

Paw Prints



Frederick Carder Elementary School

September 2008

Vol. VIII

About The Carder PTA

The Carder PTA is a partnership of teachers and parents working to provide students with the best possible learning environment. PTA meetings are held monthly to plan activities and programs that support and enhance the Carder experience. We rely on volunteers to organize and staff our activities to make them successful. Paw Prints, which is published by the PTA, is your link to all of our news and events. Everyone is encouraged to join the PTA at an annual membership fee of only \$4.00 per person. This is a great way to support your child and our school!

2008-2009 PTA Officers

President: Amber Felker

VP: Heidi Basham

Treasurer: Jen Spencer

Secretary: Jennifer Warner

We welcome your input! All questions or comments about Paw Prints, as well as submissions for future issues should be put in the PTA mailbox in the school office or emailed to:

Paw Prints Editor:

Margie Lawlor
mlawlor@stny.rr.com

Carder Elementary School
289 State Street
Corning, NY 14830-3099
962-2454

Principal: Dan Davis
Secretary: Marge Bosket
Typist: Teresa Lovette

Office Hours
8:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

PTA Web Sites:
www.carderpta.com
www.pta.org
www.nyspta.org

C-PP District Web Site:
www.corningareaschools.com

Fall Fundraiser In Full Force!

Please don't miss out on the opportunity to help fund multiple programs at Carder School!

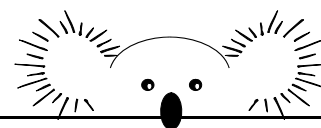
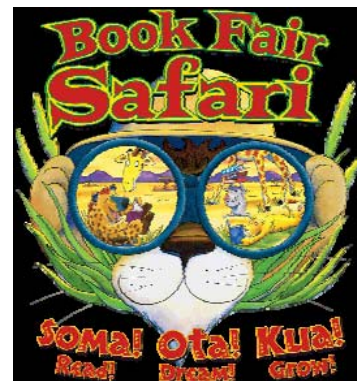
That's right, it is time once again for the PTA Fall Fundraiser featuring useful and appealing products from Genevieve's. This is the PTA's top-earning fundraiser, giving us the power to fund educational assemblies, "Koalaty" classroom grants for teachers, books for the library and fun events, too. Did you know that **50% of your fundraiser sales** will go right back to Carder students? **Wow!**

Classrooms and students will earn prizes for most items sold and most money earned. Don't miss out! Parents, you have until **October 1st** to submit your orders (yellow and white copy) to your child's teacher. **Please note that the above due date is correct, not the one on the collection envelope.** Customer orders will be distributed the day of the Spooktacular event planned for October 24th.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please refer to our website, www.carderpta.com and/or contact Danielle Major at dmajor@stny.rr.com. We thank you all in advance for your support.

Chair, Danielle Major; Co-chair, Mina Barron

Book Fair September 22nd & 23rd!
Support literacy among Carder students by shopping at the annual book fair!



Carder Calendar

September 10	Fall Fundraiser Begins
September 15	Box Tops – September Pick Up
September 17	School Board Meeting – Admin Bldg
September 22 - 23	Book Fair
September 23	Open House
September 28	Student Directory Forms Due
September 30	Scripts – September Order
October 1	Fall Fundraiser Packets Due
October 1	School Board Meeting – West HS
October 7	School Portraits
October 7	PTA Meeting
October 13	Columbus Day – No School
October 15	School Board Meeting – Admin Bldg
October 24	Spooktacular
October 27	Spirit Wear Orders Begin



Comments from Amber & Heidi

Heidi Basham & Amber Felker

We would like to thank all the parents and teachers who attended our first PTA meeting. Our monthly meetings are great ways to learn about the wonderful activities at Carder, meet the principal Mr. Davis, and our teachers. It is also a good time to share ideas and voice questions or concerns. We value your time and appreciate you joining us.

Our fall fundraiser is now underway! This is a major source of funding for the PTA that fuels the contributions we are able to make to Carder School. Last year we purchased a new sound system for the auditorium. We greatly appreciate your generous support of this event-be sure to use this for early holiday shopping since items will be delivered by the end of October.

Carder's open house is September 23rd. Come visit your child's classroom, and don't forget to stop by the book fair. Each student will be receiving a \$5.00 voucher from the PTA to ensure **ALL** students can go home with a book. *Please note that the voucher can only be redeemed the night of the open house.*

Carder's membership drive has begun. Membership forms have been sent home with your child. Please encourage other members of your family to join our PTA. Membership dues are only \$4.00 per person. Volunteer forms have also been sent home. We are always seeking volunteers and we encourage parents to get involved in the ways they can. We hope you will consider joining the PTA; your dues benefit our school directly as well as the national PTA, a child advocacy group.

We know everyone's lives are very busy and we appreciate all the time you give getting involved at Carder. We would like to thank all the committee chairs who continuously work hard at making our events a huge success.

Our next PTA meeting is October 7, 2008 at 6:30 pm, in the library. Don't forget -we provide child care for your children 3+!

Amber Felker & Heidi Basham



Dan Davis

Q & A with Mr. Davis

Paw Prints recently asked Mr. Davis some questions that might be on readers' minds.

Q: *What is the meaning of the new banner hanging on the building?*

Mr. Davis: We are proud that Carder was the only elementary school in the Greater Southern Tier BOCES to receive two recognitions from the NYS Department of Education: *Rapidly Improving School and Recognized School*. The recognitions show that our faculty and students are working hard and showing improvement in instruction and learning.

Q: *Are you satisfied with Carder class sizes at each grade level this school year?*

Mr. Davis: This year we are in great shape with the number grade level sections. In K-4 each grade has 4 sections, while 5th grade has 3 sections. By increasing or maintaining the number of sections, we are able to keep the number of students in each classroom to a minimum.

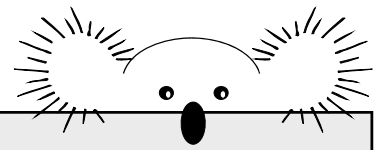
Q: *What can you tell us about the new Math curriculum?*

Mr. Davis: The *EnVision* math program addresses our New York State Mathematics Standards in a visually stimulating, technology rich and problem solving format. Students are involved in hands-on and minds-on activities that will help them reach a deep understanding of Math concepts. You can learn more about it on corningareaschools.com.

Q: *What other steps are being taken at Carder to create the best possible educational setting for all students?*

Mr. Davis: We will also be piloting *Response To Intervention*. The main objective of RTI is to help all students achieve at a proficient level and ultimately make adequate yearly progress. RTI allows schools to intervene early to meet the needs of struggling students and identifies specific instructional strategies to support student learning. It also increases collaboration among faculty members and increases parent contact and involvement.





Scrip Gift Card Program Is a Total Win-Win!

Do you wish to help Carder School but don't want to spend the extra money? Do you shop at JCPenney, Walmart, Subway, or Dunkin' Donuts? These, and 100's of other retailers, will give our school money at *no additional cost to you*. Scrip is a gift card program that allows you to purchase the retailer's card at face value and spend at face value while the retailer sells it to the Carder PTA at a discount. We keep this revenue to help fund our wonderful PTA sponsored programs. Fliers about how to participate in this easy program have been sent home. If you would like to receive an additional copy, please send in a note to your teacher to be placed in the PTA scrip box. Information will also be available at www.carderpta.com Visit www.shopwithscrip.com to get an idea of what this program is about.

Orders will be placed on the 30th of each month and cards ready by about the 10th of the following month. *Chair: Jane Trice*

Welcome to Koala Run!

Mrs. Stratford's 2007-2008 third grade class submitted the winning name in our Carder School Playground contest: Koala Run! Thanks to all the classes for their great ideas. Our June Design Day and Party for Play was an awesome kickoff for our new Playground Project. We've set our build days for June



10-14, 2009 – so mark your calendars now, and please plan to join our volunteer crew. To make the playground a reality for our children and for the generations of Carder kids to come, the entire Carder community must work together. We'll be communicating with you throughout the school year, so watch for ways to get involved – our school really needs you! *Project Leaders: Ann Campbell, Dan Davis*

Hot Topics

Book Fair Promotes Literacy

The PTA gives each student a \$5 Book Fair voucher as a way to promote literacy among all Carder students. Plus, PTA donates Scholastic credits earned through Book Fair profits to the guidance counselor to buy books for Carder students who need them. *Co-Chairs: Stephanie Morris & Jennifer Warner*

Membership

Please remember that PTA membership needs to be renewed each year. Forms were sent home, or contact Margie for a replacement. *Chair: Margie Lawlor, mlawlor@stny.rr.com*

Start Bringing In Your Box Tops

Box Tops collections are under way! Please bring in your Box Tops for Education coupons to your child's classroom at any time. They will be collected near the 15th of the month from Oct. – Feb. The classroom that collects the most Box Tops for the month will win \$25 to spend how they like! You can also visit www.btfе.com for a chance to win bonus Box Tops for our school. The Box Tops website also has over 60 retailers that will give our school money when shoppers go to their site through the Box Tops **MARKETPLACE** tab. *Chair: Jane Trice*



Important News from Nurse Scagliola

Please remember that students need to have proper foot wear for the play ground. I recommend socks and sneakers. With the cold weather coming, make sure students wear sweaters and jackets when appropriate. If a student is not feeling well in the morning and the parent is not sure whether to send them, they can always call my office for advice at 654 2823. If a student has a temperature over 100, is vomiting or has had 2 episodes of loose stools, they should stay home.



Lost and Found every month

All "lost and found" items should be turned in to the School Nurse who tries to return them to their rightful owners. Unclaimed items are kept in a bin near the cafeteria and donated to the Salvation Army. The next donation will be on November 21, 2008, so please check the bin before then for anything your child might have lost.



PTA Meeting Minutes in Brief

Highlights of the September, 2008 meeting minutes:

- Approximately 32 members attended.
- The June 2008 minutes were approved.
- Treasurer Jen Spencer reported that the Balance of PTA accounts as of 8/31/08 as follows: Savings, \$6,238.13; Playground Fund, \$5,116.25; Checking: \$1,034.48
- Principal Davis reported that: more teachers and sections have been added in each grade; Carder has been designated as a Rapidly Improving School; information on new Math curriculums was sent home; K & 1 students will be screened so teachers can monitor reading ability; the building will be locked from 9:15 through dismissal and visitors will “buzz” the office for admission to the building; roadblocks have been placed at the upper parking lot and adjacent alley.
- PTA Council Rep Jodi Kohli reported that: council seeks volunteers for corresponding secretary & membership chair; school district is working on a facilities plan that will be voted on in Dec. 2009; Dr. Dale Wexell is the school board liaison to the PTA Council; Superintendent Mike Ginalski is happy to answer questions on envision Math; the District has a new athletic director (Tim Decker); the District’s Web site has been redesigned; the schedule of PTA meetings is being reviewed to avoid overlapping meetings.
- School guidance counselor Becky Chester proposed two projects. In the “Quilt of Character” project, classrooms earn quilt squares when students merit enough character coupons to fill a poster. The finished quilt will be donated. The second project is to decorate the cafeteria tables with a character theme. Budget request of \$300 to be voted on next meeting.
- Committee Reports:
 - Membership, Volunteers, Paw Prints: Paw Prints deadline Friday after meeting.
 - Fall Fundraiser: Sale dates 9/10—10/1.
 - Book Fair: coinciding with open house 9/23
 - Box Tops & Scrip: Box Tops collected on the 15th of each month; New enrollment forms are required for Scrip. See shopwithscrip.com
 - Spooktacular: 10/24; 50 volunteers are needed.
 - Assemblies: One assembly is planned.
 - Student Directory: Forms due 9/28.
 - School Portraits: October 7th.
 - Reflections: Theme is “Wow!” Packets go home before Thanksgiving; projects due 12/1.
 - Website: Changes due before Sunday each week.
 - Playground: See article page 3.
- New business:
 - 2008—2009 Budget approved with considerations to: substitute Hokey Pokey ice cream day with something under the \$400 budget; replace “movie night” with a different free program (low attendance); reconsider the “Science Night” budget.
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Student Council Update

Student Council elections will be held the week of September 22nd. The first student council meeting will be held in October. In the past, the student council has sponsored school spirit days, pajama days, and community service initiatives. Watch for this group to do great things in the 2008—2009 School Year! *Student Council Sponsor: Mrs. Powers*

Carder School Improvement Plan

Carder leaders have adopted a school improvement plan for 2008—2009. Goals have been set to help ALL Carder students reach their fullest potential and perform at or above standards on ELA and Math assessments.

Carder Character Goals For Month:

“Show Five At Carder,” “Spread Character In School,” and “It’s a new day! Start It Right”



Here are some ideas to try:

- SHOW FIVE! ALWAYS DO THE RIGHT THING!
- Be fair, follow rules, share, tell the truth.
- Feed the brain! Eat breakfast!
- Double-check all is in your backpack.
- Smile! We are so glad to see each other!

Remember to check your Carder Character Calendar for the weekly character goals — praise your child every time they demonstrate positive behaviors and make good choices. Character counts!

Respect • Honesty • Caring • Responsibility

