

EAGLE EXPRESS



Rivers Edge Elementary School PTA

<http://www.reespta.org>, <http://www.henrico.k12.va.us/es/riversedge>
October 2011 PTA Newsletter

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Calendar:

10/2	Short Pump Mile
10/3	Books—The Magic is real assembly (K-2)
10/5	Walk to School Day
10/6	KG—Read for the Record
10/10	Student Holiday
10/11	REESPTA Board Mtg
10/11	Interim Reports go home
10/12	4th Grade Young Scientists
10/13	Family Fun & Fitness Night
10/17	Sponsor Day at California Pizza Kitchen
10/19	PEDD Field Trip to Pumpkin Patch
10/20	Reflections deadline
10/22	PTA Newsletter deadline
10/27	HCPS Board Meeting at 6:30 pm (REES is recognized)
10/31	Fall Treat Day

President's Message

Rose Mary Jordan

According to the calendar it is officially fall and school is well underway. I hope you and your family are settling into new routines and all of the structured activities that come with the beginning of a new school year. In between homework, sports and other extracurricular activities, the parents, teachers and students of Rivers Edge have been hard at work planning and implementing the fantastic programs for the 2011-2012 school year. Thank you everyone for a successful school opening and for your support of the PTA.

Movie Night and Box Tops Award: A big thank you to Divya Verma and her volunteers who helped make our Second Annual REES Movie Night a success. Although Mother Nature kept us from enjoying a night under the stars, a good time was had by all who attended the indoor event! The CiCi's Pizza Truck baked pizza on-site! Families also enjoyed Bruster's ice cream and popcorn as they watched *Ramona & Beezus!*



The PTA presented the first PTA - AEA (*Awesome Eagle Award*) to the class collecting the most Box Tops. The competition was tight with Mr. Brinkman's Class claiming the top spot with 1051 box tops! Keep cutting out those box tops as we will have competitions throughout the

school year and a prize for the class with the largest total at year's end! Thank you to Mimi Moore and her committee for all of the counting! The AEA is a traveling trophy that will be awarded throughout the year to classes for various contests. Who will be the next big winner?

Back to School Night: Thank you to everyone who recently came out to Back to School night. It is always an informative and interesting evening learning about your child's school year. Thank you to the many volunteers who staffed the PTA tables promoting membership, the Eagle Fund, Spirit Wear, Yearbooks, Reflections, and Scouts.



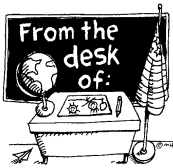
Reflections: The National PTA's annual arts program, *Reflections*, is underway at Rivers Edge. Students can produce an artistic rendition of the theme "Diversity means..." using literature, musical composition, film, photography, dance choreography and visual arts. Rivers Edge continues a strong tradition of participation in this national program. Please check the PTA website at www.reespta.org for entry forms and information. The deadline is Friday, October 20.

Membership: Thank you to the 600+ members who have joined the Rivers Edge PTA so far. We are close, but not quite at our goal. If you have not already joined, please print off the membership form from the website and return it to school with your \$5 membership fee. We would love to make this our largest membership year ever at Rivers Edge.

President's letter continued on page 3...

Principal's Message

Johnna Riley



It's such a wonderful feeling to be back "in the groove" of school. By now we have completed all of the beginning of the school year items and we are moving on with the task of helping your child to grow, have fun, and experience a successful year!

We are thrilled to welcome our new Associate Principal, Mr. Brad Fernald, to the Rivers Edge Family. Mr. Fernald comes to us from Chamberlayne Elementary School, where he served as the Resource Teacher. Prior to that, he was an Instructional Technology Resource Teacher (ITRT) working with several schools across the county, and before that he was a classroom teacher at Ridge Elementary School. He, along with our very own ITRT, Alfonso Favale, is a member of the Virginia Trekkers. This group of four ITRT's has traveled across the state of Virginia to bring history and science alive to students. They create podcasts that can be watched in the classroom or at home so students can experience a virtual field trips and better



understand the standards in the curriculum. Their website is www.virginiatrekkers.com. Check it out! Brad comes from a family of educators. His father, Tom Fernald, was the founding principal of Shady Grove Elementary School. His mother, Judy Fernald, was a career teacher at Tuckahoe Elementary School. His sister, Sarah, was a teacher at Twin Hickory Elementary and is currently the Resource Teacher at Tuckahoe Elementary School. I am proud to say that I was Brad's fourth grade teacher. Here is a picture from 1986 when Brad was a fourth grader in my class. He was dressed as Abraham Lincoln for a play we were performing!



Here are a few reminders from our DARE Officer, Officer Hobbs, to help keep our students be as safe as possible and to prevent traffic violations being given:

- ✦ Please respect and follow the 25 miles an hour speed limit in a school zone.
 - ✦ When dropping off and picking up students in the car rider circle, be reminded that the circle is also our Fire Lane, so drivers are to stay in their cars at all times. (That way if we had an emergency vehicle that had to use the lane, the driver would be in the car to pull out of the lane to make way for the emergency vehicle. Parking your car in the Fire Lane and getting out of your car is a traffic violation.)
 - ✦ Be cognizant of the handicapped parking spaces in the parking lot. If you are waiting in line for drop-off or pick-up and see a car parked in one of the spaces, your courtesy is appreciated in letting that vehicle out of the space.
 - ✦ It is not safe to drop your child off in the parking lot and then have them walk around parked and moving cars to get to the sidewalk. Make sure you have plenty of time to sit in the car rider drop-off circle in the mornings to wait and drop-off your child in the circle where supervision is provided.
- In the drop-off circle, please have your child exit the car from the right side – next to the sidewalk. Again, this prevents your child from being in a lane that could have a moving vehicle.

As we strive to provide a safe zone for arrival and dismissal each day, we ask that drivers please be aware of our walkers, and walkers...please be aware of the cars! The Edge is a great community school that cares about our children and puts their safety first!



Thank you, again, for all of your help, support, and partnership in making this year a success for your child.

Johnna Riley
Principal

President's Message continued

Rose Mary Jordan

Eagle Fund: Our annual fundraising campaign, **The Eagle Fund**, is well underway. Thank you to everyone who has already contributed to this year's campaign. Our goal is to raise \$15,000 and have 55% of families participate. Many employers also participate by matching donations through corporate matching programs. The money raised goes to the wonderful programs, materials for students and teacher support that the PTA commits to each year. Without your support, we will have to look at cutting some programs. Eagle Fund donation forms are available on the PTA website and on the PTA bulletin board in the front hallway of the school. Thank you for your generosity!

PTA Proposed Legislation: The PTA is the largest child advocacy organization in the country. Part of the mission of the PTA is to lobby on behalf of children and schools on issues central to their needs. Virginia PTA is currently seeking member's input on the items they would like to add to our current Legislation Program. Please visit our web site- www.reespta.org- and look for a full description of Proposed

Legislation and Rationales for each item. When you are ready to cast your vote on these items it is easy. We have created an on-line survey for you to use. The survey is only 4 questions long and takes less than a minute to complete. Voting will also take place on Thursday, October 13 at the PTA meeting. If you have any questions please contact Kathy Burcher, REES Legislation Chair, at kburcher@verizon.net.

Family Fun & Fitness Night: Our next PTA meeting is Thursday, October 13 at 6:30 pm. The program is the perennially popular Family Fun & Fitness Night. Rhett Rutman, REES PE teacher, has some exciting plans to get your heart rates up and your bodies moving. Mark your calendars today to join us at this fun family event.

Thank you for your hard work and continued support of the Rivers Edge PTA.

Box Tops for Education

Mimi Moore



Congratulations to Mr. Brinkman's class for winning the first Box Tops collection contest. His class brought in 1051 box tops to win! We are off to a great start so thank you to all who have been collecting. Our next

Box Tops collection contest will begin in November. Another way to collect Box Tops for the school is thru eBoxTops. Over 100 popular retailers give eBoxTops to REES when you start your online shopping trip at btfe.com/marketplace. Just click on your favorite retailer and eBoxTops will be donated directly to REES with your qualifying purchase. You can earn up to 15 eBoxTops per \$10 you spend. Don't miss out on this easy way to earn even more for REES!

Box Tops Winners:

Third Place

734 boxtops - Mrs. Custalow-Hobbs

Second Place

790 boxtops - Mrs. Bowles

First Place

1,051 boxtops - Mr. Brinkman



Walk to School Day

Wednesday, October 5

Rain or Shine

Membership

Megan Carter

I want to personally thank all of you who have joined the PTA. Every year we hope to meet or surpass 100% PTA Membership (at least one member for each student enrolled). Right now we are at about 90% so although we are doing great we still have a little way to go. If you have not joined this year we would love to have you! You can get the form off the PTA website www.REESPTA.org and just send it though your child's backpack. You can also print off page 8 of this newsletter and complete the membership form. PTA members can get discounts at Office Max, Hertz and other companies. Please see the www.pta.org for more information. It is \$5 per member and we encourage both Moms and Dads to join. If you have any questions please contact me. Thank you so much for your participation in the REES PTA this year!

Megan Carter
megancarter10@yahoo.com



Birthday Board

Rupali Pendse & Mimi Moore

Thank you for sending in pictures and the birthday board form filled with information!

The birthday board is still awaiting your pictures and names to celebrate the very special day of the year (or half birthdays for those with summer birthdays) if you have not already done so.

This year we would like to encourage everyone at Rivers Edge – students, staff and teachers to participate. The birthday board forms were put in your folders. Please return it to the office dully filled along with a photograph **as soon as possible**. If the form is missing, you can just send in the photograph with the information. For planning purposes, please submit your child's photo with information at the beginning of the school year. Please put **name, grade, DOB and Teacher** on the back of the photo so that we can return the photos at the end of the birthday month.



If you have any questions/suggestions, please contact Rupali Pendse at rupalipendse@yahoo.com or Mimi Moore at tonynmimi@verizon.net.

Walk to School Day

Brittany Rose

Last year REES hosted our first Walk to School Day and more than 200 students – along with another 100 or so of their parents and siblings – braved what turned out to be a dark, rainy morning and walked to school. The participants had a great time and to see the line of walkers stretching from one end of Twin Hickory Drive to the other was inspirational. We're proud to announce that Walk to School Day is back! Participation is voluntary and we hope that you'll join us on the morning of Wednesday, October 5th for a fun walk to school.

Students who live in the walking zone will walk to school as usual, but other students and their families who normally ride the bus or are driven to school will join them. Students who normally ride a school bus and live in Wyndham Forest will create a "walking school bus" and walk to school. Students who normally ride a school bus or are driven to school and live outside of Wyndham Forest will meet up with other students and their families at a pre-arranged location and walk to school. More details will follow closer to October 5th.

Please note – this is NOT a drop off event and parents who are not able to join their children for this fun event will need to make arrangements with another adult to assume responsibility for their children during the walk.

Questions? Interested in volunteering? Contact Brittany Rose at 938-8301 or at BrittanyCRose@comcast.net.



Eagle Fund & Corporate Matching

Renee Kreiser

As of September 23rd, we've had 110 families donate and are about 50% to our goal of \$15,000. We need your help to get to 100%! The funds raised benefit every student, faculty member and family at REES. We need to reach our goal to implement all of our plans for this school year. Donations forms are available on the REES PTA website (www.reespta.org), and on the PTA bulletin board. I am happy to email you a form as well! Please contact me with any questions or concerns, kreiserfamily@gmail.com or 346-0355.



Thank you to everyone who has donated already....we appreciate it!

DOES YOUR COMPANY HAVE A MATCHING PROGRAM FOR NON-PROFIT DONATIONS?

If you have donated or are going to donate to the Eagle Fund, please check out this easy way to possibly double your contribution!

Virginia PTA Proposed Legislation Program

Kathy Burcher

Make sure your vote is counted! Virginia PTA 2012 Proposed Legislation Program



A Right of Membership- Cast Your Vote on the Virginia PTA Proposed Legislation Program:

The PTA is the largest child advocacy organization in the country. Part of the mission of the PTA is to lobby on behalf of children and schools on issues central to their needs. Virginia PTA is currently seeking member's input on the items they would like to add to our current Legislation Program. Please visit our web site- www.reespta.org- and look for a full description of Proposed Legislation and Rationales for each item. When you are ready to cast your vote on these items it is easy. We have created an on-line survey for you to use. The survey is only 4 questions long and takes less than a minute to complete. Voting will also take place on Thursday, October 13 at the PTA meeting. If you have any questions please contact Kathy Burcher, REES Legislation Chair, at kburcher@verizon.net.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/L6ZFL9W>

School Picture Day

Tiffany Baham

Picture day was a success! A special thank you to Anita Sawhney, Anne Marie Dike, April Kim, Crystal Jacobs, Emilie Rabke, Jackie Rajabi, Kim Lee, Lia Martin, Maite Ruiz Rodriguez, Mimi Moore and Strawbridge Studios. Without you the day would not have run so smoothly. You are all High Five Heros.



Sponsor Nights & Retail Donations Programs

Jessica Benson

What a great group of High Five Heroes! Our HomeTeam Grill Sponsor night was a HUGE success, earning \$95.00 for our school!

Up next, **Monday, October 17, 2011 – California Pizza Kitchen** at Short Pump Town Center is hosting us **ALL DAY!** Flyers will be sent home the Friday before in student folders and are **REQUIRED** when you go for it to count toward our Sponsor Day. As an added bonus, California Pizza Kitchen will give the students in the class that has the most students show up for Sponsor Day a coupon to come back for **FREE** pizza! When you go in on October 17th, just make sure to have your child sign their name on their teacher's sheet on the clipboard at the hostess station. We'll announce the winning class in the November newsletter and those students will come home with their free pizza coupons. I hope to see even more of you out at California Pizza Kitchen – let's keep the momentum rolling!



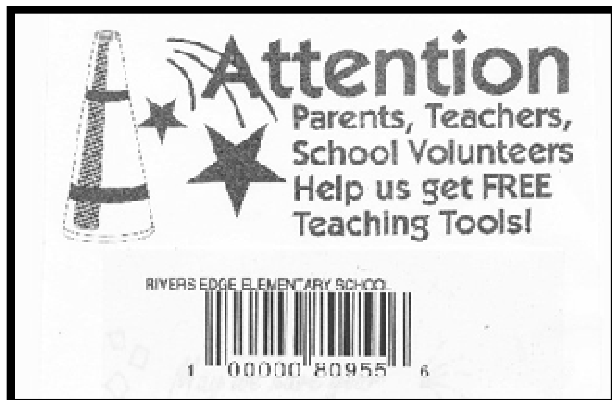
BARNES & NOBLE BOOKSELLERS Mark your calendars! We've booked the Barnes & Noble Bookfair for **Thursday, December 1, 2011**. There will be student art work on display and some very special Mystery Readers upstairs in the Children's section that night. It's a great opportunity to pick up some holiday travel reading and those important holiday gifts – with me at the wrapping table down by the café to help you get one step closer to the holidays.

Retail Donations—How Can You Participate??

Don't forget there are many ways to help benefit our school that are quick and easy!

- Clip and send in your **Labels for Education** (found on a wide variety of products from Campbell's Soup to Bic Pens!),
- Take your barcode and your **Kroger** Rewards card with you next time you go grocery shopping,
- Register your **Food Lion** MVP card,
- Register your **Kroger** Rewards card on elabelsforeducation.com,
- Register your **Target** Credit Card to automatically benefit Rivers Edge,
- Sign up for mycokerewards.com and make sure to key in your codes, then donate them to Rivers Edge!

Kroger Barcode



Mycokerewards.com Update

Goal: 25,000 points
Points as of 9/23/11: 751



For questions on any of these programs, please contact Jessica Benson at jessica@creativeadvising.com.

Volunteers

Jackie Rajabi

The Rivers Edge ES PTA is looking for two additional chair persons for the 2011-2012 school year. If you are interested in either position, please contact Jackie Rajabi for more information.

The following committees still need a chairperson:

- Rivers Edge Around the World (held in April)
- Hospitality event coordinator (1 or 2 events during the school year)
- After School Programs (co-chair) - must be available to be at REES during the programs. We hope to offer classes in the spring, but cannot without a co-chair.

Thanks to all our volunteers throughout the school year especially those who helped with first week of school activities and back to school night. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to serve as a room parent this year. Your help is invaluable.



Volunteers truly make a difference!

Please contact Jackie Rajabi at 2kkids2jf@gmail.com.

Reflections

Emily Fagan & Julie Farney

Parents, students, and teachers: Make a note! The theme for the 2011-2012 Reflections Program is

Diversity Means...

Reflections is a national arts program sponsored by the National PTA. Students compete at the local level and can move onto the county, district, state and then the national level. This program encourages students to express their creativity through the categories of:

- **Dance Choreography**
- **Video Production**
- **Visual Arts**
- **Photography**
- **Musical Composition**
- **Literature**

Entries will be due October 20, 2011.

The Reflections participants will be recognized at a program held on Thursday, November 10 at 7:00 pm.

Yearbook

Courtney Headley



Students love getting their yearbooks and having their classmates sign them at the end of the year, but don't wait! The lowest price for yearbooks is right now. For \$23.00,

you will get 80 pages of colorful school memories for your child in a hardback book. The price will go up Nov. 1, so make sure you order yours now. Online ordering with a credit card is easy at www.REESPTA.org or you may send in a check with the form that was included in your child's blue folder.

Would you like your child's name embossed on the front cover of his/her yearbook? Personalization is available for additional fee (on online orders only).

Questions about ordering? Please contact Courtney Headley, 217-9766 or ctheadley@aol.com.

WANTED: Photos!

Who would you like to see in the Yearbook? We need your help, as our photographers & volunteers can't be everywhere. Upload your best photos from the first day of school, field trips, classroom or lunch time visits, and they might be published in the yearbook! Go to www.REESPTA.org and upload them today!

Please remember the PTA Yearbook Team will review all photos and determine final yearbook content. We cannot guarantee that all submissions will be included, but together, we can make this a great yearbook!

Please UPLOAD your "First Day of School" Photos!! We need them to make a great yearbook.

PTA Membership Form

**VIRGINIA PTA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT
2011-2012 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? _____



**ORDER Your
Child's Yearbook TODAY**



The price will go up on November 1.

www.REESPTA.org



Rivers Edge ES PTA

October 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Short Pump Mile	3 "Books—The Magic is Real" Assembly for K-2 @ 8:30 am	4	5 Walk to School Day	6 Kg—Read for the Record "Llama Llama Red Pajama"	7	8
9	10 Student Holiday	11 REESPTA Board Meeting 6pm Interim Reports go home	12 4th grade Young Scientist Lessons	13 Family Fun and Fitness Night 6:30 pm	14	15
16	17 Sponsor Day @ California Pizza Kitchen	18	19 PEDD Field Trip to Pumpkin Patch	20 Reflections Submission Deadline	21 PTA Newsletter Deadline	22
23	24	25	26	27 HCPS School Board Meeting @6:30 pm**	28	29
30	31 Fall Treat Day	Upcoming Dates to Remember: November 8—Election Day/Student holiday November 10—Reflections program 7 pm November 10—Afternoon parent teacher conferences November 23—1/2 Day November 24-25—Thanksgiving Break				** REES Virginia Naturally Award and Mrs. Kautz -Scanavy recognition