

PTO PAW PRINTS

NEWS & INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



Walter J. Mitchell
Elementary School
LaPlata, MD

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Back To School

New Playground Equipment

Earlier this year, with the help of the School Board and Mrs. Gill, attention has been paid to the state of our existing playground equipment. Mr. Belmore went to work to help our school secure new equipment, using a Grant recently awarded to Charles County Schools.



Mrs. Gill just updated us with the following Good News:

"On October 16, 2008, the State of Maryland's Public School Construction Program approved the request Glenn Belmore and I made to construct a \$70,000 play structure between the B-wing/C-wing playgrounds. The structure has been ordered and we are awaiting delivery. The structure will need to be installed and then we will reconfigure our current playgrounds."

- Linda Gill

The PTO will continue to work towards fundraising efforts that will supplement this gift and allow us to upgrade the existing equipment further.

We were focusing efforts on this much needed area of the school, although it would have taken a very long time to raise the amount of money needed. This gift will get us to the goal much faster. Thank you to Mrs. Gill for helping us get the Board involved.



Thank you to all of the families who have been dutiful in clipping box tops and sending them to school regularly. The kids are having fun competing against other classes for the most box tops and filling up the themed box top collection forms each month.

The first quarterly award for most box tops collected goes to **Mrs. Maloney's Class – Congratulations!**

So far this year we have collected well over 2000 box tops. That equates to \$200.00 for our school.

As the Holidays approach, please remember when online shopping to start by going to the Box Tops website at www.boxtops4education.com. You can find many of your favorite stores in the marketplace section of the website. If you link from the site to do your shopping, the stores will give a percentage of your purchase to our school. It can really add up quickly. Some of the stores who participate are KBT Toys, Old Navy, Gap, Kohls, Nordstrom, Land's End, Limited Too, Target, Walmart, Circuit City, just to name a few. Check out the website for additional stores and for more information.

2008-2009

WJM Fun-Raising Update

Sally Foster – Estimate \$5,000.00 profit

Ledo's Nite – Estimate \$260.00 profit

Spirit Wear – Estimate \$1,200.00 profit

Original Works of Art – All Magnets and orders were due to WJM PTO by November 3rd. We are processing the orders and expect to take delivery early in December. Thank you to those who participated. These items will make terrific gifts for your children to share with family and friends.



Mitchell PTO Welcomes New WJM Staff Members

It is our pleasure to welcome the newest members of the Mitchell Family.

Pre-K –	Ms. Deluca
Kindergarten –	Ms. Birke
	Ms. Willis
	Ms. Lipinski
2 nd Grade -	Ms. Cox
	Ms. Turner
Speech -	Ms. Leak
Music -	Ms. Tash
Guidance -	Ms. Williamson
IEP -	Ms. Finney



Fall Festival

On October 24th – The WJM PTO hosted the annual Fall Festival for Mitchell Families. We believe we had a record turn out. The event was a great time for the kids to participate in a costume contest, play games, get their faces painted, do crafts, and have some delicious snacks. If they weren't over the moon yet, this year we introduced a "haunted hallway" to get them shaking in their boots. There are many "Thank-You's" to share, starting with Jenn Cox for Chairing the event and keeping everyone organized and on task. We also want to thank the many volunteers who worked the event, donated items, ran errands to get ready and decorated the school. A big thanks to the teachers who participated in the "haunted hallway". It means a lot to the kids and families that you participated, not to mention that fantastic job you did getting into character.

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

November 4 - Election Day - Schools Closed

November 6 - Science Fair/PTO Meeting

November 11 - School Closed

November 19- 2 Hour Early Dismissal

November 21 In-school Field Trip - Laser Light Show

November 25 - Grandparent's Day Celebration

November 26-28 - Thanksgiving Holiday Schools Closed

DECEMBER

December 9 - 2 Hour Early Dismissal

December - Original Works of Art Distributed

December 11- Winter Event

Dec. 22-Jan. 4- School Closed Winter Break