



Island Breeze

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Newsletter of Island Creek PTA

April 2007

The Little Things...

By Liz Dunn, PTA President

Recently, I paused by the front door and and watched my almost 12-year-old son Brian and his friends Julia and Anders walk home from the bus stop. Their smiling faces and animated gestures—as they were probably telling stories of who did what to whom at school—made me think of how simple life seemed “back then.” You know ... in elementary school, which for me was in the 60s and 70s. Sure, there was a lot going on then and a lot of it was bad—the assassinations of both President John F. Kennedy and his brother Senator Robert Kennedy, as well as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. ... Vietnam War ... Watergate and other political scandals ... terrorists at the Munich Olympic Games. From a pre-teen perspective, you're aware that it's bad but it doesn't really seem to affect your daily life; from an adult perspective it rocks your world.

In stark contrast to my quiet moments watching my son and his friends, I watched the tragedy unfold at Virginia Tech. From an adult perspective. And my world was rocked.

As adults we all have moments which will be indelibly etched in our minds ... “Where were you when ... President Reagan was shot ... Challenger exploded ... the World Trade Center collapsed on September 11th ... ?” I've come to believe that these moments continue to be so vivid in our minds not only because of the bad, but also because of the good.

What we learn from these powerful moments is to live each day that we have—in the here and now—to the fullest. Appreciate the time today—don't wait for tomorrow. Look around—it's the little things ...

Hug your child a little tighter.

Smell the freshly mown grass.

See the puffy white clouds float across the clear blue sky.

Listen to the music at a school concert.

Taste one of summer's first juicy berries.

Watch your child walk home from school with friends and be thankful for all you have. Today.

Meet FCPS Board Member Dan Storck!

Join us at our ICES PTA Meeting on Tuesday, May 1 at 7 p.m. in the Library, and meet Dan Storck, chair and Mount Vernon District representative, Fairfax County School Board. Mr. Storck will discuss the Fairfax County Public Schools beliefs, vision, mission, and goals, as well as school board operations and budget. He will also open it up for Q&A. It's a great opportunity to get the latest scoop on one of the largest school districts in the nation.



Movie Night

Charlotte's Web

April 27, 6–9 p.m.

Cafeteria

Join us for an evening of fun with the live-action film, *Charlotte's Web*. Read the book together as a great family fun project. **Pizza, popcorn, drinks, and cookies—FREE!** (ALL children must be accompanied by an adult.) Sponsored by Roger Derflinger of Re/Max Allegiance (703-339-1771, rderflinger@msn.com), Kingstowne Domino's (703-971-3033), and Central Springfield Little League (CSLL).

Calendar of Events

April 27 Movie Night, *Charlotte's Web*, 6–9 p.m.

May 1 PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., Special Guest Dan Storck, Fairfax County School Bd.

Web page: www.islandcreekpta.org



PTA Slate of Officers, 2007–08

At our recent PTA meeting, we announced our slate of outstanding officers (so far) for the 2007–08 school year.

President: Marsha Porter-Houghton

Treasurer: Cherie Rogers-Mazyck

Secretary: Lorie Kappeler

We are still on the lookout for a few great VPs—Community Outreach, Education, and Ways & Means—to round out the PTA Board. If you are interested, please contact Liz Dunn at lizgdunn@cox.net. PTA elections will be held at the June 5 meeting.

An Educated Thanks

By Steve Wallen, Vice President for Education

The PTA Education Committees support extracurricular foreign language programs, assemblies, science programs, and an arts competition. I would like to thank all of the people who volunteered their time and talents and made this year such a success. The students not only benefited from the educational aspects of your efforts, they were also thoroughly entertained.

I would especially like to thank the PTA Education Committee leaders who coordinated and ran these programs:

Denise Bolton—Reflections

Yin Mei Hueskes—Flex

Susan Brock—CAPS

Dr. Joe Tischler—Mad Science

Domino's Pizza Coupon Cards

Now that we're rounding the corner to the end of the school year, make sure you have your Domino's Pizza Coupon Cards. When you purchase a \$10 Domino's Coupon Card through Island Creek PTA, you'll get 10 buy one, get one free pizza coupons. Since this is a new fundraiser for our school, **Domino's has included a gift certificate for a free medium pizza to the first 100 families who buy the card.** All this free pizza for \$10! Our school profits \$9 per card! What's not to like? We have 30 gift certificates left, so send in your \$10 check (made out to Island Creek PTA) as soon as possible. Coupons are good at several Domino's for carry-out and delivery through December 2008. Call Coleen Murray at (703) 550-1857 or e-mail questions to CMurray341@aol.com.

Plan Ahead ...

SchoolKidz and Staples are making back-to-school easier than ever!!!

Order a school supply kit packed with exactly what your child's teacher requested. Each kit is personalized with your child's name, grade, and school name. However, most importantly, each kit will be delivered to your child's classroom on the first day of school.

Look for more details next month in your child's Thursday folder!!!

Deadline for all orders/payments is Friday, May 25, 2007!!!

For additional information, please contact Cherie Rogers-Mazyck at (703) 339-1054.

This service is provided by Island Creek PTA.



* Backpack can be purchased separately