



Island Breeze

Volume 1, Number 5

Newsletter of Island Creek PTA

January 2004

2004 and Moving Ahead !!!!

By Margaret M. von Kolnitz, PTA President

Happy New Year to all and welcome back from our winter holiday break. The arrival of this newsletter signals that the 2003–04 school year is nearly one-half complete. The Island Creek PTA would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents, teachers, students, and the administration for all your support. All your efforts and support are what makes the PTA function and it's the extra hours that make our children's educational experience so fulfilling. Our community is truly blessed.

Please consider signing up for the Giant and Safeway programs; the more families involved, the bigger benefit for our school. We are also collecting General Mills box tops and Campbell's labels, so please send them in with your child. Your support for all these programs is very much appreciated.

Looking ahead, on January 31 the PTA will sponsor a doughnut morning at the school. Preorder your doughnuts then come by the school that morning and eat them with your friends. Free coffee and hot chocolate will be served.

In February the PTA is planning to host a family and school staff night at the Silver Diner (more details will be sent home as plans are finalized).

Our PTA will be forming a nomination committee in March. Volunteers who are interested in recruiting leaders for next year's board and committee chairs are encouraged to speak with any of the current PTA board members.

In the spring we are looking forward to the Island Creek Elementary Dedication Day on April 23. Mark your calendar now—this is the only dedication day the school will ever have and you won't want to miss it.

Please check regularly the *Weekly Words on the Island*, the *Crocodile Courier*, and the *Island Breeze* each month for dates, times, and other pertinent information on all these exciting activities.

The next PTA meeting will be held February 3, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

Island Creek School Directory Seeks Advertisers

Local businesses are invited to advertise in Island Creek's first school directory. Business card-size ads will be sold at \$25 each. They will help subsidize the publication of the directory so the PTA can offer it free of charge to the Island Creek community. For more information, contact Stephanie Guinetti at (703) 550-1059.



Doughnut Morning

Saturday, January 31
8–10 a.m.

Join the Island Creek PTA for a fun community-building event: Doughnut Morning. Come to school on the morning of January 31 and enjoy preordered donuts along with free coffee and hot chocolate provided by the PTA. For more details, see page three.

Calendar of Events

January 26–27	No School Teacher Workdays
January 31	Doughnut Morning, 8–10 a.m.
February 3	PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., Library

Web page: www.fcps.edu/islandcreekes



Island Creek Students Honored at Next Reflections Level

Four Island Creek students received second- and third-place honors at the Cluster 5-level Reflections competition. We're so proud of them for their creative efforts. Way to go, Crocs!

Music

Award of Excellence

Intermediate Sean Townsend

Photography

Award of Excellence

Intermediate Emily Jessee

Award of Merit

Primary Cole Bishop

Middle Cameron Cardillo

Community News

Girls Fastpitch Softball



Northern Virginia Girls Softball Association

For: Girls ages 5–18

Registration: Now to March 6 (late registrations accepted)

Team Types: Developmental house league and select teams

Drop-in Registration: Pohick and John Marshall Libraries

When: 2/7, 2/21, 2/28 from 10 a.m.–noon

Download registration form from www.eteamz.com/nvgsa

Island Breeze, January 2004

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Letters, comments, and corrections are welcome and may be published at the discretion of the editor.

Reflections Entries

My Happy Family

I am really happy when my family walks for miles and miles.

I am really happy when we're just together and all smiles.

I am really happy when we're there for each other in good times and bad.

This is my family that makes my happy: brother, sister, dog, mom, and dad.

Megan Harlow, 4th grade

Honorable Mention

I Am Really Happy When ...

It all started at 7:12PM, we had just gotten a phone call from the hospital the baby was born! My family and one other family that we are good friends with rushed to the hospital. My grandma and my two brothers and I all went up to see our new baby brother. First we went up the elevator and then to the birth section. Then we entered room 207. It was exciting to know that I had a new baby brother!

When we opened the door we saw a beautiful baby boy and my great mom and dad! He was 6lb and 11oz, exactly like me when I was born. At that moment I knew he and I would get along great! When it was my turn to hold him it was like a baby angel was in my hands. I was so proud to have another brother.

Now he is one and one month. He can walk and sort of talk. He loves dogs just like me. He calls them woof woofs. He likes to pull out his baby books and look at them. He also likes Barney and Baby Einstein. He laughs at people when they smile because he thinks they look funny!

I love him because he is a wonderful baby. I think he is the cutest baby in the world no galaxy. He usually does not cry but when he does my mom or I soothe him. He is a very

lucky baby because he has a lot of food and family. I am really happy when I think of my youngest brother.



Megan von Kolnitz, 4th grade

Honorable Mention

Community Building at Island Creek through Social Events

By Jen Bishop and Simone McDonald

The Social and Fundraising Committee has been very busy these past few months. In December our Movie Night was a great success. It was so fun to see the kids on the floor of the cafeteria with pillows and sleeping bags! A huge thank you goes out to the Pruitt family for making our Movie Night a reality. Thank you also to Papa John's for coming through in a pinch to provide 40 MORE pizzas when we ran low and to CiCi's Pizza for delivering our first 100. It was great fun and we are happy to report that Nemo found his way home.



On January 31 we will be hosting a doughnut morning from 8–10 a.m. Please send in your order form for the doughnuts (it's on the reverse side of *Weekly Words on the Island* in your Thursday folder). They are \$4 for a dozen Krispy Kreme glazed doughnuts. Orders are to be in *before* the event. Then on the 31st come stop by and pick up your doughnuts and let us serve you free coffee and hot chocolate. We hope to see you all there.

For February we are working on having a restaurant night at the Silver Diner. This is going to be extra fun because the school staff gets to work during the night serving us dinner. More details to come...

For information on any social or fundraising events, call Jen Bishop at (703) 339-1888 or Simone McDonald at (703) 339-9833.

PTA Mission and Purpose

The National PTA, established in 1897, is the oldest and largest volunteer association working exclusively on behalf of all children and youth. The Virginia PTA, established in 1904, was originally part of the Cooperative Education Association and joined the National PTA in 1921.

The Mission of the PTA

- ◆ To support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community, and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children
- ◆ To assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children
- ◆ To encourage parents and public involvement in the public schools of this nation.

The Virginia PTA/PTSA Mission Statement

- ◆ To advocate on behalf of all children and youth
- ◆ To promote positive parenting
- ◆ To encourage parent and public involvement in the health, education, and welfare of children and youth

The Purpose of the National PTA

- ◆ To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community, and place of worship
- ◆ To raise the standards of home life
- ◆ To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth
- ◆ To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth
- ◆ To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education

SCA News

Help Get Fish by Making a Wish

The SCA will be holding a "Help Get Fish by Making a Wish" fundraiser. During the entire month of February, children will be able to throw change into the pond to raise money for our pond and fish. At the end of February each class will estimate how much money is in there. One class from each grade level—the one that guesses the closest—will get to name a fish.