Harman Elementary PTO Newsletter

(April/May/June 2017)

Important Dates:

June 1 7:00 6th grade recognition

June 2 Harmanize Family Day

 Hot Dog Lunch

 Last Day- Dismissal 2:10

 Report Cards go home

**END OF YEAR GIFTS**

It's that time of year when the craziness never stops. We've made it easier for you to pick out the perfect gift to thank the teachers and/or staff. Located in the front office is a binder with a sheet containing what your teacher and/or staff's needs/likes/wants are.

Come and check it out!

From our PTO President

As the school years comes to a close, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the faculty, staff, PTO members, volunteers and parents of Harman Elementary, who made the 2016-2017 school year such a success.

One of the great strengths of Harman, and Oakwood in general, is parental involvement and the willingness of everyone to work together to make things better for our kids and for all those involved in the education process.

As the PTO President during the past year, I have seen that dedication demonstrated in many ways. Even though everyone is busy with their own schedule, whether it is work, managing the family, or life in general, the volunteers made everything come together. From Trivia night and class events to teacher appreciation, the excellent Harman tradition was not only upheld but was exceeded.

Again, to everyone who helped the PTO during the year or assisted in making Harman Elementary a better place, I want to thank you for your efforts.

It was a honor and a privilege to serve as your PTO President and I look forward to remaining involved and helping those who choose to lead over the next few years.

If you are interested in volunteering with the PTO for the upcoming school year please contact myself or Jenny Waller (incoming President).

Laura Hart

Harman Elementary PTO President 2016-2017

**Thank you!**

Grand Affair was a HUGE success because of the dedication and support of so many people.

First, thank you to the students for persevering throughout the school year to work diligently on all their beautiful pieces of art. A heartfelt thanks to Susan Kuntz for her boundless inventiveness, energy, enthusiasm of art, time and effort to make Grand Affair so special to all of us. Thank you to Sarah Patterson, Brenda Casterline, the teachers, and staff members who graciously endured our many interruptions in the hallways & classrooms. Thank you to Angela Cauley and Dave Diaspro for always lending us ladders, drill, and many other supplies, plus picking up after us.

Thanks to Janet Strauss, who comes back every year even though she no longer has children at Harman, for her creativity and assistance. Thank you to the numerous volunteers who helped during the entire week to setup with a special shout out to Joanna Josue, Susan Choi, Ashley Powell, Kathy Platt, Kelly Thobe, Tyler Thobe, Kiersten Cahill, Katie Brennaman, Christine Hoffman, Allison Silvain, Sarah Morgan, Greg Patterson, Stacia Wright, Heidi Susta, Alison Davis, Tracy Morgan, Blaire Morgan, Erin Snowden, Michelle Tucker, Anne Meira, Amy Schneck, Laura Woeste, Katy Dalyrmple, Skippi Cross, Stephanie Habig, Tricia Toussaint, Julianne Toussaint and Micheline Jarvis. Without the number of people who committed hours to support this event, Grand Affair simply could not be.

Lastly, thank you to Mychaelyn Michalec, co-chair, for her endless support and resourcefulness. As a final note, I want to thank all the people who throughout the pass seven years were so personally supportive and encouraging. Grand affair is a special and unique occasion at Harman, and I have always felt very lucky to be a part of it. 2017-2018 year will be an exciting time with co-chairs Mychaelyn Michalec and KC Stack.

One last – **THANK YOU!!!** Tricia Bauer, Grand Affair co-chair

Thank You!

"A huge thank you to our workroom volunteers! All of your hard work gave the teachers more time to spend on their curriculum and working with students.  You are such an important part of keeping Harman running and are truly appreciated!"

Thanks again,

Kiersten Cahill

Military Kids Club



Earlier this year, the MKC coordinated with teachers and students to write letters for Operation Gratitude, an organization which sends care packages to Deployed Troops, Veterans, New Recruits, First Responders, and Wounded Heroes. Harman students submitted 96 letters!!! We received an official thank you from the President of Operation Gratitude, "Thank you for your thoughtfulness and wonderful patriotic spirit.  Every single donation we receive furthers our mission of saying, "Thank you" to those who serve.  The recipients of your generosity will remember your kindness forever."  Thank you, Harman School!!

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April was the Month of the Military Child and the MKC sponsored a Purple Up! Day to remember the sacrifices of the military children. Thank you to everyone who wore purple on that day! Special thanks to Col Pelligra and Col. Sanford who came to speak on the morning announcements,  and to Allie Zelik and Alex Drummy, who with their children and several other children, served ice cream to the military kids on the front lawn.  The ice cream was donated by Kroger and Graeter's.  Lastly, thank you to Mrs. Patterson who made the children feel like rock stars!



**Spanish Club**

The Spanish Club ended the year with a bang!  The kids enjoyed a pizza and postre (dessert) party and with the gorgeous weather we were able to end with a pin~ata outside. The delicious dessert was provided by Arepas and Co. a local Colombian restaurant. Special thanks to Gina Ooi and Dave Finch for volunteering throughout the year.  The children enjoyed learning about the Hispanic culture and we look forward to continuing on next year! If your child is interested in some more immersion over the summer, you can visit:  https://oakwoodspanish.wordpress.com/ Gracias!

**Thank you library volunteers**

During the school year, Harman library volunteers checked out and shelved over 15,000 books. A huge thank you to all who donated their time to the library to keep Harman students reading!

Christa Agiro, Carol Askins, Tricia Bauer, Tom Bozung, Kara Conard, Kristen Erwin, Kelly Hick, Christine Hoffman, Denise Howard, Kate Miller, Tara Nabholz, Emily Pelligra, KC Stack, Pam Styles, Allison Sylvain, Erin Tomazic, Michelle Tucker, Shannan Tucker, Tracy Williams, Niki Wilt, Mackenzie Wittmer

**Thank you D.A.R.E. volunteers**

Thank you to the following parents for their help in making the DARE graduation reception a success:

Stefanie Campbell

Meredith Spitzmiller

Molly MacDonald

Sonja Smallwood

Bill Boyce

Liz Jacomet

Melissa Roelle

Cheryl Hamblin

Isaac Bokros

Erin Snowden

~Dante Connell

We are making plans for the Fall Season of Girls on the Run™!

This positive youth development program will be offered to girls in the 3rd – 5th grades attending Oakwood schools in Fall 2017.

Given the ease of running on the East side of Oakwood, the program will be housed at Smith Elementary. The program is open to girls from both Harman and Smith Elementary Schools. Parents are responsible for transporting their child to and from Smith School. (Carpool information and assistance is available, upon request.)

The number of teams we can have depends on the number of volunteer coaches we can secure. Teams consist of 8-15 girls. **If you are interested in coaching, please let us know. This program can only be made possible through volunteer coaches (male or female).** It is a very rewarding experience and training and program materials are provided.

Practices are held after school from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. at Smith School, two days per week (Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday). Cost is $150 for the 10-week season and includes all program fees and registration for the 5K Race taking place on Saturday, November 18, 2017.

Learn more about this positive, youth development program that inspires girls to be joyful, healthy and confident at [www.gotrdayton.org](http://www.gotrdayton.org).

For questions, or to sign up, contact one of your GOTR Oakwood Site Coordinators: Pamela Davis (937-271-7023; pamela.davis333@yahoo.com); Erin Handler (210-243-6308; erinhandler@gmail.com ) or Jessica Poprocki (614-270-9168; Jessica.poprocki@gmail.com)

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