

Merriam PTO N2K (Need to Know)

From the PTO Board: Claudia Hardy, Maria Pickett, Shirlee Stein, Kate Lemke

WEEK OF 8/30/16

Welcome to the first week of school! This newsletter is brought to you by the Merriam PTO

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

9/2 – 9/5 Friday-Monday – No School (Labor Day)

9/9 – Friday – School Picnic (5:30p.m.-7:00p.m.)

9/12 – Monday – School Picture Day

9/13 Tuesday - New Parent Coffee (9:30a.m.); PTO Meeting #1 (10:15a.m.-11:15a.m.) Topic: Merriam Goals & Information about the PTO

9/15 Thursday -- Early Release (1:00p.m.)

9/16 Friday -- Deadline to update Power School data for Merriam Directory

9/19 Monday – Kid Stuff Coupon Book Fundraiser begins

9/27 Tuesday -- Merriam Open House 6:00p.m. (Kindergarten families); 7:00p.m. (Grades 1-6)

9/30 Friday – Community Day

SMILE AND SAY CHEESE!

School Pictures Day Volunteers – We are looking for volunteers to help the photographers with paperwork on the morning of Monday, September 12th. Please contact Amanda Ragusa (amandadragusa@gmail.com) for more information.

GRAB A BLANKET!

Join us on Friday September 9th for the Fall School Picnic (5:30p.m.-7:00p.m). Reconnect with old friends, make new friends! Bring your family's dinner, non-alcoholic drinks, and a blanket (or camping chairs)! See attached flyer for details!

MERRIAM SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Each fall, the Merriam PTO creates a Student Directory so families can communicate with each other throughout the year. Each Merriam family will receive one copy of the directory for free. Since the Directory information is drawn from the details you enter into the **PowerSchool Parent Portal**, we need to make sure that everyone has submitted their current information, and updated their permissions for publication. This information also allows the school to send our N2K ("Need to Know") weekly school communication via email to you. If you have not yet done so this school year for each of your Merriam children (**even if you are in the second half of your loop**), please visit PowerSchool to review your information and make any necessary changes. Information on this process will be coming home in the backpacks between now and the deadline **on Friday, September 16th**.

FACEBOOK

The Merriam School Community is online. This closed (private) group is an additional resource for the entire community, and will not replace the PTO Webpage, N2K, or Newsletter. You can do a search for "Merriam School Community" on Facebook to find us, or use this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/merriamschoolacton/>

FALL FAIR IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Fall Fair Concessions Coordinator – We are looking for someone to handle the concessions/food orders for Merriam's 5th Annual Fall Fair. This event is a fun evening of "carnival games", cakewalks and yummy food. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Christopher Hardy (chrishardy7@yahoo.com).

JOIN THE CAMP FAIR TEAM!

Apprentice Camp Fair Registrations Coordinator – We are looking for someone to help monitor summer camp business registrations for our annual Summer Camp Fair in January. This is one of our largest fundraisers, so we need to secure this position as soon as possible. This position involves updating one letter with current dates/deadlines and monitoring/assisting camps as they register using our online registration system. Please contact Amanda Ragusa amandadragusa@gmail.com for more information.

Camp Fair Directory - Are you comfortable using Desktop publisher? Busy with work but still want to help? Or just like to reach out and talk to new people? Then we have the job(s) for

you! The Camp Fair team is looking for someone to format this year's directory and/or solicit donations from businesses for the directory. For more information, please contact Amanda Ragusa at amandadragusa@gmail.com .

Camp Fair Literature Coordinator: The camp fair committee is looking for someone to address, mail Camp Fair Literature, and organize package stuffing with a group of volunteers. Please contact Amanda Ragusa at amandadragusa@gmail.com

Apprentice for the Online Auction: Assist current committee member in maintaining and organizing the Online Camp Fair Auction. For more information, please contact Amanda Ragusa at amandadragusa@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE MERRIAM PTO

Front Office Volunteers - We are in need of additional volunteers for the Merriam School front office. This commitment is for one day every other week for about an hour. The front office volunteers coordinate the attendance of all students to confirm safe arrival, and prepare reports for changes to students' dismissal routines. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information on this opportunity, email Kathleen Zawicki at kzawicki@abschools.org.

Friday Mail Team - Come join a group of fun and friendly parents at approximately 9:20 a.m. on Friday mornings to assemble the information packets that go home every week. Please contact Karen Brandstein (kmwb1@yahoo.com) for more information.

Room Parents - Becoming a Room Parent can be a great way to get involved with your child's class. It is also a great opportunity for parents that may not be able to volunteer in the classroom, but would like to help out remotely. Please look for the flyer to be sent home in the upcoming N2K to learn more typical Room Parent responsibilities. If interested, or have questions, please contact Claudia Hardy (klaudjak@gmail.com).

COMING SOON TO A BACKPACK NEAR YOU!

We're selling **KidStuff Coupon Books** to support our school at a cost of \$25! Save at Macy's, Sears, Dick's, Michaels, Payless + more! See attached flyer for more info!