



Stoneleigh Elementary School

**PTA**<sup>®</sup>

*everychild.one voice.*<sup>®</sup>

## Gold and Blue Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 5

January 22, 2009

### From Your Stoneleigh PTA President

Dear Stoneleigh Families and Friends,

Happy New Year!

I would like to take a moment to thank the many people who make up the Stoneleigh PTA. First, I would like to thank the Executive Board: Denise Supensky, First Vice President; Vicki Damanti, Second Vice President; Fred Kline, Treasurer; and Kim Deinlein, Secretary. I would also like to thank the many Committee Chairpersons who help make our children's academic years more fun and certainly more enriching. It is the hard work and dedication to our school from these selfless people that have helped to make my job as President of the Stoneleigh PTA such an uncomplicated success. Thank you all!

It is the time of year that we must also begin our search to fill executive board positions for next year. Currently, I know that my position will be vacant, since I have fulfilled my two-year term. If you are interested in this position, please contact me or any current board member for more information. Remember, the PTA is a great way to become more involved in your child's education!

As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kelly Friedman  
President, Stoneleigh PTA

#### Newsletter Information

Would you like to see your information printed in the February 26 edition of the newsletter? Just send your articles/information by **February 20** to Sheri Buttarazzi at [sbuttarazzi@gmail.com](mailto:sbuttarazzi@gmail.com). Editing for space/content may occur. Thanks for contributing!

[Stoneleigh Elementary School PTA](#)

900 Pemberton Road ❖ Baltimore, MD 21212

410.887.3600

### Dates to Remember

#### JANUARY

- 23 Family Social Event – **Bowling Night**, Stoneleigh Lanes, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 26 **School Closed** – Assessment Day for all schools
- 27 Board of Education Meeting, Greenwood, ESS Building, 6:30 p.m.
- 28 **Green** School Assembly
- 29 Assembly: "Grandma's 'Cautionary' Tales" by Debra Mims
- 29 Guest Speaker on Childhood Brain Injury: Awareness and Prevention, Library, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

#### FEBRUARY

- 9 Distribution of Report Cards
- 10 Family Reading Night, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 10 Board of Education Meeting, Greenwood, ESS Building, 7:30 p.m.
- 12 PTA Executive Board Meeting, **CANCELLED**
- 16 **School Closed** – Presidents' Day
- 19 Family Social Event – **Game Night and Book Exchange**, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**FUTURE DATE:** MARCH 3, Family Arts Night

#### PTA 2008-2009 OFFICERS

Please feel free to contact any member of the Executive Board with any PTA related questions or concerns you may have. Thank You!

PRESIDENT	Kelly Friedman	410-377-8998
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Denise Supensky	410-825-6498
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Vicki Damanti	410-583-2174
SECRETARY	Kim Deinlein	410-377-2997
TREASURER	Fred Kline	410-377-6392

## Cultural Assembly: "Grandma's 'Cautious' Tales" by Debra Mims

Thursday, January 29, 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Parents can increase the value of PTA Cultural Enrichment performances. Ask your sons and daughters what they saw and what they thought. Below you will find information about the performance and suggested activities.

### Performance Description

Grandmother Sally Kathryn Mims tells stories her grandmother told her. This time she tells an entertaining mix of ghost, folk, and "cautionary" tales found in African, African-American, and Caribbean literature. The stories engage the audience in an entertaining and interactive style. Most importantly, the audience learns a moral or lesson from the stories. The program begins with Grandma entering and settling down to read. As she starts reading, she begins to hear noises and starts singing to ward off her fears. She tells the audience how her grandmother told her ghost stories and folk tales, all with a message, a moral, and a lesson to be learned. The program ends on a note of triumph that provides the audience, particularly children, with the knowledge that they can use positive thinking and action to overcome a bad situation. The show ends with a song in which everyone from the audience can participate by singing along.

### Maryland Voluntary State Curriculum Connectors

This assembly helps to fulfill the Fine Arts content standards in theatre as defined by the Maryland Voluntary State Curriculum Connectors. Specifically, students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the history, traditions, and conventions of theatre, dramatic texts, and other literature of theatre.

- Express a broad range of human responses to a variety of stimuli. Identify ways in which theatre communicates feelings and ideas and reflects human experience by comparing dramatic texts from a variety of cultures.
- Identify how oral storytelling traditions reflect the beliefs and values of a given culture.

### Highlighted Vocabulary

**Abolitionist** – a reformer who favors abolishing slavery  
**Bull Whip** – a rawhide whip having a short handle and a long plaited lash  
**Confederacy** – the southern states that seceded from the United States in 1861  
**Emancipation** – freeing someone from the control of another  
**Excruciating** – extremely painful, physically or emotionally  
**Manumission** – to free somebody from slavery  
**North Star** – Polaris; the guiding star in the night sky  
**Pot liquor** – the liquid in a pot in which meat and vegetables have been boiled  
**Proclamation** – a public or formal statement  
**Promised Land** – a longed-for place where complete satisfaction and happiness will be achieved  
**Quaker** – a member of the Society of Friends, a Christian denomination founded in England in the 17<sup>th</sup> century  
**Rebs** – a Confederate soldier  
**Sojourner** – visit, vacation, rest, stop  
**Suffrage** – the right to vote in public elections  
**Topsy-turvy** – with the top where the bottom should be; upside down  
**Union** – the non-secessionist side of the U.S. during the Civil War

## Walking Wednesday's 2009-2010

The Walking Wednesday's co-chairs are **WALKING** into the sunset! Beth Miller and Denise Kozikowski will be "graduating" to sixth grade next year. We are looking for someone to take over the Walking Wednesday's program in the fall of 2009.

Walking Wednesday's began in the fall of 2004 as a way to encourage walking to school. Many Stoneleigh Elementary School families have been enjoying the benefits of walking ever since. These benefits include: increased exercise, less traffic and pollution around the school, and an increased sense of community in their neighborhoods. Additionally, Walking Wednesdays may help Stoneleigh Elementary to qualify for Green Schools status.

This year we have created a way to condense the program into a job that requires as little as 2-3 hours PER MONTH! If you've been inspired to walk to school by this program or have noticed more people walking to school from your neighborhood in the past 5 years, please consider contacting us to find out more about how you can contribute! Better yet, grab a friend and volunteer together!! Let's keep teaching kids that walking to school is cool!

Beth Miller  
[emmiller@comcast.net](mailto:emmiller@comcast.net)

Denise Kozikowski  
[denise.kozikowski@gmail.com](mailto:denise.kozikowski@gmail.com)



## Stoneleigh PTA Student Directory

### 2008-2009 Order Form

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade/Homeroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_



**SPECIAL PRICING  
JAN-JUN 2009:  
\$8.00 for two directories.**

Return this form to your child's homeroom teacher in an envelope marked PTA Directory. Please be sure to include \$5.00 cash or check made payable to Stoneleigh Elementary PTA for each directory ordered. Directories will be sent home with your child.

Questions can be directed to Catherine Renggli at 410-377-0132 or [stoneleighptadirectory@gmail.com](mailto:stoneleighptadirectory@gmail.com).

### FREE HIP HOP PERFORMANCE!

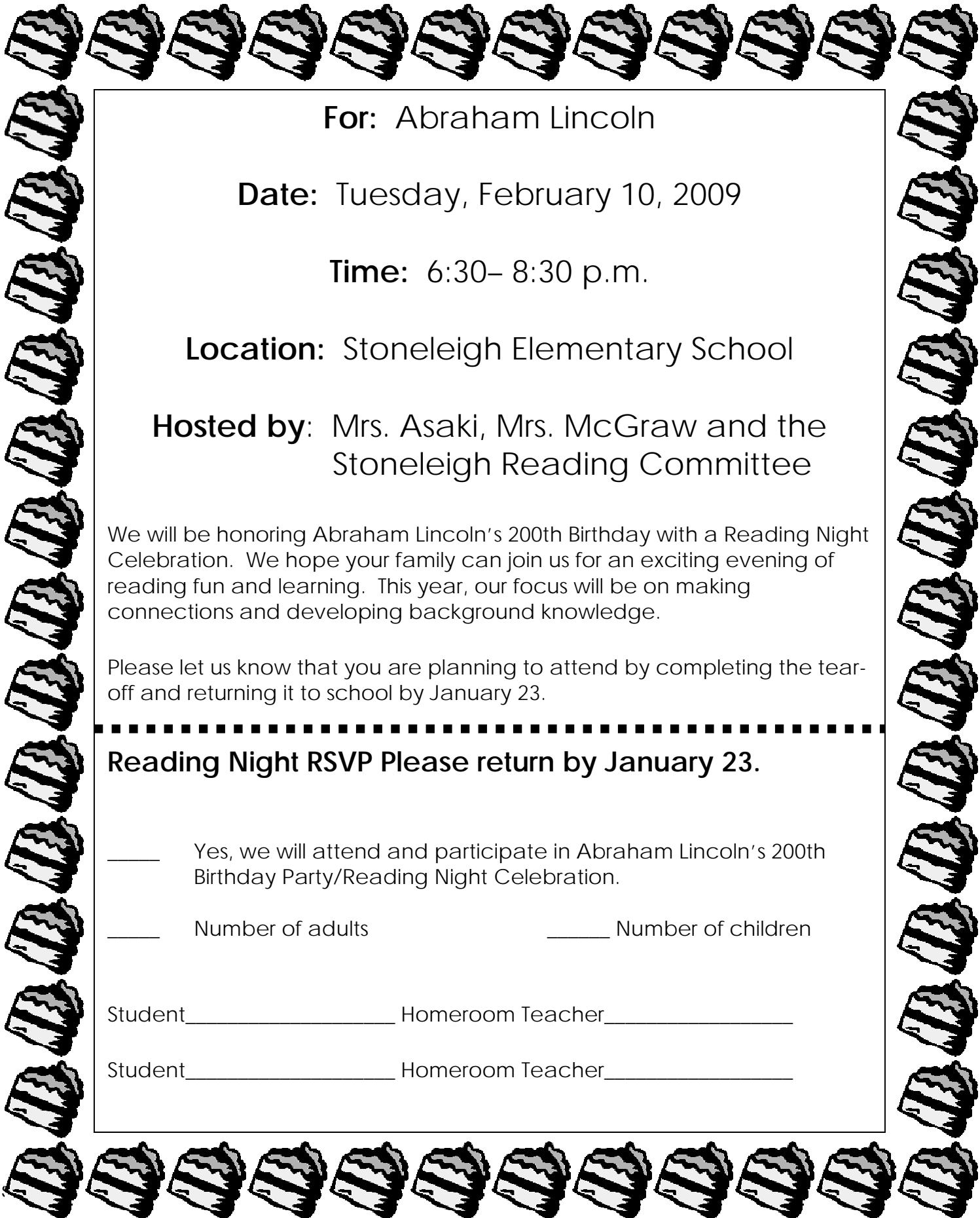
If your student enjoyed the PTA sponsored Illstyle & Peace Productions hip hop performance in October, perhaps they would like to see more. I&PP is giving a FREE SHOW with the DishBem Traditional Contemporary Dance Group and Debra Mims (who is coming to Stoneleigh at the end of January) at the Baltimore Museum of Art on Sunday, February 8, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. For more info go to [www.artbma.org](http://www.artbma.org) and click on "Family Programs."

Amanda Konradi

### Reading Night 2009

Would you walk six miles to return a few cents? It is said that Abraham Lincoln did. He loved animals so much that he pardoned the Christmas turkey! Join the fun at Stoneleigh on February 10, 2009, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., as we celebrate the 200th birthday of Abraham Lincoln and learn more about this famous and special American. There will be cake, goody bags, and some book-learnin', too. Return the tear off on the birthday invitation on page 4 to let us know you are coming. See you then!

Mrs. Asaki and Mrs. McGraw  
Reading Specialists



**For:** Abraham Lincoln

**Date:** Tuesday, February 10, 2009

**Time:** 6:30– 8:30 p.m.

**Location:** Stoneleigh Elementary School

**Hosted by:** Mrs. Asaki, Mrs. McGraw and the Stoneleigh Reading Committee

We will be honoring Abraham Lincoln’s 200th Birthday with a Reading Night Celebration. We hope your family can join us for an exciting evening of reading fun and learning. This year, our focus will be on making connections and developing background knowledge.

Please let us know that you are planning to attend by completing the tear-off and returning it to school by January 23.

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**Reading Night RSVP Please return by January 23.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we will attend and participate in Abraham Lincoln’s 200th Birthday Party/Reading Night Celebration.

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of adults \_\_\_\_\_ Number of children

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

# The Stoneleigh PTA Presents:



## Childhood Brain Injury: Awareness and Prevention

*When: Thursday, January 29, 2009, 7:00-8:00 p.m.*

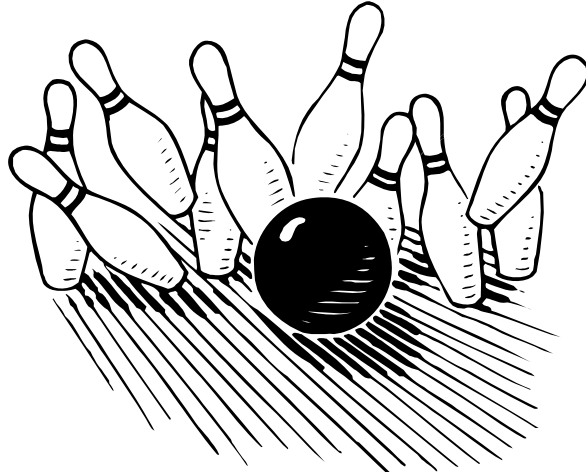
*Where: Stoneleigh Elementary School Library*

Traumatic brain injury is the leading cause of injury among children; the good news is it is easily preventable!  
Learn how you can safeguard your child's most precious asset, their brain!

Guest Speaker:

**Anastasia Edmonston MS CRC**  
Traumatic Brain Injury Projects Director  
Maryland Mental Hygiene Administration

**Join us for the PTA's First Annual  
Stoneleigh Elementary  
Bowling Night**



**Friday, January 23, 2009  
6:30 to 8:30 PM**

**Stoneleigh Lanes 6703 York Road  
410-377-8115**

**\$ 4/ per person includes bowling lanes & shoes  
with your Stoneleigh PTA Membership**

**All children must have an adult chaperone.  
No drop-offs please.**

## STEM Fair News

Thank you to **Christine Roberts** for all of her help with the Stoneleigh STEM Parent Night on January 13, 2009. Mrs. Roberts brought tons of great ideas and sample projects for parents to choose from. She explained how projects should be an experiment, not just a demonstration.

We also had the Towson High School Science Department Chair join us to review the scientific process of a project. In addition, two advanced placement students from Towson High School came to demonstrate how fun and easy STEM projects should be!

Packets with the STEM Fair information for all Stoneleigh students will be sent home by the end of January. *Please* read over all of the rules and guidelines with your child to help them choose a topic.

If your child is interested in participating in the fair, he or she should complete the Summary and Approval Form and return it to their teacher. Each student should not begin the project until his or her teacher has given back the signed Approval Form.

Once your child's project has been approved, the next step is to go to <http://stoneleighes.bcps.org>, click on the Parents Page, and download the forms under your child's grade. Please note that the forms on the site will not be updated until February 1, 2009. These forms will give you the final steps needed for your child to complete his or her project. We are "going green"; therefore, we are trying to save paper and ask that you visit the above mentioned web site for the forms. If you do not have access to a computer or printer, please contact your child's teacher for assistance.

**Summary and Approval Forms should be turned in  
no later than February 12, 2009.**

**Stoneleigh STEM Fair – Tuesday, April 21, 2009  
BCPS STEM Fair at Randallstown High School –  
May 16, 2009**

*As always if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at [meibl@bcps.org](mailto:meibl@bcps.org).*