

A Publication of the Rosemary Hills Primary School PTA

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## From the PTA Co-Presidents

**A**lthough the school year is rapidly coming to a close, the PTA still has a few more activities planned!

First we would like to thank everyone who came out to the **Silent Auction** on April 2nd. The great crowd really enjoyed the evening together to help the school. There were many wonderful and unique items for sale, and the live auction brought out the competitive spirit in some! Thanks to Mr. Viggiano for being auctioneer for us. We are still waiting on final totals, but we are confident that our goal was met to help fund activities for next year. **Many thanks to our wonderful auction committee – chaired by Lisa Barclay, Ann Jablon, and Amanda LaForge – for all of their hard work.** It was definitely a success!

Rosemary Hills has just wrapped up **Earth Week** where all children were encouraged to participate in activities to make them more aware of the planet and actions they can take to help it. It was a fun week which concluded April 30 with our School Beautification Day. We were able to clean some in the garden courtyards and do some projects inside the school that have been needing attention. **Libby Nealis and Karen Jacob** were instrumental in getting this week of events planned and coordinated with the school. Thank you to all who participated to make our school a “greener” place for all of our children.

Next on the calendar is **Teacher Appreciation Week which will be May 9-13.** There will be different activities planned for each day. Some will be hosted by the PTA, but there will be opportunities for you and your child to send in a simple note, picture or flower from your yard to thank any of the amazing staff members who do so much at Rosemary Hills. This is our opportunity to say thank you for all that they do throughout the year. Look for

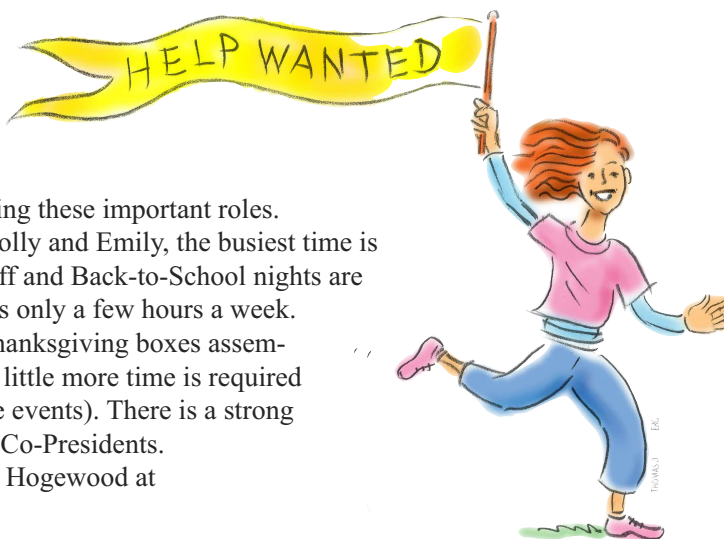
*(continued on p. 3)*

## New PTA Co-Presidents Still Needed for Next Year!

**O**ur heartfelt thanks go out to Holly Gross and Emily Mazzella, who served two years as PTA Co-Presidents. We are looking for two people to fill their shoes for the next school year. Are you a consensus builder who works well with others? Please consider filling these important roles.

How much time is required? According to Holly and Emily, the busiest time is late summer/early fall, as the school year kicks off and Back-to-School nights are held. After early October, the time commitment is only a few hours a week. During special events like Super Saturday, the Thanksgiving boxes assembly, International Night and the Silent Auction, a little more time is required (although there are separate chairs for each of the events). There is a strong and experienced PTA Board backing up the PTA Co-Presidents.

For more information, please contact Hunter Hogewood at [hunter\\_h\\_hogewood@mcpsmd.org](mailto:hunter_h_hogewood@mcpsmd.org).





## A Word from Principal Ralph Viggiano

It appears that it is safe to proclaim that spring has sprung! Now that warm weather has arrived, please remember to dress your children in layers to accommodate the changes in temperature. Sturdy shoes – not flip-flops – are a must for safety on the playground.

We are so fortunate to have such a supportive and involved parent community, as was evident at **International Night and during the Heifer campaign**. International Night was a tremendous success and the event happened without a flaw. The Heifer campaign surpassed last year's total and \$8,626.21 was raised! Congrats to all the parents who were involved and assisted in these well supported and important events for our school and community.

**Kindergarten Orientation** will be held on May 5th and 6th, and we have 223 students and their parents scheduled to attend. If you have a prospective kindergartener, please call the office to schedule a time to attend the orientation. **Please remember that classes for current kindergarten students will be canceled on these two days.**

Second Graders took the **TerraNova-2** standardized assessment during the week of April 4. Student scores for the TerraNova-2 will go home in the report card comment envelopes in June.

MCPS Regional **Summer School** will be available again this year at Bethesda Elementary School. An informational pamphlet about Regional Elementary Summer

School programs and the Summer School application, with a cover page, will go home in the next few weeks. This is a wonderful opportunity and we hope that many of our K-2 students will participate in Summer School!

**Field Day is back!** Field Day will take place on **Friday, June 10**. After a morning of outside activities, students will return to their classrooms for an afternoon of fun! Children should dress in shorts, wear appropriate shoes, and bring sunscreen and water. Please contact your child's teacher or Room Parent to volunteer to help with this event.

**Thursday, June 16 is the last day of school for students.** Please note that it is an early release day and school will be dismissed at 1:00 p.m.

### Upcoming Events

May 26 – Volunteer Tea

June 7 – 2nd graders visit feeder schools

June 10 – Field Day

June 16 – Last day of school for students (Early Release: 1:00 p.m. dismissal)

June 23 – Report Cards Mailed

The main office will be open for summer registration of students for the 2011-2012 school year on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

As always, thank you for your continued support and commitment to our school community!

*Sincerely,*

*Ralph Viggiano, Principal*

## Cultural Arts at RHPS – Help Needed Next Year!

Cultural Arts assemblies and workshops are generously funded by the RHPS PTA, and coordinated by the Cultural

Arts Committee. If you are a RHPS parent who is passionate about arts in education, the Cultural Arts Committee needs your help next school year and beyond! Please contact Alison Carr at

buzzcarr@verizon.net to hear about exciting programs in the works for the next school year, and to discuss opportunities for involvement.



## The Rainbow

This newsletter is published by

**The Parent-Teacher Association  
of Rosemary Hills Primary School**

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## Mark Your Calendars for Kindergarten Orientation May 5 and 6

**R**osemary Hills will be hosting Kindergarten Orientation on Thursday, May 5th and Friday May 6th. Kindergarten Orientation provides a great opportunity for students entering kindergarten in the fall of 2011 to see the school, especially the large, spacious classrooms – and meet many of the kindergarten teachers, para-educators, and school staff.

While incoming students participate in activities in the classrooms, parents are asked to complete the necessary forms that are required by Montgomery County for your children to start school. Parents are strongly encouraged to bring their children to Kindergarten Orientation and as an incentive each child who attends will receive a gift from the school.

Letters regarding Kindergarten Orientation will be mailed to new kindergarten families in advance. The letter will contain your child's appointment time for orientation as well as the forms that you need to complete and a list of documents that you must bring to orientation.

The documents required at orientation include:

- ✓ **Proof of age of the child entering kindergarten:**  
Proof of age of the child can be shown by documents

such as your child's birth certificate, passport/visa, hospital certificate, and/or physician's certificate.

- ✓ **Proof of the parent's identity:** Parental identity can be verified with government issued photo identification, driver's license, passport, permanent resident alien card, naturalization papers, and/or birth certificate.

- ✓ **Proof of the parent's residency:** If you own your home, a current property tax bill can be used to show proof of residency. If you rent your home, you can show a copy of your current lease.

- ✓ **Immunization records** for your child.

**Current kindergarten families should be aware that kindergarten classes will be cancelled on**

**both Thursday, May 5, and Friday May 6,** to allow kindergarten teachers to assist with Kindergarten Orientation and because the kindergarten classrooms will be used. First and second grade classes will **not** be cancelled.

Volunteers are still needed to assist with orientation. To volunteer, please contact De Blumberg at [cordeliathomas@yahoo.com](mailto:cordeliathomas@yahoo.com).



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

more details on the listserv.

As the year winds down, it is time to think ahead to next year. The PTA Nominating Committee is still looking to fill a few positions and needs volunteers to fill them. Please contact Hunter Hogewood at [hunter\\_h\\_hogewood@mcpsmd.org](mailto:hunter_h_hogewood@mcpsmd.org) if you would like to discuss ways that you can help. **PTA elections are scheduled for Monday, May 16, where we also plan to have an entertainer and ice cream social to end the year.**

As we end our time as PTA Co-Presidents, we want to say **thank you to the PTA Executive Board for all your hard work and dedication.** We have accomplished amazing things this year due to the efforts by all. We also want to thank Mr. Viggiano and Mrs. Zimmerman for their willingness to include the PTA on many issues. It has been a pleasure to work with you. We wish Rosemary Hills all the best and we will miss you next year!

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

### Staff Appreciation Week

**E**very spring, the National PTA designates a week to honor teachers and school staff for the important role they play in making sure every student has best educational experience. This year, Rosemary Hills Primary School will be celebrating **Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week from May 9th – May 13th.** We have an exciting week of activities planned to honor and thank our teachers and staff who do so much for our children. Some of this year's recognition activities include: a coffee and tea break (Monday, May 9), a catered lunch (Wednesday, May 11), seated massages (Thursday, May 12) and an ice cream party (Friday, May 13).

Additionally, thanks to the RHPS families who contributed to the "Dinner Out" fund, we are able to purchase restaurant and movie theater gift cards for every teacher and staff member — "a thank you dinner and a movie for you and your family from the RHPS family."



## Calendar — May/June 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
MAY 1	2	3	4	5 Kindergarten Orientation ( <b>NO SCHOOL</b> for current kinder- garteners)	6	7
8	9 Teacher Appreciation Week	10	11 Picture Day	12	13	14
15	16 PTA Elections, ice cream social	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Volunteer Tea	27 <b>SPIRIT DAY:</b> Luau Day	28
29	30	31	<b>JUNE 1</b>	2	3	4
5	6	7 2nd graders visit feeder schools	8	9	10 <b>Field Day</b>	11
12	13	14	15	16 <b>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL</b> Early Release Day: <b>1:00 Dismissal</b>	17	18

### Lunch/Recess Volunteers

Thanks to staff, coordinators and volunteers for their on-going 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)