

From the PTA President

Welcome back to school! Just a quick note to let you know what's going on at Matoaka!

In September:

- We had our annual ice cream social along with the first PTA general membership meeting. We had a great turnout!
- Thanks to our first spirit week fundraiser, Papa Murphy's donated \$500 to the school!
- Our Garden Committee (Heather Congrove) planted lettuce & radishes with Kindergarten classes two weeks ago.
- We kicked off our first ever SHOE DRIVE, going on now through Nov. 15. Send in your gently used shoes that will then be donated to 26 developing countries & Matoaka will get 40 cents per pound of the shoes we collect.
- Want to celebrate your child's birthday the healthy way? Instead of sweet treats, join the Birthday Book Club. Please contact Gretchen Golub (golub1@cox.net) or Mrs. Crispino, the media specialist at Matoaka.

Coming up in October:

- PTA Membership Drive Oct. 1-31 A flyer came home with your kids last week. Thanks to those who have already joined!
- 10/9 School pictures
- 10/12 Box Tops submission deadline
- 10/16 Matoaka's Morning with Dad 8:30am – Come join us for a light breakfast & see how dads can get more involved at Matoaka!
- 10/19 Reflections deadline – This year's theme is "Let Your Imagination Fly". Your child can participate by submitting dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography or visual arts. There is a bin in the office for collection. If you have any questions, please contact Tricia - mesreflections@gmail.com
- 10/21 The Cardinal Carnival Committee will have their first "planning" meeting at 3:00 in the cafeteria. If you are interested in helping with the Carnival in the spring, please join us! The PTA will also have a general membership meeting at 7pm in the Media Center.

- 10/30 Halloween parade in the morning (time-TBD), Early Release K-12
 - 10/31 9:00am Family Fun Run & 5K to kick off Healthy Lifestyles Week!
Please bring a canned food to donate.
 - 11/2-6 Healthy Lifestyles Week – Chef demonstrations and more!
 - 11/6 Our annual WALK-A-THON!!! More information coming in the next few weeks.
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- Don't forget to use your key tags at Martin's, Harris Teeter, and Farm Fresh. Target is also a part of our shopping program. A percentage of your purchases will be donated back to Matoaka!
 - MERCHANDISE – sweatshirts, t-shirts, magnets, etc. Please contact Amanda at adgada@cox.net or 757-880-8274
 - If you are interested in volunteering some of your time, our reading specialist, Mrs. Moser, and our Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Harris, are looking for some help during school hours. Please contact me if you would be available to help- robin_bennett@cox.net
 - Please send in your voting ballots for the PLP (Proposed Legislation Program) and your School of Excellence surveys as soon as possible. This is a great opportunity to advocate for your children and our school.

I want to apologize for this coming home late! We were trying to go paper free with our newsletters & do it electronically, but quickly realized it's not reaching all Matoaka families. Thank you for your patience as we continue to work out the kinks!

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Robin Bennett
PTA President