

To: Sanborn Families
From: Parent Teacher Organization

Welcome!

The anticipation is over and the fun of a new school year has begun! A warm welcome to all new Sanborn families- 33 this year! Thank you Patty Flowers for coordinating an awesome orientation session and to the many families who volunteered to be mentors. **All parents and guardians are invited to a casual morning coffee on the second day of school (Sept. 7 @ 8:45)** to catch up and get re-acquainted. This promises to be another fantastic year at Sanborn.

2011 PTO "Appeal"..

The Parent Teacher Organization exists to enhance our student's educational experience through parents and teachers working together. By virtue of being a parent with a child attending Sanborn you are part of the PTO! Giving your time, talent and making a donation are a few ways you can support the PTO and keep our school strong.

For the 2011-12 school year the PTO is asking for a donation of \$30. A family directory will be published again this year and a copy given to all that make a \$30 donation. Simply go to www.sanbornpto.net to enter information to be included in the directory. The Directory is a fabulous tool for getting to know and keeping in touch with Sanborn families!

Where does the money go?

Every year half of the PTO budget funds "Enrichment"- speakers, presenters and programs enjoyed by the entire school as well as grade level specific programs selected to reinforce key topics and concepts. We are proud to have Amy Hauser and Chryssa O'Connor manage this well established program, taking the reigns from Laury Barbanti who will continue to serve as a mentor and the 5th grade enrichment lead. About a quarter of the funds are directed toward family activities, classroom support, scholarships, student council support, and unique Sanborn traditions like the Harvest Festival (led by Kandie Hale and Jane Miller) where students reach out to elders in the community and celebrate the joy of giving. This year about a fourth of the funds raised will be spent on a "curriculum enhancement" tool chosen by each grade level and subject teacher team to compliment their classroom- exciting tools such as an online learning system ("Study Island"), a music study program, sensory room tools will be some of the tools available to students this year. In addition there are many programs led by dedicated parent volunteers which are self funding.

A call for Room Parents...

Thank you so much to all the people who have already volunteered to be room parents. If you are interested in an opportunity to work closely with your child's teacher and classroom parents being a Room Parent is for you. Contact Marlina Bresnick (cookieot@yahoo.com) for more information and many thanks to Marlina for organizing the Room Parent group! **All Room Parents will meet Tuesday September 13 @ 9am** at the school for an orientation session.

Dates to remember...

Mark your calendars to meet up with old friends and make new ones at International Night (formerly pizza night) **Wednesday September 21th at 5:30 pm** on the playground. The goal is to celebrate our diversity, welcome everyone back to school and have fun. Good eats!

The **first PTO meeting of the school year on Tuesday September 13th @ 6:30 pm** will feature Ruthy Olney from Andover Food Service discussing the kitchen team's nutritional goals, sharing some yummy samples of dishes your childrent will be sampling during "Farm to School Week" September 19th- 23rd.

The tradition of **Spooky Fun Fair (Saturday October 22rd)** continues into its *third decade* this year and is always a favorite way for the kids to show off their creative costumes. Your admission fee helps to fund the many programs the PTO offers throughout the year. Spooky will feature games, crafts, prizes, cake walk, and a raffle with some very exciting prizes. There are many volunteer opportunities available. Check out the volunteer sign up list included in this packed.

The Board

We are happy to introduce the new members of our PTO Board: Sarah Meier will be leading the Volunteer Coordinator effort, Margie and Steve Rothman will be tag team Treasurers and Susan Ros will be keeping us organized as Secretary.

We look forward to seeing you this year!

Sincerely,

Co-Presidents Anita Johnson and Amy Smith