

# Central Elementary PTA Newsletter



Where we "Treasure" Learning!

EDITOR: Susan Youmans ([newsletter@mycentralPTA.org](mailto:newsletter@mycentralPTA.org))

OCTOBER, 2011

By Juli Bello  
PTA President  
[president@mycentralpta.org](mailto:president@mycentralpta.org)



The first redistricting meeting of Central, Davidsonville and Mayo Elementary Schools was held, September 27. This was the first meeting of five meetings to be held to discuss realigning the school boundaries in order to alleviate the overcrowding at Central Elementary School. The committee is also scheduled to meet at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- October 4, 2011, at Davidsonville Elementary, 962 Central Avenue West, Davidsonville
- October 11, 2011, at Mayo Elementary, 1260 Mayo Ridge Road, Edgewater
- October 18, 2011, at Central Elementary, 130 Stepney Lane, Edgewater
- October 25, 2011, at Central Elementary, 130 Stepney Lane, Edgewater

The committee may complete its work in fewer meetings than those currently scheduled. All committee meetings are open to the public.

The committee will make a recommendation to Superintendent Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell later this fall. Dr. Maxwell will forward his recommendations to the Board of Education no later than the first meeting in December.

The Board will conduct public hearings on the plans before reaching a decision no later than April 30, 2012.

After introducing the members of the committee, Chuck Yocum, Specialist in Student Demographic Planning in Anne Arundel County, explained the procedure for redistricting. He also addressed the questions from the crowd of approximately 100 people.

Mr. Yocum suggested that 80-100 students would be affected by this redistricting. Since it is the first meeting of the committee, no suggestions have been made as to which neighborhoods will be part of the realignment.

*October*

## IMPORTANT DATES

**October 3**  
PTA sponsored  
anti-bullying assembly

**October 10-12**  
Reflections "Diversity Means"  
entries due

**October 11**  
Picture Day

**October 13**  
Information sessions on  
Treasures Reading Program  
and  
Advanced Learning Program

**October 19**  
2 hr. early dismissal

**October 21**  
SCHOOL CLOSED

**October 24**  
Flu Mist

**October 28**  
2 hr. early dismissal/end  
of first marking period

**October 31**  
Halloween Parade

**October 31-Nov.7**  
Book Fair

A look ahead....

**November 3**  
Story Teller Night

## HALLOWEEN PARADE

The Annual Halloween Parade Will be on  
October 31, starting at  
2:40. As the date approaches look for  
details provided by your child's teacher  
or room parent.





## Congratulations Central Readers

The Anne Arundel County Public Library has awarded Central Elementary the Chesapeake Cup for their participation in the summer reading program. Central had one of the highest percentages of participation in the county at 30 percent. Central's first graders accepted the award on the school's behalf.



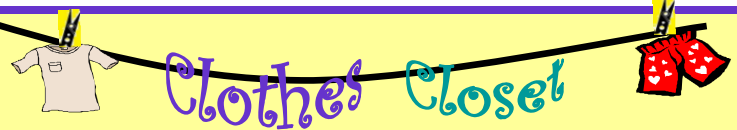
First graders pictured above are from left (Marissa McLean, Patience Day, Mitchell Mundie, Michael Mikutsky and Casey Marklund. )

Central Families,

The newsletter staff, of one, is always looking for ideas and guest writers. If you have a school-related topic you would like to suggest or actually write, do not hesitate to contact me at [newsletter@mycentralpta.org](mailto:newsletter@mycentralpta.org).

Please take a moment to read the piece submitted this month by PTA mom and lunch monitor, Christine Wagner, regarding the shortfalls in the PTA lunch "kitty" that covers the cost of lunches when children forget their money.

Thank you,  
Susan Youmans



Located at the Riva Trace Baptist Church  
475 West Central Ave.

**The Clothes Closet is accepting all clean, gently used, Halloween costumes until October 20.**

**Distribution Dates:** Riva Trace Baptist Church  
Oct. 14 from 4-9pm  
Oct. 15 from 8-11am

**Volunteers are needed to help distribute clothing on the above dates and times. If you can help please email Stacie Moltz at [sdmoltz@comcast.net](mailto:sdmoltz@comcast.net).**

**\*All clothing is free and it is open to the community.**

### READ ALL ABOUT IT!

There will be an informational session about the new Treasures Reading Program and the Advanced Learning Program held at Central on October 13. Two sessions will be held on that day one from 11:00-12:30 and another from 6:00-7:30. Please RSVP by completing the form sent home with your student or by obtaining one from the office.

## THANK YOU

### Fall Fundraising Update

By Pamela Murray

Thank you to all the families that have participated in the Fall Fundraising programs thus far. Please do not forget to return your KidStuff Coupon book if you are not interested in purchasing it. We will keep a limited number in supply, should you reconsider giving it as a gift for the Holidays.

The Art Department and our children have been busy preparing their masterpieces for the last option, Square1 Art. During the first week of November, a custom catalog, featuring your child's art on the front, will come home. A sheet of stickers is included free of charge for you to keep.

For those of us that are interested in the results so far, I am happy to report that the catalog program is taking first place with sales at \$5,256. Coming in a close second is the KidStuff Coupon book at \$3,975 with 159 books purchased to date. Coming in third place is the generous direct donation giving program at \$1,155. This is very exciting because the donations are pure profit. So to summarize, together we have raised approximately \$11,366, with a profit of approximately \$6,260.

"Check out" the new bookshelves in the Media Center!

## PTA Dollars at Work!

Thanks to the money raised during last year's fundraisers, the PTA was able to purchase these wonderful bookshelves for the library. They also function as fabulous noise reducers.



### WHAT A GREAT PLACE TO ADVERTISE!

We offer affordable opportunities to reach out to Central Families please email [newsletter@mycentralpta.org](mailto:newsletter@mycentralpta.org) for information and pricing.

### PTA Sponsored Assembly

"Thumbs down to bullies" was the message former Baltimore Raven's player Justin Harper presented to the students at an anti-bully assembly sponsored by the PTA. Mr. Harper along with Mrs. Lynch, Central's Counselor talked with the students about what is bullying and how to stand up and speak out against it. The students had the opportunity to wear their favorite team jersey and were especially excited to ask Mr. Harper questions about his youth, his education and of course about football.





## Important Lunch News

*By Christine Wagner  
PTA Mom and Lunch Monitor*

Did you know that at the beginning of each year, the PTA grants \$80 to the lunch monitors to pay for any or all of a child's hot lunch so they will not go hungry for the rest of the school day? When a child does not have the money necessary for lunch, the cafeteria will tell the child how much money he or she needs to complete payment for lunch, and the child will be directed to the lunch monitors to "sign" for a "loan." A white form is filled out by the student (or by the lunch monitor, if necessary) with their name, teacher's name, and the amount due. The child is then given the money to pay the cafeteria, and the slip is sent home with instructions that the parent(s) or guardian is to pay the loan back in cash.

If your child has brought home a slip indicating that they owe money to the lunch room for food, please pay this amount promptly, and ***IN CASH***. When a parent sends in a check for reimbursement, that money is completely separate from the PTA funds, and can only go directly into the child's account not in the PTA lunch monitors' fund.

At the time of this writing, the lunch monitors' fund is less than \$10.00. If you are unsure whether your child owes money for a lunch loan, please send in a note to the school, and the lunch monitors will check the loan book to see if your child's name is listed. We appreciate your cooperation so that we may continue to offer this service to the students.



## Reminders

**Volunteering:** If you would like to volunteer at the school or on field trips you must watch the volunteer video and complete the necessary paperwork for a background check every two years. Contact the office with inquiries.

**Gymnastics Troupe Tryouts:** Tryouts will be held on Wednesday, October 12, at 7:45 a.m., for grades K-2 and on October 14, at 7:45 a.m., for grades 3-5. Ms. Talbott has the permission forms and the list of skills needed to make the troupe.

### October Green Tip

*By Kate Jones*

Halloween is fast approaching. Anyone who has ever bought a costume from the store knows that it is an expensive purchase considering it is generally only worn once by your child. Did you know that, according to U.S. Census Bureau and the Department of Transportation, "6,250 tons of landfill waste could be avoided if half of the kids in America traded Halloween costumes instead of buying new ones."

Do you have costumes that your kids no longer can or want to wear? Have you ever considered trading in an "old" costume for a "new (to you)" costume? Well, now you can. Donate your old costumes to the Clothes Closet (currently helping with a Costume Collection) then come to the Clothes Closet At The Trace Baptist Church and choose a new costume. The Clothes Closet welcomes people from our greater community to attend the distribution to "go green" and save some "green" too.