



Stoneleigh Elementary School



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## From Your Stoneleigh Elementary PTA President

Dear Stoneleigh Families and Friends,

After our wonderful winter break, everyone should be rejuvenated and ready to be back at school to begin the new 2011 year. I am sure that many of us are optimistic and believe that the New Year brings new opportunities to improve ourselves, our lives, and the world around us. For parents, the world in which we want to make a difference is largely defined by children and schools. Let's make our number one resolution to be more involved in our children's education. It's a resolution we can work together to keep, and PTA makes it easy.

There are so many fabulous PTA events and programs to look forward to in 2011. The New Year brings back the popular Scholastic Book Fair January 31 through February 4 during your child's normally scheduled library time. We are excited to open the Book Fair up on Family Nights again this year from 4-7pm on Tuesday, Feb 1 and Thursday, Feb 3. Although our Bingo Night had to be postponed due to snow, please watch for a new date in March.

There are numerous other events planned for our Stoneleigh families. Please read over our calendar carefully so you do not miss our Gifted and Talented Information Night, Science Fair Information Night, and Math Night. Beginning on February 1, 2011, PTA will begin accepting submissions for our award winning *Gold, Blue, and Creative, Too* publication. Mark your calendars!

Looking for your "One Thing" for the 2011-2012 school year? You're in luck! We are currently forming a Nominations Committee to begin the search for next year's PTA leadership. We appreciate all of the hard work so many of you do

## Dates to Remember

### JANUARY

Mon. 31 PTA Book Fair Begins, School Library (runs through February 4, 2011)

### FEBRUARY

Tues. 1 Gifted & Talented Information Night, 7:00 p.m., Stoneleigh Elementary School

Tues.-Fri. 1-4 PTA Book Fair continues, School Library

Mon. 7 Report cards distributed

Tues. 8 Science Fair Information Night, Stoneleigh Cafeteria, 6:30 p.m.

Board of Ed. Budget Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Greenwood, ESS Building

Thurs. 10 PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m., School Library

Mon. 14 School Improvement Team, 3:30 p.m.

Mon. 21 School Closed

Fri. 25 Submissions due for Gold and Blue and Creative Too  
PTA Newsletter distributed  
Marathon Kids logs due to Mr. Lane

Mon. 28 Math Night, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

### PTA 2010-2011 OFFICERS

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

**Sheri Buttarazzi, President**

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

**Colleen Mahony, 1st VP, Programs**

[stoneleighpta1stvp@gmail.com](mailto:stoneleighpta1stvp@gmail.com)

**Denise Supensky, 2nd VP, Volunteers**

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**Lisa Reynolds, Secretary**

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

**Fred Kline, Treasurer**

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

## Stoneleigh Elementary School PTA

900 Pemberton Road ❖ Baltimore, MD 21212

<http://www.stoneleighpta.org>

for our teachers and students and feel so proud to work side by side with you. Thank you if you have already volunteered for a leadership position – we couldn't do it without you! If you haven't, perhaps the next school year will be your time to accept a leadership position on the PTA Executive Board or lead a committee?

Maybe some of you will be able to attend our next PTA meeting on February 10, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. I will look for you there!

Best regards,  
Sheri Buttarazzi, PTA President

## BINGO POSTPONED

Your Stoneleigh Elementary School PTA is still planning for a night of free bingo fun, prizes and snacks for students, their families and friends on a Friday in March. Although we had to postpone the event when school closed for snow, please **watch for a new date, coming soon**. We look forward to some family fun together!

## OUR CROSSING GUARD RETIRES

Many families have noticed that Miss Janet, the crossing guard at Copeleigh and Pemberton Roads, has retired. She met some of our children as infants, watched them as they learned to walk and talk, saw them off to their first day at Stoneleigh, kept them safe on their walks to and from school, and continued to keep an eye on them at the Dumbarton crosswalk. Plans are being made to send her a package of well wishes. So please prepare notes, drawings, and pictures for her and watch for a collection box at Miss Janet's old corner.



## Volunteer Connections

### Scholastic Book Fair Volunteers

Parent volunteers are still needed to help at the Scholastic Book Fair (January 31 through February 4, 2011). If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kristen Gooding at [twinmamaplusone@gmail.com](mailto:twinmamaplusone@gmail.com).

**Kindergarten Round-Up** is looking for volunteers to help organize this event in the last week of March to welcome incoming kindergarteners and their families to our school. It only takes an hour or two of your time! If you can help, please contact Amy Kline at 410-377-6392 or [amykline@att.net](mailto:amykline@att.net)

### PTA Needs a Treasurer

We need you next year (2011-2012 School Year)! Fred Kline, our current Stoneleigh PTA Treasurer will be completing his term in June 2011. Fred will train you. If you think you might be interested, please contact any PTA officer for more information on the position.

### Do you like to paint and draw?

If you have a couple of hours to give, we would appreciate your help making posters to advertise upcoming PTA special events at our school. If you would be interested in volunteering, please contact Jodi Schuleman at [jodiws@yahoo.com](mailto:jodiws@yahoo.com)

### Join the Shining Stars Committee

Do you like to write, edit, tell stories about how great Stoneleigh Elementary is? If so, we need you! We are looking for a chair and a few good volunteers to prepare Stoneleigh Elementary's Shining Stars application for a March submission. Volunteers will collect nominations like Outstanding Educator of the Year and Best PTA programs to submit to Baltimore County's PTA competition for annual recognition. Last year, Stoneleigh nominated two faculty members for special recognition and won "Best Student Recognition Program" for Gold and Blue and Creative, Too! For more information, log onto [www.bcptacouncil.org](http://www.bcptacouncil.org) and click on the Star icon. If interested, please contact Colleen Mahony at [stoneleighpta1stvp@gmail.com](mailto:stoneleighpta1stvp@gmail.com) or 410-377-8429.

## Gifted and Talented Education: Parent Information Night

Please join us on **Tuesday, February 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.**, for Stoneleigh Elementary School's GT Parent Information Night. Our Book Fair will be open until 7:00 p.m. that evening so that you can browse for books and then join us to learn about GT programming across the grades at Stoneleigh.

Cecilia Silva from the BCPS Office of Gifted and Talented Education will be at Stoneleigh to present an overview of the BCPS Gifted and Talented Program. Mrs. Warner and Mrs. Caccavale will then discuss specifics of the program at our school. Even if your child has not yet been identified as gifted and talented, this is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the educational programming in our county to meet the unique needs of our gifted students.

Ellen Galvez  
Gifted & Talented PTA Liaison



### Walking Wednesdays has a NEW ONLINE FORM!

Let's go GREEN together as we make strides across China. New this month is a **clickable online form** for Walking Wednesdays submission. **Check it out at <http://www.stoneleighpta.org/news-and-events/walking-wednesday/>**

Stoneleigh's super walkers have now logged 2,000 miles along the Silk Road. We've crossed a desert, learned about markets, silkworms, camels, and caves. We've seen "Footsie the Millipede" go to Mr. Zimmerman's kindergarten and Mr. Glassman's fifth grade (for most turned-in forms at the end of the month...*which class will be next?...*). But there's still so much more to see. Make sure you're part of the action! Even in the cold weather, bundle up and keep walking. Stoneleigh!



### **Gold and Blue and Creative Too**

Please look for information coming home with your child about **Gold and Blue and Creative Too**, our school's annual magazine of student creativity. Encourage your child to write a poem or short story or draw a picture. It's great fun for them to see themselves in print! Submissions are due by **Friday, February 25, 2011.**

## SCIENCE FAIR INFORMATION NIGHT

Parents are invited to an Information Night on **February 8, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.** to learn more about Stoneleigh Elementary's annual Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Fair.

This meeting is a great opportunity to learn how to assist students in coming up with a science project. There will be a lot of information, terrific ideas, demonstrations and examples of projects, plus a chance to get your questions answered.

Fourth and fifth grade students are strongly encouraged to participate in the STEM Fair, and students in all grades are welcome. This year's STEM Fair will be on Tuesday, April 12, 2011.

### Newsletter Submissions

Do you have information for the February 2011 issue of the PTA newsletter? Just send your articles or information to Jenny Lew at [foster69066@gmail.com](mailto:foster69066@gmail.com) by February 18, 2011. Editing for space and/or content may occur.

## Food Collection for Those in Need

Just a reminder that non-perishable food or toiletries can be dropped off the LAST SUNDAY of each month at the following addresses:

606 Hatherleigh	Bissett Schwanke
800 Ridgeleigh	Susie Jun
715 Stoneleigh	Mary Wynne Eisenberg
705 Stoneleigh	Annie Biser
821 Wellington	Maria Wetherington

Please tell your neighbors about this community project. **We can make a difference for our neighbors who are struggling!**

Our annual PTA-sponsored **SCREEN FREE WEEK CHALLENGE** is coming **April 18 – 24, 2011**. This year we are providing you with some information to learn more and **plan ahead**. This month's featured websites:

Instead of TV: Unplugged Family Activities

<http://www.insteadoftv.com/>

Don't Buy It: get Media Smart

<http://pbskids.org/dontbuyit/>

Parents Television Council

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

Look for the Screen Free Voucher to report your children's success in the April Newsletter!

## Please join us at the next PTA Executive Board Meeting

The next PTA meeting will take place in the library on **Thursday, February 10, 2011** at 7:00 p.m. We welcome your participation. Agendas for each meeting will be posted at [www.stoneleighpta.org](http://www.stoneleighpta.org). Any questions? Please call Amy Kline at 410-377-6392.



## COME TO THE BOOK FAIR THIS WEEK!

Please support our Book Fair this week, **January 31 through February 4, 2011**, in the Stoneleigh Elementary School Library!

The Scholastic Book Fair is a great fundraiser for our school -- generating both money and books. Students will have an opportunity to purchase books from the Book Fair on their regular library day during school time.

Students, parents, grandparents and siblings will also be able to shop and purchase books during **Family Nights** on **Tuesday, February 1**, and **Thursday, February 3** from **4:00 to 7:00 p.m.** We look forward to seeing you and making this a successful event for our students. Contact Lori Terceira ([southernbelle\\_33@msn.com](mailto:southernbelle_33@msn.com)) or Barbara Lund ([barbaranordin@hotmail.com](mailto:barbaranordin@hotmail.com)) with any questions.

## Renovation & Addition

Please watch for information on the new date of the community meeting on renovation possibilities for our school. To find out more about Baltimore County Board of Education school funding priorities, you can also attend the Board of Education Meeting on **February 8, 2011** at **7:00 p.m.** at the Greenwood campus, ESS building at 6901 N. Charles Street.

The **Dumbarton Drama Club** presents  
***GONE WITH THE GUST***,  
a comedy about movie-making.

This fun evening is an opportunity to introduce 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders to Dumbarton Middle School. Performances are at 7:00 p.m. in the Dumbarton auditorium on **Thursday, February 10, 2011** and **Friday, February 11, 2011**. Tickets are \$5.00 at the door.



## MARATHON KIDS:

Mileage Log Sheets will be due to Mr. Lane on **Friday, February 25, 2011**

We hope you've been racking up those miles! The last group run was January 2nd, and cold rain kept all but a few hardy souls away. If you would like to be part of our next short run on a Friday afternoon/early evening in the upcoming weeks (date TBD), please email Courtney McGee ([tcdm523@msn.com](mailto:tcdm523@msn.com)) or Colleen Christmas ([cchristm@jhmi.edu](mailto:cchristm@jhmi.edu)), and we will pass along details to you as we finalize them. As always, these informal group runs are not official school activities, and do require that a responsible adult supervise each participating student. The Final Mile ceremony will be held **Saturday, May 14, 2011** at 10:00 a.m. at Poly Western. We look forward to an enthusiastic turn-out from Stoneleigh's Marathon Kids and families!

## New Group Forms Called "Stoneleigh United"

A group of Stoneleigh Elementary School parents who are concerned about the growing population in our school has begun meeting to discuss working toward a solution to the overcrowding problem. We welcome the involvement of all parents in our group. If you have questions, would like to stay informed about progress on this issue, or want to participate actively in our discussions and activities, please contact us by email at [stoneleighunited@gmail.com](mailto:stoneleighunited@gmail.com) or visit us at: <http://groups.google.com/group/stoneleigh-united>

## Girl Scout Troop 1660 Undertakes "The Toilet Paper Project"

Help victims of domestic violence this Valentine's Day. Stoneleigh Girl Scout Troop 1660 will be collecting toilet paper, tissues, diapers, paper towels, napkins and paper plates for the Family Crisis Center of Baltimore County, Inc (FCC) as part of their Bronze Award activities.

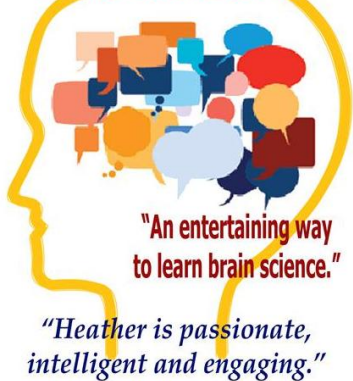
Due to the economy, donations are really down for this domestic violence shelter at the same time that more and more families need their services. Last year, the shelter spent \$6,000 on these paper products, but Troop 1660 hopes to help defray this cost by collecting them here in Stoneleigh and delivering them to the shelter.

**Items needed:** toilet paper, diapers, paper towels, napkins, tissues and paper plates

Donation tubs will be located on the front porch in Stoneleigh at **7002 Copeleigh Road** and in Idlewyld at **1001 Litchfield Road**. Our February collection will take place between **February 14 - 28, 2011**.

## Giving a Fish a Bath: The Untold Story of the Adolescent Mind

**“AWESOME!”**



**“An entertaining way to learn brain science.”**

**“Heather is passionate, intelligent and engaging.”**

**“This is by far one of the best workshops ever. It was jam-packed with tips and techniques I could put to use immediately!”**

**“I really just wanted to say thanks for giving us hope and refocusing us on our kids’ needs. We are stronger and better parents for them.”**

**“Incredible way of translating very difficult information into real life practicality.”**

**Presented by  
Heather Higgins, LCSW  
-C**

**March 3, 2011**

7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
Dumbarton Middle School  
300 Dumbarton Road | Baltimore, MD

Recent discoveries in neuroscience offer exciting insights into how the brains of our teens really work and the special “brain-based” challenges facing adolescents as they mature. Learn the inside secrets of the teenage brain and boost your skills in teaching, guiding, mentoring and motivating the adolescent mind.

***If you’ve ever thought that the adolescent mind could not be understood, this workshop will equip you with the latest insights and information through a fun and transformational experience.***

### **ABOUT YOUR PRESENTER**



Led by national speaker and publisher of an article on understanding AD/HD, **Heather Higgins**, this workshop is a “must-have” for child-serving professionals and parents who want to learn more about **the secrets of the teenage brain!**

“I attended this presentation a few years ago and it gave me so much insight into why teens act the way they do. Now that my daughter is 15 I feel so much better equipped to handle the issues that arise.” - Ann Miller

“This presentation really opened my eyes to the difficulties that teens are facing today, and how the developing brain makes it hard for teens to make tough choices while wanting to fit in with their peers. It also touches on hormones and sleep. The strategies that are discussed at the presentation are fabulous and straightforward and easy to implement at home to better your relationship with your teen.”

- Lisa Marx

“This presentation was so informative, interesting and entertaining that I’m bringing my husband to it this time!”

- Wendy Stringfellow

“The physical changes my son was going through were obvious, but the speaker helped me to understand what was going on with his brain development and the changes taking place there as well.” Kim Starr

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[www.upsidedownorganization.org](http://www.upsidedownorganization.org)

“We are so busy that we don’t often stop to think about the ‘whys’ or empathize with our teens’ behavior. This seminar helps put it in perspective and reminds us that although our teens may be almost our size physically, they are still growing and need our guidance and example more than ever.” Jennifer Hudson

“This presentation helped me see how conflicts between parents and teenagers are normal, and that understanding the basis of them can lead to constructive ways to address problems.”  
Melissa Reuland

“We attended an Upside Down Workshop two years ago. The presentation was informative, engaging and entertaining. The speaker explained the physiological reasons for many of the behaviors we were seeing in our teenagers and gave us strategies for dealing with day to day issues. We shared the information we learned with many of our friends with teenage children and they were interested to learn more. We look forward to hearing more from this organization.” Wade and Steph Kerns