

# Rushwood PTA News

**2011-2012**

## Officers

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330-468-8751

## *President's Message*

Though this seems like old news, I want to thank **EVERYONE** who worked so hard to support our schools and our children in our November election. Our dedication and persistence paid off and I fully believe that the work of our PTA members and Rushwood family contributed to the levy's success. We are very fortunate to have so many amazing parents, teachers, and volunteers at our school. Our PTA is strong because of you, and I am proud to be a part of our outstanding organization!

December is one of my favorite months with PTA as we host our Holiday Shop on December 16<sup>th</sup>, and bring COSI back to Rushwood on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Linda Imrie and Valerie Rice for chaining these events. These are just two of the many programs that PTA sponsors to enhance your child's educational experience at Rushwood each year. We would not be able to bring these programs to our school without the fundraising support of our Market Day program. Please consider ordering some cookie dough this month to help with your holiday baking, and help families in need in our community...keep reading to find out how you can help!

Finally, while we are thinking about the Holiday season that is upon us, and giving back to our community, it is time to think about those who give to our school each and every day, and nominate Rushwood's Educator of the Year, and Helping Hands Volunteer of the year. These nomination forms can be found in this newsletter. Please take the time to fill one or both out for those deserving folks.

I wish you all a very joyful holiday season! Be happy, be safe, and enjoy this precious time with your children!

Chrisy Siewert

Siewertc@me.com

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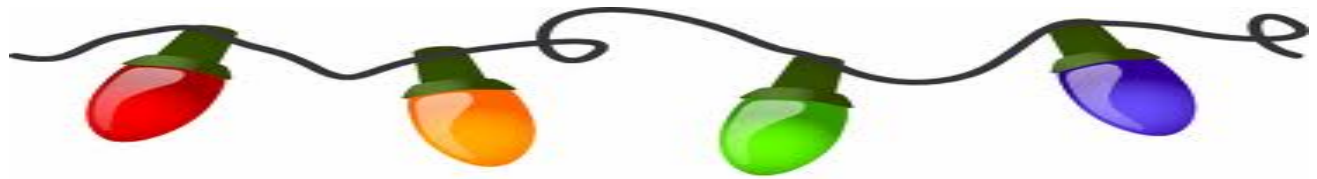
PTA Calendar, PTA Meeting, COSI, Holiday Shop, and more

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# HOLIDAY SHOP

Rushwood PTA is pleased to again present the "Holiday Shop" on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. During recess, students have the opportunity to "shop" for two gifts for loved ones. Students will not need money, as all gift items are donated by the Rushwood community!

Please consider donating gift items (we need 900!) as well as wrapping, labels and tape. And of course, we also need Holiday Elves to assist our shoppers! Please contact Linda Imrie 330-468-8751 [samloubob2@yahoo.com](mailto:samloubob2@yahoo.com) to donate or volunteer the day of the event.

## COSI RETURNS!

On Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, our students will experience a hands-on science program like no other with this year's COSI theme, "The Amazing Human Machine". Thanks so much to Valerie Rice for working with COSI to bring this program to our school. This day is a lot of fun for students AND our volunteers. If you would like to help that day, please contact Valerie at 216-246-2744

## Staff Holiday Lunch

On Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, the PTA will host a holiday appreciation lunch for our wonderful Rushwood Staff. Thanks to Nicole Shamblin for planning this year's lunch! If you would like to help by donating food items or with set-up, please contact Nicole at [nshamblin@gmail.com](mailto:nshamblin@gmail.com) or 216-789-2815

## SAVE AND EARN

Did you know that many of your purchases on-line can earn valuable BoxTop points for our school? Use the link on our PTA website, or go to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) to find out which on-line retailers are offering bonus BoxTops this holiday season and every day. Keep sending in those BoxTops and Campbells label sheets! We are earning valuable funds for our school every day!



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

This month, we would like to honor two volunteers who are leaving us too soon! We would like to say good-bye and a heartfelt THANK YOU to **Marla LaMarca** and **Deanne Dewitt**. Both are moving on to new adventures with their families this month, and we will be sad to see them go. They have been champions for our children over their years at Rushwood and have dedicated countless volunteer hours to our school.

Marla has served for many years as our VAST coordinator while both of her children attended Rushwood, Keeping all of our volunteer efforts organized behind the scenes is not an easy feat, and Marla is leaving some big shoes to fill. She can also often be found in her child's classroom and volunteering at many PTA events. Marla is also a past Ohio PTA Achievement Award winner.

Deanne has made an impact on our school in her few short years here. She served on our planning committee for our extremely successful Race for Education last year and played a large role in our recent levy efforts. Deanne also volunteers often at school, and whenever the call goes out for PTA volunteers, Deanne is there!

We thank you both for your amazing service to our school and PTA and know that your children's new schools are going to be extremely lucky to have you!

**If you wish to nominate a volunteer of the month, please email me at [siewertc@me.com](mailto:siewertc@me.com)**

## CONFERENCE DINNER THANKS!

A big Thank You to ANN COOK and everyone who contributed to our two conference dinner nights in November. The staff LOVED the Soup and Sandwich and Taco Bar Nights! Thanks for all of the delicious food and desserts. We would not be able to provide these meals without all of the volunteer support!

## Educator of the Year & Helping Hands

At the end of this newsletter, you will find the applications for Educator of the Year and Helping Hands awards. In 2011, Rushwood proudly presented Mrs. Kelly Boebel, A First Grade teacher, with this distinctive honor.

Mrs. Boebel was not only Rushwood's Outstanding Educator, but was chosen as the District's Outstanding Educator! Last year's Helping Hands winner was Mrs. Valerie Rice, our PTA treasurer from 2009 - 2011 and an extremely involved volunteer for our school.

Please take a few moments to review the applications and nominate a deserving staff member or volunteer.

## A Fun Night Being Planned for the Youngest Among Us!

If you've been around Rushwood awhile, you know that we have events for every grade level, except for our Kindergarten students. That is about to change with the addition of our newest event, coming on January 26<sup>th</sup>! Kindergarten families, mark your calendars for a fun evening of games and learning, sponsored by PTA. Thanks to Kim Brown for chairing this brand-new event. If you would like to volunteer to help with a station that night, or help in the planning, please contact Kim at

[kimbar34@yahoo.com](mailto:kimbar34@yahoo.com)

# PTA Fundraising Update...



**Fundraising while feeding your family!**

The month of December is Cookie Dough Bonus Day's. For each family who buys 1 box of cookie dough, your child will be able to participate in "Pajama Day" at Rushwood. "PJ Day" will be Friday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>. You will be given a "PJ Pass" at Market Day pick up.

**Also, December is a month for giving. Any child who brings in \$1 by Friday Dec. 2, will also be able to participate in "PJ Day". This extra money will be put toward a holiday meal purchase for families in need in our local community. Please put your \$1 in an envelope labeled 'Market Day food drive'. Please include your child's name and teacher's name so we are sure they receive a "PJ Day" pass.**

- Friday, Dec. 2, paper orders and \$1 donation envelopes are due at the school (preferably sent back in the green PTA folder).
  - Saturday, Dec. 3, at 12 midnight, online ordering cutoff date.
  - Thursday, December 8, 5-6pm pickup in the Rushwood cafeteria.

Thank you to everyone who purchased pies during Market Day Bonus Day's last month. We sold 175 pies!! We were able to profit over \$600.00. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

*Congratulations to our top three winners.*

**The Filisky Family** and **The Barnes Family** tied for 1<sup>st</sup> place selling 20 pies each.  
**The Pastir Family** won 3<sup>rd</sup> prize selling 10 pies.

Thank you for your continued support of Rushwood's Market Day program and for donating to families in need.

**Have a SAFE and HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!**

Questions, please contact Kelly Pastir at [kpastir@roadrunner.com](mailto:kpastir@roadrunner.com), 330-468-5278.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WHO'S GOT SPIRIT? HOW ABOUT YOU?

HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR RUSHWOOD AND NORDONIA SPIRIT-WEAR? JUST IN TIME FOR YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING NEEDS, SPIRIT-WEAR IS HERE...BUT YOU ONLY HAVE A FEW MORE DAYS. MORE ORDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE RUSHWOOD PTA WEBSITE. QUESTIONS, CONTACT VALERIE RICE AT 216-246-2744



## PTA Reflections

**Don't forget to keep working on your Reflections projects. The 2011-2012 Theme is "Diversity Means". Your child can create an original work in one or more of the categories listed on the website. All projects and entry forms must be completed and submitted to Tammy Strong by December 15<sup>th</sup>. For more information, please contact Tammy Strong at 330-908-1202 or visit the Rushwood PTA website for a link to Ohio PTA's Reflections Program.**

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS

Thank you to everyone who donated to Student Leadership Team's Food Drive benefiting the Emergency Assistance Center and families in our local community! We have many boxes of food items packed and ready to be delivered! Student Leadership will be visiting Elmcroft and Brentwood Senior Living Facilities on December 7<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> after school to deliver holiday cards, crafts, and spread some Holiday Good Cheer! Our next meeting is on Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to sharing more of our community service projects with Rushwood in the Spring. **Happy Holidays from Everyone at Rushwood Student Leadership Team!**

## Birthday Book Club

**Birthday Book Club is back! Honor your student with a membership to PTA's Birthday Book Club. Birthday Book Club benefits the Rushwood Elementary Library, and provides many new books for our children to read every year. Order forms and details will be coming in the January PTA newsletter.**



# PTA HAPPENINGS...

## December Dates to Remember:

December 3rd – Market Day Ordering Deadline

December 3<sup>rd</sup> – HS PTA's Breakfast With Santa

December 5<sup>th</sup> – Spirit Wear Orders are Due!

December 5<sup>th</sup> - Rushwood SnowSport Club Event (see PTA website for more information)

December 7<sup>th</sup> – Student Leadership Team Visit to Elmcroft  
3:30pm

December 8<sup>th</sup> – Market Day Pick Up at Rushwood 5:00 – 6:00pm

December 12<sup>th</sup> – PTA's Holiday Staff Luncheon

December 14<sup>th</sup> – Student Leadership Team Visit to Brentwood  
3:30pm

December 15<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Winter Musical Show

December 16<sup>th</sup> – Holiday Shop & Market Day PJ Day!

December 20<sup>th</sup> – COSI on Wheels

December 21st – January 3<sup>rd</sup> – No School – Holiday Break

## PTA MEETING NOTICE

There is no PTA Meeting In December. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:45pm in the Rushwood Library. November PTA meeting minutes are available on our website. Happy Holidays and we hope to see you in January.



### PTA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Our PTA Membership Drive is ongoing. If you have not joined PTA, what are waiting for? There are many membership benefits available on the Ohio PTA Website, and your membership is just \$5. You can print a form from Rushwood's PTA Website and send it in your PTA folder with a \$5 check to Rushwood PTA.

## NOTEWORTHY NEWS ON THE WEB

Check out our newest features on the Rushwood PTA Website. We are adding photos from our PTA and Rushwood events. New photos will be added after each event. We are excited to show you the fun things happening at Rushwood!

Need more information about something in the newsletter, or looking for a PTA form? You can find it on our website at <http://teacherweb.com/OH/RushwoodElementary/PTA> Also look for our school's link on FACEBOOK and Like Us today!