



from the Principal's Desk

ASK THE PRINCIPAL

Q: Why can't Field Day be rescheduled if the weather is bad?

A: We can do that some years, however, because of the schedule this year, we were not able to do it.

Q: Who were the teachers recognized this year for Teacher of The Year for HCPS.

A: Ward's selections were; Sharlene Abney, Teacher of the Year, Melissa Liberatore, New Teacher of the Year, and Meghan Hyatt, Exceptional Education Teacher of the Year.

Q: Who is the new Principal and has she visited Ward yet?

A: Andrea Prisco will be Ward's Principal next year. She is currently the principal of Longdale Elementary in Henrico County. Ms. Prisco spent the day at Ward on April 29th and will visit a few more times before the end of the year.

Q: My child came home talking about being able to take the SOL test again if they don't pass. Is that true?

A: Yes. A student must score at least 400 points on an SOL test to be considered passing. If they score between 375 and 399, they will receive additional instruction and be able to take that SOL test again before the end of the year. It's a great opportunity for a student who is close, but just missed earning a passing score.

Q: I know Ward was accredited with warning this year. What scores do our students need for us to be Fully Accredited?

A: The combined pass rate for students in grades 3, 4, 5, must be at least 70% in Math and 75% in Reading. Students and Teachers have been working hard and I'm optimistic we will improve.

Q: What is the Kindergarten Open House all about?

A: We will invite new (2015-2016) Kindergarten students and parents to meet our staff and take a tour of the school. This event is scheduled for Friday, May 8th.

Q: Will there still be a 5th Grade Variety Show?

A: You bet! The show will be Wednesday, June 10th at 9:00 AM and 6:30 PM.

Q: When is the 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony? Do we need tickets?

A: Friday, June 12th at 8:30. There will be no tickets and we'll try to accommodate all who want to come. However, I would suggest arriving early to guarantee a seat.

Q: When is your last day as Principal?

A: I will here until July 1st.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PTA President	2
Special School Info	3
From the Family	4
Spring Fling Info	5

from the PTA President

Ward Family!

Well, the 2014-2015 school year is just about over! Only a few days left!! It's hard to believe how quickly it went! As a PTA unit we have accomplished a lot, always keeping the mission of PTA in mind: to promote the welfare of our kids, and to develop between educators and the public such a united effort that secures for all children the highest advantages in their education. Keeping this in mind, we have prepared for Back to School Night & Kindergarten Open House, handled collecting of pictures taken by you our parents and community of events held for our yearbook, created our new yearbook, edited, promoted and shared our newsletter, kept everyone informed of PTA actions and activities via our social media, supported a great Staff Appreciation Breakfast & other activities, offered spirit wear, ran the Reflection contest, assisted many of our teachers with our teacher supply reimbursement program and promoted several community service projects!! **(GIVE YOURSELVES A HAND!!)** and we are about to help out with Field Day and our 5th Grade Moving On Ceremonies! We have also earned quite a bit of money through our fundraising, as a result.

As we shift to give thanks to all of our volunteers and community partners, and YOU our Ward parents and staff, we could not have pulled any of this off without your help and support! So, thank you for an outstanding and memorable school year. I would also like to take this opportunity to say "Thank you" to OUR principal, Mr. Brian Almasian as he steps into a new chapter when he retires at the end of this school year! The PTA thanks you for all of your support and guidance over the past years and wishes you the very best!

As we continue to solicit your help in

identifying parents and members of the community to fill some of our PTA committee and board spots, the PTA will move forward in its planning of the 2015-2016 school year on July 25, 2015 during our annual Planning Retreat; location to be determined. This is an opportunity to get in on the ground floor in planning what happens next year!! Please contact me @ wardptapres@gmail.com, if you are interested in joining in!! We would just love to have you and your ideas!! We are still looking to fill quite a few positions as volunteers to assist with Spring Fling, May 15, 2015 starting at 6:00 p.m. We will also be accepting PTA nominations during this event. If you haven't signed up already, please contact or email Mrs. Brock @ em-brock@henrico.k12.va.us and let her know that you can help with.

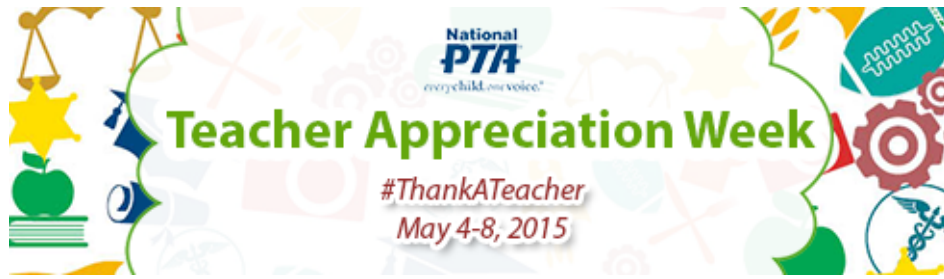
Good luck to the 5th graders moving up to Middle School! You and your parents will be missed!

It has been a pleasure to serve as your PTA President for the past year. The Ward PTA has much to be proud of...we have wonderful volunteers and families, and have accomplished a lot over the past year; I look forward to accomplishing even more as we move forward to next year and our celebrating 20 years in the community! Have a terrific summer!

Angela Clark Greene
Wardptapres@gmail.com



KEEP
CALM
IT'S ALMOST
SUMMER
BREAK



SOLS ARE COMING SOON!

2015 SOL/HAT Testing Schedule

- May 5th- 3rd Grade Social Studies HAT
- May 6th- 5th Grade Science SOL
- May 7th- 3rd Grade Science HAT
- May 8th- 4th Grade Social Studies SOL
- May 11th- 5th Grade Math SOL Part 1
- May 12th - 5th Grade Math SOL Part 2
- May 13th- 3rd Grade Math SOL Part 1
- May 14th- 4th Grade Math SOL Part 2
- May 15th- 4th Grade Math SOL Part 1
- May 18th- 4th Grade Math SOL Part 2
- May 19th- 5th Grade Reading SOL
- May 20th -3rd Grade Reading SOL Part 1 & 2nd Grade Reading HAT Part 1
- May 21st- 3rd Grade Reading SOL Part 2 & 2nd Grade Reading HAT Part 2
- May 22nd- 4th Grade Reading SOL
- May 27th- 2nd grade Math HAT Part 1
- May 28th- 2nd Grade Math HAT Part 2

How can students prepare for their SOLs/HAT tests?

- Eat a good breakfast
- Wear comfortable clothes
- Get plenty of rest
- Review the materials sent home prior to taking the test
- Try your best!

YEARBOOK NEWS!

Send any pictures from field day, field trips, spirit days, etc. to wardyearbook2014@gmail.com.

Yearbooks are \$10, pre-orders will be accepted through May 15th. (Cash or checks made payable to Ward PTA) Also, 5th Grade shout outs are \$2 and will be accepted through May 15th.



from the Family Advocate

Hello Ward Families! Wow! What an exciting time at Ward with many end of the year things happening.

Friday May First is field day and at 8:15am we will meet in the front of the building for the opening ceremony and dedication of the landscaping and the Circle of Life garden that can be added to by parents, students and staff. Also the Fish organization will be here to receive the can goods for the food pantry. What an exciting time.

I will be taking applications for Pre-K classes until May 8th, 2015 for 2015-16 school year. If you have a child that will be four on or before September 30th, 2015 or know of someone else that has a child that would qualify age wise, you can contact Ms. Vaughan to get a packet of information and schedule an appointment to complete an application.

- May 8th there will be a special event hosted by the Ward Dudes and Man Up for all mom's in the morning. Flyers will go home on 4/28/15.
- May 16th, 2015 10:00am-2:00pm: 6th Annual Men's Day Out Celebration at AMF Shrader Lanes. Sponsored by Man UP. Flyer going home 4/28/15. With fun, games, food and more.
- May 29th will be the last day students can turn in can tabs for the Ronald McDonald house. *PLEASE SEND IN THE TABS AND LETS SEE WHICH CLASS, SCHOOL WIDE HAS THE MOST COLLECTED FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR." Maybe a surprise.

Summer months not far away! Please enjoy some family time with games and laughter. Lots of Hugs for all our students and families.

Your Family Advocate
Ellen Vaughan



WE  **VOLUNTEERS**

5th Grade Picnic

Wednesday, June 10 @ 12:30 PM

5th Grade Promotion Ceremony

Friday, June 12 @ 8:30 AM

Invitations and more information coming soon!



There are many ways to stay connected with your PTA this school year.

- 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 Elementary School – PTA is now a participant in the Kroger Community Rewards Program!! To participate, you and your family members, friends, co-workers, etc. will need to do the following:

- Simply register online at <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards> (Ward's NPO # is 85420, Org Name: Henry D. Ward Elem. School PTA).
- Please also have your Kroger Plus card handy to locate your Kroger Plus card number when you register.



Who: All Ward Families & Staff

What: Games, Popcorn, Dancing, Kona Ice & More!

When: Friday, May 15th 6 - 8 pm

Where: Ward Elementary School

\$2/person between the ages of 4 -15. All others are FREE!

Pre-sale flyers have been sent home with the students!

Lots of items are needed for donation,
please look for a flyer to go home soon.