover Contest!!!! Thunder Hill Elementary will receive a \$2,500 cash reward, \$5,000 worth of Scholastic Books, AND three (3) hours expert consultation to help with our Media Center! A huge "Thank-You" goes out to all families and staff who helped Thunder Hill to win!

In this eSchool issue, you'll find important program news, ways to volunteer, and a list of upcoming calendar events. As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please contact me at brinkleyfam@hotmail.com. In closing, I would like to extend a personal invitation to join us at our next monthly PTA Executive Board Meeting, scheduled for Thursday, September 20, 2007, at 7PM in the Media Center. THES PTA meetings are your opportunity to ask questions about the school and find out what is happening in our school community. Come and see what we are all about! Have a great week!

- Julie Brinkley

THANK YOU!

A big 'round-of-applause' also goes out to all our wonderful volunteers who helped in various capacities at and before the start, including: PTA Year-End Audit, folder stuffing, Open House, BTS Staff Luncheon, and Hearing/Vision Screening, as well as everyone who helped at our Back-to-School events! Thunder Hill is extremely lucky to have such dedicated parents, and your hard work is greatly appreciated!

After-School Enrichment Programs:

Program information and registration forms were sent home in Friday folders, and can also be found online at www2.hcpss.org/thes. Five exciting classes are offered for your child's enrichment! Registration is first come, first served, so enroll now! Questions?

Please contact Melissa Kay @ melissaskay@yahoo.com.

Box Tops for Education / Recycle Rewards:

Congratulations to The Marianelli family, winners of the Box Tops Back-to-School Prize Drawing, a family 4-pack to Columbia Ice Rink! And congrats to Mrs. Jazwiecki, our Box Tops BTS Staff Prize winner of an Edible Arrangements Bouquet! Don't forget to send in more Box Tops for September's Prize Drawing. Remember, your trash is our cash, so RECYCLE your Box Tops, Tyson Labels, and Printer Cartridges. For further information, please contact Sara Scopelliti at scopellid@comcast.net.

Community Outreach NEWS

It's time to clean out your Closets!!

The PTA is sponsoring a winter coat drive for families in our community that are in need. Kindly drop off your gently used winter coats in the box located inside the front doors of the school. The box will be there until Oct 18th. If you have any questions, email debraLholley@hotmail.com.

Great American Fundraising NEWS:

Our Great American Fundraiser is going strong! We receive a 50% profit on all sales, and all of the money we raise goes right into the school for in-house education and cultural arts programs.

***Turn in days for sales packets are Tuesday, September 18 & Wednesday, September 19. Parent volunteers will be located outside each pod on these two days, collecting sales packets. Students will receive a patriotic star as a 'thank you' when they turn in their sales packet.

You can also order online anytime at: <http://store.gafundraising.com> with school ID #645762. Orders can be placed online throughout the school year, and will be shipped right to your house! Any questions? Don't hesitate to contact Melissa Barrett at barrett9281@verizon.net, or at 410.964.9939.

Please note: Mrs. Jazwiecki would like you to recycle the paper samples at the back of your GA sales book! Please rip them out and turn them in with your sales packets. Thank you!

Memory Book NEWS

Attention all THES parents!!

Have you been taking pictures since the beginning of the school year? Are you planning on taking your camera to other THES activities?? The Memory Book Committee would like to see your pictures! It is VERY easy to share with us. Upload your pictures to Snapfish.com. When finished, please share your pictures with us at thesmemorybook@yahoo.com. It is that simple!

If you have any questions, please contact Vera Simmons, the Memory Book Chairperson, at thesmemorybook@yahoo.com. Thanks and happy picture-taking!

PTA Membership News

September is National PTA Membership Month! Join THES PTA and reap the many wonderful benefits and resources for you, your child, your family and the community. Not sure about joining? Want to learn more? Come and find out more at our first THES Coffee Talk on Tuesday, September 25, 2007, at 9:45 AM at Atlanta Bread Company (8874 McGaw Road).

PTA/Classroom Volunteer NEWS

Classroom Volunteer Orientation: Thursday, Sept. 27, 9:45AM, Media Center
In addition to classroom volunteering, THES PTA has fun one-time and on-going volunteer opportunities! More information regarding these various positions will go home in Friday Folders.

Want to get more involved? We are looking to fill the following PTA Board positions:

Family Fun Program Assistant, Health & Safety Chair, Membership Chair, Retail Promotions Chair, and Business Partner Program Chair.

Retail/Grocery Partner Promotions:

Have you registered your Food Lion, Giant and Safeway Club card numbers?! Even if you were enrolled and participated last year, we still need to verify and re-register your card numbers again this year! There are two (2) easy ways to designate your cards:

1) Send your card information, including your name, phone number, and full card numbers to Julie Brinkley, at brinkleyfam@hotmail.com, or

2) Sign up directly using the links provided below:

- Giant Bonus Card– School ID Code: 01029

http://www.giantfood.com/aplus/aplus_pin.htm

- Safeway Club Card– An Escrip Program –

<https://secure.escrip.com/jsp/supporter/registration/step1.jsp>

- Food Lion MVP Card- <https://www.foodlion.com/IntheCommunity/ShopandShare/>

SCHOOL DIRECTORY- Advertise Your Business!

The THES PTA will sell advertising in our school directory to cover the printing cost and to allow every family to receive one. We're still in the formatting stages of the directory and will notify you when they are available. We would like to offer our advertising to THES families who may wish to use this inexpensive tool to advertise their business. The directory will go out to approximately 250-300 families. We will place a copy of your business card (or like-size ad) in the directory for a cost of \$25. Ads are due no later than Monday, September 24, 2007. For more information, please contact Marta Ichrist, michrist28@verizon.net or Julie Brinkley, brinkleyfam@hotmail.com.

Dates to Remember:

Monday, September 17 Constitution Day – red, white and blue!

Student Directory Forms Due

Tuesday, September 18 Great American Fundraising Packet Due

Greg Tang @ Wilde Lake High School 7PM

Wednesday, September 19 Great American Fundraising Packet Due
Parent Orientation Program / Strings 7PM

Thursday, September 20 PTA Executive Bd. Meeting 7PM Media Center

Tuesday, September 25 THES Coffee Talk @ Atlanta Bread Co. 9:45 AM

Wednesday, September 26 Cultural Arts Assembly – 9:45 AM K-5th grade
The Monumental Brass Quintet

Thursday, September 27 Parent Volunteer Orientation – 9:45 AM
Parent Orientation Program / Band 7PM

Saturday, September 29 Elliot Oak Farm Walk 8:30AM – 11AM

Monday, October 1 After-School Programs Start

