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From the PTA Co-Presidents

It looks like the worst of winter is behind us, and spring is on the horizon! As we get ready for spring, we have several fun events to tell you about:

On **Saturday, March 12, at 5 p.m.** be sure to join us at the school for **International Night**. This event is always fun for everyone. Be sure to enjoy the delicious international potluck, the parade of nations by our very own internationally costumed children, and a wonderful display of different cultures presented by families in the gym. This is an evening you DON'T want to miss!

Another event you won't want to miss is the **RHPS Silent Auction, to be held Saturday, April 2**, at Glenview Mansion in Rockville. This fabulous adults-only event is a great time to mingle with other parents and teachers in a beautiful setting as you bid on creative and fun items. All proceeds go to support activities at our school, and it's a great date night! Look for more details online and below, but buy your tickets now!

On the issues front, Rosemary Hills is joining with Bethesda Elementary, Chevy Chase Elementary and North Chevy Chase Elementary to undergo a boundary study which will begin March 10 (see page 4 for more details). We also continue to watch the budget issue carefully and will be calling on parents to contact their County Council representatives as they vote on the budget. We will post more details on the listserv.

We want to extend a huge thank you to **Carolyn Greis and Alison Carr for coordinating our Artist in Residence programs for this year**. Through their efforts, the PTA has arranged arts programs for each grade focusing on rhythm. The second graders gave a wonderful performance on March 3 to show their parents what they learned about opera! The kindergarteners will have their turn starting in mid-March when they learn about the art of

(continued on p. 3)

Mark Your Calendar for the Silent Auction!

Saturday night, **April 2**, is the annual **RHPS PTA Silent Auction**. We need your participation to make this year's event the best ever!

What is the RHPS Silent Auction? Only the largest fundraiser of the year to raise money for the PTA! The money raised supports your kids, our teachers and the entire RHPS community.

This year's event will take place at the beautiful Glenview Mansion in Rockville. This is an adults-only event — so get your babysitting lined up now! The auction begins at 7:00 pm. Please look on the listserv and in your child's backpack for additional information about how to purchase tickets and to donate items for the auction.

We'll have great food, live music, and plenty of great items to bid on. Look for more information to come on our fabulous raffle and live auction too!

We need you to be a part of this important school event. So mark your calendar, buy your tickets, and get involved today!

Your Auction Co-Chairs,

Ann Jablon (Fetsko, James Jablon)

Lisa Barclay (Reeder, Chris Berry)

Amanda LaForge (Fetsko, Harrison Denbo)





A Word from Principal Ralph Viggiano

On Friday, February 25, all students enjoyed an assembly by our **artist-in-residence Yvette Lewis, a professional opera singer**. Ms. Lewis worked with second graders February 25 through March 3. At the conclusion of the residency, a terrific presentation was held for 2nd grade parents to showcase what the students learned about opera.

Wow, what a great job **Karen Jacobs and Sue Choi did with the Heifer International project** and the collection of change toward the purchase of animals by our students. Again this year, we tracked all of the classroom purchases during the campaign on a wonderful bulletin board near the front office. This is the second year for this campaign and the total collected is again over \$7,000 – amazing!

International Night and the Parade of Nations have been scheduled for Saturday, March 12, from 5-7 pm. We hope all of you can attend!

Come join us for a night of learning at **Family Game Night on Wednesday, March 23**. Enjoy a free pizza dinner at 6:00 p.m. - the games will begin at 6:30 p.m. This should be a fun family night of games that involve skill and challenge. Hope to see you there!

SHHHHHHH!! I hope to see everyone at the **Silent Auction on Saturday, April 2**, at the Glenview Mansion in Rockville. Happy bidding!

During the **week of April 4**, all second graders will take a standardized assessment called the TerraNova-Second Edition (TN/2). The TN/2 measures student performance in reading, language, language mechanics, mathematics, and mathematics computation through multiple-choice questions. This assessment serves as a measure of individual student performance, as well as an important indicator for the success of our school. As such, it is imperative that all students are present for each day of testing. **We ask that you avoid scheduling appointments during this week so that students can participate in this important test.**

On **Monday, April 4**, RHPS will host our annual **ESOL Library Night**. Our ESOL families will enjoy a pizza dinner and conversation before heading off to the library for a presentation and some activities.

An informational letter about our upcoming **Kindergarten Orientation** went home last week. If you did not receive a letter or need an additional letter, you can pick one up in the main office. Incoming students must be five years old on or before September 1, 2011, in order to en-

roll for kindergarten. If you have a prospective kindergartener, please complete the bottom portion of the letter and return it to the school as soon as possible. We will contact families the week of March 28 with their designated appointment times. Kindergarten Orientation will be held on Thursday, May 5, and Friday, May 6. **Please remember that classes for current kindergarten students will be canceled on these two days.**

Change in regular dismissal routine

We ask that you send a note informing us of any changes in your child's dismissal (e.g., change from bus rider to car rider). If someone other than a parent is picking up your child, we also need the name and phone number of that person. We are going to have students take the note with them to the dismissal site and give it to the staff member on duty. This added safety procedure will keep our students safe and everyone informed.

Thank you for all the support you provide for our students and staff. RHPS is a great school because of everyone's hard work and energy. IT IS APPRECIATED.

Please note upcoming events on the calendar, found on the last page of this newsletter.

Sincerely,
Ralph Viggiano, Principal

The Rainbow

This newsletter is published by

**The Parent-Teacher Association
of Rosemary Hills Primary School**
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“Original Works” Is Coming in March!

Looking for a unique gift while supporting the RHPS PTA? RHPS has teamed up with Original Works, an art-based program, allowing you to have your child’s very own artwork reproduced onto a selection of over 20 quality products. These products range from magnets, mugs and mouse pads to t-shirts, tote bags and tiles. The wide selection of professionally produced, full color products offers something for everyone.

The children will be creating their artwork in school, and then you will have the opportunity to order whatever products you wish with your child’s own artwork featured on each and every product.

We are thrilled to be participating in this FUNdraising program. Look for complete program, product and pricing information in backpack mail in the beginning of March.

If you have any questions, please contact Dina Bickel @ rundcb02@gmail.com.



Join Us at Rosemary Hills for International Night

****Food****

****Family Displays****

****Parade of Nations****

March 12, 5-7 pm

Bring a homemade or store-bought dish to share.



The PTA Nominating Committee Needs YOU!

It's time for the PTA to begin finding officers and board members for the coming school year. We need volunteers for the PTA Nominating Committee to suggest and find willing candidates to fill vacancies on the PTA. If you are willing to help, contact Hunter Hogewood at hunter_h_hogewood@mcpsmd.org. This committee is open to anyone who is interested.

PTA Co-Presidents *(continued from front page)*

storytelling. Watch the listserv for more details as that gets closer.

In fundraising news, we want to thank all the moms, grandmothers, aunts, and friends who turned out at the recent beauty event at Neiman Marcus. We had a wonderful turnout, and raised almost \$1,000! Hopefully we can continue this event in the future. We also will be planning another manicures night at Acqua Nails in April (before Spring Break). Look for more information on the listserv as details are confirmed.

Our next PTA Meeting is aimed specifically at second graders as we discuss making the transition to third grade. Join us March 14 at 7 p.m. in the All Purpose Room.

pose Room. We will have a panel of speakers including teachers, counselors and current third graders from Chevy Chase Elementary and North Chevy Chase Elementary. There will be a general session to get started, followed by breakout sessions for each individual school. RSVP to Holly if you can attend at hollygross66@yahoo.com. Please note that Bethesda Elementary will hold its own event for 2nd graders — please contact Bethesda Elementary directly for more information.

Have a great spring!

*Holly Gross & Emily Mazzella,
PTA Co-Presidents*

Earth Week is Coming – Let's Keep Up the GREEN Work!!

The Rosemary Hills Primary School and community continue to strive in our efforts to be earth-friendly and to teach our children how to make these practices part of their everyday thinking. To highlight these efforts and strengthen our students' and families' awareness of things they can do to protect the earth, we will celebrate **EARTH WEEK 2011** with a variety of activities. So as not to conflict with Spring Break, RHPS will be celebrating Earth Week from **April 26-29, with a special EARTH DAY on Friday April 29**. Be on the lookout for emails and fliers describing the activities and be sure your child is involved. Better yet, make a point to discuss what you and your family can do at home to incorporate earth-friendly habits into your daily lives.



And don't forget **TRASH-FREE TUESDAYS!** Try to remember to pack your child a lunch with as little waste as possible. If you don't remember on Tuesday, do it Wednesday, any day or every day! Make the most of reusable bags, containers, and utensils. Explain what you are doing with your child and why. They might just start to think about how much they throw away.

Bring in some fundraising dollars for RHPS when you purchase **reusable containers, like the ever-popular Lunchskins**, from the RHPS website! Just go to the RHPS PTA Green pages <http://www.rhpspta.org/content/greenspace.html> and scroll down to the

REUSE IT.com link. If you click from this page and make a purchase, 5% goes to RHPS.

As always, the RHPS Green Committee is looking for anyone who is interested in helping our committee with its work. Please contact me if you have any thoughts or great ideas!

Libby Nealis

libbynealis@yahoo.com

RHPS PTA Green Committee

Boundary Study to Begin for Rosemary Hills

Rosemary Hills, along with Bethesda, Chevy Chase and North Chevy Chase Elementary Schools, will undergo a boundary study beginning March 10th. The purpose of the boundary study is to address the split articulation for residents of East Bethesda and Paddington Square apartments. These residents currently attend RHPS for K-2, but then move to Bethesda Elementary for 3-5, after other students have started there in kindergarten. The study will try to come up with ways for the neighborhoods to not split schools.

As some neighborhoods are moved to different schools, ALL families should note that it is possible their home school could also change. No one will be moved out of the BCC cluster of schools and only the schools listed above will be impacted by the changes. The meetings are open to the public and will begin at 7:30 in the North Chevy Chase Elementary Media Center on these dates: **March 10, March 24, April 14, May 12, and May 19.**

The PTA will be hosting meetings with the school community to discuss the committee's work and get community feedback. These meetings are planned for Monday, March 21 (if enough information is available yet), Monday, April 11 and Monday, May 9. Look for more information on the listserv as these dates get closer.

Lunch/Recess Volunteers

Thanks to staff, coordinators and volunteers for their ongoing help with the lunch/recess hour.

If you are interested in volunteering or have questions/concerns, please contact your grade coordinator:

Kindergarten: Catherine Dunn (cmdunn@starpower.net) and Tammy Shea (tammy_shea@discovery.com)

1st grade: Liz Vitchock (liz_vitchock@yahoo.com)

2nd grade: Julie Tewksbury (julietewksbury@rcn.com)

Si usted habla español,
¡enseñe con FLES!



Si vous parlez français,
enseignez avec FLES!

如果你會說中文
請來參加FLES教中文!

Become a part-time FLES Teacher in 2011-2012!!!

Do you speak French, Spanish or Mandarin Chinese?

- Are you dedicated and reliable?
- Do you have experience with groups of school-age children?
- Do you have a BA degree or equivalent?
- Are you able to teach a minimum of 2 hours per week?

(Before or after school 7:30 - 9:30 am or 2:30 - 4:30 pm)

Then, join our team and teach with the FLES program!!

- Become part of our culturally diverse team of instructors
- Receive extensive support from FLES supervisors
- Gain experience teaching in an elementary school setting
- Share your language and culture with children in your community

FLES New Teacher Training

March 28 - April 1, 2011

For more about interview process and training fee contact
The FLES Administrative Office at classes@fles.org



www.fles.org

FLES is a program of MCCPTA - Educational Programs, Inc,
Providing extra-curricular foreign language classes to children in grades K-6
11721 Kemp Mill Road Silver Spring, MD 20902

Calendar — March/April 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
FEB 27	28	MAR 1 March is Women's History Month	2	3 2nd Grade Opera Performance, 2:15 pm	4 Early Release Day: 1:00 Dismissal	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 International Night, 5-7 pm
13 Daylight Saving Time Begins: Move clocks ahead one hour	14 PTA Board Mtg, 6:30; General Mtg, 7 pm: Transition from 2nd to 3rd Grade	15	16	17	18 Kindergarten Hearing and Vision Screening	19
20	21 Kindergarten Hearing and Vision Screening	22 Kindergarten Hearing and Vision Screening	23 Family Game Night, 6 pm	24	25 SPIRIT DAY: Twin Day	26
27	28	29	30	31 Teacher Professional Day, NO SCHOOL	APR 1	2 Silent Auction, Glenview Mansion, 7 pm
3	4 TN/2 Testing for 2nd Grade ESOL pizza dinner/Library Night	5	6	7 Raven Assessment for 2nd Grade Report Cards Distributed	8	9
10	11 PTA Board Meeting 6:30 pm	12 Muffins with Moms, 8:30 am	13	14	15	16
17	18 NO SCHOOL: Spring Break	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 NO SCHOOL: Spring Break	26 Earth Week	27	28	29	30