

THE NORTHWOOD PTA EXPLORER

April 2005

News for Northwood Elementary Families

Volume 9, Issue 04

President's Letter

Thank you!!! There are still a couple of months of school left, but those will surely fly by as quickly as the rest of the year has. And since this is the last PTA newsletter of the school year, I want to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers whose efforts have made this such a successful year at Northwood Elementary. Please bear with me, because there are a lot of people to thank!

First, I would like to thank my fellow Board members: Northwood's Treasurer, Cathy Rowe; Secretary, Ann Cox; Vice Presidents, Beth Litterer, Cathy Riley, Catherine Ingersoll, and Shelley Avant; and Parliamentarian, Joyce Hosseini. This group has worked tirelessly to coordinate the efforts of committee Chairs, lead other fundraising projects and activities, manage the PTA budget, and plan for the future. Some of these Board members have been on the Board for a number of terms; some have served in more than one position; some will continue next year. Many, many thanks must be given for this service—past, present, and future!

Second, I need to extend thanks to the 40 committee Chairs/co-Chairs who lead over 30 committees at the school. This group of dedicated volunteers is listed on the back page. Without them, we wouldn't be able to hold fun activities like Carnival, Bingo, Music, or Movie Nights at Northwood. We would not be able to mount fundraisers without our Chairs for Gift Wrap, Big G, Original Art, the Book Fair, or the Walk-a-Thon. We wouldn't be able to support product sales without Chairs for Spirit Wear, Directory, Yearbook, and School Store. Nor would we be able to support student programs without Chairs for Accelerated Reading, Media Center, Field Day, Hearing & Vision, Fifth Grade Graduation, or Reflections. With the support of committed Chairs, Northwood is able to support solid teacher and staff support programs including, Room Parents, Staff Recognition, Hospitality, and Caring & Sharing. And finally, other Chairs lead committees that provide administrative support to PTA functions: Contributions, Publicity, Membership, VIPs, Landscaping, and Big Creek Park. Clearly, Northwood could not function without this group!

Next on the list, there are the Room Parents. There are almost 100 Room Parents at Northwood, each listed in the directory beside the class listings in the back section. They serve as liaison between teachers and parents, help orchestrate many joyous classroom activities throughout the school year, manage classroom budgets, and ensure that classroom teachers are recognized on their birthdays and other special occasions throughout the year. This tier of support is a vital component of the volunteer structure at Northwood—many thanks to you all!

Last, but certainly not least, thanks to every one of you who has volunteered in any way this year. If you have volunteered at any PTA activity, participated in any fundraiser, purchased any product—thank you for your support. And thanks too for the time spent in your child's classroom and for helping your child with schoolwork at home. That is the most valuable contribution of all! PTAs are measured by the strength of their volunteers, and Northwood's PTA is strong indeed. We have many volunteers, they are distributed over many different layers, and they all work well together with each other as well as with the teachers and staff throughout Northwood. We are truly blessed.

And, our prospects for next year are good as well. Northwood's Nominating Committee has identified strong candidates for open Board positions for next year. Their slate will be posted in late April prior to the Board election which will be held at the **May 2nd General PTA meeting (at 6:45 p.m., immediately before the spring Band Concert)**. For those still interested in getting more involved next year, there are still committee Chair openings available. Specific opportunities are listed in the article on page 2, and you can read about all committees on the Northwood PTA website: www.NorthwoodPTA.com.

Katie Mazzuckelli

Field Day!

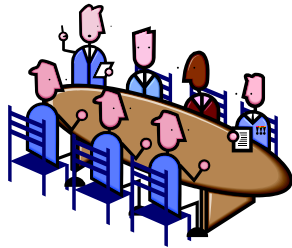


As the end of the school year approaches, please plan ahead and mark your calendars for Field Day! This year, Field Day will be on **May 12th for Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades and May 13th for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades**. Field Day is designed as a day of outdoor fun for children to celebrate the end of the school year by participating in various games and activities with their classes. In order to have a safe and fun day, we need you to help by volunteering time to run an activity or game station. We'll provide you with the station, game, and details you need. We need you there to help each class have fun with the activity! Volunteer sign up sheets will be coming home soon. Look for the flier, and plan ahead to reserve the correct morning/s to spend at Field Day 2005! Questions? Contact Jenny Storey or Carl Washburn, Field Day Committee Co-Chairs.

Yearbooks for Sale Now!

It's time to purchase your 2004-2005 Northwood Yearbook! The Yearbook is a wonderful way to help your child remember his or her special school year at Northwood Elementary. Yearbooks are \$25 each. Many were pre-ordered as part of the "one-stop shopping" available on the PTA membership form. Check your records to see if you took advantage of that deal. If not, hurry to order your yearbook now, while supplies last! Yearbooks will be delivered in mid-May. Questions? Contact Laurie Ferry or Allison Smith, Yearbook Committee Co-Chairs.

Your Northwood PTA at Work For You!



PTA Membership Update: Thank you again for helping Northwood reach our 100% membership goal (through individual and business memberships) for the 2004-2005 school year. Northwood has consistently met this objective for many years thanks to your support. If you are new to Northwood, or still haven't joined, there is still time to become part of the Northwood PTA family! Your membership supports Northwood's PTA, but you also receive wonderful benefits. To review these local, state, and national PTA benefits (as a current or prospective member!), visit the Northwood PTA website: www.NorthwoodPTA.com/JoinPTA. If you have any questions, contact Ann Cox, Membership Committee Chair.

**2004-2005 Student Directories available:
\$5/each, while supplies last.
Call Katie Mazzuckelli, 770/664-6307.**

Caring and Sharing Spring Toy Drive: Did you know there are over 15,000 children in Georgia's foster care system? We can contribute to the well being of these children by donating gently used—or new—toys, books, and backpacks to the Foster Care Support Foundation. Northwood will hold a **Spring Toy Drive, May 2-6** to support this deserving charity. Donations will be collected in large boxes in the front atrium during this week. Look for a flier with more details in a few weeks. Thanks in advance for all of your support and contributions, but especially needed are toys for children ages 4 and up. If you have any questions, you may contact Andrea Bourgeois or Christy Pincheon, Caring & Sharing Committee Co-Chairs. Or, for more information about this charity, visit their website: www.FosterCares.org.

School Store—Open Now and at Sneak Preview! The PTA-sponsored School Store is open most Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the Cafeteria. Kids and teachers love new school supplies, and all profits earned support PTA activities. Visit the Northwood PTA website for a current listing of supplies and prices: www.NorthwoodPTA.org/SchoolStore. And remember, the School Store will be open during Sneak Preview on August 11th if you need to pick up any back-to-school items for next year! Questions? Contact Kim Dean, School Store Committee Chair.

Please Record VIPS Hours—Even this Summer! We hope everyone records the volunteer hours that are sure to accrue in April and May when you volunteer for all the end-of-school activities at Northwood—either check in (and out!) on the computer in the front office when you are at the school, or use a VIPS card (by the computer) to record outside hours. But also remember to record any hours you log this summer! Just take a VIPS card with you before you leave in May and return it with summer-hour totals when school starts again in August. Questions? Contact Dana Dowdy, VIPS Committee Chair.

Save Your Box Tops! We have wrapped up this year's Big G Box Tops program, but please continue to clip off the "Big G" label from any General Mills product. We plan to continue this program again next year—think how many Box Tops you will have saved by then!

Teacher Appreciation Day Kudos! A big thanks to our outstanding group of teachers and staff at Northwood Elementary! Teacher Appreciation Day, March 24, 2005, was again a special day at Northwood! This year, the PTA sponsored a luncheon to honor all of the teachers and staff, and many parents volunteered their time to hostess the event. Everyone enjoyed the food from Sweet Tomatoes as well as the scrumptious desserts provided by several of our Room Parents. In addition, teachers and staff received cards, flowers, and other small tokens of appreciation from the students.

***We appreciate our school family every day at
Northwood Elementary!***

Looking Ahead to Sneak Preview

The 2005-2006 school year starts on August 15th. Mark Sneak Preview on your calendars now!

**Thursday, August 11th
12:30-2:00 p.m. & 4:30-6:00 p.m.**

- ◆ Meet your child's teacher in the classroom
- ◆ Study the bus schedule
- ◆ Purchase meal cards
- ◆ Join the PTA and volunteer for next year's activities
- ◆ Shop for spirit wear
- ◆ Buy school supplies at the School Store
- ◆ Examine the fundraising partner display
- ◆ Visit with representatives from Girl and Boy Scouts as well as other after-school programs

Look for a letter to arrive at your home in late July with more details about this exciting day. We'll see you there!

Chair Openings 2005-2006 School Year

The following Committee Chair/Co-Chair positions are currently available for next school year. If you are interested in getting more involved at Northwood, please investigate one of these opportunities further!

Read about these committees on the Northwood PTA website (www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Committees), or talk to the current Committee Chair or any PTA Board member.

Accelerated Reader (Co-Chair)
Big G Box Tops (Chair) Movie Night (Co-Chair)
New Initiatives (Chair) Pizza Night (Chair)

Bingo Night Recognition!

We would like to thank the following retailers who donated food or prizes for Northwood's Bingo Night:

Aqua Blue—3380 Holcomb Bridge Road
 Alessio's—3005 Old Alabama Road
 Andretti Speed Lab—11000 Alpharetta Highway
 Bahama Breeze—10845 Haynes Bridge Road
 Best Western—907 Holcomb Bridge Road
 Brunswick Bowling—785 Old Roswell Road
 Bruster's Ice Cream—8420 Holcomb Bridge Road
 Buca di Beppo—2335 Mansell Road
 Bugaboo Creek—10890 Haynes Bridge Road
 Caribbean Tan—1575 Old Alabama Road
 Champps Americana—7955 North Point Parkway
 P.F. Chang's China Bistro—7925 North Point Parkway
 Chatham's Florist—3005 Old Alabama Road
 Chick-Fil-A—5180 Windward Parkway West
 Chuck-E-Cheese—925 North Point Drive
 Cold Stone Creamery—7601 North Point Parkway
 Cookies by Design—900 Mansell Road
 Cool Hair—1580 Holcomb Bridge Road
 Dick & Harry's—1570 Holcomb Bridge Road
 Embassy Suites—5955 North Point Parkway
 Famous Dave's Bar-B-Q—6400 North Point Parkway
 Fresh Market—3005 Old Alabama Road
 T.G.I. Friday's—6250 North Point Parkway
 Fuddrucker's—6360 North Point Parkway
 Hampton Inn—10740 Westside Parkway
 Hilton Garden Inn—10975 Georgia Lane
 Home Depot—1425 Market Boulevard
 Homewood Suites—10775 Davis Drive
 Honey Baked Ham Company—7601 North Point Parkway
 La Quinta Inn—1350 North Point Drive
 Merry Maids—45 West Crossville Road
 Miller Ale House—10750 Davis Drive
 Moe's Southwest Grill—2534 Holcomb Bridge Road
 Monterey Mexican—2300 Holcomb Bridge Road
 Mythos—880 Holcomb Bridge Road
 NTi Computers—2500 Old Alabama Road
 Olive Garden—905 Holcomb Bridge Road
 Paper Warehouse—1580 Holcomb Bridge Road
 Pappadeaux—10795 Davis Drive
 Peso's Mexican Restaurant—9850 Nesbit Ferry Road
 Ricardo's Mexican Restaurant—1475 Holcomb Bridge Road
 The Rental Place—8650 Nesbit Ferry Road
 Residence Inn—1325 North Point Drive
 The School Box—7591 North Point Parkway
 Shape Xpress—3000 Old Alabama Road
 Starbucks—1530 Old Alabama Road
 StarTime—605 Holcomb Bridge Road
 Studio Plus—3331 Old Milton Parkway
 Sweet Tomato's—950 North Point Drive
 TCBY—1425 Market Boulevard
 Vintage Tea—3005 Old Alabama Road
 Wingate Inn—1005 Kingswood Place
 Yamato—5966 North Point Parkway

The contributions of these businesses helped make this year's Bingo Night the most successful it has ever been. Again, we encourage Northwood families to support these businesses that have so generously shown their support for Northwood. But, we also want to thank the many parents and Haynes Bridge Middle School Beta Club volunteers who pitched in during Bingo Night. And, of course, there wouldn't be Bingo Night without the help of our wonderful Room Parents who provide all the student prizes. We could not do it without you all! Bari Calais and Joyce Hosseini, Bingo Committee co-Chairs.

Important Dates to Remember

April

- Fri, 1—Spirit Day
- Mon, 4-Fri, 8—No School, Spring Break
- Fri, 15—Kindergarten Registration for Hispanic Families (**only** for families needing interpreters), 1:00-6:00 pm
- Mon, 18-Fri, 22—CRCT Testing, 1st-5th grades
- Wed, 27—Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
- Thurs, 28—Kindergarten/New Student Registration, 7:30 am-3:00 pm; Domino's Pizza Night
- Fri, 29—Kindergarten/New Student Registration, 11:00 am-6:00 pm

May

- Mon, 2—Spirit Day; PTA Meeting and Band Concert, 6:45 pm and 7 pm
- Mon, 9—Kindergarten Parent Coffee, (Parents Only), 9:00-10:00 am, Media Center
- Tues, 10—Kindergarten Round-Up, (Parents and Children), 3:15-4:15 pm, Cafeteria
- Thurs, 12—Field Day, K-2nd grades (rain date: May 16)
- Fri, 13—Field Day, 3rd-5th grades (rain date: May 17)
- Tues, 17—Class End-of-Year Parties, 1-2 pm, K & 1st grades
- Wed, 18—Good Choices Day Meeting, 8 am; Class End-of-Year Parties, 1-2 pm, 2nd & 3rd grades
- Thurs, 19—Class End-of-Year Parties, 1-2 pm, 4th & 5th grades; Domino's Pizza Night
- Fri, 20—5th Grade Graduation, 9-10 am, Cafeteria;

Reading Superstars! AR Update

Accelerated Reader—the reading enrichment program designed to “encourage students to read more often, improve reading comprehension, and develop a love of reading that will last a lifetime,” has been very successful in promoting Northwood students to read again this year! To date, 307 A/R ribbons have been awarded, as follows:

Ribbon	Point Level (Grades 1&2/3-5)	Total Students
Red	25/50	208
Blue	50/100	57
Bronze	75/150	23
Silver	100/200	12
Gold	125/250	7

In addition, seven students have already reached the A/R Achievement level (150 points for grades 1&2, 300 points for grades 3-5), and have been awarded their individual AR plaques in a special presentation on ExplorerVision. Those students are: Josh Bielenberg, Michael Gwynn, Daniel He, Alec Mazzuckelli, Noah Rickles, Jonathon Sharpton, and Katie Williams. All students reaching the Silver ribbon level by the end of the year will also be awarded an Accelerated Reader T-shirt. The cut-off date for points to be earned towards ribbons this school year will be **Friday, April 29th—good luck!** Questions? Contact Mary Beth Bierbaum or Sandy Williams, AR Committee Co-Chairs.

2004-2005 Northwood PTA Executive Board and Committee Chairs

President

Katie Mazzuckelli 770/664-6307

First Vice President

Beth Litterer 770/343-6227

♦ Room Parents

Beth Litterer 770/343-6227

♦ Hearing and Vision

Cathy Dougherty 770/664-5635

♦ Spirit Wear

Debbie Lommen 770/754-9202

♦ Music Night

Cathy Rowe 770/992-9237

♦ Contributions

Bari Calais 770/641-9383

Joyce Hosseini 770/640-1887

♦ Caring and Sharing

Andrea Bourgeois 770/772-4981

Christy Pincheon 770/754-9796

♦ Carnival

Lisa Anderson 770/552-8055

Second Vice President

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♦ Original Art

Diane Nelson 770/569-0989

Tara Osborne 770/751-7005

♦ VIPS

Dana Dowdy 770/642-0117

♦ School Store

Kim Dean 770/664-7673

♦ Gift Wrap

Cathy Riley 770/667-3287

Michelle Thompson 770/772-0141

Grace Pate 770/587-2870

♦ Publicity

Wendy Jackson 770/569-9215

♦ Reflections

Carmen Evers 770/667-1131

♦ Big G Box Tops

Cathy Kleiber 770/998-0301

Third Vice President

Catherine Ingersoll 770/640-0108

♦ Bingo Night

Bari Calais 770/641-9383

Joyce Hosseini 770/640-1887

♦ Staff Recognition

Kim Boyd 770/552-8437

♦ Media Center

Donna Conn 770/410-0203

♦ Landscaping

Liz Barton 770/751-6885

♦ Hospitality

Marty Young 770/410-1336

♦ Accelerated Reader

Sandy Williams 770/664-0667

Mary Beth Bierbaum 770/442-5306

♦ Field Day

Carl Washburn 770/552-9891

Jenny Storey 770/998-4641

Fourth Vice President

Shelley Avant 770/619-9097

♦ Movie Night

Delonica Brennan 770/641-7418

Betty Dobroski 770/649-8006

♦ Membership

Ann Cox 770/475-5981

♦ Directory

Margaret Cash 678/319-0021

♦ Big Creek Park

Margaret Cash 678/319-0021

♦ Book Fair

Katie Mazzuckelli 770/664-6307

Mary Kay Flett 770/664-8459

♦ Yearbook

Laurie Ferry 770/667-4910

Allison Smith 770/667-0884

♦ Newsletter

Shelley Avant 770/619-9097

Secretary

Ann Cox 770/475-5981

Treasurer

Cathy Rowe 770/992-9237

Parliamentarian

Joyce Hosseini 770/640-1887

Thanks!

We would like to extend our thanks to the retailers listed below who have made contributions to our school through Northwood's PTA since the last PTA newsletter was published:

The Cooler

10800 Davis Drive

Domino's Pizza

Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama

Kroger

Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama

Publix

Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama

Sam's Club

10600 Davis Drive

Target

6000 North Point Pkwy

Wal-Mart SuperCenter

970 Mansell Road

Again, we thank these retailers for their support of Northwood Elementary School. And, we encourage Northwood families to support these businesses that have so generously shown their support for their community through their contributions to our school.

Registration!

Spring Registration for new students for the 2005-06 school year is:

Friday, April 15 (1:00-6:00 pm) only
for parents needing an interpreter
Thursday, April 28 (7:30 am-3:00 pm)

Friday, April 29 (11:00 a.m.-6:00 pm)

Also, please note:

Monday, May 9 (9:00-10:00 am)
KINDERGARTEN PARENT COFFEE
(parents only)

Tuesday, May 10 (3:15-4:15 pm)
KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP
(parents and children)

PTA Explorer

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