



The Pony Express

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Inside this Issue:

President's Letter	2
Donate Direct	2
Market Day	2
Innisbrook Fundraiser	2
School Spirit Days	2
Prettyboy Staff Feature	3
Prettyboy Rec Council	3
Membership	4
Music News	4
Literacy Events	4

www.prettyboyschool.com

PTA Meeting Dates

All parents are welcome to join our 2009-2010 PTA meetings, which are held in the Prettyboy Library from 7:00–9:00 pm on the following dates:

11/17, 1/19, 2/16, 3/16, 4/20, and 5/18.

New Year's Resolution - Go Green for 2010

We would like to continue with Prettyboy Elementary School's green effort by taking our newsletter paperless in the upcoming calendar year. Help us keep our New Year's Resolution and your child's class could win a popcorn party!

Signing up is easy! Just visit the PTA website at www.prettyboyschool.com and click on the purple "Yahoo Groups! Join Now" button on the left-hand side of the screen. You will then be connected to Yahoo, where you will need to sign in and/or set up an account so that you can join the PTA Parent Mailing List in Yahoo Groups. This is free, and you can still use your current email address to receive the newsletter emails. Then each month you will receive an email inviting you to view the newsletter and providing you with a link to it.

Once you have signed up, be sure to click on the Certificate of Completion button and print out, complete and return the form to your child's teacher by Friday, December 18th. If you are already on the PTA Parent Mailing List, just visit the website and print out your Certificate. The classroom with the highest percentage of participation will win a popcorn party! Thank you for helping us keep our New Year's Resolution! As always, if you would prefer to receive a paper copy, please contact Allison Beyer at abeyerfamily@comcast.net or 410-329-8315.



Reflections Program —"Beauty is..."

It's that time again! Time to put on your creative hats and tell us what "Beauty is..."

The 2009/2010 PTA-sponsored Reflections Program encourages you to explore your artistic talent. So, think about what makes you say "Beauty is..." and tell us by creating original art work, a piece of literature, or a musical composition, or express yourself through photography, dance choreography, or video production. Have fun and let your creativity shine! Deadline for entries is December 4, 2009. Contact Kathleen Rand at (410) 357-4792 or kedrand@verizon.net to receive your submission packet. Have fun, be recognized, and most of all...Celebrate Creativity!

From the President

The Prettyboy PTA has a great appreciation for parents who share their gifts with the PBE community. Laura Thibodeaux, Susan McIntosh, Sally Carper, and numerous volunteers joined together to organize The 7th Annual Great Pumpkin Fest. It was a glorious fall day filled with games, costumes, and treats accompanied by the blue grass music of *Second Generation*. We were even lucky enough to have one of our first graders, Brenton Cox, sing a few tunes with the band. The festival brought our community together to share in the joy of childhood.

We have been working diligently to make the PBE PTA website (www.prettyboyschool.com) more dynamic and user friendly. You can find information relevant to you and your children, including specifics about upcoming events and opportunities to volunteer. The current PTA newsletter, as well as archived newsletters from earlier in the school year, can be accessed at www.prettyboyschool.com. You can download the requirements for the PTA Reflections contest and take a peek at the Minutes from the latest PTA meeting. In addition, there are resources such as PTA Officer contact information and a link to the school lunch menu.

In an effort to reduce the amount of paper we use, the PTA would like to move The Pony Express completely online in January 2010. We cannot make the transition to online delivery of the newsletter without your help. We will post the newsletter on our website each month, and send a link to the parents via email when a new issue is available. In order to facilitate this process, it is very important for all parents to join the PBE Parent Mailing List in Yahoo Groups. There is a button on the PTA website that will allow you to register to be on the mailing list. Please visit www.prettyboyschool.com and register today. The class with the greatest participation will have a popcorn party!

Thank you for making the PBE PTA a success!

- Joyce Charles

Donate Direct

Don't forget to send in your contribution to the Donate Direct program. This program is a fund raising program that allows you to contribute money to the PTA, knowing that 100% of the amount you donate goes directly to support the programs sponsored by the PTA.

For more information, or if you need a donation form, contact Karen Rhoads at kmrhoads@msn.com. Thanks for your support!

Market Day

Just in time for Thanksgiving - don't forget to stock up on your holiday favorites! The deadline for ordering this month is November 19th and the pick up date is November 25th at 6:00 pm in the cafeteria

To place an order, just visit www.marketday.com and use account number 9448. If you have any questions or would like to help with pick-up, please contact Misty Hough at 410-357-0619 or mistylhough@aol.com.

Innisbrook Fundraiser

Please remember that the pick up date for your Innisbrook order is Monday, November 16th from 3:15 - 6:00 pm in the cafeteria hallway. Thank you to everybody who placed an order in support of our school! Contact Jean Barranco at 410-357-4148 if you have any questions.

School Spirit Days 2009-2010

Mark these upcoming spirit days on your calendar! Be sure to check upcoming issues of the Pony Express for the rest of the dates throughout the year.

November 13th	Crazy Sock Day
December 4th	Character Day
January 8th	Tie Dye Day
January 15th	Wacky Tacky Day

Prettyboy Staff — Up Close & Personal

Helen Cox, 1st Grade Teacher

Helen Cox, a teacher at PBE for 10 years, loves being a first grade teacher at Prettyboy. Her favorite subject, both now and when she was back in school, is Math. She has a mixed breed dog named Fleabee, whose name was chosen by her children and husband due to the fact that she was loaded with fleas when they first got her. While antiquing and spending time with her family are how she enjoys spending her time, Mrs. Cox also likes to read mysteries and listen to Country music. Patricia Cornwall is one of her favorite authors, and some of the Country singers she likes to listen to are Shania Twain, Martina McBride and Carrie Underwood (just to name a few!).

Pamela Peters, Assistant Principal

Pamela Peters has been at PBE for 4 years. She has a bird named Cupid, and loves being outside, especially in the sun, sand and surf... the beach is where she longs to be! She has three grandchildren who are the "apples of her eye." They are 5 years, 2 years, and 15 months old and are "beach bums like their grandmother!" Reading is her favorite subject, both then and now, and two of her favorite authors are Debbie Macomber and Nora Roberts. She loves fruit, the Country music sounds of Alan Jackson and Kenny Chesnie, and enjoys MD Terps Basketball and Ravens Football. One day, you might see her driving her dream car, a fire-engine-red Corvette—probably at the beach!

Debbie Radebaugh, Additional Adult Assistant, Kindergarten

This is Debbie Radebaugh's first year on the PBE staff. She says her favorite thing about working with young children is the unexpected (and often funny) things they say. Her favorite subject when she was in school was Art, and it still is. She enjoys reading mysteries and historical romance and listening to Country music especially the sounds of Darius Rucker and Rascal Flatts. She loves fruit pies and volleyball is her favorite sport. She has six dogs named Dixie, Roxy, Josie, Lucky, Dougie and Benny.

Karen Waganer—Speech Pathologist

Karen Waganer has been with PBE for 7 years. She has a Black Lab named Molly, and loves to watch NFL football— go Ravens!! She loves Snicker's Bars and Chocolate Chip Cookies (although she'd prefer the dough!). Classic Rock is her music preference, especially Bon Jovi, and she loves to read Jen Lancaster, whom she says is hilarious. Her favorite subjects in school were Reading/Writing, and she still loves helping with both!

Prettyboy Recreation Council

The Baltimore County Rec and Parks newsletter format is new this year. We encourage parents to keep the newsletter, as it contains important information about all of the programs being offered throughout the North County. Please continue to check the Rec Council website for program information as well. The winter newsletter is in progress.

Clinic Indoor Soccer registration will be held on November 18th from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Season will begin the end of January.

Indoor Soccer for grades 3 and up are handled by the HZRPC and mail-in registration must be postmarked by November 7th. See www.herefordrec.org for more information.

Prettyboy Rec council will be offering **Early Gym** again this year and hopes to have the program run from the end of November to the winter break. Sign-ups will be Wednesday November 11th from 6:30 to 7:30. For more information please email Kat Fischer cfishice@aol.com or Wendy Hallameyer wrhalla4@netzero.com.

Membership

Congratulations to MRS. COX'S homeroom! Your class had the highest PTA membership percentage with 148%, and your class will receive an extra gym period!

Thank you to everyone that had parents, grandparents and friends join the PTA! We have almost 500 members school wide!

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN!

If you would still like to join the Prettyboy PTA, please send \$6 per member in an envelope marked with your child's name and homeroom to PTA Membership!

Here is a list of each homeroom's participation:

<u>Homeroom</u>	<u>10/31/09</u>	<u>Homeroom</u>	<u>10/31/09</u>
Mrs. Cox	148%	Ms. Price	82%
Mrs. Paris	123%	Mrs. Stylc	82%
Mrs. Fern	115%	Mrs. Collacchi	81%
Mrs. Warns	115%	Mrs. Dixon	80%
Mrs. Miller	103%	Mrs. Bredar	80%
Mrs. Porter	101%	Mrs. Marchione	78%
Ms. Snyder	99%	Mrs. Salkeld	78%
Mr. Bass	98%	Mr. Schmidt	73%
Ms. Schlanger	94%	Mrs. Kelbaugh	73%
Ms. Pardew	93%	Ms. Clark	70%
Mrs. Robertson	91%	Mrs. Rambo	63%

Music

Mark your calendars for the Winter Concert which is scheduled for Tuesday, December 15th at 7:00 pm.

Plan to come and enjoy the vocal sounds of our 4th grade students along with the 5th grade band and orchestra members.

A reminder to all students who are part of the performance... Concert Dress is white tops and black bottoms.



Upcoming Literacy Events

Family Literacy Night - The Literacy Committee and the staff of Prettyboy Elementary School would like to thank all of the families who attended our Family Literacy Night. It was a great success with everyone having fun while learning about reading strategies.



Visiting Author - Thanks to our wonderful PTA, the award winning author, Carole Weatherford, will be visiting Prettyboy Elementary School on Friday, December 4, 2009. She will be doing three different presentations. Additional information about purchasing her books for autographing will be sent home during the month of November.

Book-A-Lunch Clubs - The Literacy Committee is excited to say that our grade 5 book clubs started on Monday, November 2, 2009. Because of the generosity of the PTA, the students and leaders will be choosing from a wide array of books. This program greatly motivates our students to read during their leisure time. Thank you , PTA.

Reading Mentors - This year the school is fortunate to have more than twenty people who have volunteered and been trained as mentors. This intervention program will be servicing some of our students in Kindergarten through grade 2. With the use of PTA funds these mentors will be using motivating, leveled texts so that our students meet with success.

- Bette Hobner