

May 2009
Volume 1, No. 4

PTA Meetings:

The LITTLEWOOD PTA usually meets on the second Monday of the month at 4:30 in the Media Center. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

05/11/09

Membership Dues: \$10

To receive email reminders of meeting dates and volunteer opportunities, email Amy Vollmer at: Vollmerfl@yahoo.com

Lion Tails

Littlewood Elementary PTA Newsletter

The Information Source for Littlewood Families & Friends

President’s Message:

What a great year we have had at Littlewood. We at the PTA want to thank each and every one of you for all your help and participation with all of the PTA sponsored events this year. Without you, there is no PTA. This is my last letter as president and my last year at Littlewood. I have so many wonderful memories that I will take with me. As I look back on the 11 years we’ve been so fortunate to be a part of Littlewood, the people are what I remember best. I urge you to become involved in the PTA. There are so many ways to participate ranging from helping at an event to having a position on the board. I promise that when you look back on your child’s years in elementary school, those moments will be some of your best memories too.

Amy Vollmer

President Elect’s Message:

Hi all, I just wanted to introduce myself. My name is Joann Jaeger and I will be your PTA president next school year. I was born and raised in Southern California and have been living in Gainesville for the past nine years. My husband, John, is a professor in the Geology Dept. at UF. I have 2 daughters Olivia, currently in 5th grade, and Lily, currently in 3rd grade. I have a BS from Humboldt State University and am currently working part time at Westminster Preschool. My hope is I can keep the PTA running as well as our current president Amy Vollmer. We can’t thank her enough for the amazing job she has done as president; the countless hours, hard work and dedication she has spent to the benefit of Littlewood. She is a treasure we will miss next year!

If anyone is interested in volunteering with the PTA, please contact me at joannjaeger@yahoo.com. Thanks to all of our amazing volunteers!

Joann Jaeger, PTA president-elect

Dates to Remember:

May 11	Monday	PTA Meeting 4:30 Media Center
May 11 - 15	Mon – Fri	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 20	Wednesday	4 th Safety Patrol Application due
May 26	Tuesday	Sunshine Books 3 rd – 5 th ice cream social *
May 28	Thursday	Sunshine Books 3 rd – 5 th Celebration*
May 25	Monday	No School Memorial Day
June 1 - 5	Mon - Fri	Book Fair
June 5	Friday	Last Day of School
* Please see inside on how to qualify		





Lion Tails

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About Us:

63 teachers
31 staff members
649 students
1 great school!

Guess Who:

I have been teaching since 1999. I am married and have two children. I have a master's degree from UF. I am a published author. One of my favorite books is Lord of the Rings. Who am I?

- A. Mr. Thomas
- B. Ms. Gano
- C. Mr. Jenkins
- D. Mr. Reed

(answer on page 4)

Morning Mile Results:

As of May 1st:
6305 Miles run.
224 Sneakers on the wall.
421 of 640 students participating.
Last year's grand total of miles achieved was 7490—only four weeks left to break this record so come join us every morning from 7:15 to 7:30am behind the cafeteria. See you there!

The Making of a Graduating 5th Grader

What is so special about a graduating 5th grader at Littlewood? Here are some facts to help you understand. These 5th graders have had:

216	Weeks of school
1080	Days of school
81,259	Hours of school
216	PE I classes
198	Art classes
198	Music classes
4.1	Years of reading instruction
810	Hours of math & writing
12	Book Fairs
6	Carnivals
3	FCAT tests
2	Stanford test, 2 NRT's
2	Trips to Camp Crystal
6	Curriculum Fairs
1	St. Augustine Trip
6	Shows:
	K- Holiday
	1 st -Patriotic
	2 nd -Weather
	3 rd - Medieval
	4 th - Fl Folk Festival
	5 th - Veteran's Day

Congratulations 5th grade
Littlewood wishes you all the best!



Volunteer Highlight Behind Morning Mile

Morning Mile is finishing up its second year at Littlewood. Every morning from 7am until 7:40 there are a group of parents that make it all possible. **Lisa and Alan Parker** arrive first to set up and open the course. They then monitor the course and hand out straws.

Debbie Scheuer and Howard Haeker do this job on Thursdays. Others that regularly help with the course and check in are; **Philip Chase, Margaret Cauthon, Jason Curtis, Elizabeth Jones, David Julian, Greg Martin, Rodney Samuels, Taylor Stein, Steve Perz, Yvette Quinones, Carole VanCamp, and Jill Wilby**. Every weekend **Maria Ripol** has been tracking the laps recorded on an amazing excel spread sheet and sends it out to all families interested. Every week **Patti Locascio** puts together a message for a Roar announcement on where our stuffed lion, Miles, spent the week, and any updates families should know about the program. On Monday's the **Gorman family** can be seen putting up the sneakers on the cafeteria wall. Finally, every Monday the **Belvin family** moves Miles the Lion to the different classrooms that have earned him for the week. **Many thanks** to all of you, for all your hours of work that make this program run so smoothly.



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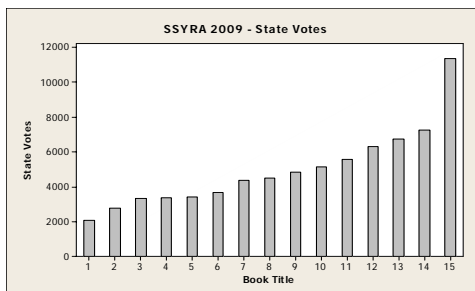
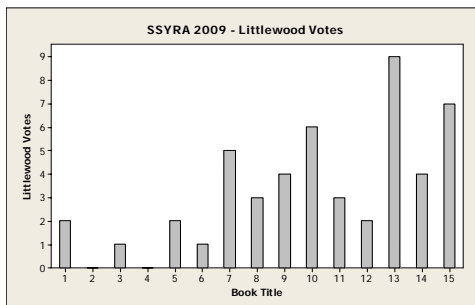
Check out the PTA webpage linked from Littlewood's Web Site: www.sbac.edu/~litlwood

Phone Numbers:
 EDEP – 955-6990
 Café – 955-6732
 Phone 955-6712
 Fax 955-7149

Sunshine State Books

Over 300 students in grades 3-5 have been participating in the sunshine book program this year.

Congratulations to the 49 students that were eligible to vote for the best book. Littlewood students voted Clementine as their favorite book, but the winner for the state was The Ghost's Grave. On the right column are the graphs showing how our school voted and how the state voted – the book numbers on the graph correspond to the titles on the list below them.



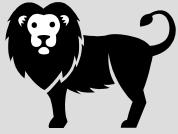
But it's not over yet! You can keep reading to participate in our own Sunshine State Celebrations! On Tuesday May 26th there will be an ice cream social, and on Thursday May 28th there will be a pizza party. See the chart below to determine how many books you need to read in order to qualify for these celebrations. So keep reading and come celebrate our successful launch of the sunshine book program at Littlewood.

Book Titles:

1. The Sloppy Copy Slipup
2. Dexter the Tough
3. Phineas L. McGuire Erupts!
4. The Stupendous Dodgeball Fiasco
5. Rules
6. The Thing About Georgie
7. Listen!
8. The Blue Ghost
9. The Missing Manatee
10. Roxie and the Hooligans
11. No Talking
12. The Homework Machine
13. Clementine
14. Stumptown Kid
15. The Ghost's Grave

	Read by:	Read this many books:		
		3 rd graders	4 th graders	5 th graders
Ice Cream Social: Last week in May	May 22 nd	4	5	6
Pizza and Movie: Last week in May	May 22 nd	8	10	12
Gift Certificate to Book Fair: June 1 st - 5 th	May 22 nd	15	15	15

For more information about this program visit our school web site or contact **Mrs. Moore at kelly.moore@gm.sbac.edu**



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School Volunteers

Looking for ways to get involved in your child's school?

In the lower grades, many teachers welcome parent help in the classroom. But as they get older you may consider getting involved with PTA activities that benefit the whole school.

Come make the change you want to see in your school. You can join at any time, but the fall is the perfect time to jump in. We hope to see you at our meetings!

Guess Who answer:

A. Mr. Thomas! You can find out more about Mr. Thomas and what your student is doing in music this semester by checking our his blog. Just go to the Littlewood web site and click music.

Health Fair

The Health Fair committee put together a wonderful and informative night for Littlewood's students and families. Thanks to: **Mrs. Bean, Mrs. Burton, Mrs. Gonzalez, Mrs. Jones, Marsha Mott, Gretchen Von-Merring, JoAnn Jaeger , Lisa Elgerd , Ginny Linder, Jill Wilby, Elizabeth Carden, Mrs. Munn, and all the wonderful people** that helped with dinner and the program.



Teacher Appreciation Week May 11th – 15th

As we look back on this school year that is about to end, it's time to thank the wonderful teachers and staff at Littlewood for creating a warm, safe and friendly environment where our children can learn and grow. The PTA is organizing a school-wide celebration to show our teachers and staff how much we appreciate what they do for our children every day, all year long. The schedule of events appears below, and all the information is posted at the PTA webpage, which is linked from the school's website:

www.sbac.edu/~litlwood

For more information, or to volunteer to help, please contact Maria Ripol at mripol@ufl.edu

Mon May 11	Breakfast in Teacher's Lounge. Classroom Doors Decorated for each teacher.
Tue May 12	Flowers – a flower from each child to create a beautiful bouquet for the teacher.
Wed May 13	Teacher Luncheon, including a chance drawing for prizes.
Thu May 14	Sweets – children bring a small sweet or chocolate for their teachers.
Fri May 15	Notes of Appreciation Booklets presented to teachers, compiled from notes children have written.