

Merriam PTO N2K (Need to Know)

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

WEEK OF 5/19/14

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.

CONTENTS

Calendar of Events	
SCRIP Order Deadline Extended to May 22	
Merriam Spring Social – Thanks for Attending!	
Volunteers Needed for Next Year	
Save the Date with Dr. Jeffry Q. Bostic on May 27 at 7 pm.....	
Acton PIP – Summer Skills Workbooks	
In the Community – PMC Bike Ride and FUNRaiser to build a Library	

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 5/22 Thursday – Scrip Orders Due
- 5/26 Monday – No School (Memorial Day)
- 5/28 Wednesday – Spring Theme Day
- 5/30 Friday – Scrip Cards Delivered
- 6/2 Monday - Volunteer Reception - 8:35 - 9:45 a.m.
- 6/6 Friday - Field Day

SCRIP ORDER DEADLINE EXTENDED TO MAY 22

Due to an error in the original order form, we've extended the order deadline to May 22. Please use the most recent form you received on May 16, or use the attached form.

It's the last SCRIP order of the year! Help us finish the year strong by buying your teacher's gifts (they love Amazon gift cards for classroom items!), coaches' gifts and grad gifts through SCRIP! The order form went home in Friday mail packets or you can download it from the PTO website. Order forms are due back at school by Thursday, May 22. Cards will be delivered home via backpack mail or available for pick up in the office on Friday, May 30. Any questions, please contact Kristen Koehler at koehlers4@verizon.net. Thanks for your support!

MERRIAM SPRING SOCIAL – THANKS FOR ATTENDING!

Thank you to those Merriam parents who attended The Red Raven on Saturday night and

celebrated **Merriam's 20th Anniversary!** Thank you to the School Council for all the work they put into the Merriam slideshows and Merriam trivia! I hope everyone had a great time, and hope to have an even bigger turnout next year.

If you have any suggestions for future socials, please let us know by emailing Alycen Nigro at alyheels@yahoo.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NEXT YEAR

The Merriam PTO would like to thank all of our wonderful volunteers who helped out this year! Planning and implementing the Merriam PTO's numerous activities, events and fundraising endeavors truly takes a team effort. With your help, the Merriam community raised **over \$95,000** to support our wonderful classroom assistants. **Thank you very much!**

We are now planning for next year and have some opportunities for volunteers:

PTO Co-Chair: We are looking for an organized and energetic individual to work with our current co-chair, Alycen Nigro (who is great to work with, I promise!). PTO co-chair is a really great way to meet fellow Merriam and Acton community members and to help the Merriam PTO meet its community building and fundraising goals. This person will work with many of our excellent volunteers to assist in coordination of PTO-sponsored community and fundraising events. In addition, this person will get the opportunity to interface with Merriam staff, PTO chairs from other Acton schools as well as members of the Acton School Committee.

Merriam Directory Team: We are looking for a few volunteers to help put together the Merriam Directory. Jobs include procuring advertisements (so we can keep the Directory free for families), organizing family and class information from the main office and formatting that information into the final directory.

Fall Fair Team: We are looking for several volunteers to help plan and run Merriam's 4th Annual Fall Fair. This event is a fun evening of "carnival games", cakewalks and yummy food. Many hands are needed to make this October event run smoothly.

Camp Fair Team: The Acton Camp Fair is our largest fundraising event of the year. All monies raised at this event come from outside of the Merriam Community. We need assistance in several areas including Registration, Concessions, on-site Coordinator and Camp Auction Coordinator. This event takes place at the end of January.

Merriam Yard Sale Coordinator(s): We need one or two volunteers to organize and coordinate the annual Merriam Yard Sale. This event takes place in conjunction with McCarthy-Towne in the Spring.

Acton PIP Representatives: We need two volunteers to attend monthly Acton PIP (Parent Involvement Project) meetings and pass information along to the Merriam community regarding upcoming PIP events (e.g., Family Math Night, Nature Walks, Market Math and Star Party).

Webmaster: We need a volunteer to take over weekly webmaster duties for the Merriam PTO website. This person must have at least the basic knowledge of Wordpress and HTML. Our outgoing webmaster, Emilie Ying, will review the weekly update procedures with the new webmaster to insure a smooth transition.

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: Alycen Nigro (alyheels@yahoo.com). We look forward to working with you next year to enrich the

Merriam community!

SAVE THE DATE WITH DR. JEFFRY Q. BOSTIC ON MAY 27 AT 7 PM

Parents/Guardians, Staff, Clinicians are welcome to the 7th Annual Workshop led by Dr. Jeffry Q. Bostic on May 27th at 7 p.m. at R.J.Grey Junior High School Library. The topic will be *Mental Health Issue in Children and Teens*. Please see the attached PDF for more details.

ACTON PIP – SUMMER SKILLS WORKBOOKS

AB PIP STEM Offers Summer Skills Workbooks - Early Bird Orders Due, Friday, May 30.
(Regular deadline June 6)

AB PIP STEM is again offering Summer Skills Math Books to help your children review math skills over the summer. If you order by May 30, you will receive the Early Bird discount price of \$18 per book; you save \$2 and PIP receives \$1 per book. Regular price after that will be \$20 per book. Proceeds support popular AB PIP STEM events, such as Market Math Mania, Star Party, and Discover STEM, as well as yearly scholarships. Flyer and order forms are attached and can also be found at actonpip.org.

For more information, email actonpip@gmail.com with any questions. Samples of the workbooks can be found at the Acton Memorial Library, in the Children's Reference Department, or by visiting <http://www.summerskills.com/>. This year's books align with the new Common Core State Standards. Other subject area books available upon request.

IN THE COMMUNITY – PMC BIKE RIDE AND FUNRAISER TO BUILD A LIBRARY

PMC Bike Ride - The 2nd Annual Acton-Boxboro PMC Kids Ride will take place on Sunday, June 1 from 8:30-12:00 pm at NARA Park.

PMC Kids Rides became an official PMC program in 2005 as a way to include young cyclists in the Pan-Mass Challenges mission of raising money for cancer research and treatment at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute through its Jimmy Fund. These rides enable children between the ages of 3 and 13 to ride their bikes and solicit sponsorships to donate money to cancer research. 100% of all the monies raised at this event and by the children will go directly to Dana-Farber via the PMC.

The event will include the ride, lunch, multiple kids' activities and raffles. Ride details, rider and volunteer registration can be found at: <http://www.kids.pmc.org/acton-boxboro.aspx>. You can also email PMCKidsAB@gmail.com with any questions. We hope to see you there!

FUNRaiser to build a library for The Home of Little Wanderers - Join the musical producer of "Pete the Cat" books. Come sing, dance, shake, laugh, wiggle and learn as Mr. Michael gets silly with his guitar on Saturday, June 7th at 10am at Parker Damon Cafetorium. Fun for all ages. Please see flyer for more details or contact Amy Smalarz at amy.smalarz@gmail.com.