

# Highlands Elementary



PTA Newsletter  
February 23, 2009

Our PTA meetings are held the first Thursday of every month in the Library. Our next meeting will be on March 5, 2009. We would love to see you there as we always welcome your opinions and ideas!

Our next Monthly Morning Coffee for Parents will be on Friday, March 6, 2009. Coffee is held the first Friday of every month in the MU. This will also serve as a resource for any sign-ups, or communications to be posted. Thank you to Chris King and Mary Frederick for donating yummy treats! Ms. Whitfield and her orchestra students entertained us with lovely music. Thank you Christine Gee for coordinating this monthly event!

## HIGHLANDS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

We are always looking for new volunteers that want to be more involved in their child's school. Here is a list of all of the PTA Board positions.

President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Auditor, Historian and the appointed Parliamentarian

We are also preparing our fundraising and activity chairpersons list for the 2009 - 2010 school year. The following are the available Chairperson positions:

Auction	Ice Cream Social
Basket Raffle	Lost and Found
Carnival	PTA Membership
Constant Contact	Red Ribbon Week
Food Fundraiser	Safety
Hospitality	Spirit Wear

If you would like to be considered for any of the PTA Board and/or Fundraising/Activity Chairperson positions, please contact Ann Marie Miller, the PTA Parliamentarian, at 672-8053 or Qbnsport@aol.com.

## STUDIO 54 DISCO NIGHTS AUCTION

Mark your Calendars for March 14<sup>th</sup>!! Our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction is weeks away!

### TICKET SALES (In front of the Office)

Wednesday, Feb. 23	1:00 pm – 1:20 pm
Thursday, Feb. 24	2:30 pm – 2:45 pm
Friday, Feb. 25	2:30 pm – 2:45 pm
Wednesday, Mar. 4	1:00 pm – 1:20 pm
Thursday, Mar. 5	2:30 pm – 2:45 pm
Friday, Mar. 6	2:30 pm – 2:45 pm

Tickets are \$45 each. In order to reserve a table of 10, you must be pay in full at the time of reservation. Otherwise, seating will be on a first come, first serve basis.

If you would like to make a donation to the Auction, please contact the Auction Co-Chairs:

Christine Flinn 691-9203 [mandcflinn@comcast.net](mailto:mandcflinn@comcast.net)  
Zulay Loftin 899-4254 [zulay@dowlinginc.com](mailto:zulay@dowlinginc.com)

## PURCHASE SCRIP GIFT CARDS FROM HIGHLANDS FOR YOUR EVERYDAY NEEDS!

**Scrip cards will be sold every Friday after school.** Please make a conscious effort to purchase your gift cards through Highlands. Think of Highlands before you grab your coffee, go grocery shopping or purchase gifts! More retailers and information are on [www.highlandswebsite.com](http://www.highlandswebsite.com)

### eScrip

What is eScrip? eScrip is a hassle-free way for schools and groups that support children's programs to raise funds through everyday purchases made at eScrip merchants. For more information, please contact Karla Moore at 673-5994 or [www.highlandswebsite.com](http://www.highlandswebsite.com) to sign up online.

### LUCKY APPLES FOR THE STUDENTS/ S.H.A.R.E.S

The Apples for the Students program has now ended. Thank you for shopping at Lucky/Food Maxx and providing your receipts to Highlands! Your receipts earn us points to redeem for FREE educational awards for our school.

Please continue to use your S.H.A.R.E.S. card at Lucky and Food Maxx. We just earned \$1454.00 by remembering to use our S.H.A.R.E.S. cards from the last quarter of 2008. Woo hoo! These cards work like the Safeway Club Card. When you use these S.H.A.R.E.S. cards, Highlands earns 3%. **BONUS:** Purchase Scrip gift cards for Lucky/FoodMaxx from Highlands and we will earn an additional 2%!

Need an extra card? They can be obtained in the school office.

### BOX TOPS

Remember to turn in your Box Tops for our last Box Tops Blitz! They were due on Friday, February 20! If you forgot to turn them in, please get them in now so that they can be included in this submission. Ask your neighbors, relatives, and friends! The class with the most Box Tops will win an ice cream party!

### MIND YOUR MANNERS!

Etiquette Class will be taught by Kathy Carrozzi and Rena Burks. Four sessions will be held after school from 2:30 pm - 3:15 pm in Room 30 on Thursdays beginning March 12 - April 2. Space is limited to 16 students. Cost is still being determined. Please contact Kathie Dumlao at (707) 704-4973 for more information.

### **TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK**

We love our Highlands Teachers and Staff! If you would like to help out with Teacher Appreciation Week, please contact Evelyn Wullner at 691-1236 or [enwullner@mac.com](mailto:enwullner@mac.com). As soon as the week is confirmed, we will let you know.

### **PARENT EDUCATOR PROGRAM (PEP)**

Last quarter all of the PEP volunteers enjoyed teaching the 4th graders about "Respect," "Effects of Substance Abuse," and "Decision Making/Resolving Conflict Skills." The students had many questions and contributed much to the class. This quarter, we look forward to teaching the 3rd graders about "Responsibility," "Bullying," and "Drugs vs. Medicine." The PEP curriculum is designed to be fun, informative, and to help our students make healthy (mental and physical) decisions.

If you are interested in being a part of the PEP team of volunteers or have any questions, please contact Kristen Pascoe at 676-1122 or Christine Gee at 680-5682.

### **TEACHER'S VALENTINE LUNCHEON**

On February 13th we hosted our Annual Teacher's Valentine Luncheon in the Teacher's Lounge. This year the theme was, "Teachers Are the Heartbeat of Highlands Elementary" and they certainly are because our school can't live without them. **All the teachers would like to express their whole hearted appreciation and thanks to all the parents who brought in the delicious food items for the luncheon. They relished and enjoyed every bite!** Thank you to the following volunteers: Naheed Attari, Laila Berrios, Sam Bowerbank, Jackie Byrd, Vixen Calica, Elisabeth Cox, Joanna Delong, Debbie Dvorak, Christine Flinn, Mary Frederick, Christine Gee, Nicole Goodman, Nicky Henzie, Silvia Hoessl, Mia Jacobs, Dawn Levy, Ann Marie Miller, Janell Meine, Angie Muniz, Stephanie Nocerino, Terri Oatley, Joanne Scott, Racheal Shirley, Natalie Stark, Sheree Styrland, Christie Turner, Chandra Wallace, and Evelyn Wullner. My apologies and appreciation to anyone that contributed but is not on the list.

- Christine Gee, Hospitality Chair

### **SCHWAN'S FUNDRAISER**

We are excited to tell you that Highlands will be doing a Schwan's Home Service Fundraiser in April. More information to come soon! If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Nocerino 925-783-1238

### **MULTICULTURAL WEEK**

A BIG thank you goes out to Miss Novello for coordinating a wonderful Multicultural Week! The Family Heritage Potluck was delicious! We enjoyed tasting the many foods of our diverse community!

### **SCIENCE FAIR**

The Science Fair was held on Thursday, February 12. We enjoyed learning about why things do what they do! 5<sup>th</sup> Grade sold pizza and beverages. Thank you to Donna Lawson and her team of judges who took the time to judge over 120 projects! Some of the projects were amazing!

**5<sup>th</sup> GRADE:** Daniel Frederick – Bottle Rocket, Noah Lervaag – Eutrophication, Tyler Blazer – Let There Be Light

**4<sup>th</sup> GRADE:** Natalie Ruzicka – Oil Spill, Jackson Altizer – Music Heart Rate and Dalia Anwar – Bath vs. Shower

**3<sup>rd</sup> GRADE:** Lance Mah & Douglas Bermudez – Slime, Slimy and Slimier, Jake Kaplan – Do Water and Oil Mix?, Steven & Alan Rowan – Black Bottom Pool

### **MOUNTAIN MIKE'S FUNDRAISER**

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp earned \$175.00 from the two fundraisers held at Mountain Mike's last month! Thank you for your support!

### **CROSSING GUARDS NEEDED!**

If you have a few minutes to spare in the afternoons to help keep our kids safe while crossing the street in front of the school, please contact Tish Marshall at 818-2603 or the school office at 672-5252.

### **SPIRIT WEAR**

We still have Spirit Wear in stock! As the weather is getting cooler, you might want to think about purchasing a Highlands Hawks sweatshirt. Limited sizes available. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Sprague at 595-8415 or [Jessica55@astound.net](mailto:Jessica55@astound.net).

### **READING INCENTIVE PROGRAM**

In honor of Dr. Seuss' Birthday we are kicking off our Reading Incentive Program on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please look for a flyer and reading log to come home with your child soon! If you have any questions, please contact:

Yvonne Adams 925-524-0562

Jen Arrowsmith 925-818-3565

Francesca Samardzic 925-363-4028

### **YEARBOOK NEWS**

Yearbook order forms went home last week. If you haven't purchased your yearbook, the price has now been increased to \$30.00. Final order deadline is February 27, 2009.

### **THE YEARBOOK STAFF WANTS YOUR FIELD TRIP**

**PICTURES:** If you are chaperoning on a field trip, a class picture would be great as well as a few "Kodak moments." Please put your photos on a CD and drop it off in the office within one week of the field trip.

### **GIRL SCOUT BRONZE AWARD**

Do you own a pet? Do you like playing with your dog or cat? Would you like to help comfort pets that are in need of a home? Girl Scout Troop 30390 is collecting new or used blankets and towels for pets. The towels and blankets will be used to help comfort homeless pets at the Humane Society. We would like to collect these blankets, wash them and donate them to the Humane Society as part of our Bronze Award. We will have bins available outside the office before and after school. If you can donate any towels or blankets please bring them to Highlands from February 23<sup>rd</sup> - March 6th.

- Many thanks, Troop 30390

PTA Co-Presidents: Vixen Calica and Jessica Sprague