

PTA CORNER SEPT/OCT 2012

Welcome back Jerome Prairie Families. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. September and October are always busy times for Jerome Prairie PTA. Here is some information on our school PTA and a few things to put on your calendar for the next two months.

<u>What the PTA does at Jerome Prairie:</u> Our local PTA raises money to help provide enrichment activities for our kids. Some of the PTA funded programs at our school include Science Club, art instruction, and the Education City math program. We also help to staff school events, and plan parties and fun activities for the students. There are so many opportunities to help make a difference in your child's educational experience. We hope you will consider joining us. No contribution is too small.

<u>PTA Meetings:</u> Our meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month and child care is provided. Our first meeting will be held on Wednesday September 12, 2012 at 2:10 pm in the library. Meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend, but you must be a member to vote



<u>PTA Membership Drive:</u> Our membership drive will begin on Monday September 10, 2012, and will end on September 26, 2012. Be on the lookout for information coming home with your student. As always, the class that has the most family members join will win a special treat. Come to the cafeteria to see our class' pirate ships race toward the prize.

Room Parents: Our Room Parent Chair, Tammie Campbell, will be sending home information on how you can become a Room Parent or helper in your child's classroom. Room Parents are responsible for planning and staffing the class parties, helping find staff for school events, and coordinating decorations and staffing for the class carnival booth. Although this job can sometimes be a lot of hard work, the reward of happy children is well worth the effort. The more parents we have volunteer in each class the lighter the load for any one individual, so please consider become a Room Parent, Co-Room Parent, or class helper. You must complete a Volunteer packet in order to be able to be a room parent or helper. Forms are at the office.

<u>Kindergarten Welcome:</u> All Kindergarten parents, please join us in the Cafeteria for muffins and coffee on September 10, 2012, at 7:40 am. This is an opportunity to wave "goodbye" to your little ones as they start their first day of school. PTA parents will be there to greet you and, if necessary, provide tissue.



<u>Open House:</u> Jerome Prairie Elementary will be holding their open house on Wednesday September 26, 2012. The PTA will have their usual table set up where parents can buy J.P. Tshirts and other gear, pizza cards, and yearbooks from previous years. This will also be the last chance to join the PTA and help support your child's classroom in the big race.

<u>Jog-A-Thon:</u> The school Jog-A-Thon will be held on October 10, 2012. Be on the lookout for information from your child's teacher or your PTA room parent. Although the Jog-A-Thon is not a PTA sponsored fundraiser, parents are always needed to help count laps and cheer on the kids.

Applebee's Pancake Breakfast: The first official PTA fundraiser will be on Saturday, October 20, 2012. This year, we have partnered with Applebee's restaurant for a Pancake Breakfast. Tickets will go on sale prior to the Breakfast, so please come join us and bring as many of your friends and family as possible. Also, Applebee's provides the cook and the food, but the PTA must wait the tables and clean up after the event. We will need a lot of help from families to make this a successful fundraiser for our kids.



<u>Harvest Parties</u>: Class Harvest Parties will be held on Friday October 26, 2012, at 1:00 pm. Room Parents will need to work with teachers and class helpers to plan activities and provide snacks. All food must come from a commercial kitchen, and there should be a good balance of sweet treats and healthy snacks. These class parties are highlights for the children each year so please contribute a needed item, and consider volunteering your time to help make the party memorable. The more parents we have participate, the less likely it is that one person will have to shoulder the load.