



Family Advocate Highlights

Hello everyone! I hope the New Year has been great for all students and families! I have been busy planning family activities for the remainder of the school year, visiting with parents and enjoying the student/parent greetings each day.

Attention all Dads, Grandfathers, Uncles and significant male role models, we are "looking for" More great men to be involved with the Man UP Program here at Ward and spent some time at school as a volunteer in several different ways, such as greeting parents and students in the morning and reading to students. There are other ways you can be involved also, just contact your Family Advocate and I will share more with you! 795-7030

Moms! Your Family Advocate could use some help from you to assist with the Family Picture Board, assisting with copies and creating ideas for the parent board! Please contact me with any available time you have to volunteer! 795-7030.

February 20th we will have Family Literacy and Author night starting at 5:45pm. There will be a light supper with Tea Cakes, Sandwiches, Chips and Cookies! We are really excited about this event and hope that everyone will be able to attend. Be watching for the flyer as the date gets closer for this event.



Your Family Advocate! Ellen Vaughan

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from the Clinic

CAN YOU HELP?

Clothing items are lent out by the clinic for any accidents that happen throughout the day so that parents need not be called to the school. Ward Elementary Clinic is short on small boys pants sizes 4-6.

Gently used hand-me-downs would be gratefully received.



Announcements from the Membership & Programming Committees

The Membership Committee is striving to exceed its overall membership participation for the 2013-2014 school year. In order to meet this goal we must increase membership by at least 10% over the previous school year to be recognized by the Virginia State PTA Committee ...And we are well on our way!! So, continue to encourage family members, civic and community members to join the Ward PTA!!

For all of our PTA members who have received their new membership cards, please register your cards on-line and begin using your complimentary discounts and learn what's new in our state PTA!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

If you have submitted a volunteer form, look forward to a phone call or email very shortly!

If you are interested in volunteering, please submit your name and contact information through your student's teacher

We are looking to assemble committees to assist, plan and carry out the 2nd half of the PTA's programming year to include our Teacher Appreciation event, Field Day 2014, 5th Grade Graduation and Grandparents appreciation and our Spring Carnival/Yard Sale, just to name a few. If you would be interested in chairing a committee, please let any members of the PTA Board know.

WANTED!! Parents, grandparents, aunts, Uncles and friends of Ward E.S....to serve as Ward Photographers!! You would be asked to take candied photos of students, staff, etc. during school activities, field trips, Spirit Nights, etc. We will provide you with the camera!! If interested please see any members of the PTA Board.

Keep a lookout for the calendar of "Ward Spirit Nights", to include Sweet Frog, Chick-fil-A, McDonalds, Roller Dome and new this year...Panera Bread!

Lastly, the PTA Board and Membership Committee would like to thank everyone that joined our PTA during the "Mission Impossible Membership Drive". It was a great success!!!! AND THE CLASSES (each grade level) WITH THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION ARE . . .(drum roll please)

Pre-K – Ms. Essex
 Kindergarten – Ms. Abney
 1st Grade – Ms. Katona
 2nd Grade – Ms. Clem
 4th Grade – Ms. Harris
 5th Grade – Ms. Sides

The 3rd Grade there was a tie between Ms. Moore and Ms. Smith's class....SO...You both are winners and each class will receive a pizza party, compliment of YOUR PTA!!! Congratulations to all of our winners!!!
 You ARE Awesome!!!

What's GOING ON in the Library?

SPELLING BEE



WARD SPELLING BEE RESULTS!

Daniela Djeuking from Mrs. Harris's class is our school winner and MJ Cox from Ms. Long's class is our school runner-up. Daniela will be competing at the County Spelling Bee on February 3rd. Let's wish her good L-U-C-K!

BOOK BOWL TEAM - Ward's Book Bowl team represented Ward well at the annual Book Bowl held on December 4. Although we didn't make it to Quarter Finals, the team proved to be stiff competition in our bracket. I was most proud of their sportsmanship and team effort to do their best. Go Team Ward!

As part of our celebration of **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**, author **Kelly Starling Lyons** will be coming to Ward on February 20 and presenting to all grade levels during the day as well as a special presentation to parents that evening. Want to find out more about the author? Go to <http://www.kellystarlinglyons.com/books/index.html> Also, be on the lookout in the coming weeks for the opportunity to purchase one of her books and get it autographed by the author!

A new reading incentive program will begin in February and last through the end of the year. Can you help your class read enough minutes for your Colt to gallop to all 50 capitals of the United States and for your class to earn the Golden Colt Award? Look for a flier to come home in the next week explaining this exciting program!



Lastly, get ready to celebrate **DR. SEUSS WEEK**, Ward style!

Here are the highlights:

- o Monday, 2/24 – Cat in the Hat Day (Hat Day)
- o Tuesday, 2/25 – Crazy Fox in Socks Day (Crazy Socks)
- o Wednesday, 2/26 – Grinch Green Day (Wear green)
- o Thursday 2/27 – My Many Colored Days – wear your favorite color(s)
- o Friday, 2/28 – Favorite Dr. Seuss Character Day

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There are many ways to stay connected with your PTA

- Follow our blog to keep informed with the latest Ward PTA updates!
- From the blog, click on the Newsletter tab and sign up to receive our PTA monthly newsletter via e-mail!
- Facebook fans can also follow our *Henry Ward Elementary PTA* Facebook group.

Ward Parents if you would like to submit pictures for the 2013-2014 Yearbook, please e-mail them to Diane Barnes at keenanbarnes@comcast.net

We're on the web!
<http://henrywardpta.wordpress.com/>

