

EAGLE EXPRESS



Rivers Edge Elementary School PTA
<http://www.reespta.org>, <http://www.henrico.k12.va.us/es/riversedge>
January 2011 PTA Newsletter

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Calendar:

1/13	PTA Meeting: Reading Night
1/17	Student Holiday
1/17	Sponsor Night: Cheeburger Chee- burger
1/21	PTA Newsletter Deadline
1/27	End of 9 week marking period
1/31	Student Holiday
1/31	Hospitality Break- fast for Staff
2/3	Parent Visitation
2/3	Hospitality Dinner for Staff
2/8	Dads & Donuts Breakfast

President's Message

Emily Fagan



Welcome 2011! I hope Rivers Edge families enjoyed a relaxing winter break and those extra snow days added at the last minute. Thank you for your flexibility as we rescheduled the winter parties for the first week of January. It was important that our students get to complete the community service projects that are planned for the parties.

Thank you for your recent generous donations to the winter parties, safety buckets and silent auction requests in November and December. I truly appreciate your continued support of the PTA programs at Rivers Edge. Thank you also for the membership and Eagle Fund support provided in the fall. We are able to provide wonderful programs at REES through your financial support.

The PTA has planned some very exciting programs in January and February.

Reading Night: The Rivers Edge PTA will hold its first ever Reading Night on Thursday, January 13 at 6:45 pm. Look for some fun activities including recording your favorite book promo, reading with your family in the library, creating book covers and enjoying cookies and hot chocolate with friends. Mark your calendars today for this fun evening with your classmates.

Dads and Donuts: The Rivers Edge PTA will again celebrate fathers' involvement in schools by bringing dads together with their children for a brief donut breakfast. This year we will hold Dads and Donuts on Tuesday, February 8.



Sock Hop & Silent Auction: The Annual Sock Hop and Silent Auction are scheduled for Thursday, February 10. Only 400 tickets can be sold for the Sock Hop so order early. The Silent Auction is open to all who wish to attend. The Sock Hop is one of the PTA's major fundraisers and family events during the school year and always a crowd favorite. Thank you to Sheila Barden and Rick and Gina Chapman for planning the event this year. There are many volunteer opportunities available and needed for parents of children attending the Sock Hop. Order forms and volunteer sign-ups will come home in the back packs the first week back to school. Sherry Springer and Divya Verma have been very busy collecting items for the Silent Auction. Bring your check books so you can purchase some of the fabulous items and services they have available.

Nominating Committee: The nominating committee is looking for PTA members to serve on the 2011-2012 REES PTA Executive Committee. The PTA is searching for a President, VP of Ways and Means, and VP of Volunteers. Please consider serving in one of these open positions. REES PTA leadership is a very rewarding way to volunteer at your child's school.

Have a wonderful January. I hope to see you at Rivers Edge and at the PTA programs.

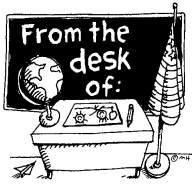
Rivers Edge Elementary

PTA

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Principal's Message

Johnna Riley



Happy New Year!!!! January is always an exciting time of year to start fresh with new goals and new expectations. I hope you and your children will include school resolutions in your discussions as you welcome in the New Year and look to make improvements during the next twelve months.

I encourage everyone to take the time to complete the Henrico County Public School Parent Survey that was sent home when the students returned from Winter Break. The survey is due by **January 14, 2010**. We really need 100% participation so the feedback is the voice of the whole community. Henrico County Public Schools and Rivers Edge will use the information and perspective of stakeholders to identify strengths, areas for improvement, and support improvement planning.

We are looking forward to our first "Reading Night" held during the January 13 PTA meeting, starting at 6:45 p.m. Mrs. Roberts, School Librarian, has planned an extraordinary evening for the students with lots of fun



events! The students will enjoy having the Richmond Flying Squirrels representatives and mascot, Nutzy, at school that afternoon to "kick-off" our Reading Night. They will come and act out "Casey at the Bat." They will also talk about the benefits of reading and give the students an incentive to do so. I hope you and your family will make plans to join us for the inauguration of this new annual event!



I am personally looking forward to another fabulous year working with the outstanding staff here at REES and the marvelous families and community that we enjoy! Don't forget to check with your child on the status of their school supplies. They might need to replace some glue sticks, pencils, or paper at this time of year. See you soon!

Mrs. Johnna W. Riley
Principal

Silent Auction

Divya Verma and Sherry Springer

Dear Parents,

The Silent Auction committee is delighted to welcome you all to the annual Silent Auction fundraiser. We've made several important changes to the format of the event to make it more fun:

- **The Silent Auction is FREE for everyone.** Only people attending the sock-hop will need to purchase tickets. We hope that this change will enable more parents to participate in the bidding.
- **The event is open not only to REES parents but also to friends,** family and neighbors in the community. This is a great opportunity to meet and interact with other parents. A stronger participation will encourage more bidding and drive up donations to the PTA.
- You all have been extremely generous with your donations. **We have an excellent assortment of gift baskets** featuring gift cards from prominent retailers (Home Depot, Victoria's Secret etc), Hand crafts (paintings, Jewelry etc), packages (membership to Children's Museum, party hall rental, etc) and presents (Lego sets, car wash, etc) and lots more.
- **The event will be held on Thursday, February 10th, 2011.** The bidding will be open from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm and the winners will be announced at 7:30pm. Note: you don't have to be present to win, but you might be out-bid at the last minute if you aren't there!



We look forward to meeting you all in a few weeks. Come on over with an open heart (and an open check book!)

Science Fair

Kristina Catizone & Anita Chaturvedi

It's coming.....I can see it...it's going to be big!!! No silly, not the snow...the Rivers Edge 2011 SCIENCE FAIR on THURSDAY MARCH 24TH! Every year (our 4th one now!!), you guys are amazing and wow us with the creative ideas, projects and science experiments you complete. In January, information request forms will go home in your backpacks. This information will provide you with details and ideas on all the creative and fun things you can do alone or with a friend or sibling.



It's all about having fun while we learn more about this amazing world around us. Look around and find questions and projects in all the things we take for granted, and don't really know why they work (we will once you explain it to us!!). Or, come up with your own, fun experiment (remember to be safe and let your parents in on your ideas!(smile).

We look forward to seeing your entries and ultimately your final projects on Thursday, March 24th. Okay Eagletts, put on those safety glasses.....and begin!!!



Kristina Catizone, petercat5@aol.com, 747-6141
Anita Chaturvedi, anita.mogili@sprint.com, 346-3484

Sock Hop

Gina Chapman

Get out your poodle skirts, bobby socks and saddle shoes! Slip on your leather jacket and slick back your hair! You're invited to the annual Rivers Edge Sock Hop on **Thursday, February 10, 2010** from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Whether you're in kindergarten, fifth grade or anywhere in between, come dance away the night with your friends! We'll be playing a mix of music from the 1950s and today, including everyone's favorite line dances. Every ticket includes the chance to win one of many fabulous door prizes! Plus, there's no need for Mom or Dad to make dinner that night. Pizza will be available for pre-purchase!



Ticket and meal order forms will be distributed by January 21 and all orders must be sent to school by January 28. The Sock Hop sells out, so get your orders in as soon as possible once the order forms are distributed. Tickets will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. Once the Hop is sold out, a wait list will be started. Because of the limited number of tickets available, children attending must be current Rivers Edge students.

Please note that admission tickets and meal coupons will **NOT** be available for purchase at the door. You must pre-order. Sock Hop tickets and meal coupons will be distributed prior to the event.

For added fun, bring your checkbook and bid on some of the wonderful items available through the REES Silent Auction.

Children and their parents are encouraged to dress in 1950s attire for this exciting event! Remember that this is not a drop off event. Every child must attend with a parent or other designated adult. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Sheila Barden at Sheila.barden@yahoo.com or Gina & Rick Chapman at grchapman@comcast.net.



See you at the Hop!

Volunteers

Jill Kraus

Happy 2011!! REES parent volunteers continue to enrich our kids' lives every day.

Our December was interrupted a little by the weather, but the holiday spirit was still alive. Thank you to all the wonderful bakers who made cookies for the REES teachers and staff. Even though school was cancelled, the effort was truly appreciated.

Also, many thanks to all of the room parents, as well as the Room Parent coordinator, Renee Kreiser, and the Community Service coordinator, Michelle McBride. They coordinated the wonderful craft projects that our REES kids will make in January to brighten the spirits of those less fortunate. The room parents' efforts planning holiday parties are also greatly appreciated. Day in and day out, room parents help our teachers make learning easier and more fun for our children – thank you!!

Our wonderful Sock Hop and Silent Auction are coming up on Thursday, February 10. There are still slots available to help with serving food, taking tickets, etc. Please contact Sheila Barden or Gina Chapman to volunteer for Sock Hop. If you would like to help with Silent Auction, please contact Sherry Springer or Divya Verma.

Please be on the lookout as we transition into the New Year: Spring volunteer forms will be going home in the backpacks very soon. With that form, you can sign-up to help with the many Spring activities such as Teacher Appreciation and Spring Carnival, just to name a couple. There are many, many other opportunities for which to volunteer so look for the purple volunteer form and fill it out quickly to send back in and take advantage of all the fun.



Volunteering at school really does make a difference. Resolve this year to find one or two small slots of time to give to your child's class and to the school at large. Your talents and skills are so valuable; with all of the opportunities here at school, it is so easy to pass them on to your child and his/her schoolmates.

Yearbook

Carole Moore (Chair) and Courtney Headley (Sales)

Make It Your Yearbook!

The Rivers Edge Elementary Yearbook is an 80-page hard-cover book full of fun, colorful pictures from the 2010-2011 school year. You can even personalize the cover of your child's Yearbook with text and icons (for an additional fee), if you place your order online. **The deadline for ordering with personalization is January 21st.** The cost for Yearbook personalization is \$6 for 1 line, \$8 for 2 lines, and \$5 for each icon.



We take your orders now, and the Yearbooks are distributed in June. The Yearbook is \$25, but only until January 21st – so get yours now before the price increases! If you prefer to order and pay by check instead of ordering online, please contact Courtney Headley at ccheadley@aol.com for more information.



The Yearbook isn't a yearbook without your pictures! So, if you have any pictures of Rivers Edge students at school, on school field trips, or school special events, please upload them at www.REESPTA.org. If you experience any difficulties with uploading, please contact Carole Moore at cxmoore2@verizon.net.

Don't Wait – Order Your Yearbook Today!

Community Fundraising

Jessica Benson

We had yet another successful sponsor night when we visited Home Team Grill in December. That night earned \$54.68 for the PTA. Thank you all for your participation – It was nice to have a night out, wasn't it? Our next sponsor night will be Monday, January 17 at Cheeburger Cheeburger and a flyer will come home in the Friday folders the Friday before. I hope you'll be able to join us for this one as well!



So that you can go ahead and mark your calendars for the rest of the school year, I have posted all of our Spring Sponsor night dates below – We hope to see you all there each time, enjoying a night away from cooking and time with other Rivers Edge friends.

- January 17 - Cheeburger Cheeburger at Twin Hickory
- February 21 – Tropical Smoothie at Twin Hickory
- March 14 – Arby's at Short Pump
- April 11 – California Pizza Kitchen at Short Pump Town Center
- May 16 – Home Team Grill
- June 13 – Firehouse Subs and Dairy Queen

At the time that this article went to print, we had not yet gotten the final numbers from the Barnes and Noble Bookfair, but will include that information in our next newsletter. Thank you to all who came out to enjoy the bookfair night, Mrs. Pennington and her students for the artwork display, Mrs. Riley, Mr. Koontz and our wonderful PTA volunteer readers who made story time so much fun and those of you who shopped online! I can't wait to find out how well we did and see all the things we'll be able to add to our Family Enrichment Center.

Happy Holidays!

Programs

Sara Lewis

We are pleased to announce the first ever Reading Night on Thursday, January 13th led by our very own REES Librarian, Kathleen Roberts.



Please bring your kids in their pajamas and beat those Winter Blues by joining us in the gym at 6:45 pm. There will be a surprise performance by some of our faculty and staff to kick off the evening, and then families will be dismissed to various stations ending with cookies and hot chocolate for everyone.

We look forward to seeing you there!



High-Five Heroes Tree at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
The ornaments were created by Mrs. Boyer's 4th grade students in Mrs. Pennington's Art class.

Winter Party Craft Will Benefit Daily Planet

Michelle McBride



The weather outside might not be frightful, but it is very white! Winter parties have been postponed until after Winter break, but the kids, parents and teachers at REES enjoyed a few extra days of vacation! Meanwhile, stacks of fleece and bags of toiletry items will await final preparation for the Daily Planet clients, who will enjoy the warmth of the scarves and the toiletry items no matter when they receive them.



The Community Service committee would like to thank Renee Kreiser for her assistance in coordinating this project with the room parents. Thanks to Shannon Hodges and Anne Game for making the arrangements with the Daily Planet. Also, thanks to Kristina Catzone for her fleece selection skills! Thanks a million to the parents, grandparents and current and former REES students who cut and sewed the fleece to get it ready for our students. Our community effort earns a big High Five Hero recognition for the following people: Anita Mogili Chaturvedi, Deeksha Chaturvedi, Julie Farney, Sarah Farney, Bethany Gasperini, Bev Goble-Garrett, Bonnie Herndon, Krista Hodges, Marybeth Holtzman, Bree King, Diane Lail, Jordan Lail, Cindy Lovell, Kelsey Lovell, Brenda Miller, Mimi Moore, Gita Paithane, Kelly Parrish, Robbi Schleicher, Laura Steelman, Kerry Swenson and Crystal Wroble. Thanks to all of you for the hours invested in this project - we could not have pulled it off without you!

We would also like to recognize Dr. Faryl Hart, DDS for her generous donation of 330 tubes of toothpaste and 330 toothbrushes that will be included in the toiletry bags that the kindergarten through second grade students will be decorating and filling at their parties in January. Those items, combined with donations from parents and staff members, will fill the bags with necessities for the Daily Planet.

Finally, and most importantly, thanks in advance to the students of REES for creating such wonderful gifts for some of the less fortunate people in the Richmond community. We cannot wait to see your finished products. Stayed tuned next month for pictures of the students in action!



PTA Membership Form

**VIRGINIA PTA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT
2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR
RIVERS EDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA**

Member's Name _____

Member's Name _____

Address _____

Glen Allen, VA Zip Code _____

Telephone (804) _____

Email Address _____

Child's Name _____

Teacher's Name _____

Memberships are \$5 per members. Please make checks payable to the Rivers Edge PTA.

Return this form and your payment to school.

PTA Use Only

Paid by: ____Cash ____Check Check Number _____

Membership Card Issued? _____





January 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 PTA Meeting: Reading Night - 6:45 PM	14	15
16	17 Student Holiday/ Martin Luther King Birthday Sponsor Night: Cheeburger Cheeburger	18	19	20	21 PTA Newslet- ter Deadline	22
23	24	25	26	27 End of 9 week marking period	28	29
30	31 Student Holiday Hospitality Break- fast for Staff					



Upcoming Dates to Remember:

January 17 - Student Holiday
 January 31 - Student Holiday
 February 8: Dads & Donuts Breakfast
 February 10: Sock Hop/Silent Auction
 March 24 - Science Fair

