



**Waters Landing**  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# The Dolphin News

December 2016 Issue

[www.waterslandingpta.com](http://www.waterslandingpta.com)

A Publication of the Waters Landing Elementary School PTA

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**2016-2017  
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Dear Waters Landing Families:

I hope everyone had a very happy Thanksgiving holiday. Not only is this a time to celebrate our families and friends, it is also a time to say 'thanks' to others for the extras they do for you. We would like to thank PTA for organizing the staff appreciation "Pie Day". Thank you to everyone who donated pies for the staff. The WLES staff greatly appreciated your generosity in providing them with this wonderful dessert.

We hope you had the opportunity to meet with your child's teacher during parent-teacher conferences earlier this month. While these two days are set aside by MCPS for conferences, please know that you can make an appointment to meet with your child's teacher at any time to discuss your child's progress in school.

Winter Weather is coming very soon. Please make certain your child is appropriately dressed for the weather. We go outside every day for recess unless the temperature is below 32 degrees or it is raining. Also, check our Lost and Found for those coats, etc, that seem to get left behind.

The George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy, commonly known as "Saturday School", at Northwest High School is still enrolling students. If you feel your child would benefit from the extra support and enrichment, you can register either online at [www.saturdayschool.org](http://www.saturdayschool.org) or in person at Northwest HS. Applications are available in the Main Office. There is a one-time registration fee of \$50 (non-FARMS) and \$30 (FARMS) with no monthly tuition or additional fees to attend Saturday School. A payment plan option is also available. Families in need of financial assistance may request a waiver of the registration fee through a request in writing to the Saturday School site Center Director.

I hope you had a peaceful and restful Thanksgiving Holiday to all of our WLES families! Thank you for everything you do for your child and for Waters Landing Elementary School.

Sincerely,

Ms. Srelyne A. Harris, *Principal*

Mrs. Chris Troffkin, *Assistant Principal*

## WLES Spirit Night

**December 15 - Save the Date!**

December's Spirit Night will be at Applebee's in Germantown on Dec 15. Look for flyers in an upcoming Friday folder. Present them when you order and 20% of the sale will go to WLES!

**\*\*\* Save the Date\*\*\***

Come warm up at our Winter Dance on Friday, January 13, 2017, 7 pm - 8:30 pm. We will have Rocking DJ 50/50 raffle, and more! All grades are invited! No Drop-offs please!

## Box Top News

Waters Landing Elementary is still participating in Box Tops for Education program. Clipping Box Tops is an easy way to help our school. Box Tops are on the packaging of hundreds of products that you use every day and are each worth 10 cents that quickly add up to real cash for our school. To help WLES, just look for Box Tops on products, clip them, and send them to school in a baggie or collection sheet with your child's name and teacher written on it.



## From the PTA President ...

Dear WLES Families,



Thank you to those of you who have joined the PTA! We have had a great membership drive the first months of school. Mr. Chechik's fifth grade class had the highest proportion of PTA members after our fall membership drive and will receive a pizza party to celebrate!

We greatly appreciate all of the families who participated in our Shoe Drive. We collected 1950 pairs of shoes during our drive! Mrs. Elias' kindergarten class collected 254 pairs of shoes and was our winning class for the drive! Mrs. Elias' class will be having a big celebration soon and Mrs. Elias will receive \$100 in scholastic dollars to spend in her classroom. Other classes who collected over 100 pairs and will receive a celebration include: Mrs. Fagnano's kindergarten class; Mrs. Quick's kindergarten class; and Mrs. Friend's first grade class! Mrs. Fagnano, Mrs. Quick and Mrs. Friend will receive \$50 in scholastic dollars to spend in their classroom.

On Monday, November 21, the PTA hosted one of the teachers favorite days: PIE DAY. The teachers truly appreciated this event and all of the delicious desserts that were provided by parents and the PTA.

As winter time rolls around, our students will be spending more recesses indoors. While some teachers have lots of supplies for the children, many classes are still in need of activities that can allow our students to depress during the day. The PTA will be sponsoring an "Indoor Recess Cart" drive for the classrooms December 5-16. Donation items could be new or used but must be complete and must be cleaned and ready to use. Items can also be donated for specific grades or teachers. A flyer for this collection is included in this newsletter and will be coming home in your child's folder.

The PTA will have an exciting drawing coming up for the children to use their Dolphin Dollars! We will have 10 sets of 5 tickets to the Nationals Winterfest on December 11, 2016. At this event, children can meet their favorite Nationals players; test skills at a variety of baseball attractions and games; strike a pose at the life-size snow globe photo station; and much, much more!

Our next PTA meeting will be Tuesday, December 6 at 7:00 PM in the school library. We are looking forward to another amazing year and hope to get many more of you involved with the PTA and assisting with our mission to enrich and enhance the social and educational opportunities for the children of WLES. If you have any questions or would like to share some of your ideas and thoughts, please feel free to contact me.

Sheri Schully

Waters Landing Elementary School PTA President, 2016-2017

Proud mother of Madeleine (3<sup>rd</sup> grade), and Corinne (Kindergarten)

[sherischully@gmail.com](mailto:sherischully@gmail.com)

## From the Media Center:

Exciting times are ahead for Waters Landing Students! First, we have many wonderful new books added to the library. Among them are over 80 new online books. Your child can read online using any device that can access the internet. Instructions are included on the attached username and password brochure for online services. Be sure to check out CAPSTONE online books.

Second, beginning in February of 2017, all students will be issued a public library card through Library Link, a partnership between Montgomery County Public Schools and Montgomery County Public Libraries. These cards will give students access to a wide range of materials and resources available through public libraries. These include: online databases, online books, language learning, music and many other ways to explore the world. More information about the cards will be sent as February approaches.

And finally, Makerspace time is here! This year students will have opportunities to explore learning with Maker space materials. After checking out books students will be able to explore their own creative skills and imagination using makerspace tubs. These tubs will include materials such as: legos, puzzles, art supplies, blocks, history research, STEM activities and more. Tubs will be rotated throughout the year so that students will have something new to try as often as possible.

Parents we commend you for encouraging your students to read daily and visit the library often for new books. Our circulation numbers remain high! It has been a pleasure!

Mary Zygmunt, Media Specialist

## Waters Landing Elementary School PTA Membership

We are always welcoming new family members, so please take the time to show your support and send in your membership form. Forms are available for download on the PTA's website or you can join the online. Simply visit our website at [www.waterslandingpta.com](http://www.waterslandingpta.com) and click on the MEMBERSHIP tab. Fill out the membership form at the bottom enter your payment information and click submit! Paper applications are still welcomed and can be downloaded on our website as well or picked up at the PTA table at the school.

Click here to read more about some of the great reasons to join the PTA: <https://waterslandingpta.com/about-us/>

### Top Ten Reasons to Join the WLES PTA

1. **Your child benefits.** Research shows children whose parents are involved get better grades, do better on tests, and have fewer discipline problems at school.
2. **We make a difference.** Our mission is to help create a school where teachers, parents, and administrators come together to help all WLES children. We provide support for teachers in and out of the classroom and help create growth opportunities for all WLES children.
3. **We pledge to honor your time constraints.** People are often reluctant to participate because they are afraid they will get pulled into a black hole of never-ending time commitment. We will not push you to commit more than you want to or are able to. An hour or two a semester really makes a difference.
4. **We have fun.** We accomplish a lot, and not everything we do is easy. We do not take ourselves too seriously, and we try to enjoy ourselves.
5. **Meet nice people who share your concerns.** We all have a common bond- we care about creating the best possible educational experience for our children. Many friendships have developed as a result of those connections.
6. **There is a lot to be done.** These days, schools are asked to do more with less. Our help is needed more than ever to fill the gaps.
7. **We can match jobs to your interests and abilities.** The work we do covers a broad spectrum: planning and events, writing and editing, working directly with children, managing budgets and cash flow, and lots more. We encourage creative ideas and we are thrilled to have people take on tasks that meet their skills and interests.
8. **We are welcoming.** To us, there are no "outsiders." We are people who have come together to work toward common goals. We couldn't be happier to have you join us in working toward those goals.
9. **We are focused on parent involvement, not fundraising.** Our number one goal is to get more parents connected to the school. Building parent involvement in education is the number one thing we can do to create a great school. However, to provide many of our programs, we need to raise funds.
10. **The work is very rewarding.** It is seeing the smile that shows we are making school a little more fun. There are

**There are many ways to stay up to date with what is happening with WLES and the PTA.**

- ◆ Follow us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/WLESPTA/?fref=ts>
- ◆ Follow us on Twitter - [@WatersLanding](https://twitter.com/WatersLanding)
- ◆ Visit our website - [www.waterslandingpta.com](http://www.waterslandingpta.com)

As always, you are welcome to contact any of us via the contact us link on our website.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO  
ALL OUR  
WATERS LANDING FAMILIES**



# DECEMBER 5-16 WATERS LANDING INDOOR RECESS DONATIONS DRIVE

The PTA is partnering with the staff of Waters Landing Elementary to sponsor an Indoor Recess Cart drive December 5-16, 2016. As winter time rolls around, our students will be spending more recesses indoors. While some teachers have lots of supplies for the children, many classes are still in need of activities that can allow our students to decompress during the day. Donation items could be new or used but must be complete and must be cleaned and ready to use. Items can also be donated for specific grades or teachers. Please feel free to email [sherlachully@gmail.com](mailto:sherlachully@gmail.com) for specific teacher lists.

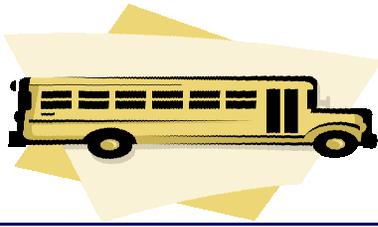
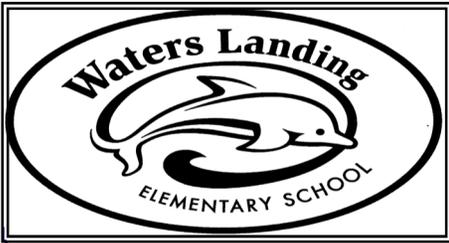
Questions?

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## Items Needed Across WLES:

Board Games  
Card Games  
Coloring Supplies  
Craft supplies  
Floor Puzzles  
Kinetic Sand  
K'Nex  
Legos  
Play-doh  
Storage Bins

Please drop off these items to the front office. If you would like them to be for a particular grade or teacher, please leave a note on the item(s).



# December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 PTA Meeting Media Center 7:00PM	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 WLES Spirit Night Applebee's	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Happy Holiday!!!	26 Holiday No School	27 Holiday No School	28 Holiday No School	29 Holiday No School	30 Holiday No School	31

