

Merriam PTO N2K (Need to Know)

From the PTO Board: Tina Hamilton, Alycen Nigro, Lisa Sippy, Kavitha Hegde

WEEK OF 3/24/14

This newsletter is brought to you by the Communications Team and is meant to give you the latest and greatest news and information from around the organization.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 3/24 Monday – Muffins w Mom/Donuts w Dad (7:45-8:15 am)/PTO Meeting #4 (8:15-9:00 am)
- 4/15 Tuesday – School Council Meeting 6:00-7:30 pm
- 4/18 Friday – No School (Good Friday)
- 4/21 to 4/25 – Spring Recess – No School

MUFFINS W MOM/DONUTS W DAD AND PTO MEETING PRESENTATION WITH DR. MILLS, MARCH 24

Join us on Monday, March 24 at 7:45 a.m. for one of our favorite social events, Muffins with Mom/Donuts with Dad, followed by our 4th PTO meeting of the year. At the meeting, we'll be having a presentation from our **Superintendent**, Dr. Mills on "state of the district" on a very important topic – "**School Budget**". Following the presentation, we'll have an opportunity to discuss any concerns with him. We are looking forward to seeing many of you there!

MERRIAM STAFF AWESOME ADVENTURES GOING ON NOW!

The generous Merriam Staff wants to demonstrate their support of Merriam's wonderful classroom assistants by offering events and activities for auction. Some of these fabulous items include:

Spots available immediately:

- Calling all Readers with Kerry Cusick and Jeanne Cervini (3 spots)
- Flying Squirrel with Mary O'Brien (3 spots)
- Capture the Flag and Roasted Marshmallows with Annie Doble and Michele Pruett (10 spots)

Available to the highest bidder:

Mealtime with Karen
Sleepover at Melissa's House
Principal for the Day with Ed
Touch Football Party with Ed and Bob
Capture the Flag / Flashlight Tag with Tom and Colm
Pizza, Movie, & Homemade Ice Cream with Myrna, Carolyn and Helena
Long Lake Picnic with Fran and Rachel
A day for lunch, a day for art with Kristin and Linda
Visit to Hobby Horse Farm with Cindy
Rockin' Lunch with Kate!
Kimball's Ice Cream Caper with Vanessa and Tasha
Mega Castelball After-School with Mary
Bus Caller for the Day with Joanne

For more information, be sure to visit the Bidding for Good website (www.biddingforgood.com/merriamschool/staffauction) for all the details on the different adventures including the opening bids or cost per spot. Some of the items are great for small groups, others are perfect for large parties or Parent's Night Out. All of these adventures give the students priceless opportunities to interact with their teachers and the staff outside of the classroom.

The auction will run from Friday, March 21 (5 PM) until Friday, March 28 (8 PM).

We will contact the Adventure recipients via email to convey event and contact information when the auction is over. If you have any questions about the adventures or the Bidding for Good website, please contact Alycen Nigro (alyheels@yahoo.com). Happy Bidding!

SEND IN YOUR DONELAN'S RECEIPT

Please send in your Donelan's receipts dated September 1, 2013 - March 31, 2014 to Merriam with your child by April 7. Remember, with every dollar spent at Donelan's, Merriam earns points toward free educational equipment.

SCHOOL BUDGET INFORMATION

Last month, the Acton Leadership Group, Leadership Group, or ALG, (comprised of 2 members of the Board of Selectmen, 2 members of the Finance Committee, 2 members of the School Committee, the Town Manager, the Superintendent of Schools and the Finance Directors for the Town and Schools) came to consensus on the town and school budgets, the use of reserves and tax relief for the citizens of Acton.

On Tuesday, March 11th, the Acton Finance Committee (FinCom) voted 6-3 to recommend the proposed school budget and assessment for next year. The Acton Board of Selectmen has deferred a vote on the school budget as of this writing.

More details on the school budget and related issues can be found at <http://ab.mec.edu>

Check the upper left corner of the site under 'FY '15 Budget Information' for updates.

Meanwhile, please **SAVE THE DATE(S)** for Acton Town Meeting, as the school budget needs

to pass a vote at that meeting in order to be implemented.

Acton Town Meeting begins Monday, April 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the ABRHS Auditorium, and may continue for one or more consecutive evenings.

Only registered voters are permitted to vote. However, anyone may attend and observe the meetings.

IN THE COMMUNITY – FRESH AIR FUND HOST NEEDED

Fresh Air Fund Host Families Needed This Summer - Do you want to celebrate summer differently this year? The Fresh Air Fund Program, a not-for-profit agency, is currently looking for volunteer host families to open their home and give New York City children an experience they will never forget. It's simple, all it takes is room in your home and room in your heart. You can request a boy or girl, the age range of the child and your trip dates. This summer the Acton trip dates are July 23-August 1 but there are many local trip dates to choose from, all ranging from 1-2 weeks. Please consider joining other Merriam families who have opened their home and have helped create lifelong memories. For more information, please contact Lisa Sajedi at 978-760-0006 or LisaSajedi@yahoo.com, Ginny Kremer at 978-263-1599 or Mimi Gleason at 978-897-9993.