



Dear Families,

One of the goals of the PTO is to provide special family and community events throughout the school year. A national event we have chosen to embrace is **TV Turnoff Week**. During the week of **April 13-19** the PTO is issuing a challenge for all of you to participate in **TV Turnoff Week**. The national observance is the following week during our school vacation, but we felt it best to try to engage everyone during a typical week. The purpose of **TV Turnoff Week** is about turning “on” your life and participating. Do something new as an individual or as a family, or just simply spend time together. We’ve compiled a list of suggested alternative activities as well as a schedule of local events and happenings. There are also two national contests, essay and poster, your child may want to enter or perhaps even track their activities. All these documents are available on the district website. Our second **Family Night Out** is planned to fall within this week with Matt Loosigian on **Monday April 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-7:30pm** at Greely Middle School. Also, we have teamed with the staff at Prince Memorial Library and they will be providing a **Character Story Time** on Wednesday **April 15<sup>th</sup>, 6-6:45pm**.

Switch off or unplug your TV set for 7 days and take part in the MSAD 51 PTO challenge. Stock up on books from the library, dig out your hiking boots, pump up those bike tires or head out to a ball game, and remember—this is not meant to be stressful—have fun!

As always, if you have any questions, comments or suggestions, don’t hesitate to contact the PTO via email at our address below.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Nicholson      Heather Giandrea  
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## **VOLUNTEER NEWS**

Deb Regan, [deborah@maine.rr.com](mailto:deborah@maine.rr.com)



***Wanted: Enthusiastic self-starters with strong communication and organizational skills and the ability to work well with a team. Must be open to new ideas and able to motivate others to work toward common goals. Adept problem-solvers with conflict resolution skills desired. Good listeners strongly preferred.***

One of the greatest strengths of our school is the active involvement of MSAD#51 parents. The MSAD#51 PTO was developed to coordinate these volunteer efforts to best meet the needs of our school. Our continued success depends on the active participation of parents. Attached are the PTO Board of Director positions for the 2009-2010 school year. Without the help and leadership of parents, the continued success of the many PTO sponsored programs would not be possible. If you would like to contribute your ideas, talents, energy and time to make a difference for our children, please complete the PTO Nomination form and return it to your child's school in an envelope labeled PTO no later than **Tuesday, April 28th, 2009**.

### **Open Board of Director Positions:**

Co-Chair  
Co-Treasurer  
Co-Secretary  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Co-Fundraising  
2 Co-Events (1 year and 2 year terms)  
Co -Publicity  
2 Enrichment (MIW and DRS/NYMS)

Please visit [www.msad51pto.com/bylaws.htm](http://www.msad51pto.com/bylaws.htm) for further description of the Board positions. We look forward to having you join our wonderful team of dedicated parents and teachers. If you have any questions, please contact Gloria Nicholson at 846-3032, [glrnich@maine.rr.com](mailto:glrnich@maine.rr.com) or Heather Giandrea at 829-8051, [hrg@maine.rr.com](mailto:hrg@maine.rr.com)

## ENRICHMENT UPDATES

**MIW** – Amy Saffian, [saffian7@verizon.net](mailto:saffian7@verizon.net)

Kindergarten purchased their planting supplies for their annual planting projects! Author Wendy Ulmer recently visited the Kindergarten classes and shared her witty, whimsical book, *A isn't for Fox: An Isn't Alphabet*. Running through the alphabet, beginning readers are given a letter and then told what the letter topic isn't. This book reinforces letter recognition, alphabetical and letter order as well as counting.

**DRS/NYMS** – Becky Sledjeski, [esledjeski@maine.rr.com](mailto:esledjeski@maine.rr.com)

The 3rd grade students of Drowne Road School are going to Merrill Auditorium to hear a Youth Concert performed by the Portland Symphony Orchestra. This is the culminating activity after a unit studying the instruments of the Orchestra. The DRS 3rd graders have spent six weeks learning about the four orchestral families and learning to recognize orchestral instruments by sight and sound as part of the MSAD 51 Grade 3 Music Curriculum.

**GMS/GHS** – Deb Regan, [deborah@maine.rr.com](mailto:deborah@maine.rr.com)

## Check out our Class Wish Lists:

<http://www.msad51pto.com/Wish%20List%2008-09.htm>

## EVENTS

Brenda Pitcher, [brendalpitcher@msn.com](mailto:brendalpitcher@msn.com)  
Sara Perfetti, [sara.perfetti@gmail.com](mailto:sara.perfetti@gmail.com)

**FAMILY NIGHT OUT!** Monday 4/13 from 6:30-7:30 at the GMS Gym. Singer/Songwriter Matt Loosigian of Earth Jams will be singing and dancing in his highly-interactive program that teaches children how humans fit into the rest of the world. Through music, he will teach the kids the steps of the energy cycle and inform them about how much energy humans use. They will also learn some steps they can take to reduce their energy use and keep the earth a cool place to live. It will be an entertaining and educational event.

## TV Turnoff Week-April 13-19



March Teacher/Staff Drawing recipients of Basil's, Clayton's or Skillins gift cards. Enjoy!

Emily Libby ~ MIW    Margaret McDevitt ~ MIW  
Carrie Hedman ~ NYMS  
Linda Robb ~ GMS    Carol Pappas ~ GMS

## FUNDRAISING

Beth Smith, [gsmith@maine.rr.com](mailto:gsmith@maine.rr.com)  
Dava Davin, [davadavin@hotmail.com](mailto:davadavin@hotmail.com)



Our O'Natural's Fundraiser was a great success, bringing in another \$300 to be used for enrichment activities, as well as the biggest crowd at O'Naturals on a Tuesday night in months! Annie Davis was the lucky winner of the raffle basket, filled with healthy products. Congratulations Annie!

## BOXTOPS WINNERS!

Ericka Winchester, [erickawinchester@hotmail.com](mailto:erickawinchester@hotmail.com)

MIW

Ciel Antoine (magic school bus book)  
Alison Labonte (touch a truck t-shirt)

DRS

Molly Matthews (gift card)

GMS

Kirstin Sandreuter (Books etc. gift card)

Next month winners will be drawn from MIW, NYMS and GMS.

## MEETINGS

May meeting date: Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009

## ELECTIONS

Meet us at MIW Library, 7 pm!

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8pm**, Yarmouth Town Hall  
Community forum on underage drinking. Sponsored by Medical Care Development, FMI please see the link under Community News on the GMS website

**Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5:30-11pm**, Knights of Columbus Hall, Brunswick

**Thibodeau Family Benefit**, FMI please contact [thibodeaubenefit@yahoo.com](mailto:thibodeaubenefit@yahoo.com)

## How to Contact us:

- Check the PTO website at [WWW.MSAD51PTO.COM](http://WWW.MSAD51PTO.COM)
- Send a note to school in an envelope marked PTO and it will be delivered to the PTO mailbox.
- Email directly or call directly the event/activity chairperson.