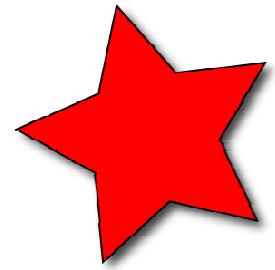


# STAR NEWS



## Saddlewood PTA - December 2011

### Marohn's Message

While it seems hard to believe, the month of November has come and gone and we are now entering our fourth month of school at Saddlewood. As we enter into the Holiday season, I want to thank everyone for their continued support as we work together to help those who are less fortunate. Our November food drive was a great success and it was a wonderful opportunity for the students to see the kindness and generosity of the Saddlewood community. Also, our annual "Toys for Tots" campaign was another great opportunity for our children to display the spirit of giving during this festive time of year. Events such as these remind us all of the old saying---"It's better to give than to receive."

As we move through the month of December, we are closing in on the end of our first report card marking period. Report cards will be sent home on Wednesday, December 21. This first of three report cards should provide you with a variety of useful information related to the progress of your child. Reviewing and discussing the report card with your child is a good way to reinforce the home-school connection that is so important for student success. As you review your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or me if you have questions or concerns.

With the winter officially upon us, please remember to send your child to school with appropriate outerwear for the weather. Lunch recess will continue to be held outdoors throughout the winter months, except for cases of inclement weather or extreme cold.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and joyous holiday season. I look forward to continuing to work with all of you as we welcome in the New Year!

### Letter from the PTA President

Happy Holidays Saddlewood Families!

We had an amazingly busy November! The PTA sponsored many wonderful events, including another fabulous PARP program, Make-a-Plate and Barnes & Noble Book Fair. Thanks to ALL who worked so hard to make each event fun, memorable and SILLY!

We were able to show the staff at Saddlewood how much they mean to us at the Staff Appreciation Luncheon. There was a wonderful spread of Italian food purchased by the PTA and a line up of decadent desserts baked and delivered by some incredible bakers in our school. Thank you to all who helped make it an enjoyable event for our fabulous Staff!

The PTA will once again bring you the Holiday Gift Shop. For our new families, we bring in a large selection of gift items and set up a "store" on the stage. This year our Gift Shop will be open December 5-9. Each teacher signs up for a shopping time slot and the class is able to then come in and buy presents for their family members. The kids LOVE this and we have some GREAT items; all of which are under \$10! OF course we are always looking for adults to help our little shoppers, if you are available please contact me at [teriblake@nycap.rr.com](mailto:teriblake@nycap.rr.com).

Thank you for all of your continued support; without you we wouldn't be able to do ALL that we do! We hope to see you at the next PTA Meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 7pm in the Library.

I wish you all a wonderful, safe and fun holiday season. May you share wonderful memories with family and friends. I look forward to celebrating more fun and events with you in 2012!

Sincerely,  
Teri Blake

### Dates to Remember

**December 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Holiday Gift Shoppe

**December 8<sup>th</sup>**  
School Banking

**December 15<sup>th</sup>**  
School Banking

**December 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
School Banking

**December 26<sup>th</sup> – January 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Holiday Recess



### PTA Officers 2010-2011

#### President

Teri Blake  
869-4185

#### Vice- Presidents

Mary Shelton Sherri Fyan  
869-0474 869-1011

Christie Gebauer  
869-8989

#### Treasurer

Ann Spratt  
869-9615

#### Recording Secretary

Beth Bomba  
869-1594

#### Corresponding Secretary

Megan Pedalford



**Crossgates Mall's Day of Giving  
December 4<sup>th</sup>, 10am –7pm**

**SAVE! ~ SAVE! ~ SAVE!**

The merchants in Crossgates Mall are offering discounts and savings off your purchases when you present your DAY OF GIVING TICKET. Plus, turn in the raffle stub attached to your ticket at Crossgates Mall Customer Service Center for your chance at prizes!

***DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS AWESOME OPPORTUNITY; TICKETS ARE ONLY \$5!!***

Contact Teri Blake today to purchase your ticket!

Call 869-4185 or email [teriblake@nycap.rr.com](mailto:teriblake@nycap.rr.com)

Here's the BEST part:

**Our PTA keeps ALL PROCEEDS of ticket sales** which will be used to provide more great activities and events for our children.



**ATTENTION HOLIDAY SHOPPERS...**

***Our Holiday Gift Shop  
will be open 12/6 - 12/8***

All children will be given an opportunity to shop for holiday gifts with their class at their designated day and time. A schedule detailing which class shops when will be sent home. ALL ITEMS BEING SOLD ARE \$10 & UNDER! Holiday Helpers will be there ready to lend a hand. Please be sure that he/she comes prepared with their shopping list envelope and cash or check made payable to SADDLEWOOD PTA.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

**Nurse's News**

Thanks to all the students, families, and staff for again making our Thanksgiving Food Drive a great success. The boxes were filled to the brim and we not only helped some people within our own Saddlewood family but also donated to an area food pantry to help others in our community. A special thanks to Mrs. Fyan for coordinating this very special program.

- Marilyn Snow

**CHARACTER ED CORNER**

The character education word of the month is kindness. How appropriate! We are so lucky to live in a school community where we see examples of kindness everyday. The main hall in our school was filled with boxes of food last week. We were able to help our own families with needed foods. Again this week, our families have generously donated new toys for the Stuff the Bus project. Remembering people in need is a wonderful example for our children. You have filled the buckets of people you may never know! Thank you!!!!

- The Fall Book Fair was once again hugely popular! There was a great selection of books and just the right balance of bookmarks and pointers. Thank you Christie Gebauer and Lisa DeForge for putting this all together for us; fantastic job, Ladies! Thank you also to all the "shopping assistants" who helped the children pick out just the right book.
- What a fabulous PARP program AGAIN this year!! The kids "Read Themselves Silly!" with the help of the Saddlewood Staff. A special Thank – you to Mr. Eggleston, Mr. Marohn, Mrs. Prock, Mrs. Z. , Ms. Villa, Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. Hunter And a HUGE Thank-you to Mrs. Irons , Mrs. Bomba and Mrs. Maligrida for the awesome and silly program.
- Thank you to all who made donations to our Food Drive and to Sherri Fyan and Mrs. Snow for coordinating it. Due to everyone's kindness and generosity we were able to help out many families within Saddlewood and the Colonie Community.
- Barnes & Noble Night was an enjoyable night for all of our Saddlewood families that attended. Thank You to Stacey Phillips and Wendy Nelson for all of your hard work; to all of our favorite story tellers and Mrs. Mahigian and kids for the lovely serenade.

