

### News from the PTA Presidents

Sasha Overholt and Kathryn Todd



Thank you to all who participated in, donated items to, and purchased items at the Gala. It was a huge success. The PTA raised over \$12,000 and we aren't done yet! You can still purchase those great classroom books at \$35 per class or \$45 for the entire grade level. You can also still be a photo sponsor for \$35. Go to <http://www.maplegrove-pta.org/gala-for-grown-ups.html> for more information. The reserved parking spots, especially the one in the front lot, were a quick sell at auction! Look for those to be offered again next year.

Don't forget the Science Fair is coming. There is still time to register and participate in this event. Please read the article inside for more information on this event.

Look for information on the Leadership Group kicking off this month as well. The first meeting is March 2, 2009 from 2:30 – 3:30 pm. If your child is interested in this group please contact Lisa Condon, Mica Dute or Marcy Roark.

The next PTA general meeting is March 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 in the cafeteria. Michael Maffoni will be speaking on the Maple Grove performance rating and the criteria used in that rating process.

The PTA Board is looking for a few good officers. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! The following positions are available starting this spring for 1.5 year term: Co-President, Vice-President and Co-Treasurer.

## Science Fair 2009!

The theme for this year's science fair is "Science - Light the Spark!" We hope that the fair ignites the students' interest in science. If you are the parent of a budding scientist, encourage them to participate! They will have the chance to design and conduct a unique experiment, meet with local "real-life" scientists, and showcase their results to their classmates.

If your child is an artist, not a scientist, encourage them to submit a design for the Science Fair Logo Contest. Original artwork illustrating the theme "Science - Light the Spark!" can be submitted to teachers through [March 16](#) guidelines and instructions for submission sent home Friday, February 27th). All students will have a chance to vote on [March 18](#), and the winner will see their work represented on all Science Fair promotional materials, program, and T-shirt. And they will win a free T-shirt!

The Science Fair is scheduled for Friday, April 24, 2009 at Maple Grove. Participation is open to all students - grades K through 6th. Registration packets have been sent home with all students, and Information Meetings were held on February 24th. If you need additional information, contact Donna Walker, Science Fair Chair at 303-956-6429.

**News from the Principal: Michael Maffoni**

Dear Maple Grove Families,

Welcome to March! It is amazing to think that our second semester is well underway and that the cold of winter will soon disappear. I have often thought that this is the busiest time of year. Classrooms in our building are truly full of activity. I am hopeful your student is sharing his/her learning with you each evening. Our school is a great place to learn and grow!

*Please take a few moments to read the pertinent "Grizzly Information" below.*

**CSAP Testing Is On The Horizon**

CSAP (Colorado Student Assessment Program) testing in grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> occurs in March. (Congratulations to our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders who completed 3<sup>rd</sup> grade CSAP Reading testing on February 18 & 19). CSAP is one measure of student achievement that takes place annually in March. Elementary schools statewide administer CSAP to all 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students in reading, writing and math. Fifth graders are also assessed in science.

The overall goal of CSAP is to measure individual student's progress in comparison to State Standards in specific content areas. This testing provides our teachers and parents with a wealth of information regarding student learning. CSAP scores and related data allow our staff to reflect on current instructional practices. As a staff we use the CSAP data as an additional piece of information to enable our teaching and enhance learning for each child. Coupled with CSAP records, teachers use a variety of information they collect daily during their interactions with students. Items such as reading journals, math quizzes, reports, tests, and oral presentations establish a teacher's knowledge base regarding each individual child. At Maple Grove we view CSAP as one additional "snapshot of your child" and his/her academic performance. (please refer to page 4 for CSAP dates and times)

**Kudos, PTA!**

Thank you to Maple Grove's PTA for planning and hosting the fabulous Grizzly Gras on Friday, February 20, 2009. The Gras' committee did a truly wonderful job planning and implementing a fun-filled evening! For those who came, you can attest to the delicious food, friendly atmosphere, quality silent auction items, and engaging entertainment. Proceeds from this evening's event directly benefit students at Maple Grove. Monies raised will support the purchase of technology for student use (i.e. laptop computers and carts). Our school is so incredibly fortunate to be supported by this group of dedicated, talented and extremely creative individuals. Thank you and kudos again for a great event!

(Principal's Letter continued page 3)



(continued from page 2)

**Upcoming Events...mark your calendars:**

2<sup>nd</sup> grade Cogat testing will occur on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Your child's homeroom teacher administers Cogat testing. The goal of the Cogat is to identify potential giftedness in the areas of verbal, non-verbal, and quantitative.

Come listen to Maple Grove and Stober's 6<sup>th</sup> grade choirs sing alongside Manning's choir. Their concert happens March 24 at The Manning School. Join us to listen to these talented groups!

Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade will host an American music program on March 25 at 7 pm. I know our students and Ms. Diefendorf are working hard to make this a memorable evening for family and friends.

Maple Grove's Spring Break is March 30-April 3. There will also be no school for students or staff on April 6. This is a comp day earned by staff for reporting one day early in August.

Have a super start to March! I hope to see you around the halls of Maple Grove in the weeks to come!

Michael Maffoni, Principal

**Daisy Troop Thank you!**

**The Daisy Troop at Maple Grove was able to donate 130 Mac-n-cheese boxes to the Jeffco Action Center. Thank you to all who donated.**

**DEAR EDITOR**

The Maple Leaf newsletter is published monthly by the Maple Grove PTA. We hope to keep you updated on Maple Grove news and informed about issues that affect your children.

To submit articles: **Email plain text or MS Word document to: [mapleleafnews@yahoo.com](mailto:mapleleafnews@yahoo.com)**

**ARTICLE DEADLINE –  
March 18th ,Wednesday for April Edition  
April 21st, Tuesday for May Edition**



Sign up your child now for afterschool music classes right here at Maple Grove Elementary **STARTING Nov. 3!** Your child will LOVE learning and playing music with their peers! We offer **Beginning Keyboard** and **Beginning Guitar** classes that are affordable and convenient. Each class is filled with games, laughter, and FUN! ***Keyboards For Kids*** has been teaching children to love music since 2003. Kids love our teachers and our positive supportive atmosphere! Enrolling now! Classes are small and fill quickly. We have payment plans and tuition assistance available. See our website to register and get more information about us. Look for our flyer in your child's folder!

**[www.KeyboardsForKids.com](http://www.KeyboardsForKids.com)**

**303-215-1KFK (1535)**

Please notice the CSAP testing schedule listed below. I want to stress to families that your child's attendance during the scheduled testing dates is paramount. Please note these on a family calendar so that you can be sure to have your child at school on the designated dates. We hope you will look closely so that appointments, etc., can be scheduled at an alternate time and not conflict with the CSAP dates. Children tend to perform better when they take the test at the scheduled time, instead of a make-up session. Please call our office if you have any questions.

Date	Grade Level and Content Assessed
<b>March 2</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> grade/ Science 1 – 10:30-11:35 grade</b>
<b>March 3</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> grade/ Science 2 – 12:30-1:35 3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Writing 1 – 8:30-9:30 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Writing 1 – 10:30-11:30
<b>March 4</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Writing 2 – 8:30-9:30 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Writing 2 – 10:30-11:30
<b>March 5</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> grade/ Reading 3 – 8:30-9:30 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Reading 3 – 10:30-11:30 5 <sup>th</sup> grade/ Science 3 – 12:30-1:35
<b>March 6</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> grade/ Reading 4 – 8:30-9:30 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Reading 4 – 10:30-11:30
<b>March 9</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> grade/ Writing 5 – 8:30-9:30 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Writing 5 – 10:30-11:30
<b>March 10</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> grade/ Reading 6 – 8:30-9:30 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Reading 6 – 10:30-11:30
<b>March 11</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Math 1 – 8:30-9:30 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Math 1 – 10:30-11:35
<b>March 12</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Math 2 – 8:30-9:35 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Math 2 – 10:30-11:35
<b>March 13</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> grade/ Math 3 – 8:30-9:35 5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grades/ Math 3 10:30-11:35



CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2009

March 02	10:30-11:35 Gr 5 CSAP-S1
March 03	8:30-11:00 Gr 2 CogAT Testing
March 03	8:30-9:30 Gr 3/4 CSAP-W1
March 03	10:30-11:30 Gr 5/6 CSAP-W1
March 03	12:30-1:35 Gr 5 CSAP-S2
March 04	8:30-11:00 Gr 2 CogAT Testing
March 04	8:30-9:30 Gr 3/4 CSAP-W2
March 04	10:30-11:30 Gr 5/6 CSAP-W2
March 05	8:30-9:30 Gr 4 CSAP-R3
March 05	10:30-11:30 Gr 5/6 CSAP-R3
March 05	12:30-1:35 Gr 5 CSAP-S3
March 06	8:30-9:30 Gr 4 CSAP-R4
March 06	10:30-11:30 Gr 5/6 CSAP-R4
March 09	8:30-9:30 Gr 4 CSAP-W5
March 09	10:30-11:30 Gr 5/6 CSAP-W5
March 10	8:30-9:30 Gr 4 CSAP-R6
March 10	10:30-11:30 Gr 5/6 CSAP-R6
March 11	9:15-10:45 Gr 1 to Planetarium
March 11	8:30-9:35 Gr 3/4 CSAP-M1
March 11	10:30-11:35 Gr 5/6 CSAP-M1
March 12	8:30-9:35 Gr 3/4 CSAP-M2
March 12	10:30-11:35 Gr 5/6 CSAP-M2
March 12	8:00 a.m. PTA mtg
March 13	8:30-9:35 Gr 4 CSAP-M3
March 13	10:30-11:35 Gr 5/6 CSAP-M3
March 16	Science Fair Logo Contest Submittals due
March 17	9:15-10:45 Gr. 6 to Planetarium
March 23	2:45 PIE mtg
March 24	9:00-10:30 Gr 5 to Planetarium
March 30-April 3	Spring Break
April 6	No School, Teach Comp Day

## Leadership Club at Maple Grove

If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.

– John Quincy Adams

The PTA is excited to bring a Leadership Club to Maple Grove. The purpose of this club is to provide students with an opportunity to explore leadership skills, community service, and reaching out to those with greater needs than our own. As group leaders we will guide the kids in determining ways and means by which they can make a difference in our school, community and world.

To initiate this group we have set the first activity as a fundraising event for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. In April we will present a “Pennies for Patients” campaign. We will be providing more information on this next month. Future events will be decided with Club member input.

Our meetings will be held from 2:30-3:30 on the first and third Mondays of each month, beginning with March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please understand that it is our intention to maintain an open door policy so your children can commit to coming only when their desire and schedule allows. We look forward to the ideas your kids will bring to this group. Watch for information about Pennies for Patients and the location of the meetings after it is determined.

Lisa Condon, Mica Dute, and Marcy Roark

## Help Needed in the Library

**If you have as little as 10 minutes, we need you!**

Because we have many avid readers (good problem), there is always an overflow of books needing to be checked in and shelved. Please consider volunteering in the library. You may commit to a weekly time to help or just drop in when you happen to be around. If shelving books isn't your thing, how about covering paperbacks with contact paper? Or straightening shelves? Or creating displays for new books, seasonal books, or curriculum themes?

If you can help, stop by, or call (3/982-1664), or email [astahura@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:astahura@jeffco.k12.co.us). Thanks!

### Partners in Education (P.I.E)

To learn more about school curriculum, how you can help your child thrive, have input into goals for Maple Grove in such areas as school safety and environment, budget, and curriculum...

#### **come to P.I.E.**

Spring 2009 Dates:

Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2:45 L.I.C

Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> 2:45 L.I.C

Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 2:45 L.I.C

#### **Announcing the first PIE In the Sky Award.**

This award, presented to the fifth grade team of Kristen Maikranz and Rilene Thompson for going above and beyond for our kids by volunteering their time to provide a study hall once a week for all fifth graders, is sponsored by PIE and PTA. The award includes a gift certificate for a dinner out for our very appreciated teachers.

If you have a person or team who you think has gone above and beyond for our kids and would like to nominate them for PIE in the Sky please contact Amy Dietz at [mapleleafnews@yahoo.com](mailto:mapleleafnews@yahoo.com) with subject heading "PIE in the Sky".



## SEE YOUR DESIGN BECOME THE SCIENCE FAIR LOGO!!

The theme for this year's Science Fair is "**Science - Light the Spark!**" Submit your original design - and see it become the logo for the Science Fair! The logo will be printed on the Science Fair promotional materials, cover of the Program, and Science Fair T-shirt. *The winner receives a free Science Fair T-shirt! Any participant who turns in a project question will also receive a T-shirt!*

All Maple Grove students are invited to submit a logo design. You do not need to be a participant in the Science Fair to submit a design.

DEADLINE FOR DESIGN SUBMISSIONS: **MARCH 16**

GIVE DESIGNS TO YOUR TEACHER

THE ENTIRE SCHOOL WILL VOTE FOR THE WINNING DESIGN

ON **MARCH 18**

(SEE GUIDELINES ON FLYER THAT COMES HOME)

## Teacher Talk - Gym and Music News

### Gym News



Congratulations to our MG Sport Stacking team! Our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade teams competed in the Wheat Ridge Area Stacking tournament this past week and came away as champions! Fifth grade team members included: Morgan Westfall, Ben Bernstein, Mikaila Paxton, Susan Whitney, Zack Culter, Nicholas Young, Joey Major, Colin Shira, Sophie Bierle, Christopher Ireland, and Alec Hornecker.

Sixth grade team members included: Nicholas Westfall, Wes Whitney, Mark Seaholm, Trevor Kehe, Rachel Litz, Lydia Lincke, Grady Jensen, and Morgan Dasch.

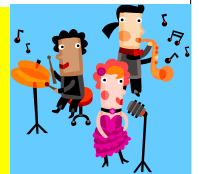
The fifth grade team of Morgan, Ben, Mikaila, and Susan won the 3-6-3 event. The team of Zack, Joey, Nicholas, and Colin placed fifth in the 3-6-3. In the cycle event, the team of Christopher, Alec, Susan, and Mikaila won the championship.

The sixth grade team of Mark, Rachel, Lydia, and Nicholas finished first in the cycle event. Nicholas also won the individual cycle championship. The 3-6-3 team of Nicholas, Wes, Mark, and Trevor placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 3-6-3. Lydia, Grady, Morgan, and Rachel placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the 3-6-3.

The kids represented our school extremely well! One of the judges even commented to me about what a nice group of kids I had on my team! Great job, stackers!

Shauna Wujek

### Music News



Sixth Graders Perform with Stober and Manning Choir  
Tuesday, March 25 at 7pm  
Manning Auditorium

Fifth Grade "America" Music Program  
Wednesday, March 26 at 7pm



**Paul's Kid-Sitting**

Service now available!

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