

COLEBROOKDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Dr. Thomas L. Shugar, Principal



October 2009

October Events

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| 2 | Parent Visitation Day |
| 6 | Grade 5 to the Planetarium |
| 8 | Picture Day |
| 8 | H.S.A. meeting library, 3:35 p.m. |
| 8 | Homeroom Parents' meeting following H.S.A. meeting |
| 9 | Market Day delivery all-purpose room, 4:45-5:45 p.m. |
| 11 | Unity Walk Junior High West |
| 12 | No School |
| 13 | Monday special classes schedule |
| 13 | School Board meeting Education Center, 7:00 p.m. |
| 14 | Grade 5 to Reading Symphony |
| 21 | Rotary Club presenting dictionaries to Grade 3 |
| 27 | School Board meeting Washington Elementary, 7:00 p.m. |
| 31 | H.S.A. sponsored Fall Festival parties |

Rocket Math

Students in grades 2-6 will be Blasting Off to math success as they master addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division basic facts with the Rocket Math program. Research concludes that students who have an instant command of basic facts are more likely to be successful in higher level math, which may lead to acceptance at four-year post-graduate institutions. Just as students learn the basics of letters, letter sounds, and decoding skills so that they can more easily comprehend reading passages, children need to master basic math facts so that they can understand math processes. Your children will be coming home with smiles to tell you which level they passed on their timed fact test. You may also be asked to practice for just 3 minutes a day with your child. Please contact Mrs. Weinberger, Remediation Teacher, for further details.



Caring * Experiencing * Succeeding From the Computer Lab

The CES Computer Lab will be continuing its recycling and Scholastic software programs again this year. Please bring in your (and your friends and neighbors!) empty inkjet and laser jet cartridges for recycling. We can now accept all types of cartridges except those that have previously been refilled. There is a collection box in the lobby, outside the main office. Periodically throughout the year you will receive flyers home that give the students an opportunity to purchase educational software from the Scholastic Click! Program.

Unity Walk

This year's Unity Walk is scheduled for Sunday, October 11, at Boyertown Junior High West. Live entertainment begins at 1:00 p.m. with musicians David Cullen and Denise King. There will be a children's center for younger children (grades 3 and younger), outdoor non-competitive field games for students in grades 4-9 and an art gallery featuring local prominent artists. Food will also be available. The walk will begin at 2:30 p.m. We hope to see you there.

After School Hours

Occasionally we have a child who forgets homework, textbooks, etc., and must come back to school after hours. If this happens, you must enter the building with your child. A custodian will direct you and your child to the appropriate room. A bell is located to the left of the front doors. Students are not to wear soccer or football shoes when entering the building. These shoes on a tile floor present a safety hazard for your child.

Math Hotline

The district will once again provide a Math Hotline for students. The Hotline is manned by math teachers and students. Hotline hours are Monday through Thursday evenings from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm in Room 19 at Junior High West. Students may also call the Hotline at 610-473-3720 or 610-473-3721.

Reading News

Reading books to or with your child can be one of the best parenting experiences. Regardless of your child's age, reading to or with your child allows you both to create loving memories as you share and explore books together. It promotes language and literacy development, achievement in reading comprehension and overall success in school.

Our Parents as Reading Partners (PARP) is a program that supports reading. This program begins in October and continues until the end of March. Students will bring home a pack of reading recording calendars that are to be used on a monthly basis. Details are explained on the cover letter. Please note that the certificates for the personal pizza expire within one month after date of issue. Be sure to use the certificate as soon as possible!

Here are a few tips for reading together:

- Make reading a daily habit.
- Allow your child to take part in the book selection.
- Read with feeling...**ROAR** like the lion, **squeak like** the mouse!
- Talk about what you read, encourage your child to make predictions and relate to personal experiences
- Just have FUN!

Check Out Our Chorus "Team!"

Many of our fifth and sixth grade students chose to join the Colebrookdale Chorus this year! We have spent time getting to know each other and talking about how we can work together as a team. Mrs. Freed is our "head coach," and will be choosing riser movers (equipment managers), stage crew (field crew), and music secretaries (statisticians) shortly! You can hear our sopranos "defend" their melody part from the altos (they like to steal the melody!) at our concert on December 8. In the meantime, each chorus member created their own "team player" picture, so check out our chorus "team" in the lobby.

School Pictures

Picture Day this year is Thursday, October 8. This is for the students' individual pictures and class composite pictures. Casual pictures will be taken in March. Brochures for Picture Day were distributed two weeks ago. Extra order forms are available in the office. If your child would be absent or you do not like your child's picture, retakes are scheduled for Tuesday, November 10 at 1:00 p.m.

Unlawful Absences

The Boyertown Area School District has procedures for dealing with student absences. You need to know that any student who is absent and fails to deliver either a parent note or telephone call (610-369-7427) to excuse the absence will be marked as UL, which stands for unlawful absence. Please keep this in mind the next time your child is not going to be in school. A telephone call is preferred, since we then know that your child is safely with you.

Help Out in the Concession Stands!

The Boyertown Area Music League needs our help manning the concession stands at BASH Stadium for the East/West Girls Field Hockey Game on **Monday, October 19** at Bear Stadium. Report time is 6:00 p.m., and game time is 7:00 p.m. Please keep in mind that children are not allowed in the refreshment stand, although they may certainly watch the game! The Music League will donate a percentage of the proceeds from the evening to our music program! If you would like to volunteer, please contact Mrs. Freed at lfreed@boyertownasd.org or call the school.

Volunteer to Accompany the Chorus

If you are interested in helping out our chorus team by playing piano, we would be grateful for your help! Sisters, aunts, parents, junior high or high school students – anyone can volunteer. You don't even have to have a child in chorus to volunteer! Our concerts this year are on December 8 and May 12. If you are interested or just have a few questions, please contact Mrs. Freed at lfreed@boyertownasd.org or by calling the school.

Pop A Tab

From an idea that started with the Boyertown Area School District Diversity committee, community members have gathered together to collect 6 million pop tabs as a way to see what 6 million looks like. Why 6 million? Because there were 6 million Jews killed during the Holocaust due to racial and ethnic intolerance. The idea was spawned after several area leaders viewed the movie, Paper Clips, the true story of a Tennessee school that set out to collect 6 million paper clips. In Boyertown, it was decided to collect pop tabs because many local organizations and school groups already collect pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. When the goal of 6 million is met, all tabs will be donated to the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House.

Volunteer Clearance Policy

If you wish to volunteer in our school, please present your original criminal and child abuse clearance forms to the office to be copied and kept on file. We appreciate all our volunteers do for our school!

Standardized Testing

For this school year, the following standardized tests will be administered to our students from April 19 to April 30. Since these tests are a source of important information to you and our school, **family trips are not to be scheduled on these testing dates.**

H.S.A. Corner

Our first general H.S.A. meeting will be October 8 at 3:45 p.m. in the library. Babysitting will be available. A homeroom parents' meeting will be held immediately following the general meeting.

Our fall parties will be held on October 30.

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Cherrydale fundraiser!