

SPRINGER SPIEL

A PUBLICATION OF THE SPRINGFIELD PARK PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION - SEPTEMBER 2011

www.springerpta.com

PRINCIPAL'S PAGE

I enjoyed seeing so many of you at our "Open House" and "Back to School" night. We are off to a great beginning! Our theme this year is "Learning Rocks At the Park!" We welcome the following new faculty members: Kathleen DiBuccio (1st grade), Amber Semega (Exceptional Education), and Susan Thomas, Pam Dumke, and Wanda Wood (Instructional Assistants). Theresa Kessler will be at our school on Monday mornings each week to teach physical education classes. Sharon Heiberg will be our Math-in Residence teacher for the 2011-2012 school year. Sharon is a former fourth grade teacher.

Information will be going home soon regarding PTA Reflections. Please encourage your child(ren) to participate in this. This is a wonderful venue in which students can express their creativity in a variety of ways. The theme this year is "Diversity means...."

Jay Cable is our SRO and will be teaching lessons in KG-5th grade classrooms during this school year. PEAK (police, educators, and kids) will continue to be the program that is being implemented.

Please join Officer Cable and me at the first principal's coffee which will be on September 22nd at 8:30 in the cafeteria. The topic for this event will be safety. I hope to see you there.

Speaking of safety, it is our number one priority and I need your help. If your child is a car rider, please make sure that he/she is dropped off in the car rider loop in the front of the school in the mornings. Also, please make certain that your child exits the car on the passenger side only.

Many of our children walk to school. It is imperative that we adhere to the speed limit on Fort McHenry, as well as other streets within the neighborhood adjacent to our school. Obeying all traffic signs is another measure that will help keep our students safe.

I appreciate your continued support.

Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us!

Tammy Jones

Principal



A Note From Our New Associate Principal

I consider it a great privilege to be joining the Springfield Park faculty and getting to know the Springfield Park community.

I thought it would be helpful if I told you a little about myself. I live in Hanover County with my husband and three children. Our weekends are usually spent at some sort of sporting event. I grew up in California and Texas, but I received my Bachelors of Science in Education degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. In 2003, I received my Masters degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Virginia. I followed that up with a Post-Masters Certificate in Educational Leadership and Administration from George Washington University in 2010. I spent eleven years teaching students in grades K-3 at Seven Pines Elementary. For the past ten years, I have been the Resource Teacher at Pinchbeck Elementary. During that time, I worked with small group/whole group remediation and enrichment lessons as well as varying administrative duties. (continued on page 2)

THE PTA WELCOMES YOU BACK!

On behalf of the Springfield Park PTA, welcome back to school! I hope all of you had a fun and relaxing summer and are off to a great start to this new school year. The PTA Board is hard at work and is excited to share some new events and activities with you as the year unfolds. Our monthly newsletter will keep you well informed. **THIS IS THE ONLY MONTH THAT EVERY CHILD WILL RECEIVE A HARD COPY.** If we have your email address you will be receiving an email notification of when the newsletter is available online. Our goal is to have it posted on the Newsletter page of the website by the first of the month. Visit us at www.springerpta.com

Thank you to everyone who attended our Back-to-School PTA Meeting.

It is so important for us to get together and vote on essential PTA items and I know we all enjoyed the time we spent in our children's classrooms.

Please return the forms in your child's open house folder if you have not yet done so. Important PTA communication regarding membership, volunteers and our directory are in the folder. *Remember that it is only necessary to fill out one gold form per family!* We also ask that you please consider joining the PTA. Membership in the PTA ensures you have a vote in the proceedings and activities of our school PTA, as well as the state and national PTA. When you join the PTA you will receive the school directory free of charge. For those families who don't join the PTA, a limited number of directories will be available for \$5.00. We appreciate your support and your membership! If you have 2 members join on the same envelope you will receive tickets to use on stations at our spring carnival.

Finally, there is a meeting for those interested in learning about the room parent teams on Wednesday, September 21 at 8:15 AM in the cafeteria. Please join us if you are interested in helping in your child's classroom.

Please contact me at president@springerpta.com or 270-0830 with any questions regarding the PTA. I'm looking forward to a wonderful school year!

Beth Strader
PTA President

Get Your Springer Spirit Wear!

It is that time of year to order your *Spirit Wear*. We have a multitude of items in various colors and sizes. We have long sleeves, short sleeves, and sweatshirts to choose from. Order forms go home on September 19 and need to be returned by September 27. So order your Spirit Wear and show your Springer pride! (Don't forget Grandma & Grandpa, too!)

If you have any questions, please contact Jodi or Kathy at waysandmeans@springerpta.com

Join a Kids Club!

The PTA sponsored Kids Club Program will be held on six consecutive Thursday afternoons from 2:15-3:30 beginning October 6th and ending November 10th. Kids Club Registration Night is Monday, September 26th 6:00-7:00pm and Registration Morning is Tuesday, September 27th 7:30-9:30am. Both will take place in the cafeteria. Kids Club description forms and registration forms will be sent home by way of your child on Monday, September 19th. A few examples of clubs being offered this fall are Mighty Builders for grades K-2, Biking for grades 2-5 and Making Magic Possible for grades K-5! Please contact Tara Hasenstab at kidsclub@springerpta.com if you have any questions. Thanks!

A Note from our New Associate Principal (cont'd)

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I look forward to getting to know the students, parents and community that make Springfield Park Elementary such a wonderful place to go to school.

Let's Make A Difference,
Stacie Carlisle



Keep informed with the SPES blog and Twitter!

Hello Parents!

Looking for more ways to find out what is going on at Springfield Park? Check out our new Springfield Park School Blog Page and follow us on Twitter!

Throughout the year we will be posting upcoming events, reminders, videos, pictures, and more on our school blog page to keep you involved with what is going on at SPES. You can even subscribe to the blog, so you can be emailed when new posts have been made!

Springfield Park is also now on Twitter! Yes, @SpringfieldPark now has a Twitter account, and will be used as another tool to keep parents up to date with what is going on throughout the year. If you would like to follow us on Twitter, our screen name is @SpringfieldPark.

Here are the two website site addresses:

SPES Blog Page: <http://blogs.henrico.k12.va.us/springfieldpark>

SPES Twitter Page: <http://twitter.com/#!/SpringfieldPark>

We are truly excited about the upcoming school year as we take SPES to new heights with 21st century learning!

Tyler Hart
3rd Grade Teacher
Springfield Park Elementary
www.tinyurl.com/mrhart
<http://blogs.henrico.k12.va.us>



Library Links

Welcome back! The summer flew by as usual, but I hope you were able to relax and read some good books. We are already rockin' and rollin' in the library. Last year's Barnes and Noble book fair was a huge success. Mark your calendars for November 29 for this year's Barnes and Noble book fair. Looking for a special way to recognize your child's birthday? Consider purchasing a birthday book. You can find the form in your child's back to school folder. Students will be able to choose from a large selection of brand new books. They will be on the morning announcements with their book, get a special birthday bookplate in the front with their name, and be the very first person to check it out from the library. It's a great way to support the library! Be sure to check out the library website for all kinds of valuable information.

http://teachers.henrico.k12.va.us/librarians/grubbs_m/Site/Welcome.html

Michelle Grubbs,
School Librarian



UPCOMING EVENTS

9/21 - ROOM PARENT MEETING, 8:15AM IN CAFETERIA

9/26 - KIDS CLUB REGISTRATION, 6-7 PM IN CAFETERIA

9/27 - KIDS CLUB REGISTRATION, 7:30-9:30AM IN CAFETERIA

9/27 - SPIRIT NIGHT AT PADOW'S, 5-9PM

9/28 - HALF DAY FOR STUDENTS

10/6 THROUGH 11/10 - THURSDAYS ONLY - KIDS CLUB

10/14 - THEATER IV'S LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW (K-5)

10/18 - REFLECTIONS ENTRIES DUE

10/28 - SOMETHIN' PUMPKIN/ TRUNK OR TREAT

Springer FUNdraising!

Welcome back Springers! I am so excited about planning our Spirit Nights once again this year! Thank you to all of you who came out to our August Spirit Night at Gelati Celesti Ice Cream! We made over \$200 for our very first Spirit Night of the school year! September's Spirit Night will be on Tuesday, 9/27 at Padow's Ham's & Deli from 5pm-9pm. Look for more details in your child's back pack in the next week. You will need to take the flyer with you that night so that SPES PTA can receive 10% of your total purchase!

Please be sure to link your Kroger, Food Lion and Martin's Customer Card to Springfield Park Elementary School!

Our Springer Fund Drive was such a success last year that we will be doing it again this October! What will the grand prize be this year?? Look for more details at the beginning of October!

I am looking forward to a **FUN** year as your VP of **FUN**draising!!

Tanya Cauthorne
fundraising@springerpta.com



Calling all Classroom Volunteers and Room Parents!

There will be a meeting for all classroom Room Parents and for all parents who would like to volunteer in their child's classroom on Wednesday, September 21 at 8:15 in the cafeteria. ALL PARENTS need to remember to turn in the blue Classroom Volunteer form which was included in the Back-to-School folder. Please include any allergy information that volunteers need to be aware of, as well as contact information so that Room Parents are able to keep you informed of classroom events and activities.

If you are a Room Parent and unable to attend the September 21 meeting, just let me know and I will get your packet of information to you.

-Valerie Psuik, Room Parent Coordinator
roomparents@springerpta.com or 747-4651

PTA Reflections 2011: " Diversity Means..."

PTA Reflections is back for another year of artistic expression on the theme of "Diversity Means...". Look around you at Springfield Park and in your community to find what diversity means to you. Get a spark of inspiration and let it flow out on paper, video, music, dance or through the written word or photographic image. Fliers have been sent home in folders the week of 9/12-9/16 with all the specific details. If you didn't see it come home, feel free to e-mail Tom Hogan at reflections@springerpta.com with any questions you might have. You can also check out the PTA Reflections website at http://www.ptareflections.org/cs/about_reflections

We're looking forward to everyone's unique expression on the theme. Have fun with it!

Tom Hogan, Reflections Committee

Somethin' Pumpkin

Springfield Park PTA will be having a "Somethin' Pumpkin" gathering on Friday, October 28, 2011 for the whole family. Come enjoy dinner and trunk or treating! More information will be sent home in your child's backpack.

Felicity Bobert
somethingpumpkin@springerpta.com

Volunteers Needed!

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Reflections program. If you are interested, please contact Beth Bruno at volunteers@springerpta.com. Thanks!