

NOVEMBER 2018 PTO NEWSLETTER



IMPORTANT DATES

November 19-30: Spirit Wear Orders - New Design!
Zip Hoodies Available!
November 30: Career Day
December 3-6: Wilkes Book Fair
December 19 - January 2: Winter Break



TECH TALK RECAP & RESOURCES

On Wednesday, a group of parents participated in the Tech + Kids Evening PTO meeting conversation and gained a wealth of knowledge about emerging technology issues from Amii Pratt, Sue Constan & Dr. Molly Linhardt. The group discussed today's struggles and shared ideas on role-modeling and supervising healthy tech use. [Even tech giants like Bill Gates](#) prevents his kids from owning cell phones until they are 14 years and restricts use during meals and at night. One great resource we wanted to pass along to all parents is a **family media plan tool**, that you can find [HERE](#). This gives families a framework for how to develop a media plan that works for their unique circumstances.

CAREER FAIR

In our exploration of **CURIOSITY**, on Friday, November 30th, Wilkes Elementary School will be having a Career Day! In the morning, your student will attend 4 presentations (kindergarten will attend 3) from community members who are donating their time to talk about their careers. Your student will have a great time and will bring home a **Curious About Careers Passport** at the end of the day that documents the presentations that he/she participated in during the Career Fair. We need your help to make this a great event! Please sign up for one of the needed volunteer roles below and the event coordinator, Sue Constan, will be sending you an email with further details on your specific role and where to go at the Career Fair. [SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER HERE](#)

RECESS ACTIVITIES

PTO kicked off a new monthly recess activity this November. Parent volunteers piloted this idea by inviting children to plant bulbs in playground garden boxes, newly landscaped due to the dedicated leadership of parent volunteer, Alex Harui. The recess activity was a hit - students were delighted to beautify their school playground! **Kids happily got their hands dirty, learned about growing plants, and took ownership for stewarding garden beds.** Thankfully we had a bulb for every single child to plant thanks to the generous support of Alex. Special thanks to Alex for initiating this garden beautification, to the volunteers digging trenches beforehand and filling them afterwards, and to the supportive recess staff. **Stay tuned for more rewarding opportunities to volunteer for future recess activities!**



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

The start of this year relied heavily on parent volunteers, and boy did they come through! Thank you so much to the following:

- **Halloween costume swap** - Teresa Yette, Honora Gerbeck, Christina Hinchcliffe & Jennifer Cannon
- **Garden beautification/bulb planting** - Alex Harui, Christy Remedios, Megan Livingston, Jennifer Cannon, Lisa Mauer, Zuzana West, & Jim Behrens
- **Directory**- Casey Schmidt
- **Health Screening** - Pontea Smithson, Holly Pavlick McIver, Charlene Smith, Addie Bogdan & Kelly Cancialosi
- **Teacher appreciation during conferences** - Stina Peña & Sarah Upsall as our Staff Appreciation co-chairs along with all the volunteers who brought in amazing treats for our teachers & staff!
- **Harvest Fair** - Lisa Kastner, Katie Wilson, Karen Walker, Susan Williams & Jennifer Cannon
- **Kids + Tech Night**- Dr. Molly Linhardt, Sue Constan, Amii Pratt
- **Spirit Wear Design** - Lauren Love



As always, please let us know if you have questions, concerns or ideas. Cheers!

Your Wilkes PTO

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