



## President's Letter

Support comes in many forms, and we appreciate any/all of it! But, I would like to dedicate this space to offering thanks for one particular form of support—financial.

Let me start by offering a round of applause to the Northwood community for working so hard with us on our annual gift wrap fundraiser! With your help, we have almost reached our ambitious goal of \$23,000 profit. We are currently about \$1,000 away from meeting this goal, and we might still hit it since Internet orders can be placed through May 8th! (Information on placing Sally Foster orders via the Internet appears below.)

Reaching our gift wrap fundraising goal is a tremendous achievement each and every year. Thank you all for remembering Northwood. (And a special "thank you" to our Gift Wrap Committee Co-Chairs—Stephanie Summers, Cathy Dougherty, and Karen Brown—who guided us smoothly through this "gift wrap season!") As I mentioned when we reviewed this year's budget together, this fundraiser is the cornerstone of the Northwood PTA budget. Meeting our target ensures that the PTA will be able to fund the many activities and events that the PTA, departments, and teachers have planned for this year.

Since the gift wrap fundraiser was successful, the PTA budget is fairly secure. Of course, we will monitor each of the other, smaller, fundraisers—like Domino's Pizza Night, Music and Movie Nights, Carnival, Bingo, etc.—to be sure each achieves its budgeted profit goal. Since each is guided by wonderful Committee Chairs, and supported by the Northwood Community, we are sure each of these will be as successful as our fall fundraiser. Two current fundraisers deserve separate mention—Book Fair and Original Art. Though they are guided by the PTA and supported by the same community that supports gift wrap and all the other PTA activities/events—the monies raised from these fundraisers are earmarked for distinct entities. Money raised at the Book Fair goes directly to the Media Center—it does not even flow through the PTA books. Money raised through the Original Art fundraiser flows directly to the Art Department. We hope you will be able to support these two fundraisers—and thereby the Media Center and Art Department—as enthusiastically as you supported the gift wrap fundraiser. Luckily, both offer the opportunity to purchase some wonderful holiday gifts, so you can work through your holiday shopping lists while supporting Northwood.

Please remember on November 12<sup>th</sup> we will have a family dinner catered by Olive Garden. This is a great way for families to socialize and shop at the book fair in a casual environment. You can also view Original Art products in the display case outside the cafeteria if you are still trying to decide what to order!!

Thanks again for all the financial support you offer Northwood. Our next newsletter will be in late January, so have a wonderful holiday season!!!

**Lisa Anderson**

P.S. Northwood still gets credit for gift wrap orders placed via the Internet through *May 8th*. If you need some more gift wrap, magazines, chocolate, or gift products, visit the Sally Foster website: ([www.sallyfoster.com](http://www.sallyfoster.com) – school group #0507221) Shop for yourself or send e-mails to family and friends to let them know how to place orders that will be credited to Northwood.

## Northwood's Bookfair is back!



"Bookfair Blizzard" November 8<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>

Northwood will host a Scholastic Book Fair November 8<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>. This annual event always generates a lot of excitement, and we expect this year's Book Fair to be the best ever. The schedule will be as follows:

### Preview Days

November 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>—each class will come to preview books and write their "Wish Lists," but there will be no buying these first three days.

### Buying Days

November 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>—each class will return to the Book Fair at a scheduled time to shop. (During these three days the Book Fair will open before school at 7:30 a.m. and remain open after school until 3:30 p.m. Children are welcome to join a parent who is shopping before or after school, but children will not be allowed to shop by themselves during these periods.) Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup> the book fair will be open for the final day until 3p.m.

Monday Evening, November 12<sup>th</sup>—the Book Fair will be open during Family Fun Night. While dinner will be served from 5-7, the Book Fair will be open from 4-8 p.m.

Many volunteers are needed to make the Book Fair run smoothly. If you can help, please call or email either Tara Osborne (770/751-7005) [taraosborne@bellsouth.net](mailto:taraosborne@bellsouth.net) or Beth Litterer (770/343-6227) [blitterer@bellsouth.net](mailto:blitterer@bellsouth.net).

## Everyone's an Artist!



Once again, Northwood PTA is sponsoring **Original Art**—a program from Original Works that turns your child's art into keepsake products!

Once your child's magnet—featuring this year's masterpiece!—comes home, you will get a chance to purchase an array of products featuring that artwork. A full display of Original Art product offerings has been set up in the case outside the cafeteria. We hope you will get a chance to look at the mugs, aprons, note cards, key rings, etc. that you can purchase; they are all beautiful! All proceeds from this fundraiser benefit Northwood's Art Department. These items will make wonderful holiday presents, and buying them will support the Art Department. What could be better?! Order forms are due by *November 2nd*. If you have any questions, please contact Christine Obijeski or Chrissy Scartz, Original Art Committee Co-Chairs.

## PTA Membership . . . We're Almost to 100%!

If you haven't joined the PTA yet, it's not too late. Please help us reach our goal of 100% membership and receive a directory with certain levels of membership. Forms are available at the front desk in the office or on the PTA website ([www.NorthwoodPTA.com/forms&flyers](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com/forms&flyers)). Remember, the best deal on this year's yearbook is available through the one-stop shopping on the membership form. Additional benefits afforded by your membership are listed on the website. We're almost there—let's reach 100% **again** this year! Questions? Contact Kelly Hudson, Membership Committee Chair.

## Big G Box Tops—Keep Clipping!!

Please remember to keep clipping Big G Box Tops for Northwood! We just finished our first collection period and our next collection will be in the spring. We will be accepting the completed sheets throughout the year, so be sure to keep clipping the Box Tops coupons from General Mills products and drop them in the collection bin in front of the Media Center. If you need another sheet to fill out, please see your teacher. Then, visit the Northwood website to learn about other ways Northwood can earn money from this program: [www.NorthwoodPTA.com/BigGBoxTops](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com/BigGBoxTops). Questions? Contact Barbara Drexler, Big G Box Tops Chair.

## Caring and Sharing

Thanks to everyone who participated in our October can food drive! North Fulton Charities was so appreciative of our 5,000+ cans collected! Together we make a difference!

In November and December, the Caring and Sharing Committee will guide two more annual activities dedicated to helping those less fortunate:

1) **The Counselor's Fund**—from Monday November 26<sup>th</sup> thru Friday November 30<sup>th</sup> students can bring in spare change for our Counselors to disburse to Northwood families in need. Funds are used for eye glasses, transportation fares, food baskets, back packs, etc.

2) **Holiday Giving Tree**- December 10-14<sup>th</sup>. The season of giving will soon be here and Northwood students are invited to help brighten the holidays by giving generously to others in need. Please help decorate our lobby Giving Tree with new unwrapped toys. These items will be donated to a local charity.

Both these activities offer wonderful opportunities to teach students about helping others, and we know the Northwood community will embrace these charitable efforts as wholeheartedly as they have in the past. Look for more details to come home with your child in November and December. Would you like to help? Contact Becky Erickson, Caring and Sharing Committee Chair.

## Labels for Education

Northwood is now collecting Campbells Labels for Education UPC points.. This is a great way for our school to get miscellaneous items for our school. We will soon be receiving a drop box for the labels, that they may be put in. For a full list of items that have the points go to [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com) . Any questions, contact Stephanie Duffy at (678)339-0033 or [luluduff@yahoo.com](mailto:luluduff@yahoo.com).

## The Last Printed PTA Explorer

Due to the rising cost of printing the Northwood PTA Explorer will only be available on the Northwood PTA website ([www.northwoodpta.com](http://www.northwoodpta.com)). Keep checking your Best of Northwood in January for information on a new release of the PTA Explorer on the website.

## Counselors' Corner . . . Family Traditions

At this time of year we begin a period of many secular and religious holidays. The holidays give us an opportunity to strengthen our families through family traditions. It is fun to hear what children say they like best about the way your family celebrates holidays. Family traditions give both adults and children a sense of roots and anchoring which can be very important during the rest of the year. Our busy families really need traditions to help us slow down and focus on those most important to us. Traditions help build a strong sense of family and belonging. Take the time to ask your family which traditions are important to them for each of the upcoming holidays. Sometimes it is a very small thing like a certain food or watching a special movie together that means the most. Share with your family what you remember about how your family of origin celebrated holidays. Traditions need not cost a lot or take a huge amount of time. Keep it simple and you'll be more likely to do it. Have fun during the next few months and, most of all, cherish your family!

Betsy Allen and Tracey Roberts

## LAST CHANCE TO GET A YEARBOOK AT DISCOUNTED PRICE!!

November is the last month that you can order the yearbook at the pre-sale price of \$25. Starting December 1, the price will be \$28. This entire yearbook will be printed in color and feature more pages and more candid photos than last year's yearbook!!! Every day we are capturing the memories, laughs, fun, friendships, awards, accomplishments, special class events and projects, school-sponsored events and day-to-day activities. We will have a special yearbook signing afternoon in the spring. You don't want to miss out on this fabulous book of memories!!

To order a yearbook, send \$25, made payable to Northwood PTA, in an envelope labeled "Yearbook Order" and include your child's name and teacher.

## PTA-Sponsored School Store

Besides basic school supplies, the School Store now offers *poster board* which can be delivered to the art teachers' rooms to safely house your child's portfolio (75¢/each), and *Bruster's Coupon books* (\$10/each). The School Store is open most Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:15-7:45 a.m. in the cafeteria. Questions? Contact Kim Dean, School Store Committee Chair.

## No Time to Cook? Call Domino's on Pizza Night!

Once a month, you can buy dinner from Domino's instead of cooking! Domino's Pizza Night is the last Thursday of every month that school is in session. The day of the event, each child will bring home a flyer and sticker as a reminder. Remember to send in the bottom portion of the flyer when you get your pizza and your order will be recorded and your child's class gets credit. The classroom with the most participation will earn a free pizza party and the teacher in that class will be given a School Box gift certificate. Questions? Contact Allison Smith, Domino's Pizza Night Committee Chair



## Show Your School Spirit! There's still time to order this year's T-shirt

We still have most sizes available in our white t-shirt with the Northwood bi-plane logo for \$10. Different sizes are available for children and grown-ups alike. Order forms are available online at <http://www.northwoodpta.com/forms&flyers.htm> Place your form and payment in an envelope marked "PTA--SPIRIT WEAR" and return it to your child's teacher. Any questions may be addressed to Sandy Lashley 770-664-9289 or [Sanlorlas@aol.com](mailto:Sanlorlas@aol.com)

## A Reminder About Logging Volunteer Hours

Did you know that Northwood Elementary earns funding credit for the hours we capture in the VIPS ("Volunteers in Public Schools") system? It's true! We know that volunteers spend countless hours doing work for Northwood—we just hope we are capturing that time—will you help us? It's simple . . . When you are in school, log on (*and—before you leave—off*) the computer in the front office. If you do anything for Northwood outside the school, just keep track of your hours and log them on a VIPS card in the file near the computer in the lobby. Those hours get added into the system by hand. Questions? Contact Jamie John, VIPS Committee Chair.

## Kroger and Publix Scan Card Reminder!

Do you do your grocery shopping at Publix or Kroger? At Publix, do you use your scan card every time? At Kroger, have you scanned the Northwood barcode against your KrogerPlus card? Please visit the PTA website ([www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Forms&Flyers/Kroger Scan Cards](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Forms&Flyers/Kroger_Scan_Cards)) to read details about scanning your KrogerPlus card, and thanks for helping us leverage these programs to Northwood's benefit!

## Come join us for a fun Family Dinner

Northwood PTA will host a family dinner on Monday November 12<sup>th</sup>. We invite all of our families to come join in the fun, Olive Garden will cater the event and the book fair will be open for your shopping pleasure.

## Important Dates to Remember

### November

Thurs, 1-Spirit Day

Thurs, 8- Book Fair Opens

Mon, 12- Family Night Dinner

Wed, 21 thru 23- No School

Mon, 26 thru 30- Counselor's Spare Change Fund

Wed, 28- Early Release (11:15am)

Thurs, 29 -Domino's Pizza Night

### December

Mon, 3- Spirit Day

Mon, 10 thru 14- Holiday Giving Tree

Thurs, 13- Pizza Night

Thurs, 20- School out for year

## Wanted: Media Center Volunteers!

If you are looking for a way to get involved at Northwood, why don't you investigate the Media Center? It's a fun place to work, and you might well get to see your student book-worm in action! Volunteers are still needed for many days, and any amount of time you can offer is of value. If you are interested in volunteering in the Media Center, please contact Lyn Shealy, Media Center Committee Chair, 770-649-7503 or [msshealy@bellsouth.net](mailto:msshealy@bellsouth.net).

## Reflections Winners!!

We had many creative and thoughtful entries for Reflections this year. The students had many interesting interpretations of this year's theme, which was, "I can make a difference by...". There were five different categories in which the following students will be forwarded onto the District level. In Visual Arts: Ernesto Hernandez, Phoenix Kacyvenski, Ada Hernandez, Caroline Urbanawiz, Forest Kacyvenski, Specner Mackay, Maddie Litterer, Maggie Thomas, Jessica Bonin, Katie Coala and Emily Dean. In video production: Meriah Grove and Hannah Kitzmiller. In photography: Joshua Smoots, Camila Rueda and Rachel Lybrook. In literature: Justin Raymond, Jenna Raymond, Avni Ahuja and Michael Morgan, and in Dance: Mikayla Cummings. Congratulations to all of our participants! I know that the students all worked hard on their entries and encourage everyone to continue in their artistic endeavors. There will be more information to follow on a party to celebrate your accomplishments!

# Northwood PTA Board and Committee Chairs

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### ◆ Family Dinner

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### ◆ Family Fun

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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:

### **Domino's Pizza**

Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama

### **Kroger**

Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama

### **Lovelace McKinney Insurance Agency**

**Footnotes Dance and Acrobatics**  
2500 Old Alabama Road, Roswell

### **Pak Mail**

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### **Sams Club**

10600 Davis Drive, Alpharetta

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975 North Point Drive, Alpharetta

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415 Crossville Road, Suite B

### **The Little Gym**

1570 Holcomb Bridge Road  
Suite 530, Roswell

### **Joe's Crab Shack**

10800 Haynes Bridge Rd, Alpharetta

### **Carlyle Wealth Planning**

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

### **PTA Explorer**

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