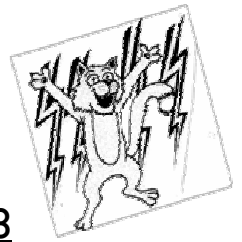


# Whittier Wildchat



## News from the Whittier School PTA – September 25, 2008

Whittier PTA Mission: To support and enhance the Whittier model of academic excellence, community, and respect, so that all Whittier students can become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

### **Mark Your Calendar**

September 25	Curriculum Night K-2 6:00pm – 6:30pm 3-5 6:35pm – 7:05pm
September 27	Playground Work Party 1-2pm
October 7	Individual School Pictures
October 10	No School

### **Volunteer Opportunities...**

- ❖ **Grounds Volunteer Coordinator**  
Contact: Cynthia Slate 782-8423 or [cynthiaslate@msn.com](mailto:cynthiaslate@msn.com)
- ❖ **After School Art Program Coordinator**  
Contact: Cynthia Slate 782-8423 or [cynthiaslate@msn.com](mailto:cynthiaslate@msn.com)
- ❖ **Penny Harvest Coach**  
Contact: Sarah Fields 297-1497 or [sarahfie71@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahfie71@hotmail.com)
- ❖ **Playground Supervisors**  
Contact: Nancy in the office if you can help

All volunteers, whether in the classrooms or for the PTA, need to complete a release form for a background check. **NEW THIS YEAR:** The front office needs a copy of the volunteer's driver's license before the background check can be processed. For anyone who has already turned in a form, PLEASE drop off a copy of your driver's license in the front office or send it in via kid-mail.

### **Whittier's Annual Fall Carnival is October 24th!**

We need many parent volunteers to make this a successful event. The volunteer request form has already come home with your kid(s) - please return it to us via Kid Mail with your shift preferences.

Thank you in advance for your support of this fun event! Questions? Contact Erica Welch, [ericajwelch@comcast.net](mailto:ericajwelch@comcast.net) (206) 783-0729 or Sarah Fields, [sarahfie71@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahfie71@hotmail.com) (206) 297-1497.

### **Lost and Found**

It's only three weeks into the school year, but we already have a full rack of items in the lost and found! Please check through the rack, located by the north entrance of the school, for items your student may have left at school.

### **Curriculum Night is Tonight!**

Teachers welcome their students' parents and guardians for curriculum night tonight. Primary grades (K-2) are from 6:00 -6:30 p.m., secondary grades (3-5) from 6:35-7:05 p.m. Please come and hear about what your child is learning in school! Check out their classroom, sit at their desk, see their work so far this year, learn about the current curriculum, etc.

### **Please note that this year Curriculum night is for parents and guardians only!**

Why isn't there an open house this year along with curriculum night? The teachers voted last spring to have curriculum night only for a number of reasons. First, the supervision of siblings creates a huge safety issue because of the lack of parents/babysitters to watch over so many children. Second, having only adults in the classroom will enable a more thorough discussion of the curriculum. Finally, there are other opportunities for parents to visit the classroom with their children.

The PTA will work with the staff to coordinate an Open House for next year in conjunction with another PTA event. Unfortunately, scheduling an Open House this year is difficult due to the fact that many teachers are taking evening classes and have other commitments beyond the work day.

Our fabulous Whittier teachers are available by appointment before and after school to meet with parents and discuss any concerns. In addition, their rooms are available with advanced notice for children to show their parents around.

### **Direct Appeal 2008**

Direct Appeal brochures went home in kid mail and already the money is rolling in! Thank you to those who have donated already! The Direct Appeal 2008 campaign runs through November and we encourage every family to donate what they can, fill out the back of the Direct Appeal form with names of those who you think may donate (i.e. grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.), and get those employer matching forms in. Aside from the auction held every other year, Direct Appeal is the PTA's biggest fundraiser providing the bulk of the yearly PTA budget and every dollar counts.

Questions? Contact Susan M. Weber, 612-0589, [smwlaw@comcast.net](mailto:smwlaw@comcast.net).

## **Wood Chip Work Party this Saturday!**

Many hands make light work... Please come help complete the playground project so it can open next week!!! We need a dozen or so strong backs to help spread chips in the new play structure area. Bring tarps, pitch forks, rakes, or snow shovels if you have any. RAIN OR SHINE! --- We want this project DONE!

**WHEN:** 1 pm to 2 pm this Saturday, September 27 **WHERE:** Whittier Playground

**PLEASE NOTE: Children will ABSOLUTELY not be allowed on the new play structure!** They will need to stay outside of the fenced area to ensure that we comply with the School District's requirement that the project is inspected prior to use.

## **Innisbrook Wrapping Paper is GREEN**

It's not just the color of the paper! Here are some ways that Innisbrook is addressing environmental issues:

- All standard gift wrap is printed on premium recycled paper
- Inks used are 100% water-based
- Paper is purchased from mills that support local and global initiatives.
- All corrugated boxes are recycled.
- Recycled pallets are used to ship Innisbrook products to schools
- All Innisbrook catalogues and money collection envelopes are printed on recycled paper.

In addition, we are using EZ Order Entry this year, which reduces paperwork by allowing you to enter orders online at [www.innisbrook.com](http://www.innisbrook.com). That's not all: 70% of Innisbrook products are made in the U.S.A. Keep selling to support Whittier School PTA programs! Sale ends October 8.

## **Advanced Learning Nomination Packets**

Applications for the 2009-2010 school year are due 10/8/08. Get the most up-to-date [Information/Packet](#) from the District website.

## **Thank You from Gatzert Elementary...**

Dear Whittier Community,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of supplies for our students. Buying school supplies is a hardship for many of our families and few students come to school with any basic supplies, i.e. no backpacks, binders, markers or pencil boxes.

Needless to say, teachers were extremely grateful that the Whittier community thought of Gatzert and the school supplies and snacks were eagerly received by teachers and students!

We value the partnership between our schools and look forward to it continuing this year.

Warmly,

Amanda Guyler  
ELL Teacher  
Gatzert Elementary School

## ★ **Últimas Noticias** ★

Before school Spanish program registration forms went home in kid mail last week. The deadline for registration for Session I is this Friday, September 26th. Please hand in your registration forms to the Spanish box in front office with a check for \$30 made out to Whittier PTA. If you have forgotten to include a check or would like, the Spanish committee will follow-up with you via email.

We hope to have class time assignments completed by Tuesday, September 30th. Depending on the demand we will determine if lottery placement is needed for some class times. We will alert you of your child's placement via email. ¡Muchas gracias!

Questions?? Please email [spanishcommittee@hotmail.com](mailto:spanishcommittee@hotmail.com)

## **Scrip Numbers & News**

Wow! In the first two weeks of school we sold over \$8,000 in scrip and made \$525 in profit. Help us keep the momentum going and use scrip for everything from groceries to clothing, coffee, movies and more. Remember, the merchants sell us gift cards for a reduced amount and you pay face value while the PTA keeps the difference. We earn money while you shop!

Do you shop at PCC? Buy a re-useable gift card at the scrip table for \$50 then reload it at PCC for any amount with any form of payment. Twice a year PCC writes us a check for 5% of your reloaded totals. We made over \$2,000 last year from PCC cards!