



Shark Bites

Message from the PTA President

Dear Parents,

Welcome to another great year at Alberta Smith. The PTA has been working hard to have this be another successful year for your child. We have many upcoming events that we are very excited about—look for information in the next few weeks about Skate Nights, a new fall event, and our ever popular Santa Breakfast!

We hope you will join us in supporting these great events as we cannot be successful without our ASE parents.

Please join the PTA as a member and help us reach

100% membership this year. You will find many ways to become involved and volunteer. Please take the time to fill out the volunteer form that will be in your child's classroom on the Back to School nights.

I am thrilled to be your PTA President and proud to be a part of the Alberta Smith Elementary family. I look forward to meeting and getting to know all of you!

We have many new faces on the PTA board this year—a good indication that our parents love to be involved. Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings, which

are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the library. If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Margaret Childs

PTA President

chefmargaret@comcast.net



Order Your Yearbook Now & Save

It's not too early to start thinking about the Yearbook. In fact, if you order your yearbook early, you can save \$\$.

During this year's Back To School Nights, you can "pre-order" your child's yearbook for \$20. If you wait until after December 31st,

the price will go up to \$25.

The Yearbook Committee also welcomes photos from parents that will be considered for use in the 2008-2009 Yearbook. So, the next time you are on a school field trip or participating in a classroom party, bring your camera and snap

away.

Watch upcoming newsletters for more information about the yearbook, as well as further details about submitting your photos.

Alberta Smith Elementary PTA

September 2008

Special Points of Interest:

- ☉ PTA Meeting
7 p.m. September 2
- ☉ 2nd & 3rd Grade
Back To School Night
7 p.m. September 9
- ☉ 4th & 5th Grade
Back To School Night
7 p.m. September 16
- ☉ African Presentation
9:15-11:30 a.m. Sept. 23
- ☉ Kindergarten & 1st Grade
Back To School Night
7 p.m. September 23
- ☉ Fall Fundraiser Kick Off
September 26
- ☉ See September Football
Schedule on Back Page

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Battle of the Books

If your son or daughter loves to read, Battle of the Books may be right up their alley. This program is open to all fifth grade students.

But, what is Battle of the Books, you ask?

BOB, as it is commonly called, is a fun reading competition for students in the fifth grade. Participants form groups that will compete against teams from other schools in a "Jeopardy" style competition.

The first ten books that will be included on the 2008-2009 Battle of the Books reading list have been released. They are:

- *The Aurora County All-Stars* by Deborah Wiles
- *Chasing Vermeer* by Blue Balliett and Brett Helquist
- *Double Identity* by Margaret Peterson Haddix
- *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan
- *The Ghost's Grave* by Peg Kehret
- *Marley: A Dog Like No Other* by John Grogan
- *No Talking* by Andrew Clements

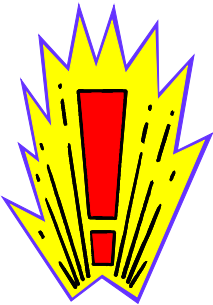


and Mark Elliott

- *Pictures of Hollis Woods* by Patricia Reilly Giff
- *Sea Legs* by Alex Shearer
- *Shipwreck (Island Series)* by Gordon Korman

The rest of the reading list will be released sometime in October. We will update you when it is released.

New This Year: Register Your Email Address



In an effort to ensure that we are keeping all parents up-to-date on everything happening at Alberta Smith, we have implemented a new feature on our website.

Go to www.albertasmithpta.com, then scroll down to towards the bot-

tom of the home page, you will see a new section where you can register your email address. All we require is your name, email address, your PTA membership status, and the grade level(s) of your child(ren). This information will not be sold or given out to anyone, it is just for our use to keep you posted on events, updates, morning announcements, newsletters, calendars, and important information for

Alberta Smith Elementary.

Because the email updates are now being done through our website, we need you to register this information through the website, even if you registered for email updates last year. Your registration from last year will not carry through to this year. So, please go to the website and register as soon as possible so you don't miss any important information.

The 2008-2009 PTA Board

Executive Board:

President-Margaret Childs

1st VP, Programs-Gina Bedford & Michelle Valcourt

2nd VP, Ways & Means-Sacha Banton & Jenni Waldrop

3rd VP, Membership-Michelle Reed

Secretary-Angela Moore & Jenni Waldrop

Treasurer-Hasun Hamilton

Committee Positions:

County Council-OPEN

Copying-Jen Flores & Betsy Hugenberg

Cultural Arts-Patti Lopez

Health & Safety-Angela Moore

Historian-Silvia Miseirvitch and Sandra Rodriguez

Hospitality-Beckey Huddleston & Jenni Waldrop

Playground/Landscaping-Michelle Reed

Publications-Virginia Kenyon

Room Parent Coordinator K-2nd-Heather Richardson

Room Parent Coordinator 3rd-5th-Renee Cranor

School Carnival-Sacha Banton

School Sign-Jamie Yacoviello

School Store-Angela Thompson & Dorothy Hayton

Sunshine-Sherri McClure

Volunteers-Kathy Bruckner

Yearbook-Sara Faherty, Jenn Kannon & Patti Lopez

Website-Lisa Taylor

Get Ready For Reflections

It is not too early to start thinking about Reflections. The program gives students in all grades a chance to express themselves artistically.

The theme for this year's competition is "Wow!," which students can illustrate in one of several categories: visual arts, music, photography, literature, film, dance, and music.

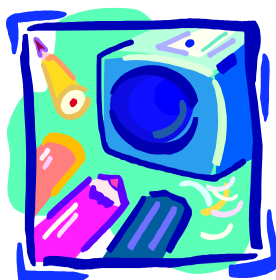
The deadline for entries is in October, so students should get started working on their projects as soon as possible.

If you would like more information on the program and its guidelines, check out our website: www.albertasmithpta.com

Wow!

Need School Supplies? Visit the Shark Shack

Are you short a pencil? In need of an eraser? It's no fun to show up at school in the morning and realize you are missing an important item, such as a pencil, pen, or eraser. Fortunately, the Shark Shack can help.



Shark Shack. Beginning in October, the Shark Shack will be open two days per week from 8:15 to 8:30 a.m. in the school cafeteria.

The days of the week are to be announced sometime

in October. If you find that you are in need of school supplies or just in the mood to look at some neat stuff, visit the

in October.

The Shark Shack sells everything from basic school supplies to cool, fun

stuff for all grades. All items range from 5 cents to \$3. All of the money helps the school's PTA.

We still need volunteers for the Shark Shack!

If you are interested in helping, please contact:

Angela Thompsen

639-7599

News from the Smith Athletic Association

Welcome back parents, students, and teachers! It's that time again! We hope that you all had a wonderful and safe summer. The dates below are for September's upcoming football games. Please come out and support your fellow Sharks. Games in the morning start at 9 a.m. with our Flag team and run through noon-ish, ending with our Senior team. We will have concessions and Spirit Wear items for sale at each home game. We will also have Homecoming 2008 again this year and hope that you can find time to come out to the game.

Please visit our website, www.smithsharks.net for all information regarding Homecoming and also keep your eyes on your child's Shark

Folders.

Football and Cheerleading have already started, but we also have other sports that your children can be a part of throughout the year. All the information is on the website, along with downloadable forms to save you time when we have sign-ups and any contact information for the Board Members. The Athletic Association is looking forward to a fabulous year, and we wouldn't want to do it without YOU! Please feel free to contact any Board Members with questions.

Here is a list of our Board Members:

Kelly McKenney, President

Scott Hovermale, Vice President

Julie Gunn, Secretary

Angela Hovermale, Treasurer

Dennita Miskimen, Grievances

Dawn Milton, Ways & Means

Carrie Payne, Cheer Director

Kelvin Franklin, Football Director

Glenn Davis, Boy's Basketball Dir.

Eric Payne, Girl's Basketball Dir.

Doug Salyers, Softball Director

Brian Milton, Baseball Director

Rick Brown, Athletic Director

Mike Fortune, Fields

The September schedule for this year's football games is on the back page of this newsletter.

We Need Your Help!

We have many different volunteer opportunities for parents to volunteer throughout the school year.

Parents serve popcorn during our Movie Nights. Parents help children pick out books and write them on their Wish List at the Book Fair. Parents help at the various activity stations during Field Day and the Spring Carnival. Parents help keep the kids lined up and tidy on School Picture Day. Parents take pictures for the School Yearbook at school functions.

Most of these are one-time commitments—some are during the day, some are in the evening, and some are even on the weekends. So, no matter your schedule or availability, you are sure

to find something that fits.

You will be receiving a Parent Volunteer form in your child's Shark Folder soon. It will describe all of the activities that we need parent volunteers to help with. Please remember to fill it out and return it promptly so that we can match you up with the events that work best for you. The following is a list of some of the activities that we will need volunteers for:

- **As Needed Volunteers**
- **Audio Visual Testing**
- **Book Fair**
- **Buddy Day**
- **Chick-Fil-A Night**
- **Fund Raising**

- **Grandparent's Breakfast**
- **Groundskeeping Committee**
- **Health and Safety Fair**
- **Ice Cream Social**
- **Library Helper**
- **Movie Night**
- **Picture Day**
- **PJ Storytelling Night**
- **Reading**
- **Reading Specialist**
- **Shark Shack**
- **Santa Breakfast**
- **Spring Carnival**
- **Teacher Staff Luncheon**
- **Yearbook**

Other Important Info!

Skate Nights: These fun fundraisers will continue this school year; however, we will not have our first Skate Night until October because of the Back to School Nights in September. Just as last year, they are the third Tuesday of the month.

Chick-Fil-A: We are still working with Chick-Fil-A and haven't finalized our arrangement with them at this time. Watch your child's Shark Folder and the upcoming newsletters for

more information.

An Additional Fun Night Out: We are currently talking to several of the indoor inflatable play areas in our area to work out a Spirit Night for our school. We will have more information on that once plans are finalized.

Box Tops: Don't forget to send in all of the Box Tops you have been collecting over the summer. Box Tops collection sheets are available on the

website: www.albertasmithpta.com.

Tyson's Project A+ and Campbell's Soup labels: We are going to be collecting these labels this year. Please begin to send them in to school in your child's Shark Folder.

Fall Fundraiser: Our fall fundraiser will kick off Sept. 26th.

This Is One Pizza You WON'T Want To Try!

Gummy bears and marshmallow fluff aren't your normal, everyday pizza toppings. But, these and other "gross" pizza toppings will be on the list of pizza topping choices for each grade level to choose from. But don't worry, it's not your kids that will be eating this pizza...it's Ms. Horgan and Ms. Cameron...but only if the entire school

reaches 100% PTA membership this year. Our theme for this year is PTA Pizza Challenge. As each grade level reaches 100% membership for all of their classes, their pizza topping will go on the pizza. Once the entire school reaches 100% membership, Ms. Horgan and Ms. Cameron have agreed to have a pizza made up with all of the toppings,

and they will each eat a slice of this unique, one-of-a-kind pizza pie in front of the whole school.

The membership is \$5 per person and you can enroll quickly and easily on our website: www.albertasmithpta.com or you can enroll during your child's Back To School Night.

Alberta Smith Elementary

13200 Bailey Bridge Road
Midlothian, VA 23112

Phone: 804-739-6295



September 2008 Football Schedule:

- Sept. 6, 9 a.m., at Smith
- Sept. 13, 9 a.m. at Powhatan Jr. High
- Sept. 17, 6:30 p.m. at Midlothian Middle
- Sept. 20, 9 a.m. at Smith
- Sept. 27, 5 p.m. at Smith

What did the PTA do in the 2007-2008 school year?

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is responsible for many of the programs, after-school events, and classroom materials used by the children and teachers at Alberta Smith Elementary. Through fundraising efforts and parental support, we are able to provide several resources for our school that are not covered by the County budget. Below is a list of just a few of the programs, events, and support that we have provided to our school:

- Each classroom and resource teacher received \$50 to purchase classroom materials
- The Olweus Anti-Bullying Program was supported with more than \$1,000
- Health and Safety Fair was put on for 2nd-4th grades
- School agendas were purchased for 2nd-5th grades
- More than \$500 was used to support teacher's conferences
- Supported after school programs, such as Drama Kids
- Paid for school presenters
- Purchased one of the new benches in front of the school
- Movie Nights
- Spring Carnival
- Awards were presented for the Reflection's Program

Register your email address
at:

www.albertasmithpta.com

to receive morning
announcements and other
important messages
