

The Fry PTA Community Service Committee needs your help!

Fall is a great time to clean out those closets...and to share the warmth with others...

Fry's Community Service Teams will be collecting gently used coats, hats, gloves, boots, etc. for all ages and sizes to donate families in need right in our area. Please donate gently used coats, gloves, scarves, hats, and boots the week of October 6th-10th!

Sharing bins will be located in the halls near your classroom.

For more information on how you can help, please contact: Deb Stirling at (630) 718-9326 or send an email to stirlings@comcast.net or Chris Ehlert at (630) 544-6456 or send an email to cehlert@wowway.com.

Thank you in advance for your always generous donations!!

Reflections Entries are Needed!

Fry's Annual Reflections Art Program is in full swing. All entries are due by Oct 16, 2009. Please look on the Fry website for all application information. Since this is a national PTA program, entries must comply with these requirements to advance.

And, just so you know, we will host a Reflections breakfast with Mrs. Arzich for all Fry participants. So sharpen those pencils, get out your paint, strap on your dancing shoes, pull up your piano bench, and submit an entry. This year's theme "Beauty Is..." should give our students lots of ideas to work with! Questions, contact Praseeda Govindadas, Fry Reflections Chair, at prasidaq@hotmail.com.

The Gift Wrap/Fundraising Season is Upon Us

You have probably noticed the Innisbrook package that came to your house via your student's backpack. Innisbrook is this year's choice as a fundraising organization, and we hope you enjoy their selection of gifts. As you may know 50% of the purchase price comes back to Fry, so please consider making a purchase. As always, we thank you for your support.

This year we thought we would also highlight an option to donate directly to Fry's PTA, in the event you really don't want to make a purchase but do want to support this year's PTA programs. Checks can be returned via backpacks, in envelopes marked PTA.

Regardless of whether you choose to donate directly, to purchase Innisbrook items, to donate your time, or do one or all of these things, the PTA Leadership Team thanks you for all you do for our Fry students. Questions, please contact Peter Barnard at psbarnard@comcast.net, or at 773.575.0813.

Homework Hints Available Here!

Thanks to Diane Horton and Becky Mack for discussing strategies and approaches for helping your child with their homework at the last PTA Meeting. We're all in this together, so it's great to know how as parents we can reinforce and build from the learning at school (as well as minimize some of the homework trauma). Diane and Becky put together a very helpful sheet of tips that is attached (and will be in the document download section of the Fry web site) and is worth more than a glance.

Congrats BoxTops Winners

Congratulations to the following students for winning the Box Top drawing gift cards:

Charles Benson - K

Delaney Summers - 1st grade

Casey Dimech - 2nd

Jack Palowski - 3rd
Claire Ditzel - 4th
Ben Sandefur - 5th

We will have another prize give away in October. Thanks to all of those parents who clipped!

Legislative Reports Available On-Line

Anne Mathews has been kind enough to keep her finger on the pulse of legislative issues related to our schools, and has provided two updates that are posted on the Fry web site. If you are a Scullen parent, you might get a sense of "Deja Vu all over again" (as Anne's updates are available through Scullen as well), but given the economic turmoil and its impact on our District, these updates are an important read (even twice). Take a look on our web site. Questions, please contact Anne at Mathewsam@aol.com.

PTA Budget Available to all Members

At the most recent PTA meeting we discussed this year's PTA budget. In total, we plan to spend \$45,175 on PTA programs at Fry. If you are a PTA member and could not attend the meeting, or if you would like a copy of the budget, please feel free to contact Peter Barnard or Jen Greeno. Our goal as a leadership team is to ensure that we are allocating funds to the areas our members think are most important, and we are happy to discuss/refine priorities based on member input. "Transparency" is the latest buzz-word, but we want you to have every opportunity to know where and how your money is spent.

Directory Coming Soon

We are looking to distribute the directory in mid-October. All PTA members get one copy. And if you're not a member, let me assure you the value of the directory alone far exceeds the cost of membership.

Meet the Superintendent at the Next PTA Meeting

Kathy Birkett, Superintendent for District 204 will be attending our next PTA meeting on November 17 at 6:30 PM. Come prepared to hear what's going on in the District. And if you have questions you would like to submit in advance, please send them to Peter Barnard. They can be anonymous or can simply be read should you not be able to attend. Questions, please contact Peter Barnard at psbarnard@comcast.net, or at 773.575.0813.

IPSN PTA

*DO YOU HAVE A CHILD WITH AN IEP OR 504 PLAN?
DOES YOUR CHILD RECEIVE SUPPORT SERVICES AT SCHOOL?
ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF?*

If "Yes", then the Indian Prairie Special Needs PTA is a great resource for you! We are a group of parents and caregivers who have children with special needs in District 204. Our members have children with a wide range of ages, abilities and educational placements within and outside the District's schools. Our mission is to unify and support special needs families through our meetings and educational opportunities. We have also made a commitment again this year to award grants to the support staff working directly with our children.

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month (except December) in the Board Room at the Howard E. Crouse Education Center at 7:00 pm. For our next meeting on October 20th, we warmly welcome Superintendent Kathy Birkett as guest speaker.

Please feel free to contact Karyn Borden, Fry Liaison, with any questions. kborden@wideopenwest

The Indian Prairie Special Needs PTA is hosting a Photography Event on October 1, 2 and 3rd at the Crouse Education Center. Your \$10 sitting fee will go directly to the Special Needs PTA, and you will receive a free 5x7 portrait. All ordered portraits will be back in time for the holidays. To receive a registration form via e-mail, contact Karyn Borden kborden@wideopenwest.com

Upcoming Fry School Events

9/28	Monday	7:50am	Band – 5 th Grade
9/29	Tuesday	7:50am	Chorus – 4 th & 5 th Grade
9/30	Wednesday	School Begins at 9:15	Professional Development for the staff
10/1	Thursday	7:50am 9:30am	Orchestra -5 th Grade PA Orientation Rm. 170
10/2	Friday	7:50am	Orff – 4 th & 5 th Grade
10/5	Monday	7:50am	Band – 5 th Grade PTA Gift Sale Ends
10/6	Tuesday	7:50am	Chorus – 4 th & 5 th Grade
10/7	Wednesday	School Begins at 9:15 5:00pm-6:00pm	Professional Development for the staff PTA Market Day Walk to School Day
10/8	Thursday	7:50am	Orchestra -5 th Grade
10/9	Friday	7:50am	Orff - 4 th & 5 th Grade PTA Entertainment Book Sale Begins