

Principal's Update

September 24, 2010

(Click to see last week's edition)

Dear Clifton Families,

I hope that you will all be Rockin' the Red at the Fall Family Picnic tonight! Some very observant parents caught me trying to arrange for extra dessert at the picnic! I apologize for the error in the most recent email. The original information was correct: If your last name begins with A-L, bring a dessert; if your last name begins with M-Z, bring a side dish. At any rate, if my email confused you, I'm sure that whatever you choose to bring and share will be appreciated. Remember, we're hoping that everyone will wear red to the picnic for our photo! The picnic begins at 5:30 p.m. on the blacktop and continues until dark.

Back to School Night Survey

I want to thank all of you who attended one or both of our Back to School Nights! Your involvement is essential in our partnership to meet the learning needs of your student. Please take a moment to provide us with feedback on your Back to School Night experience by completing the brief survey at the following link within the next week. Your opinion is valuable to us! Go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Q6CNTM9>.

Student Responsibilities and Rights

Signature sheets from the Student Responsibilities and Rights booklets are due on September 30. Please return these to your child's teacher as soon as possible if you have not already done so.

PTA Memberships & Directories!

Parents and Teachers, there is still time to turn in your PTA Membership forms and School Directory forms. School directory forms must be turned in by Wednesday, September 29th. Forms are available on the PTA website: <http://www.cliftonpta.org/>

Room Parent and Volunteer Coffee

All parents who expressed an interest in volunteering during the school year are strongly encouraged to attend the PTA Room Parent and Volunteer Coffee on Tuesday, 10/5/10, at 9:30 a.m. in the cafeteria. This is the perfect opportunity to meet Committee Chairs, learn about volunteer opportunities, and enjoy your coffee with new and old friends. Contact Annette Abutayeh at 703.988.9333 or Annette718@aol.com if you have questions.

Sign up Online for Foreign Language Experience (FLEX)

Could your child benefit from learning another language? Flex classes will form with a minimum of eight students. Don't wait; help make eight! Each class will be 20 weeks long. The list of courses and the link to register online are available on the PTA website: <http://www.cliftonpta.org/>. Please contact your PTA FLEX representatives: Karen Gentry (kgentry85@hotmail.com) or Dawna Thompson (dawnathomps@gmail.com) if you have questions.

Fall Fundraiser Update

Thank you, Parents and Students, for participating in the PTA's fall fundraiser: Clifton Elementary Savings Books. The fundraiser will end next Tuesday, 9/28/10. This week we celebrated the fundraiser's mid-point by distributing "funky monkey" stuffed animals to 64 students. These students earned monkeys by selling 3 coupon books and turning in the proceeds during the first week of the fundraiser. We have had many requests to continue the monkey business for another week and are happy to say "OKAY!" Each student who sells 3 coupon books, and turns in the proceeds by next Tuesday, 9/28/10, will receive a monkey! Previous incentives remain the same: Sell 5 booklets (or 8 per family) to attend the in-school "Games 2 U" event. Students who sell 10 booklets (or one child per family) qualify to visit the "money booth" during the "Games 2 U" event. PLEASE RETURN any unsold books to your child's teacher. We need the unsold ones to provide to students who have requested more coupon books to sell. Please contact Laurie Vidovich (703.815.9310 or vidskids@cox.net) with any questions or requests for more books. Thank you for supporting the PTA!

CLIFTON DAY FESTIVAL - Sunday, 10/10/10, 9 am - 5 pm (rain date 10/17/10)

Plan to attend the annual Clifton Day Festival! Fun for all ages, the festival features craft demonstrations, children's activities, games, a petting zoo, pony rides, face painting, civil war re-enactments, and so much more! Admission is free, as are many of the planned events. See: www.cliftonday.com for details.

Mark Your Calendar!

10/5 - PTA Meeting & Volunteer Coffee at 9:30 a.m. in the cafeteria
10/5-10/7 - Naglieri (NNAT) Testing for Grade 1 & 2 students
10/10 - Clifton Day
10/11 - Columbus Day—No School!
10/15 - Fannie Mae Walkathon
10/22 - Taste of Robinson SS, 4-8 p.m. Bring the whole family for food and fun!

I hope to see you this evening. Enjoy the weekend!

Renee C. Miller
Principal