

Wise Owl News

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From The PTA President

Hello, Polk Community,

Here we are, racing toward the end of 2011! It's been a joy to see our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) sponsor so many engaging activities this fall. Here are some of the small things that we've done to support our wonderful school:

For teachers ...

- A "welcome back" staff breakfast before the start of school
- A chili supper during busy parent-teacher conference time
- Grade-level allotments to help with supplies or field trips
- The profits from the book fair are being used to support class libraries

For students ...

- A festive, week-long book fair
- A national creative and performing arts contest, "Reflections"
- A fabulous assembly with reptiles and creatures
- A Reading is Fundamental (RIF) day, with a free book for every Polk student
- Mad Science, Chess, and Mudmuckers afterschool programs

For families ...

- A welcome event for new families: Popsicles at Polk
- A fall back-to-school picnic
- A magic show and book fair evening
- A family movie night with "Cars 2"

For the entire Polk community ...

- Monthly PTA meetings with informative topics and speakers
- www.justbetweenfriends.com, a web-based communications tool, for timely updates and announcements
- Fundraisers for new playground equipment

Thank you, everyone, for your support! With your involvement, we'll make 2012 the best year ever at Polk. I look forward to working with you all!

--Susan

Sally Foster Fundraising



Orders placed by Dec 20 at SallyFoster.com can be delivered by Dec 24 if you opt for overnight shipping charges. If you need wrapping paper or small gift items (chocolates, candles, etc.) for upcoming holidays, birthdays, or other occasions, please remember that Sally Foster products are sold online all school year. Forty percent of sales through SallyFoster.com go to Polk when you enter our school code, **504164**, at check out.

Just Between Friends Group: To receive PTA e-mail updates, please join the Polk PTA and provide an e-mail address with your PTA payment. We will add you to the Just Between Friends group. Alternatively, join Just Between Friends directly by visiting www.justbetweenfriends.com and use invitation code 14249tok or see instructions on the PTA link of the Polk web site at <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/polk/pta-just-between-friends.pdf>.

Dates to Remember

12/23/11 – 1/1/12	Winter Break – No School
1/10/12	PTA Meeting (7:00 pm)
1/16/12	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – No School
1/17/12	Heritage Night
1/18/12	Reflections Ceremony (7:00 pm)

Box Tops for Education



The Box Tops for Education program is an easy way to earn funds for Polk. Each box top is worth 10 cents for Polk – that can really add up! Box tops may be dropped off in the PTA box in the copy room.

Come Celebrate "Diversity Means ..."

Come see the inspiring 81 creative and performing arts projects entered by Polk students in this year's national PTA Reflections contest! The artwork will be displayed at two January ceremonies.

- The first, a Reflections dessert reception, will be held in the Polk cafeteria and multipurpose room on Wednesday, Jan 18, from 7 to 8 pm. All students who entered the contest will receive an honorary ribbon.
- The second, an All-City PTA Reflections Arts Festival, will take place in the TC Williams cafeteria on Sunday, Jan 22, at 3 pm.

Any questions, please contact Reflections Coordinator Betsy Wong, betsywong@comcast.net.



Community Events

- New t-shirt design: We all love Polk! Get ready to think about a new t-shirt design that shows our school spirit. Come to the upcoming PTA meetings to learn about how we can turn a plain white t-shirt into a Polk statement!

Volunteer Corner



Volunteer Services

- Contribute to the Yearbook! The yearbook committee is looking for candid photos from school functions throughout the year. If you have been taking pictures at events like Walk to School Day, Family Movie Night, Bookfair, or Girls on the Run, please contact Ms. Wieder so your photos can be considered for the yearbook.

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Character Counts

We send you season's greetings. We are lighting up with our character and Habits of Mind focus for December with being responsible and accurate. The following students are showing these characteristics and representing their classes this month. Their names reside on decorative ornaments on the Wall of Character outside the library. They will be celebrated on Thursday Dec 22 in the multi-purpose room at 1:30 pm. Parents/guardians are welcome to attend.

Kindergarten

Charjwok Awejok
Eva Ezechiel
Andres Rios
Sophia Afi
Walid Makawi
Ashraf Abdou

Ms. Cox
Ms. Goblesky
Ms. Henry
Ms. Liverpool
Ms. Vargo
Ms. Webster

Grade 1

Heather Miranda
Christian Perez
Arianna Santos
Lily Fanning
Joshua Tesfamariam
Noah Foerster

Ms. Brumback
Ms. Drasheff
Ms. Joy
Ms. King
Ms. Polite
Ms. Rougier

Grade 2

Nora Fareeha
Kiara James
William Hensley
Sarah Brennan
Yared Tesfaye

Ms. Bryant
Ms. Gavan
Ms. Ketcham
Ms. Pittman
Ms. Williams

Grade 3

Samar Abdou
Ahlam Ahmed
Vandna Desai
Miranda Sedehi
Romel Rahimi Gahfarasahd

Ms. Alexander
Mr. Curran
Ms. Kingsbury
Ms. Lathrop
Ms. Koz Calvo

Grade 4

David Arbieto
Jose Ortiz
Shayla Tate
Nabonita Ifrit

Ms. Burton
Ms. Masao
Ms. Ochs
Mr. Palmer

Grade 5

Ariel Lemieux
Leeban Egeh
Jessica Agbeve
Marian Reynoso Terero
Josseline Cruz Santos

Ms. Joyner
Ms. Peaches
Ms. Sodaro-Jensen
Ms. Thornton
Ms. Wieder