

EAGLE EXPRESS



Rivers Edge Elementary School PTA

<http://www.reespta.org>, <http://www.henrico.k12.va.us/es/riversedge>

March 2011 PTA Newsletter

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Calendar:

3/2	NEA's Read Across America Day
3/10	PTA Meeting: Second Grade Performance
3/14	Sponsor Day: Arby's @ Short Pump
3/16	Student Holiday
3/16	Hospitality Breakfast for Staff
3/18	PTA Newsletter Deadline
3/19	Parent-Faculty Forum
3/24	Science Fair
3/29	Class Picture Day

President's Message

Emily Fagan



February was a very busy month at Rivers Edge. The PTA held three major events – Dads and Donuts, Sock Hop and Silent Auction – and classrooms celebrated Valentine's Day and the 100th day of school in style. Whew!!

Thank you to everyone who volunteered at each of these events. Without your support, the PTA cannot provide such wonderful events for our school community. I want to specifically thank the Sock Hop co-chairs, **Gina Chapman and Sheila Barden**, for their months of planning for and execution of the Sock Hop. I also want to thank the Silent Auction co-chairs, **Sherry Springer and Divya Verma**, for their hard work in gathering the 150+ items available for auction this year.

Second Grade Music Extravaganza Program: The March PTA meeting program is the always popular Second Grade Musical Program. Mark your calendars today to attend this fabulous event on **Thursday, March 10 at 7:00 pm**. Mrs. Adelstein, the second grade teachers and those fabulous second grade students will entertain the entire family.



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, VP of Volunteers, VP of Programs, Treasurer, and County Council Representative. **We need a new generation of PTA leaders to step forward to lead our school community.** Please consider serving in one of these open positions. Forms were sent home recently for you to nominate someone to help out with the PTA and an nList bulletin was sent out. **We need you!! Without PTA leaders, Rivers Edge will not be able to offer the programs the school community loves to attend each year.** REES PTA leadership is a very rewarding way to volunteer at your child's school. Contact Jill Kraiss, chair of the nominating committee or any PTA board member if you are interested in one of the elected positions.

Parent Survey and Forum: Thank you to the many families who have already responded to the Parent Survey. The survey responses are used during our annual Parent-Faculty forum as a means of constantly improving Rivers Edge Elementary School. If you are interested in participating in the parent forum scheduled for **Saturday, March 19**, please fill out the invitation that will go home in early March. All parents are invited and encouraged to attend. Your input is truly valuable.

PTA Volunteer of the Year: Jill Kraiss, VP of Volunteers, is currently looking for your nominations for PTA Volunteer of the Year. The PTA Volunteer of the Year program is a wonderful way to recognize the many parents who dedicate so much of their time to the betterment of Rivers Edge ES and its students.

Thank you for your continued support of the Rivers Edge PTA!

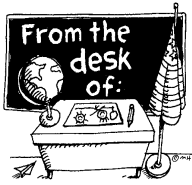
Rivers Edge Elementary

PTA

everychild.one voice.®

Principal's Message

Johnna Riley



March brings lots of exciting events in schools: Music in Our Schools Month; Youth Art Month; NEA Read Across America (Dr. Seuss Day – March 2); National School Breakfast Week (March 7-11); and the state-wide Tornado Preparedness Day on March 15, which includes practicing a tornado drill.

This month at Rivers Edge we will also focus our attention to practicing a Fire Drill in all areas of the school. Students will practice how to respond to a Fire Drill in each area of the school and on the buses. As students go to each Resource Class (Art, Music, PE, Library) during the last week of the month, they will practice having a Fire Drill in each of those classes so they will know what to do in case they are ever in that class in an emergency. Students will also practice where to go in case there was ever a fire when they are in the cafeteria and/or in an assembly in the gym.

This month also brings attention to the significance of music and art education in our schools. The benefits of involving children in musical and art activities are immense: from developing a love of music and art to promoting brain growth. Most importantly, music and art are fun. If a child is having fun, their brain is open to learning. Below are some ideas for getting your child involved in "the arts."

Music:

1. Listen to music daily.
2. Take your child to a music concert.
3. Expose your child to many styles of music.
4. Make musical instruments/crafts.



5. Sing to your child.
6. Turn on music and dance with your child to the beat.
7. Give your child musical toys.
8. Enroll your child in a school band, choir, or orchestra program.
9. Start your child in private music lessons.
10. Rent a musical instrument from a local music store.

Art:

1. Introduce your kids to imaginative activities.
2. Lead by example.
3. Be enthusiastic about your kids' chosen activities.
4. Get your kids the right tools.
5. Make a big deal about the little things.
6. Take your kids to museums.
7. Limit your children's TV time.
8. Make drawing fun.
9. Learn to draw with your children.
10. Make drawing an outdoor activity.



Please join us this month as we celebrate the great music and art education at Rivers Edge. Our thanks to Mrs. Adelstein, Mrs. Pennington, and Mrs. Bristow, as well as each classroom teacher, for bringing us the beauty of music and art in our lives!

Johnna Riley
Principal



Spring Carnival

Sheila Barden

The Annual Spring Carnival is scheduled for Friday, May 6th. The Spring Carnival is one of the PTA's major fundraisers and family events during the school year and always a crowd favorite. If you are interested in helping to plan this fun event you are more than welcome to contact Sheila Barden directly at sheila.barden@yahoo.com. As well, there are many volunteer opportunities available and needed for parents of children attending the Spring Carnival. Order forms and volunteer sign-ups will come home in the back packs the first week of April.



Congratulations Rivers Edge!!



Rivers Edge Elementary School was honored with the 2011 Governor's Award for Educational Excellence!!



Sock Hop

Gina Chapman

The annual Sock Hop was a huge success! In addition to dancing to oldies and modern music, kids hula-hooped and line danced! Many even won prizes for their exceptional dancing and positive spirit.

Committee members Sheila Barden, Rick Chapman, Gina Chapman, Genevieve Bragg and Angela Gregory as well as a large number of parent and middle school volunteers worked hard to ensure a fun night for all the students in attendance! Thank you to all the volunteers! A special thank you also goes to McDonalds on Nuckols Road. They donated the drinks and other necessary items to us, so please be sure to thank them on your next visit.



While the fun we had makes all the effort worth it, the event was also a fundraiser. Over \$2,000 was raised for the Rivers Edge PTA!



Spirit Wear

Kathryn Sperry

SPIRIT WEAR LOGO APPAREL FOR SALE:

Short Sleeve t-shirts \$ 12

Hooded Pullovers \$ 25

Contact **Kathryn Sperry** at kisperry@msn.com to purchase.



Volunteers

Jill Kraus

I've often written about how volunteering at school enriches the lives of our students. But how does it affect the community as a whole (and those who live in that community?) Financially, the strength of an area or neighborhood is most often linked to the quality of the schools in that area. By volunteering at school, you are not only facilitating the task of the school but also improving the overall community dynamic as well. Please consider ways to impact your community in a positive way, making it an even more desirable place to live and raise children.

We were so fortunate to have Sheila Barden, Gina and Rick Chapman, Angela Gregory and Genevieve Bragg as the planning committee for Sock Hop this year. They each did a wonderful job!! Along with all of the event volunteers, they put on a great evening and the kids really seemed to enjoy themselves. Thanks also to Divya Verma and Sherry Springer (and helpers) for their work on the Silent Auction. This particular fundraiser is a win-win for the school and everyone who bids. The room parents and students' parents were so helpful in this endeavor, collecting items for the different theme baskets – thank you!! All of the donated items are greatly appreciated as well.

Spring will be very busy, as usual, particularly the first week in May. We need planning committee members for both Spring Carnival (May 6) and for Teacher Appreciation Week (May 2-6). Please feel free to contact Jill Kraus, rkandjk@verizon.net, if you are interested in helping. Also, nomination forms for Volunteer of the Year will be coming

home soon. Please nominate someone you feel has really helped the school this year, either through the PTA or the classroom or both.



As usual, there is a long list of volunteer jobs that people have filled throughout the month of February:

- Working in the copy center and scheduling copy volunteers
- Helping in the art room
- Chaperoning field trips
- Working in the front office
- Being a mystery reader
- Creating the Eagle Express newsletter
- Working in the library
- Helping in the classroom
- Working in the lunch room
- Updating the PTA website

Each and every job is greatly appreciated – volunteers truly make a difference!

Community Fundraising

Our March fundraiser will be held on Monday, March 14 at Arby's at Short Pump, 4250 Pouncey Tract Road.

Hope to see you there!



Rivers Edge Around the World

Grace Xu

The **April 12** PTA meeting is our "Rivers Edge Around the World" cultural arts fair. Please consider helping with this exciting event for Rivers Edge.

No matter where you or your ancestors are from – Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, North or South America or even locally, come and celebrate your heritage and culture with us! Bring your cultural artifacts and music, ethnic food, and unique cultural crafts and games to the school, and we will have tables setup for you to display, space for you to show and tell, and paper goods for the whole school to taste your dishes! We will have "passports" for students to "travel" around different nations and cultures. And the whole school staff will come and join the festivities too! We will have so much fun and learn so much about the world from this night!



For more information, contact Grace Xu at grace@3d-llc.com.

Celebrate Henrico's 400th Anniversary!

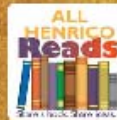
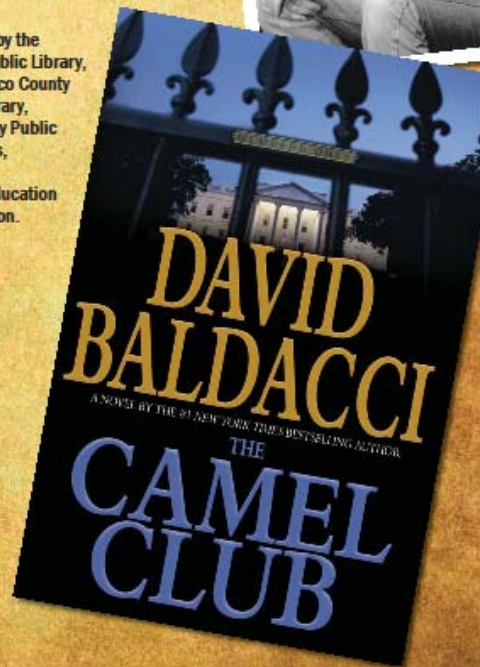
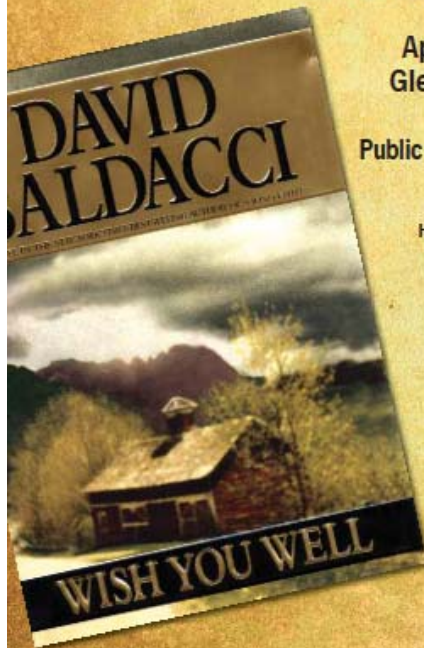
DAVID BALDACCI

appearing at
2011 ALL HENRICO READS

April 5, 2011, 7 p.m.
Glen Allen High School

Public invited. No tickets required.

Sponsored by the
Henrico County Public Library,
Friends of Henrico County
Public Library,
Henrico County Public
Schools,
and
the Henrico Education
Foundation.



www.henricolibrary.org

Useful Websites for REES Parents

Rivers Edge Elementary School:

www.henrico.k12.va.us/es/riversedge

Rivers Edge PTA:

www.reespta.org

National PTA:

www.pta.org

Virginia State PTA:

www.vapta.org

Henrico County Council PTA:

www.hccpta.com

UVA Summer Enrichment Program

http://henrico.k12.va.us/es/RiversEdge/images/documents/SEP_Program_Flyer.pdf

Year Book

Carole Moore and Courtney Headley

Thanks very much to all of you who have uploaded pictures for the 2010-2011 Yearbook!
We are still accepting photos until March 9th.
You can upload them by going to
www.REESPTA.org and following the links.



If you have questions regarding the upload process, please contact Carole Moore at **cxmoore2@verizon.net**.

It's not too late to order a yearbook!
Go to **www.REESPTA.org**.
Or if you prefer to pay by check, please contact Courtney Headley at **ctheadley@aol.com**.



Science Fair

Anita Chaturvedi & Kristina Catizone

Don't miss the "EAGLES IN THE LAB" Science Fair
THURSDAY March 24th

Information Packets available:

- ON-LINE:** 1. Rivers Edge PTA Website: <http://www.reespta.org/>
2. Request an e-mail copy from anita.mogili@sprint.com

OR

- PAPER COPIES:** 1. Rees office and on the PTA bulletin board in main hallway
2. E-mail Kristina requesting a paper copy petercat5@aol.com

Need Ideas?

- The information packet is LOADED with them!!!
- Visit the Science Fair resource Center in the library!
<http://www.portaportal.com/> guest name: reessf
Project Idea forms due by: **Feb 22nd**

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



A Fun Learning Experience>>Hope to see you there!!!!

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 pay-
ment to school.**

PTA Use Only

Paid by: Cash Check Check Number _____

Membership Card Issued? _____



5th Grade Party

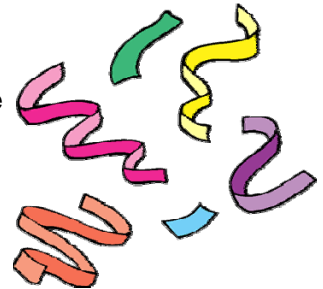
Brenda Miller and Rose Mary Jordan

Calling All 5th Grade Parents

Wow it is hard to believe that our 5th graders will be graduating from REES in June; therefore, it is time to start planning the 5th Grade Party to celebrate their years at the Edge. We are in the process of putting together a Committee to plan the party. If you are interested in being on the Planning Committee please email either:






Brenda.Miller@dom.com or Rosemaryjordan@verizon.net

Thank you!





March 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 NEA's Read Across America Day	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 PTA Meeting: Second Grade Performance— at 7 PM 	11	12
13	14 Sponsor Day: Arby's at Short Pump 	15	16 Student Holiday Hospitality Breakfast for Staff	17 	18 PTA Newsletter Deadline	19 Parent-Faculty Forum
20 First Day of Spring 	21	22	23	24 Science Fair 	25	26
27	28	29 Class Picture Day	30	31		



Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- March 14: Sponsor Day: Arby's @ Short Pump
- March 19 - Parent-Faculty Forum
- March 24: Science Fair
- April 14: REES Around the World