

# BARTON BANNER

Clara Barton PTA Newsletter  
Fall 2011 Volume 1

## *President's Message*

Can you believe it's November! The first two months of school have passed in such a blur. So much has happened since the first day. How did we get it all in and how did it get by so quickly? I hope everyone enjoyed Back to School Night and found it to be informative and helpful for the upcoming year. I hope you took the opportunity to sign up as a volunteer for PTA events or to complete your PTA membership form for this year. While there are fundraising events, such as Innisbrook, Silver Diner Night, to Chick-fil-A Night and Spiritwear, the PTA does more than just fundraising. There are many activities which the PTA sponsors, such as Author Day, Field Trip transportation, the 1st grade Hot Chicks Project and School Assembly programs. You are invited to come out to PTA meetings, to not only find out what's happening with our school and community, but to also have a voice in what's happening. I am pleased to announce that at our November 17<sup>th</sup> PTA meeting, Dr. Maureen Reusche, the new Superintendent, will be available to discuss current issues in the school district and how we can all support the education of all of Cherry Hill's students!

Thank you for your commitment to PTA and I look forward to working with you this year!

*Melissia Brooks*  
*Clara Barton PTA*  
*President*

[www.clarabartonpta@gmail.com](http://www.clarabartonpta@gmail.com)

## **In This Issue**

President's  
Message

Ways & Means

Arts & Education

Health &  
Education

1<sup>st</sup> Grade News

Reading Tips

Upcoming Events

PTA Meeting  
Dates

## *Ways & Means*

Various PTA fundraising events planned by Ways & Means help support Barton students and their families. The next few months will be packed with fun-filled chances to help prepare you for the winter holiday season! Those of you who have already signed up to help make these activities a success, look out for an email. For those of you who haven't volunteered, it's not too late!!!

Please contact Jennifer Ebling or Melissa Royer at [clarabartonpta@gmail.com](mailto:clarabartonpta@gmail.com)

*Jennifer Ebling*  
*Vice President of Ways & Means*

*Melissa Royer*  
*Chairperson of Ways & Means*



## *Upcoming Events*

### *October*

24<sup>th</sup> Fall Spiritwear Sale begins

### *November*

1<sup>st</sup> Cookie Dough Sale begins

13<sup>th</sup> Innisbrook Delivery

14<sup>th</sup> Fall Spiritwear Sale ends

18<sup>th</sup> School Dance

21<sup>st</sup> Cookie Dough Sale ends

28<sup>th</sup> Barnes & Noble Night

### *December*

6<sup>th</sup> Chick-fil-A Night

12<sup>th</sup> Cookie Dough Delivery

15<sup>th</sup> Skating Party

### *January*

Spring Spiritwear Sale

Book Fair

### ***VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO***

- ✓ Assemble baskets for the School Dance Raffles
- ✓ Deliver Innisbrook and Cookie Dough orders
- ✓ Work the refreshment table at the School Dance
- ✓ Operate the Chick-fil-A wheel

## *Arts & Education*

The Arts & Education Committee encourages students to participate in the arts and cultural arts programs, both in school and outside of school.

Red Ribbon Week will be taking place across the country Oct 24-28. In recognition of Red Ribbon Week, Barton students had an assembly on Oct 5 where students were reminded of how to stay healthy and drug free.



One student from each class will also earn a red ribbon week reward by correctly answering questions about how to stay drug free. Questions will be announced over the school loud speaker each morning and afternoon.

Finally, Barton is holding a student poster contest with the theme

*"Don't let drugs haunt you"*

Winners will be announced at the end of red ribbon week!

# Health & Education

## Healthy Tip

The beginning of the school year exposes children to many new things. Here are some tips to help keep your kids healthy.



- Get plenty of sleep at night. Kids need at least 9 hours of sleep a night to be rested for the day.
- Hand washing is the most important thing that kids can do to prevent the spread of germs.
- Eating healthy. Healthy meals and snacks are very important in keeping our children healthy. Fruits and vegetables instead of chips and cookies are one way to improve eating.
- Keeping children home when they are sick decreases the exposure to other children.



I hope that Barton Elementary can stay healthy during this school year.

*Ms. Barna*  
*Barton School Nurse*



## *What's Happening in*



First graders are currently studying bats for our first science unit. We just had our walking trip to the Cherry Hill Library. We listened to a story and made a craft, researched information about bats, and used the computer lab at the library to learn more about them! It was so fun. We are looking forward to seeing live and real bats when we take our field trip to the Philadelphia Zoo on Wednesday November 9th!

We recently completed Unit 1 in Math and Writing. We practiced counting and ways to make numbers. We have learned to form letters correctly when writing, include capitals, spacing and proper punctuation. We make sure to write about true and real small moments that happened to us. During reading workshop, we have been learning that good readers make connections and

ask questions before, during, and after reading. We have been learning to spell words with short *a* and *o* sounds as well as high frequency/word wall words. We will begin Theme 3 next week.

We make sure to stay fit during P.E., listen for beats and rhythm in music, draw and use color properly in art, and we have also learned some Spanish...color words and personal introductions... "Me llamo...a first grader!"

All first graders continue to be bucket fillers each and every day and are learning strategies to stand up to bullies. We have learned to use "I and We messages" and to use our "Me" voice. Ask your children about it!

*Clara Barton 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teachers*





## *Reading Comprehension Strategy #1: Making Connections*

When readers make connections, they connect what they are reading to what they already know. Readers can connect what they read to personal experiences (text-to-self), to information from other texts (text-to-text), or to information about the world (text-to-world). These connections enhance the reader's understanding of the text.

When making connections, your child may say:

*"That reminds me of..."*

*"I remember when..."*

*"An experience I have had like that..."*

*"I felt like that character when..."*

*"It made me think of..."*

*"I read another book where..."*

As you read with your child at home, encourage your child to make connections to help him/her enhance his/her understanding of the text.

## *Reading Comprehension Strategy #2: Creating Mental Images*

When reading, children create mental images in their minds. These images reflect or represent the ideas in the text. These images may include any of the five senses and help enhance understanding of the text.

As you read with your child at home, encourage your child to create mental images as he/she reads and have your child describe the images using his/her five senses.

Happy Reading!

*Ms. Violeta Katsikis  
ISS*

## *Upcoming Events*

This year *Men's Night Out* will be held on *November 16<sup>th</sup>* for 4th and 5th grade gentlemen. This year's theme is "*The Beatles!*"

The show will start at *7:00pm* however student performers will need to report earlier!

More information to come! Contact Mr. Hunt with questions!  
[Jhunt@chclc.org](mailto:Jhunt@chclc.org)



## *PTA Meeting Dates*

**Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**

6:30pm - Meet & Greet Superintendent Dr. Maureen Reusche

**Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**

7:00pm - TBD

**Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

7:00pm - School Budget Talks

**Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>**

7:00pm - Vote for New PTA Officers