

The Bamboo Shoot

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Plain Elementary
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Debbie Mihalic, Principal
Kelly Hellams, Assistant Principal
Jennifer Dow, PTA President
Jennifer Rose, Editor
"Positively Committed to Excellence"

Principal's Corner...

Dear Parents,

I hope you have had the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful fall season with your family. As we begin the month of November, I would like to remind you of several safety guidelines that must be followed by everyone who enters our school campus. These rules are in place for the safety of our Plain Community and our children.

* All parents & visitors entering the building must sign-in using the School Check-in Computer System in the front office and wear a yellow name tag while in our building.

*Visitors must communicate to the office staff the specific reason for their visit.

*All classroom visits must be prearranged and scheduled with the teacher. Instructional time will always be protected at Plain. It is important that we prevent unnecessary disruptions in the classroom and uncomfortable situations for our children.

*Lunch guests should meet children in the cafeteria and follow our lunchroom rules of etiquette, as required by all students during meal time.

*Smoking is prohibited on the school campus. Cell phones should not be used in our drop-off or pick-up lines. The driver's complete attention must be focused on the safe drop-off and pick-up of all children.

Our children's safety and academic success will continue to be our top priority. Thank you for your support of our school policies.

Please continue to stay actively involved in your child's education and assist in our parent volunteer program when possible. We have had a productive and positive first quarter of the school year and we remain grateful for your support. Enjoy the beginning of the Thanksgiving season!

Respectfully,
Mrs. Mihalic

Eat Out Nights—

Please save the dates for the following eat out nights! These restaurants generously give a percentage of the nights sales back to our school.

November

Thursday 3 Moe's

Thursday 10 Chick Fil A*

Wednesday 16 Chuck E Cheese

Thursday 17 Sonic

Tuesday 22 Tony's

December

Thursday 1 Moe's

Thursday 8 Chick Fil A*

Thursday 15 Sonic

Wednesday 28 Chuck E Cheese

*Chick Fil A- from 5-8 only and customers MUST tell the cashier when ordering they are with Plain for it to count!

GOZA GIVING TREE

Many families within our Plain Elementary community are overwhelmed with financial obligations, even more so during the holidays. The Goza Giving Tree is a special project that allows individuals, groups, and organizations to make a difference in a child's life by donating gifts to Plain Elementary families in need during the Holiday Season.

Our school community generously assisted 119 children from 37 families through the Goza Giving Tree in 2010.

If you would like to help, the Goza Giving Tree will be located in the school atrium from Tuesday, November 15th through Wednesday, November 30th. Thank you in advance for your support.

A Letter from our PTA President...

Dear Plain Families,

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our Pandapalooza!! A great time was had by all. A huge thank you goes out to the carnival committee. It takes a lot of work to plan this event and every single member of this committee worked extremely hard to pull it all together. Also we want to thank, Mrs. Mihalic, Mrs. Hellams and the entire staff at Plain, Sandy Sanders and the entire maintenance staff, room parents, grade level coordinators, the many volunteers that night and all of our families who supported the carnival! It truly was a wonderful family event enjoyed by everyone! All money raised at the carnival goes right back into Plain Elementary school to support programs for our children.

The PTA proudly supports grants for our teachers that will further enhance the education that they receive. In September, the PTA approved the following teacher's grants:

Mrs. Nolan - 105 Copies of Dear Levi for all 4th grade- \$404.25.

Mrs. Thomas-Thomas- Math materials for all 5th grade- \$505.72.

Mrs. Rewis- Classroom Set of Dry Erase boards for all 3rd grade- \$1178.10.

Mrs. Seeley- Camera- \$150. This is to be purchased for all 1st grades to use as needed.

PTA hopes everyone will come out and support the S.I.C Committee's, Hope Day (Hands on Plain Day), November 19th. This day will be dedicated to "sprucing," up Plain and any volunteer support is appreciated!

Please do not hesitate to contact any board member with any comments, suggestions or concerns. We appreciate input from involved parents to guide us in our decision making. The PTA Executive Board meets the last Friday of the month, at 9:15 AM at Plain, and all parents who have joined the PTA are invited to attend. We hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving! There is truly a lot to be thankful for.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dow

Jennifer Dow, President

j.j.dow@charter.net

Tami Perez-Cubas, Treasurer

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Jeana Coker, Vice President

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Allison Walsh, Secretary

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Congratulations to the Pandapalooza poster contest winners

Kindergarten:

Chapman- Meghan Waugh

Dillard -Emily Knight

Shipman - Emily Bertsch

Register -Anato Bey

Ferrell- Ila Grace Towe (Also grade level winner)

1st Grade:

McCurley - Emily Michenfelder

WalDROP - Lorelei Littleton

Mill- Sarah Devine

Anderson - Olivia Rogozinski

Malone - Livia Styskal

Seeley - Christopher Knight

Clemmer - Emily Carson

Mahaffey - Ashley Butler

Cole - Caitte Wilkinson

O'Connell - Brianna Arroyave (Also grade level winner)

2nd Grade:

DeLaney - Kaitlyn Dewey

Adams - Valentina Aguirre

Johnson - Julia Hahn

Derrick - Piper Garrett

Rice- Shyla Jackson

Nelson- Benjamin Dorr

Haynes- Lexi Robison

Chambers - Betsy Rush (Also grade level winner)

Kuzminsky - Audrey (Also grade level winner)

3rd Grade:

Cleghorn- Carly Alexander

Kern - Lucas Parks

Neideigh - Grace Harshbarger

Arnold - Annie Arritt

Rewis- Samantha Butler (Also grade level winner)

4th Grade:

Craft- Miguel Santana

Taylor - Kaylyn Holbert

Jones- Madison Shirley

Oliver - Parker Rothel

Nolan - Allison Pease

Clemmons - Kaitlyn Lynch

(Also grade level winner)

5th Grade:

Kovaleski - Maddie Haynes

Craft - Shawn Provencher

Luzadder - Georgia Kay

Thomas - Miranda Lee

Meece - Blaire Acton

Howell and Loach - Madison Leithold

Kuzminsky - Audrey (Also grade level winner)

REMINDER—please continue to send in your box tops and Campbell's soup can labels to help raise money for our school. We are also continuing the collection of can tabs to help support the Ronald McDonald House. Don't forget to put your student's name on the items you send in. We will hold a drawing once a month and 5 lucky winners will receive a goody bag. Thank you for your support! A special thank you to Maryann Edwards and Melissa Hahn for helping with these efforts!!

Jennifer Rose

Box Top Chairperson

willjenn03@yahoo.com

Congratulations to our September and October drawing winners!

Sean Hoyer, Agostina Mercado, Samantha Edwards, Cove Norton, Luke Dearybury, Julia Hahn, Matthew Towe, Carson Williams, Mackenzie Patterson, and Jack Schreiber.



Thank you to these businesses and people who made donations to our Silent Auction. Please support the businesses that support Plain!

Anthony's Pizza, Applebees-Simpsonville, Ashboro Zoo, NC, Avon, Backyard Birds, Belks-Simpsonville, Bellacino's-Simpsonville, Bi-Lo-Simpsonville, Blockbuster Video, Bojangles, Brikz for Kidz, Build a Bear, Candle Mountain Works, Carraba's, Chik fil a Simpsonville, Chocolate Moose Bakery, Classic Home Mortgage, Coach House, Curves-Simpsonville, Discovery Place, Dollywood, Drury Inn, Dunkin Donuts-Simpsonville, El Tejano Restaurant, Eye Candy, Gigglebugs, Furman, GHS YMCA, GNC-Simpsonville, Golden Park Skating or Bowling, Goodyear-Simpsonville, Great Clips-Simpsonville, Great Escape Cinemas, Greenville Drive, Greenville Gymnastics, Greenville Little Theater, Greenville Rec, Greenville Road Warriors, Gretchen's ABS Cakes, Gymboree, Hallmark-Simpsonville, Headcoach-Simpsonville, Hidden Lilly Boutique, Holiday Inn-Simpsonville,, Home Depot-Simpsonville, Hungry Howies-Simpsonville, Huntington Learning Center, Jelly Beans Hair Cuts, Keith Wheeler Florist, Kuerig Coffee Maker, Marriot, Stone Mountain GA, McDonalds-Simpsonville, Merle Norman-Simpsonville, Mimi's Japanese Steak House-Simpsonville, Moe's-Simpsonville, Ober Gatlinburg, Omega Laser and Skin Care, On the Border Restaurant, Original photographs by Christy Staton, P.F. Changs, Paisley's Salon & Gift Boutique, Panera-Simpsonville, Pelham Links Dentist-Dr. Kennedy, Planet Beach-Simpsonville, Publix, Quizno's Simpsonville, Red Lobster, Reusies, Ripley's Aquarium-Myrtle Beach & Gatlinburg, Riverbanks Zoo, Ruby Tuesday-Simpsonville, Ryans-Simpsonville, Salon 330, Silpada Jewlery-Kelly Lomas, Sonic-Simpsonville, Southern Shabby So Chic, Stella Salon, South Carolina Aquarium, Stella's Restaurant, Stella's Salon, Stone Mountain, GA, Tastefully Simple-Shayla Bousquet, The Staff at Plain Elementary, Thirty One Gifts-Vicky Brown, Three Generations Boutique, Tire Kingdom-Simpsonville, Tutti Frutti-Mauldin, Ultra Fit, USC, Valerie Russitano, Vaughn's Country Store, Vault Denim-Tera Hicks, Virginia Tech, Walmart-Simpsonville, Walt Disney World, Orlando, FL, Wonderworks-Myrtle Beach, Yogurt Mountain, Zoo Atlanta

Volunteer News...

I would like to say a big thank you to Bridget Kline, Carmen Maldonado, Caroline Alvarez, Lisa & Jason Armstrong, Veronica Alvarez, Jennifer Burchett and Nicole Emde for volunteering to assist on Picture Day. It all ran very smooth because of you guys.

I would like to thank ALL the volunteers that helped with the carnival. A special thank you to our wonderful teachers and staff for all that you did.

Stephanie Towe

Volunteer Coordinator

AUTHOR'S TEA REPRESENTATIVES

Congratulations to the following students for representing their classroom in our October Author's Tea. The children had an opportunity to present their writing to family and friends on

October 11th and 12th. These students did a wonderful job and we are so proud of them.

Kelly Hellams, Assistant Principal

Kindergarten

Gabriella Ortiz-Maldonado - Mrs. Shipman

Leah Rutherford - Mrs. Register

Bella Kusmaul - Mrs. Ferrell

Veda Duncan - Mrs. Dillard

Meghan Waugh - Mrs. Chapman

First

Parker Lee - Mrs. Seeley

Caroline Duncan - Ms Waldrop

Isabella Benjamin - Mrs. Malone

Samantha Ferrell - Mrs. McCurley

Ryleigh Miller - Dr. Mahaffey

Seth Teachey - Mrs. Cole

Drew Pahach - Ms. Clemmer

Kilara Hagood - Mrs. Anderson

Emily Ramsey - Ms. O'Connell

Second

Cayley Ramsey - Mrs. Webb

Olivia Berry - Mrs. DeLaney

Xander Weems - Mrs. Chambers

Holly Sue Tuggle - Mrs. Johnson

Janiah Sweeney - Mrs. Haynes

Zachary Gunter - Mrs. Adams

Gabrielle Miller - Ms. Derrick

Alice Wardlaw - Mrs. Rice

Third

Noah Frazier - Mrs. Arnold

Sophie Scott - Mrs. Neideigh

Marlee Vaughan - Mrs. Kern

Katarena Newman - Mrs. Major

Braeden Whitman - Mrs. Rewis

Thomas Sergent - Mrs. Cleghorn

Fourth

Adam Whitcomb - Mrs. Oliver

Amy Dindinger - Mrs. Clemmons

Madison Shirley - Mrs. Jones

Gavin Brown - Mrs. Nolan

Jordan Sims - Mrs. Lindsey

Emily Culbreath - Mrs. Taylor

Fifth

Sam Cox - Mrs. Kovaleski

Theo Albrecht - Mr. Luzadder

Mason Wilson - Mrs. Howell / Mrs. Loach

Miranda Lee - Mrs. Thomas

Ally McCaslin - Ms. Kuzminsky

SIC NEWS

Hands On Plain Elementary (HOPE) Day!

November 19 (Saturday) anytime between 8 and noon - we could use your help! We'll be planting flowers, staining fences and picnic tables, laying mulch and other miscellaneous exterior beautification projects. We can also use some shovels and wheelbarrows so please bring them if you are able (even if you cannot stay to help, we will be sure to return them to you).

First In Math is an online math program for students K-5 (www.firstinmath.com). Your child should have brought home login information that will get them started. Plain was very lucky to get a 1-year free use of this educational website (an \$8,000 value). Please encourage your child to try it; it is wonderful at helping children master fundamental and advanced mathematics skills. We are hoping to see gains in our math testing performance that can be directly linked to this online educational website (which will provide incentive to register Plain next year).

Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday November 16th, 8:15am at Plain. We plan to have a special guest speaker from Public Education Partners (www.PublicEdPartnersGC.org). I hope to see you there.

Regards,
Bill Miller

CONGRATULATIONS to the student collecting the most eggshells for our Confetti Eggs Mikayla Hubbard from Mrs. Malone's class. She collected 84 eggs. There was a 3 way tie for second place. Grayson Kargol in Mrs. Ferrell's class, Kate Kargol in Mrs. Kuzminsky's Class, and Niko Peterson in Mrs. Thomas' class all collected 72 eggs each. They all earned 12 free confetti eggs at Pandapalooza.

