



Pioneer Pages

PEAK VIEW ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER



December 2009 ▪ a joint publication of the Peak View School and Parent Teacher Association

THE PRINCIPAL'S CORNER:

I want to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a safe, happy and healthy holiday!

December is a season of great joy and it is the season of giving. Peak View Elementary is trying to do their part by helping those in need. We want to help our community, and we want to teach our children that each and every one of us play a significant role in advancing the common good. There are people in our area without food, shelter, medical care, transportation or affordable childcare. If our students can help in any way, we are giving this gift of assistance to those in need, and to our students lucky enough to never have experienced this lack of basic necessities, we are giving the gift of knowing just how much help is needed and just how lucky they are.

Many of you already generously donated to our toy drive last week and helped us "Load the Sleigh". Many of you may have also donated to the United Way collection we did at the door of the 4th and 5th grade music program last Thursday night. Thank you for all your help!! Also, please help your children understand the efforts we (they) are making.

Monday Dec. 7th through Wednesday Dec. 16th your students will have the opportunity to "Send Your Teacher the Roof". In the cafeteria there will be collection jars for each teacher who has volunteered to participate in this program. Students can "vote" for the teacher they want to send to the roof by donating to that teacher's jar. The top three money raisers will be "sent to the roof" for part of the day. All the money we collect will be donated to the United Way to support local people in need this holiday season.

One final thought as we head into the frantic but fun holiday season. The greatest gift you can give your child is your time. It's like saying, "I love you and enjoy being with you. I'm glad you're my child."

Happy Holidays!

Marcy Williams



GANGS in the VALLEY: AWARENESS for PARENTS

Presented by the Rockingham/Harrisonburg Gang Task Force

Please mark your calendars and join us on Wednesday, January 6, 2010 at 6:30pm at Spotswood High School for an informative presentation and an eye-opening awareness of the local gangs in our community. The information will be presented by local police authorities and Gang Task Force for Rockingham county and Harrisonburg city. Some of the topics we will discuss will be:

- Overall Gang problems in VA and in VA schools
 - Local gangs in our community
 - Who's joining the gang?
 - Why do youth join gangs?
 - How do youth join gangs?
 - Involvements/Requirements once in a gang
 - Signs that my child might be involved with a gang
- This is something all parents should know – Gangs recruit youth of all ages.

Please be aware - Some of the content/visuals presented will be graphic. Due to the nature of the content we would NOT recommend students younger than 7th grade attend.

We look forward to seeing you at Spotswood High School on January 6!

Upcoming Peak View Events

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| Dairy Queen Fundraiser | Dec. 7 - 11 |
| Send Your Teacher to the Roof (United Way Fundraiser) | Dec. 7 - 16 |
| PTA Business Meeting | Dec. 16, 8:45 am |
| Christmas Holiday | Dec. 19 - Jan. 3 |

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Message from the PTA President

Your PTA works very hard all year to bring fun and educational programming to the school that would not be able to happen otherwise. We would not succeed without your generous help. Thank you to all who constantly give of your time and money to volunteer and help us improve the educational experience of all our children.

One service we provide is the much awaited School Directory. I personally want to thank Barb Shafqat and Ashley Privott for their great efforts in creating this necessary parenting resource. A big thank you to all the families who joined the PTA this year and received a complimentary directory with their membership dues!

Although our main focus is to improve the educational experience at Peak View Elementary, during the month of December we focus more on the members of our community in need. This year Peak View Elementary PTA and the Student Council Association (SCA) have joined together for the good of our greater school community. Peak View students, faculty and families generously donated gifts to "Load the Sleigh" with toys for needy children. Thanks to everyone for participating and making this community outreach project a huge success!

Please remember if you have new ideas or concerns to share, you are always invited to attend any business or general meetings. Staying involved with your child's class and school PTA honors them and is as great a gift as the box with a pretty bow!

Here's wishing you all a safe and wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Cindy Noftsinger, PTA President

Peak View Book Store

We are starting a bookstore for our students. We will be taking donations of gently used books at the PK – 5th grade level throughout the school year. The store will be open in the Science room from 8:05-8:25 for kids to buy books. The used books will be \$.50 and the new books will sell for \$1.50. The Peak View Bookstore will NOT be open during Library Book Fair Weeks.

Merchants Program

Thank you to everyone that sent in Campbell Soup Labels, we met our goal. We will now receive 2500 bonus points from Campbell's. The fun classroom competition does not end until December 11, so keep them coming. A Special Thanks to Mr. Imbrescia and the SCA for collecting, cutting and counting labels for me.

Christy Null - Committee Chair

Dairy Queen Fundraiser

JOIN US AT DAIRY QUEEN ALL THIS WEEK!!

Our next PTA fundraising event will be at the new DQ Grill and Chill on Carlton Street. Come any time they are open December 7-11, and DQ will donate 10% of our proceeds to the PTA. We do need our receipts to collect the proceeds, so give them to the volunteer at Dairy Queen from Peak View, or if no one is there, turn them in to school. If you would like to volunteer an hour to help collect receipts during the dinner rush, contact Cindy Noftsinger 438-0337.

Congratulations to Mrs. Smith's class for winning the pizza party on CiCi's night.

Upcoming event: Dominos Pizza Night, Wednesday, January 13.

Kathleen Iudica - Committee

PTA Reflections Program



**Congratulations to our 2009 Reflections Winners!
Theme "Beauty Is..."**

Primary Literature

Best Interpretation of the Theme- Jake Noftsinger
Award of Excellence- Jamison Wheeler

Intermediate Literature

Best Interpretation of the Theme- Brice Estes
Award of Excellence- Zack Noftsinger

Primary Photography

Best Interpretation of the Theme- Anya Hausknecht
Award of Excellence- Caitlyn Fendley, Jake Noftsinger
Award of Merit- Sam Hausknecht, Jamison Wheeler

Intermediate Photography

Best Interpretation of the Theme- Addisen DeLucas
Award of Excellence- Erin Null, Zack Noftsinger
Award of Merit- Katie Forward, Sarah Gardner

Primary Visual Arts

Best Interpretation of the Theme- Jake Noftsinger
Award of Excellence- Dillon Thompson, Emma Corder
Award of Merit- Anya Hausknecht, Ava Galgano,
Thomas Galgano, Abigail Lamb
Award of Participation- Megan Peterson, Becky Smith

Intermediate Visual Arts

Best Interpretation of the Theme- Courtney Cushman
Award of Excellence- Emma Hall, Zack Noftsinger
Award of Merit- Erin Null, Ammara Shafqat

Yolanda Hausknecht - Committee Chair