



Volunteers Needed! See Page 3! Shark Shack

Message from the PTA President

Can you believe September is over and here we are in our second month of school? The PTA has a few exciting things planned for your children this month, so be sure to check the calendar link on our website. We are well on our way to 100% participation with the PTA memberships thanks in part to our fantastic staff turning in their 100% by the second week of school. Why join the PTA? PTA helps

your child succeed—children do better when their parents are involved both at home and at school. **PTA connects you with the school community**—there is no better way to know what is happening in your school than by being a part of the PTA! **PTA provides opportunities for growth**—by volunteering with your PTA, you can put your skills to good use to benefit your child's education. **PTA helps**

you set a good example—as a PTA member, you'll be demonstrating to your child the importance you place on education. Remember, when we reach 100% participation, Ms. Horgan, Ms. Cameron, and Mr. Rajah from the school board will eat a pizza filled with not so normal toppings!

Margaret Childs
PTA President

Alberta Smith Elementary PTA

October 2008

Special Points of Interest:

- ☺ PTA Meeting
7 p.m. Oct. 7
- ☺ Ice Cream Social for ASE Newcomers
6:30-8 p.m. Oct. 9
- ☺ Inflation Nation
Grades K-2
Oct. 9
- ☺ Fall Fundraiser Order Forms Due
Oct. 17
- ☺ Spirit Wear Order Forms Due
Oct. 17
- ☺ Skate Night
Kindergarten highlighted
6-8 p.m. Oct. 21
- ☺ School Pictures
Oct. 23
- ☺ Chick-Fil-A Night
4th Grade Highlighted
5:30-8 p.m. Oct. 27
- ☺ End of 1st Quarter
Oct. 31

Ice Cream Social For ASE Newcomers

The Alberta Smith Elementary PTA would like to invite all parents who are new to our school, to join us for an Ice Cream Social from 6:30 to 8 p.m. October 9th at the school. Invitations will be sent directly to

each family.

Volunteers are still needed for this event.

We hope to see you there!



Caution: No Left Turn

Due to safety concerns and traffic congestion in the mornings when parents and daycare vans are dropping off children at school, a new sign has been posted as you exit Alberta Smith Elementary. The sign reads:

No Left Turn Between 7:45 a.m. and 8:45 a.m.

As most of you know, there is a lot of traffic congestion in the mornings, so this sign was put up in an effort to alleviate traffic backups

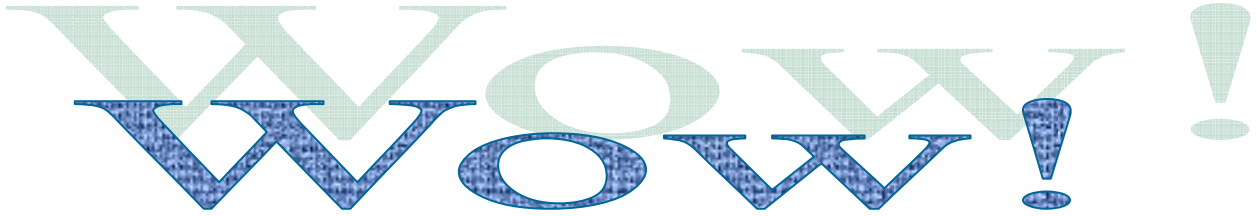
on Bailey Bridge Road and prevent possible car accidents during our busiest time of the day.



Inside this issue:

Reflections	2
Log On & Save Time	3
A Piece of the Pie	3
Shark Shack	3
Labels For Education	4
Teacher Representatives	4
October Football	4

2008-2009 Reflections Program



The Reflections Program is designed to encourage and recognize each student's creativity in the following art areas: photography, visual arts, literature, music composition, dance choreography, and film/video production. The project is to be based on the theme "Wow". The student can interpret this theme however he or she chooses. For a sampling of previous entries, please see the Alberta Smith PTA website.

Finished projects are due Oct. 17, 2008. All children who participate will be recognized. The winners will be submitted for competition at the state and national levels.

Please see the rules for each artistic category at vapta.org website. For any further questions, please contact Patti Lopez at 639-0813.

Age Categories:

**Primary: Preschool-Grade 2; Intermediate: Grades 3-5;
Middle/Junior High, Grades 6-8; Senior High, Grades 9-12**

Literature

Fiction/Non-Fiction

Prose, poetry, drama, song lyrics, and short stories. Do not exceed 2,000 words. Grade appropriate grammar, punctuation, and spelling. No larger than 8 1/2" X 11". May be illustrated. Must be in manila file folder with official entry form stapled to back.

Dance Choreography

One Choreographer. Perform or not. Up to 3 dancers. Less than 5 minutes. Video tape or DVD plus a copy. Place in manila envelope with clasp 10" X 13". Credit background music.

Photography

Color or black and white. Single prints or collage. Print, retouched collage,

photo gram, montage, sandwich, multiple exposures. No larger than 11" X 14". No frames. No 3-D entries. No slides or transparencies. Required statement. Place entry forms in clear sheet protectors & tape to back of photo with masking tape.

Visual Arts

Printmaking, drawings, paintings, collage. No larger than 24" X 30" including mat. May not exceed 3/8" thickness. No frames. No 3-D artwork. Mount artwork on sturdy backing (i.e. foam-core). Place official entry form in sheet protectors, tape to back of work.

Music Composition

Original composition. With or without

words. Not to exceed 5 minutes. Audio cassette or CD in plastic or cardboard container, with copy of musical score in 10" X 13" manila envelope, with full information written on cassette or CD and container. Required questions and entry form taped to outside in 10" X 13" envelope.

Film and/or Video Production

Write, direct, and film. Use camera as pencil or crayon. Use a tripod to film. No power point. Not to exceed 5 minutes. Credit background music if used on official entry form. Put VHS or DVD entry and copy in manila envelope with clasp 10" X 13". Place entry forms in clear sheet protectors and tape to manila envelope with masking tape.

Log On & Save Time

Don't forget: You can now log on to www.albertasmithpta.com to order your yearbook and pay your membership dues. The membership dues are \$5 per person, and we are asking that both parents sign up to support your school. We are striving for 100% membership, and in order to accomplish that, we need your help.

If you order your yearbook now, they are only \$20 (the price will go up soon, so get yours ordered early and save). Just follow the "Yearbook" link on the left side of the home page and follow the easy instructions.



Everyone's Trying To Get A Piece of the Pie...

...the pizza pie that is. Who would have thought that when we said we'd make a pizza with bizarre toppings like marshmallow cream, peanut butter, and gummy bears, that we would be able to convince ANYONE to eat it, much less Ms. Horgan, Ms. Cameron, and NOW

Matoaca District Representative Omarh Rajah. That's right, he caught wind of what we have planned. So, he made a special appearance at one of our Back To School Nights to announce that if Alberta Smith Elementary PTA gets 100 percent membership, he will

make sure that Ms. Horgan and Ms. Cameron do not eat alone. He promised that when the unique, ooey-goey pizza is made, he will come by the school to "enjoy" a slice of the unique pizza in front of the entire school with them.



The Shark Shack Opens For Business

Shark Shack Grand Opening

Where: Alberta Smith Elementary Cafeteria

When: 8:15 to 8:30 a.m. Oct. 20th

Who: 1st, 3rd, 5th grades on Mondays

K, 2nd, 4th grades on Wednesdays

What: School supplies ranging from 5 cents to \$3

We still need volunteers for the Shark Shack!

If you are interested in helping, please contact:

Angela Thompson
639-7599

Photos Needed For Our Scrapbook

Every year, the PTA Historian compiles pictures from throughout the school year into a scrapbook that is on display in our front office. She needs your help! If you are along for a school field trip or participating in a holiday event in your child's class, please bring your camera and take some extra photos for our scrapbook. You can send the copies of your photos to the school to the attention of the PTA Historian. This scrapbook is done in addition to the yearbook, which also is in need of your photos.

Alberta Smith Elementary

13200 Bailey Bridge Road
Midlothian, VA 23112

Phone: 555-555-5555
Fax: 555-555-5555



No more clipping, only clicking! Now you can donate Campbell's E-Labels for Education. Sign up with your Kroger Plus Shopper's Club Card, then be sure to select Alberta Smith Elementary to receive your credits. For every Campbell's Labels for Education product you purchase, the school account will be credited automatically. For double credit you may also send in those labels to the school. Please help our school earn free educational materials through this easy program.

October 2008 Football Schedule:

- Oct. 4, 5 p.m. @ Providence Middle
- Oct. 11, 9 a.m. @ Gordon Elementary
- Oct. 18, 5 p.m. @ Smith (Homecoming)
- Oct. 25, 9 a.m. @ Smith

Attention Sharks: Homecoming is Oct. 18th beginning at 4 p.m. We will announce our homecoming court and have a parade around the field between the Minors and Juniors games at approximately 7 p.m. Please come out and support your Sharks football players! Concession stand will be open with lots of goodies, and we will have Spirit items for sale!

Teacher Representatives For 2008-2009 PTA Board

K-2

Suzanne Cousins

3-5

Angela Hovermale

Special Education

Peggy Price

Amy Petin

We are currently planning a fall festival that will be held November 8th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The activities that are being planned include a turkey trot, chili cook-off, and several children's activities at no charge. We do need volunteers for this event, so if you are interested, please email Kathy Bruckner at kbruckne@verizon.net.

Volunteers Needed

Oct. 9-Volunteers are needed to help with an evening ice cream social for new Alberta Smith families.

Oct. 23-School Picture Day! Volunteers will help throughout the day, making sure our kids look their best and that groups are lined up in the right places. You don't have to stay for the whole day. An hour or two would be great!

Nov. 8-Fall Festival, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. We'll need a variety of help throughout the day—again, you don't have to stay for the entire time. This will be a big, school-wide family event, and we'd love to have your help with food, activities, games, or organization.

We also have an ongoing opportunity for people who would like to volunteer regularly, during the early afternoon hours. As you may have seen when you've visited the school this year, the sign-in area is now located in the lobby, and is staffed throughout the morning hours. We need your help to continue to have a smiling face to greet visitors and to make sure that all visitors to our school do take the time to sign in (which helps provide a measure of security for all our children).

For more information, or to volunteer for any of these events, please contact Kathy Bruckner (kbruckne@verizon.net).

Register your email
address at:

www.albertasmithpta.com

to receive morning
announcements and
other important
messages