

GRAHAM PTA NEWSLETTER

Oct 23, 2017

UPCOMING DATES

October 22-27

IPSD 204
Winter Coat Drive
Red Ribbon Week

October 27

Harvest Party
2:15-3:00pm

Hat and Mitten collection

Save the date!

Nov 13

Blessings In A Backpack
packing event

Nov 14

Skate Night

Nov 16

Boys Choice

*Please note:

There is no PTA meeting
scheduled for November.
Our next PTA meeting is
Dec 14 at 6:30pm and
will be our **Internet
Safety Presentation.**

The **Harvest Party** is scheduled for this **Friday, Oct 27 2:15-3:00**. Head Room Parents have been busy organizing parties for every grade and we thank all the volunteers for their help in making it a fun time for all the students.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF PARTY PROCEDURES AND PARADE DETAILS:

- **Your name must be on the SignUp Genius volunteer list to attend the party.** Only the party volunteers on the list will be allowed in the school during the party.
- **Parties will end at 3:00 to allow the parade to start on time at 3:15:** parents attending only the parade are invited to watch the parade from the basketball courts by the playground. Parents will not be allowed into the building after the parade.
- **Classroom Party volunteers who leave the building to watch the parade outside will not be allowed back into the building.** There will be an indoor route for volunteers that remain in the building.
- **All students will return to their classrooms after the parade and will be dismissed from their classes** at the regular time. Please do not pick up your child from the parade route.
- **Please notify your classroom teacher and the office** of any changes to your child's pick-up **PRIOR** to the party.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation at the Harvest Party and Parade!

As always, thanks for reading!

Emily Chen

STAY CONNECTED!

Graham District Website:

<http://graham.ipsd.org/>

Graham PTA website:

<http://www.grahampta.org/>

PTA Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/grahampta/>

HARVEST PARTY VOLUNTEERS!

It's Harvest Party Week! **Our children are very much looking forward to our upcoming Harvest Celebrations this Friday, October 27th, 2-3pm.** Our classroom parents have made some great plans for fun and prep is underway now. Some classes still need your help! We are still in need of volunteers in the following classes:

1 spot to fill: 1W, 1C, 3T, 5M

2 spots to fill: 4V

If your child is in one of these classes and you have time to spare 2-3pm this Friday, we could sure use your help. Thanks so much to all of our volunteers making this Harvest Celebration special for our children.

To sign up: <http://www.grahampta.org/schedule---volunteers.html>

2017-2018 PTA BOARD

President: Emily Chen

Vice Presidents: Tiffany Treacy & Stephanie Melone

Treasurer: Suzie Perkins

Secretary: Brooke Murphy

RED RIBBON WEEK

The Graham PTA is promoting Red Ribbon activities this week. **The children and families are encouraged to participate on 2 levels.**

Daily themes including fun spirit activities coupled with a theme to spark conversations at home as to what Red Ribbon Week is all about. For our youngest Falcons this may simply include the importance of not taking medicines or vitamins without a parent's permission. For our older kids we address the concept of respecting yourself and avoiding peer pressure while making responsible choices to keep themselves healthy. The kids will kick off the week by signing a school wide pledge on Monday.

For follow up in the classroom, the PTA provided each grade level with copies of handouts to reinforce the themes. These are age specific: coloring sheets for our youngest kids and increases up to writing acrostics and illustrated activities of vocabulary for the older grades. It is our hope this week encourages us all to take a moment and to open the door for talking with our kids regarding a subject matter that is much needed in our area as they grow up. They are little and still listening today, the middle school & teen years can get tough to be heard, so starting the conversation early and keeping it going is the key. Thanks for your support!

Buddy 2 Buddy : Playground Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers who would be helping our B2B Playground Buddies. The volunteers would ideally go to the playground at recess a couple of times, and be on hand to help the Buddies see how they can reach out to friends who may be looking for someone to play with. The recess times are as follows:

- 5th: 11:55-12:10
- 4th: 12:20-12:35
- 2nd/3rd: 12:45-1:00
- K/1st: 1:10-1:25

If any of these options sound like something you would be interested in, please contact **Mandy Traynor** mandytraynor@hotmail.com or **Margie Polycn** marpolc3@gmail.com

BOYS CHOICE: THUR'S NOV 16 6P-8P

We are looking forward to our **Boys Choice at Main Event.** This is our annual Mother/Son event and invitations were sent home last week. **Please return the RSVP slip and your payment (check payable to Graham PTA) by Monday October 30.**

**Late registrations cannot be guaranteed a party favor.*

New this year! selfie station and all pictures from this station are included in our ticket price!

Questions, please contact Kristin Kirchner kirchnercrew@gmail.com

BLESSINGS in a BACKPACK COLLECTIONS

This year we are again partnering with **Onley Allen Elementary School in Aurora, IL** to help provide food over the weekends for the students on the Federal Free & Reduced Meal Program at their school. We are also taking clothing donations to add to the backpacks. **Each class will be collecting the following items at the Harvest party and Winter party:**

- 1) **Harvest Party , Oct 27th: New winter hats & gloves**
- 2) **Winter Party, Dec 22nd: New socks**

IPSN PTA

(Indian Prairie Special Needs PTA)

We will be continually updating our websites with resources, events, and flyers from the IPSN PTA. Please be sure to take a look <http://www.grahampta.org/ipsn-pta.html> or email our **IPSN PTA Rep Maja Vidic** maja13vidic@hotmail.com

PDAC

(Parents Diversity Advisory Council)

Next Meeting: Nov 7th @7pm

Crouse Education Center

Topic: Implicit Bias: Advantages Due to Race
Questions, please contact our **PDAC Rep: Manu Khurana** monagaks@gmail.com and visit <http://www.ipsd.org/Subpage.aspx/PDAC>

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