

# Merriam PTO N2K (Need to Know)

From the PTO Board: Amy Yadav, Amanda Ragusa, Shirlee Stein, Claudia Hardy

WEEK OF 10/5/15

This newsletter is brought to you by the Merriam PTO.

## WEEK IN REVIEW

We were delighted to see so many parents at Merriam's Open House. It was such an informative and entertaining evening.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

10/6 Tuesday-- ABRSD Family Learning Series, *Thinking Through, In & About Mathematics in 2015*, from 7:00-8:30pm.

10/9 Friday—Community Day!

10/12 Monday—No School (Columbus Day)

10/14 Wednesday—Picture Day

10/15 Thursday-- Early Release (12:20 pm); No School for PM Kindergarten

10/17 Saturday—Merriam Fall Fair

10/22 Thursday— Early Release For Conferences(12:20 pm); No School for PM Kindergarten

10/26 Monday—Merriam's P.E. Night

10/29 Thursday-- Early Release For Conferences (12:20 pm); No School for PM Kindergarten

10/30 Friday—Elementary School Halloween Party Hosted by AB High School fundraising for UNICEF / Girl-Up ,from 5-8 pm at ABRHS.

## ONLY YOU CAN MAKE THE FALL FAIR FANTASTIC!

**Fall Fair**—One of our most popular events the Fall Fair needs your help! If you prefer to

donate something we are looking for Carmel apples and cakes for the cake walk. There are a number of positions still available such as cotton candy makers, face painters and more!

**Sign up for a task on our VolunteerSpot sign up listing!\*\*** <http://vols.pt/ogB2PV>

\*\*Please see attached Flyer with details.

### **THE MERRIAM SPRING AUCTION IS BACK!**

**Classroom Art Project** (1 person) – Each year, some of the most popular auction items are the classroom art projects. These works of art are unique to each class and include a piece made by each Merriam student. **We already have one volunteer to help coordinate this fun project but we would like at least one more person (two would be even better!) to help out.** You **do not** have to have artistic talent to help out. Promise!

We are also looking for some volunteers to help our **Business Donation** coordinator in the following areas:

- Contacting local / national businesses and obtaining item donations.
- Inputting items to our Auction database in Bidding for Good once promised.
- Assisting in the pick-up / delivery of donated items prior to the Auction.

**If you are able to help out with an area listed above, please contact Alycen Nigro via email at [alyheels@yahoo.com](mailto:alyheels@yahoo.com).**

**For more information about the Spring Auction, please visit:**

<http://www.biddingforgood.com/merriamschool/2016>

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE MERRIAM PTO**

**School Pictures Day Volunteers** – We are looking for volunteers to help the photographer and teachers, on the morning of Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Amanda Ragusa ([amandadragusa@gmail.com](mailto:amandadragusa@gmail.com)) for more information.

**Merriam Gift Book Program Coordinator** – The Merriam School library is looking for a parent to revitalize the *Merriam Gift Book Program*. In the past, this program has raised substantial funds for the purchase of new books for our library. The tasks involved in this coordination can be completed from home. If you are interested, please contact Joan Hilton in the library ([jhilton@abschools.org](mailto:jhilton@abschools.org)) for more details.

**Lost and Found Committee Volunteers** – Volunteers needed for a **very flexible volunteering opportunity**. Only requires your help a handful of times throughout the school year. Help missing items find their owners and help us donate abandoned items to local charities. Please contact Catherine Centrella at [catcentrella@gmail.com](mailto:catcentrella@gmail.com) if interested.

**Merriam Yard Sale Coordinator(s)** – We are looking for one or two coordinators to revitalize and organize the annual Merriam Yard Sale held in Spring. Contact Amy Yadav

([amyadav@gmail.com](mailto:amyadav@gmail.com)) for more information.

**Book Fair Team** – We are looking for one or two volunteers to coordinate our annual February Book Fair. Tasks include coordinating book delivery and pick up with the vendor and coordination of volunteers to work at the Fair. Our outgoing coordinator, Zuzka Blasi, will review tasks and time line with the new coordinator to insure a smooth transition. Please contact, Amy Yadav ([amyadav@gmail.com](mailto:amyadav@gmail.com)) for more information.

Please help the Merriam PTO continue to support our wonderful classroom assistants. If you (and/or your friends!) are interested in any of the positions above, please contact: Amy Yadav ([amyadav@gmail.com](mailto:amyadav@gmail.com)). We look forward to working with you to enrich the Merriam community.

### **FAMILY LEARNING SERIES**

This year, the Ed Tech Department and Curriculum Office have created a Family Learning Series. This monthly series will have speakers share information with parents and caregivers about Literacy, Mathematics, Science and digital citizenship. On Tuesday, October 6th from 7:00 to 8:30, Grace Kelemanik and Amy Lucenta from the Boston Plan for Excellence, will share their thinking on Mathematics in 2015.

### **IN THE COMMUNITY**

**Destination Imagination** Parent Information Meeting- October 7<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00pm-9:00pm

\*\*Please see attached Flyer with details.

**AB Girl Scouts** are starting off the new year in Girl Scouting with the formation of some new troops at the Kindergarten and 1st grade levels, and we are always happy to have girls join existing troops at any age up to and including high school. If you would like to find out more about Girl Scouts, you can contact AB Registrar Trina Toups at [registrar@abgirlscouts.org](mailto:registrar@abgirlscouts.org) or McCarthy-Towne/Merriam School Rep Carol Chytil at [carol.chytil@gmail.com](mailto:carol.chytil@gmail.com) . New troops will be formed by the end of October, so don't hesitate to inquire today.

**Did you know October is the official "Archaeology Month" in Massachusetts?** The local archaeological group, "Friends of Pine Hawk" would like invite Acton families to join them for some though provoking programs throughout the month. Check out the "Teaching and Learning" page of the ABRSD website, or the official Massachusetts Archaeology Month "Sailing Back in Time" resources, with numerous links to events across the state.

**Halloween Party** for Elementary School Aged Children put on by AB High School as a UNICEF / Girl-Up Fundraiser-- Friday, October 30th from 5-8 pm at ABRHS.

More details coming soon!

