

# Dragon

A Newsletter for Students and Families of Seth Paine Elementary School

## Dialogue



A Seth Paine PTO Publication

[www.lz95.org/sp](http://www.lz95.org/sp)

November 2009

## Letter from the Principal

Dear Seth Paine Families,

**A**s the temperature is dropping and the days are getting shorter, I want to remind everyone to be sending your students children to school appropriately dressed. Make sure that your children are wearing coats, bringing gloves/mittens, hats, etc. The students go outside almost everyday and we want to make sure that they can all go out to play comfortably. On a separate note, my favorite holiday Thanksgiving is right around the corner. This is such a great time to gather your friends and family, without the worry of a gift. Enjoy this time to the fullest.

**Speaking of giving Thanks**—I want to give a big thank you to all of the families who volunteered their time to make our Freaky Friday and Spooky Saturday celebrations a big success. We had over 50 volunteers who put in numerous hours of hard work which contributed to its success. Thank you to the many parents who donated their time, especially Amy O'Connor, Kathy Sarsha and the Smith family. We have such a warm and giving community here at Seth Paine. At Freaky Friday / Spooky Saturday more than 300 food items were collected and brought to St. Vincent de Paul Society food pantry here in Lake Zurich. I also wanted to say "thank you" to Debbie Keller for her assistance in the coordination of our vision and hearing screening this past month.

**Vacations**—I want to remind our families that Seth Paine does not encourage families to take vacations while school is in session. Though our teachers may be able to pull some work together for these students, it can not replace the direct instruction that they receive in their school day. I encourage you to try to coordinate your vacation schedules with our district's schedule to limit the crucial instruction that they are missing.

**Wellness Plan** - As a part of the "Child Nutrition and Women, Infants, and Children Reauthorization Act of 2004" the school district made some significant changes to our wellness plan several years ago. Those plans will continue this year as we ask you again to bring only healthy snacks to school for your child. This includes birthday treats. You did an excellent job of

respecting the wellness plan last year and we ask for your continued support with the plan this year.

**H1N1** – Please check our building and district website often as to updates, measures being taken, and our district's expectations pertaining to this issue.

**Indoor Air Quality**— The Indoor Air Quality committee is implementing a more pro-active IAQ program in our school. This program was recently adopted by the Board and is outlined on our district web page under "Updates". Our program will adopt the EPA protocol "IAQ Tools for Schools" which schools across the country are implementing. Please check our building webpage for updates and reporting information.

**Report Cards and Conferences**—Report cards went home on November 9th. If you did not receive this from your child, please check their backpacks. Conferences took place during this last week. If you were unable to schedule/attend a conference, please feel free to contact your child's teacher to try and coordinate a time to meet.

**Contact Me** – Have a question or a concern? Please feel free to contact me. You can reach me at #847-438-2163 or via email at: [cameron.shapiro@lz95.org](mailto:cameron.shapiro@lz95.org)

Mr. Cameron Shapiro, Principal  
Seth Paine School

### Dates to Remember

#### November

9 PTO Meeting 7pm

9-13 Book Fair Week  
4-7pm

10 Early Release

10 Parent/Teacher

Conferences 2-7pm

11 Veteran's Day - no school

12 Parent/Teacher

Conferences 4-7pm

12 Ice Cream Social

16 FITS 3-4:15

18 FITS 3-4:15

23 FITS 3-4:15

25 No school

26-27 Thanksgiving Break

30 Return to school

#### December

2 PTO Holiday Outing

4 All District Grade 5  
Prelude Orchestra Concert

4 Drop & Shop Movie Night

8 4th Grade Orchestra  
Concert

21-31 Winter Break

# Message from the PTO Presidents

**“Thanksgiving, after all, is a word of action. ”**

**--W.J. Cameron**

**O**n that note, we would like to take this opportunity to express our personal gratitude to all the families who participated in our two largest fundraisers of the year, Entertainment Books and Innisbrook Wrapping Paper sales. These two projects help fund most of our PTO programs for the year which allows us the opportunity to enhance the learning that is already taking place at Seth Paine.

With Halloween festivities behind us and plans under way for Thanksgiving home celebrations, it is a reminder to us all that fall is a season of preparation and to give thanks. We have to prepare the house, yard and garden from colder weather and turn our energy to indoor activities and preparations for the upcoming holiday season. It is also a time to give thanks.

We have many people to thank.....

Thank you to Colleen Bertrand and her team of helpers for a fantastic Family Bingo Night always a Seth Paine family favorite! A special thanks to the teachers who take time to come back to school to be our Bingo Callers too.

We would like to thank our Freaky Friday/Spooky Saturday event coordinators Amy O'Connor, Kathy Sarsha for all their hard work and preparation, along with their countless parents and student volunteers who made this a fun and successful event. Thank you also to Troy Smith for his hard work in the infamous Seth Paine Spook House.

Also a special thank you goes to Melinda Armbruster and Mary Keller, a former Seth Paine Parent for the Fall Clean Up. By themselves, they weeded and prepared the Seth Paine grounds/gardens for winter. A great way to show our school spirit will to have a much better turn out for the Spring Clean up.

Thanks to Debbie Keller for assisting with the organization and implementation of our Vision and Hearing Screenings each year!

Thank you each month to Jennifer Haidu and Sue Ehrhardt for running our Market Day program. Their continued dedication all year long helps raise a lot of money for our children. Thank you also to the families who purchase through Market Day as well!

Our new Book Fair Co-Chairs Beth Slaughter, Melinda Armbruster and Dana Anderson for preparing for our Book Fair and Ice Cream Social.

Our teachers are preparing for conferences..... thank you to all of them for the countless hours they put into report cards and conferences.

Our room parents for the wonderful Halloween festivities that took place in celebration of this fun filled holiday.

Our copy parents who are always busy helping the teachers prepare classroom materials for our children.

Our yearbook editors Bonnie Kipperman, Jenny Grosenbacher, and Monica Maas along with their team of photographers are always present at all PTO functions snapping pictures as they prepare our yearbook showcasing our students and events.

As parents of students at Seth Paine, you are all members of the PTO, and it is the students that are our main focus. The PTO relies on your participation to make their events a success. We don't expect all of you to take on the task of coordinating an event but we do count on you to volunteer and support our events. Please consider volunteering for an event and you will be amazed at how rewarded you feel.

You may have noticed from looking at the calendar that a few changes have been made to some PTO events. We will be hosting a "Drop and Shop Movie Night" in December for students to enjoy a movie with their friends and knock out some holiday shopping. More information on that event will be sent home soon. We are also looking for a team of volunteers to chair a new family style event to take the place of our Seasonal Celebration. This new event will most likely take place in February after the hustle and bustle of the holidays are behind us. This decision was voted on by the PTO last year based on feedback that was gathered via a school wide survey. If you are interested in helping to plan this new family event, please contact either one of us to discuss.

Thanksgiving is a great time to reflect on all of our blessings. We have great children, a caring community and freedom. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving. We hope you take time to celebrate with those who are near and dear to you.

Warmly,

Mary Perkowitz and Sandy Tassi

Seth Paine PTO Co-Presidents

## PTO Mythbusters

**Myth:** *The PTO is just for stay-at-home moms.*

**FACT:** The PTO is for everyone! Our volunteers are mothers, fathers and those who fill those roles for their students. We have a wide range of volunteers who: stay-at-home; work part-time to full-time; have little ones at home, preschoolers, high schoolers and/or college students; are continuing their own education; and more!

**Myth:** *The PTO has all the help they need.*

**FACT:** The PTO welcomes everyone and continues to need volunteers for various events, fundraisers, and committees year-round. **We need you!**

**Myth:** *Volunteering for the PTO takes too much time.*

**FACT:** Only YOU can decide how much time you can give. Even if you can help at just one event or handle one task per year, it would be greatly appreciated.

**Myth:** *PTO volunteers need to be at the school during the day.*

**FACT:** Some of the PTO work can be done from home on your own schedule, or at various events that take place at night or on weekends. Yes, there is volunteering during the school day if you are able to do so. But no one does it all, so choose what works best for you.

**Myth:** *The PTO has the same volunteers year after year and everyone knows each other.*

**FACT:** While we are fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who return, it's important that we welcome new ones every year. We are most successful when we work together with a variety of people throughout the Seth Paine Community. Our volunteers range from Kindergarten to 5th grade family members, so it's a great chance to get to know caregivers from your student's own and other grades, share information, and make a connection.

**Myth:** *The PTO is all set with their activities and events for the year.*

**FACT:** Each year, the PTO brings back favorites and tries new activities, fundraisers and events. Those new ideas come from volunteers – many times new volunteers. We are still planning for this year and we want you to be a part of it all!

## Questions?

Call/Email:

Mary Perkowitz , 847-726-2306, mgkbperk@att.net

Sandy Tassi, 847-726-9415., sandytassi@yahoo.com

## PTO Meeting Schedule

Some changes have been made to the PTO meeting dates listed in the district calendar. All meetings are at 7:00 in the school library.

The new dates are as follows:

Monday October 5, 2009

Monday November 9, 2009

Wednesday December 2, 2009 (Holiday outing in place of regular meeting (place - TBD) @7 pm

Monday January 11, 2010

Monday February 8, 2010

Monday March 8, 2010

Monday April 12, 2010

Monday April 20, 2010

Monday May 10, 2010

## Market Day

You can order Market Day directly online by going to [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com). All internet orders are due by noon on . Paper orders are due to school on

Pick up for all Market Day orders in Seth Paine Gym on Wed. , between 4:30 and 5:30.

Thank you for supporting Seth Paine PTO thru Market Day.

The Market day pickup days are:

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Wednesday, December 2, 2009

Wednesday, January 6, 2010

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Wednesday, April 7, 2010

Wednesday, May 5, 2010


Wednesday, June 2, 2010

# Support the 5th grade's Taft Experience!

## Shop at any Jewel Store in Chicagoland and bring an official slip to any Jewel on one of the designated dates and 5% of your purchase comes back to Seth Paine!



It's as easy as picking up an official slip in the lobby, cutting out a slip from the Seth Paine newsletter or printing and cutting out a slip from the Seth Paine website @ handouts and flyers.



### SHOP & SHARE IDENTIFICATION SLIP

GROUP NUMBER: 10108052

STORE NUMBER:

AMOUNT OF PURCHASE

DOLLARS:


CENTS:

GROUP: **Seth Paine Elementary School - Taft**

YOUR SHOP & SHARE DAYS: 11/9/2009, 11/10/2009, 11/11/2009

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SIGN THIS SLIP AND TURN IT IN TO YOUR CHECKER WHEN YOU SHOP.  
PARTICIPANTS CAN MAKE PURCHASES AT ANY JEWEL-OSCO ON THE DATE ABOVE.



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# “Your Trash, Our Treasure”



“Your Trash, Our Treasure” encompasses many programs offered by companies who support schools by donating money for items collected and redeemed. Seth Paine PTO will be participating in the following programs during the 2009-2010 school year.

- General Mills - Box Tops for Education
- Cambell’s Soup Company - Labels for Education
- Tyson Foods Inc. - Project A+
- Golden Guernsey Dairy - Kids Caps & Cash
- Kemps Milk Caps – Nickels for Schools
- Swiss Valley Farms Milk – Cash for Caps
- Recycling used cell phones and printer cartridges

**Note that we will not be participating in the Nestle Go Play program.**

All the items most people usually consider “trash” will be converted into “treasure”. For more information on the specifics of the programs, check out their company websites: [www.btfc.com](http://www.btfc.com), [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com), [www.tysonfoodsinc.com](http://www.tysonfoodsinc.com)

Our goal this year is to raise \$2,500 in cash and collect 16,000 points from the Labels for Education program. With these funds we have been able to supply playground equipment for recess and support many student programs.

Students may bring in “trash” at any time. Please write their classroom number on the back of the trash or place it in an envelope or baggie marked with the room number.

**Students deposit the “trash” in their classroom’s collection envelope. The envelopes will be collected on the following dates:**

- Friday, September 18    Friday, October 23    Friday, November 20
- Friday, December 18    Thursday, January 21    Friday, February 19

# Frozen Fruit Bars!

## Fridays Only!

The 5th graders are selling frozen fruit bars at lunchtime on Fridays.

Please help support our fundraising for Taft!!

**.50 cents each!!**



# Dominick’s Food Store Fund Raiser

The Dominick’s eScrip program is a way to make money for our school that takes only about 5 minutes of your time and costs you nothing.

If you have a Dominick’s Supermarket Fresh Values card, the eScrip Program will contribute up to 4% of your purchases all year long. To have your contribution automatically donated to the Seth Paine PTO, just go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). Go to Supporter Registration - Step 1 Enter our group ID 6562927, your Fresh Values card number, name, address, and email. Family and friends may also participate in this program. You can even designate your contributions to more than one school. Currently there is a special 10% Back to Schools promotion that can earn us even more automatically. 2009 10% Back to School - Earn 10% for your group when you use your registered Dominick’s club card

To find out more, including other ways you can help our school earn money, go to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)

Don’t have a Fresh Values card? Go to: <http://www.dominicks.com/IFL/Grocery/Club-Card>

Using a Fresh Values card at Dominick’s is easier than ever. If you forget your card, you can still get savings for yourself and Seth Paine by entering your phone number at the register.

Thank you for taking the time to register with Escrip! Any questions? Call Kris Fontana at 847-438-6760

# Vision & Hearing Screening



The annual Vision and Hearing screenings took place on October 16th. Volunteers helped these important testing go smoothly for the nurses, teachers and students. A big thank you goes to Melinda Armbruster, Melanie Collins, Mary Kate Pratt, Rachel Denchy, Debbie Theys-Dice, Sharon Jenke and Colleen Andrews.

**THANK YOU! Debbie Keller & Beth Slaughter**

# Thanks

We would like to extend a special thank you to all who participated in our 5th Grade Revolutionary War Day and flag making. A wonderful time was had by all!

Sue Menas

Kris Fontana

Tina Marcinkiewicz

Greg Weider

Paula Giese

Debbie Keller

Kelly Andrasco

Chris Estes

Kelli Donnelly

Melinda Armbruster

Kathleen Fuell

Stephanie Bosse

Dan Fewkes

Laura Gallagher

James Fehrer

Colleen Andrews

Sandy Tassi

Chris Godsey

Alexis Weber

Lisa Bushati

Jim Burke

Gino Fontana

Ken Christ

Nicole Keeler

Bonnie Kipperman

Kyle Schumacher

Nancy Marguia

Amy Shapero

Laura Fehrer

Chris Pappas

Kerry Hunt

Linda Glave

Mary Gorman

Pamela Bandel

Pam Smith

Suzanne Weider

Scott Godsey

Kris Frank



Also, thanks to Mrs. Lodewyck, Mrs. Lyons, Ms. Knutson and Ms. Wagner for their dedication to making Revolutionary War Day a lifetime memory for everyone.

Thanks to all the fifth grade students for your enthusiasm and cooperation. The gentlemen hired to teach all of you were impressed by your wonderful manners.

We truly appreciate everyone's time, effort and talent. This event was a success once again thanks to ALL of you!

Your Revolutionary War Day Coordinators,

Colleen Bertrand, Michelle Gates & Sue McCurley



Many thanks to all who placed orders and volunteered on this year's Innisbrook fundraiser.

Because of your hard work we raised \$5,900 to put towards important PTO programs and technology for our students.

Thanks, Ellen Krasavage

# **PARENT UNIVERSITY**

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL NORTH MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

### **NOVEMBER 4, 2009 7-9 PM**

**Parent University – Part 1** is a FREE event open to all interested parents. This November Parent University will be hosting a session called “Active Parenting of Teens”. This session will be lead by the distinguished Bob Leece, who holds a Masters Degree in Guidance Counseling and has over 37 years in the Education field. His presentation will touch you and leave you empowered to take an active role in your child's life...it's never too early to start!

Please e-mail Lori Schwartz at [parentuniversity@yahoo.com](mailto:parentuniversity@yahoo.com) if you are interested in attending this event. We would like to have a count of the number of people planning on attending this worthwhile event! There will be no child care offered during this session. We look forward to seeing you there!

#### **Don't Forget To Mark Your Calendars...**

**Our 16th Annual Celebration of Parent University – Part 2** is scheduled for Saturday, February 27, 2010 from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – held at Lake Zurich Middle School North – Hawthorn Woods. Look for details regarding breakout sessions and keynote speaker in an upcoming PTO newsletter.

## **5th Grade Thanks**

The 5th Grade Team would like to thank all of the students, parents, teachers and families who have helped us to raise money for Taft so far this year! We have a few more fundraisers planned before the end of the year, including a movie night in December. Watch out for more information!

Remember, we couldn't do this without all of you!!

## **Orchestra Concerts**

Friday, December 4 All-District Gr.5 Prelude Orchestra Concert 7 pm at the High School PAC

Tuesday, December 8 MW/SL/SP Gr.4 Beginners' Orchestra Demonstration 7 pm at May Whitney

## **Dragon Dialog Due Dates**

If you want to add an article to the newsletter, just email: [kevin.downing@imgize.com](mailto:kevin.downing@imgize.com) or contact Kevin at (312) 965-3696. The deadlines for submission are:

Friday, November 6

Friday, January 29

Friday, March 12

Friday, April 16

Friday, May 21