



Dear Chesak & Martin Families:

Welcome back to those of you already a part of our community, and a great big welcome and hello to those of you who are new to our schools! I hope you all had a great summer and are ready to dive into this new school year with high hopes and expectations. We are lucky to have a fabulous group of teachers and staff that are so dedicated to guiding our children through their elementary school experience.

When you add an equally hardworking PTA organization to the above, parents who are dedicated to doing the best for our children, volunteering their time for events and programs, maintaining our Website, supporting our award winning butterfly garden, writing our newsletter, organizing our yearly calendar, providing assemblies, workshop's, Family Event Nights, Variety Show, Fundraisers, Family Dine & Share Nights, and much, much more. There are many places where you can see evidence of the hard work the PTA parent volunteers do to make both schools a great learning place for our children.

Please take a moment and look and upcoming events and see what peaks your interest. Don't have time to help out at an event or during school hours? We can use help if you want to work from home. Consider the important role the Chesak/ Martin PTA plays in your child's life at school. There are so many ways that parents contribute, and by joining the PTA you can make a statement that you support the mission and activities of our organization.

We encourage you to make sure you buy a raffle ticket for \$20 (or 3 for \$50) and sell one to a friend or family member. Our fall fundraiser raffle is the primary financial support we have as a PTA to support many of the activities and programs we offer for free at both schools. Without a successful fundraiser we are sad to say we will be unable to offer many of the programs and activities for free any longer. Remember donations are always welcome, as a 501c3 organization all donations are tax deductible.

Dana Wiley  
President  
Chesak/ Martin PTA

## Dates to Remember

Art to Remember Sent Home	10/12
Due on 10/19	
PTA Meeting	10/13
7pm Chesak Elementary, Rm.411	
Raffle Cut Off	10/15
Donuts with Dad	10 /15
8:30 – 10am, Martin Gymnasium	
Spirit Wear	10/17
Due by 10/31	
Jersey Mike's Dine-n-Share	10/20
All Day!	
BYOP – Bring Your Own Pumpkin	10/24
6:30 – 8pm, Chesak Cafeteria	
Family Reading Night	10/27
5 – 7pm, Chesak Elementary	
Chili Cook-Off	11/4
5 – 7, Martin Cafeteria	
No School	11/2-11/4
Thanksgiving Break	11/23-11/25

## Reflections Art Contest

The theme for this fine arts contest is "Diversity Means..."

Students can submit a project in any/all of the following categories,



- Dance choreography
- Film production
- Literature
- Musical composition
- Photography
- Visual arts

There are very specific rules that must be followed for each project type. Please check IL PTA website for specifics.

[http://ptareflections.org/cs/general\\_student\\_rules](http://ptareflections.org/cs/general_student_rules)

Contest submission forms will be sent home in the coming weeks to all students. You can make copies if

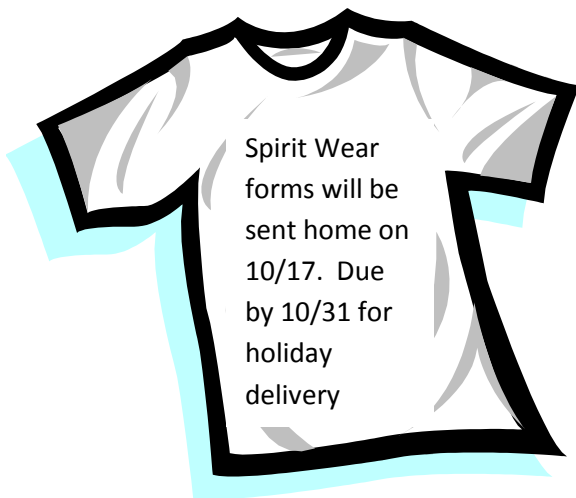
# Upcoming events

## Dine & Share Dates:

Leave the cooking to us! Join us for the following Dine and Shares. Bring in flyers to these local restaurants on and they will donate a percentage of their profits to the CM PTA. You can find the flyers on our website.

October 20<sup>th</sup> Jersey Mikes

November 17<sup>th</sup> Nick's Pizza



## Art to Remember

All the students have been working hard on their artwork for our upcoming fundraiser. You should be receiving their artwork October 12th. If you would like to order a keepsake from Art To Remember for yourself, or as a gift for the holidays, please return all orders by October 19th.

Siblings can participate too! Just pick up an order packet and guidelines at the office (please read and follow all instructions when doing this project with them). When finished, return the siblings order with your Chesak/Martin student to hand into his/her homeroom teacher.

If there are any questions, please contact Nicole Bowman, PTA, at 847-659-5831.



## Donuts with Dad!

Enjoy a fun breakfast on October 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 – 10am in the Martin Gym for our Donuts with Dad. Bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the food pantry. Please register if you plan to attend.

## B.Y.O.P. – Bring Your Own Pumpkin

Dads – bring your kids, grab your pumpkins and come on out to carve. Chesak/ Martin PTA will provide light refreshments, an assortment of carving utensils (but by all means if you have a favorite at home please bring it), the occasional helping hand and a "mess" friendly spot to carve your pumpkins.

Enjoy a great time with your kids, and let us clean up the mess! We will be in the Chesak cafeteria on October 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8pm. Please register on the CMPTA website. *Registration is not required to attend, we would just like to have an idea of the number of attendees.*



## Chili Cook - Off

The temperatures are dropping, it is getting to be **chili** weather.

Gentleman, do you have a great chili recipe? Do you think it tops all others? Would you like to share your secret tips and ingredients with your kids and spend some time with them making your chili? Then prove your worth.

Come out for a chili cook - off on November 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7 in the Martin cafeteria. The kids are home from school that day. Spend the day with your kids making a pot of "red".

There will be ribbons for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place and a People's Choice award of \$25 for the best chili, as voted by the crowd attending and tasting all the recipes.

Registration and a \$5 fee is required to enter your chili. Tasters are also needed, no registration for that, just show up and sample each chili entered and vote on your favorite. There will be activities during the tasting and judging periodically as well.

# Summer Updates



## Ice Cream Social

100 families attended the now annual Ice Cream Social. Good to see our teachers and principals there with all the kids enjoying a free ice cream treat to kick off the school year!



## Lake in the Hills Sunset Festival Parade

Thanks to our families for coming out to participate in the Lake in the Hills Sunset Festival Parade. We had so much fun passing out candy and raffle flyers to all the people lining the parade path.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Boo – Hoo Breakfast

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Boo – Hoo Breakfast was a huge success! Parents of Kindergarteners spent the morning of that first day either crying tears of sorrow or tears of joy. However, many had no tears at all as they knew they had a tremendous amount of support from their fellow parents thanks to the Chesak/Martin PTA. A continental breakfast was served along with juice and coffee, and due to the overwhelming popularity of this event, more food will be ordered next year. Thank you to everyone who came out and visited with new friends as everyone was able to get a sense of the community surrounding Chesak School.

## PTA Membership

The Chesak Martin PTA membership drive results are in!

The staff competition was very close this year, with Chesak winning with 87% over Martin with 79%

The following classrooms won the popcorn parties with the most parent members. Schaap, Lanspa, Davidson, Soling, Girmscheid, Kee, Bailey & Iddings

## Gardening Update

It may be fall but the Chesak Gardens are still active. The Butterfly garden is transforming from its summer blooming cycle to fall. The grasses such as Little and Big Blue Stem are at the tallest now and some fall flowers are still in bloom. The vegetable garden is also still active. We still harvest tomatoes and peppers and have planted fall cold weather plants like broccoli, radishes, beets, carrots and several varieties of lettuce. These can withstand temperatures at night down to the 20's and still grow. The garden will be active and growing into mid November, so stop by and visit to check it out. Pumpkins are ready for decorating and small cooking pumpkins will be harvested soon for donation to the food pantry.

Several hundred pounds of food has been donated to the Grafton Food pantry including beans, cucumbers, squash, tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, beets carrot, broccoli, cabbage, onions and more than 20 ice box watermelons.

The PTA and the Beautification Committee wants to thank all those who have volunteered to help at the garden this year. Among the groups were Boy Scouts from Troop 167 including several earning their Garden Merit Badge and Cub Scouts from Troop 167. The effort of all volunteers made the garden the success it has been this year.

Finally, four new evergreens and two maples are being installed along Reed Road by Chesak. Two blue spruce evergreens will be planted in front of Martin by Boy Scouts from Troop 167. The cost of the trees was covered by our flower sales, which also covers the cost plants and other items used in the vegetable garden.

Thank you to all the PTA, community members and school staff that volunteered at the beginning of the year school events. Your help made the start of the school year AWESOME for the children and parents!

## Get Connected with CMPTA!

We're going green! Fewer flyers will be coming home in backpacks from us, but we're doing more than ever! You can see what's going on with the Chesak/Martin PTA at our website. We will also post announcements and event reminders on Twitter and Facebook, along with sending emails. Get connected now with the CM PTA!

Visit our **Website:** [www.cmpta158.org](http://www.cmpta158.org)

Find us on **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/cmpta158](http://www.facebook.com/cmpta158)

Follow us on **Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/cmpta158](http://www.twitter.com/cmpta158)

Watch us on YouTube: [www.youtube.com/cmpta158](http://www.youtube.com/cmpta158)

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Want to get texts from us directly to your mobile phone? Simply text the words "follow cmpta158" to 40404. It's free (*your standard message rates apply*) and you don't need a Twitter account.