

# Cedar Hill Scoop

## January 6, 2012

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

January 9 Board of Ed meeting, 7pm, WAMS Auditorium

January 9-Feb 3 Box Top Class Challenge

January 16-Feb 27 Read Through Winter, **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

January 20 Boys' Night Out, 6:15-8:30 pm (snow date 1/27), **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

January 23-25 James Gelsey author visit to the 4th Grade classes, **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

February 1 CHS School Spirit Day, wear green and gold

February 2 Kindergarten Registration, **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

February 10 Sweetheart's Dance, **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

February 13-17 Wizard of Words week for K-2nd, Robert J. Blake author visit on 15th & 16th,

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

February 14 Staff Valentine's Breakfast, CHS Cafeteria, 8:00-8:45 am - **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

March 24 Comedy Night Benefit, Basking Ridge Country Club, 8pm start

March 31 CHS Science Fair, CHS cafeteria, 9:30 am to 12 noon

### BOYS' NIGHT OUT

*Boys' Night Out* is going to be an awesome night of fun and excitement for all Cedar Hill boys and their special lady! Travel to exciting destinations – meet reptiles, be mystified by magic, play games and of course dance and eat! It will be on **January 20th from 6:15-8:30 pm at Cedar Hill School**. Please complete the attached form and return it with a check to your child's teacher in an envelope marked "Boys' Night Out" by **January 13th**. The fun awaits you and your Mom, Grandma, Aunt or other special lady. **We are looking for Moms, Dads and Cedar Hill Alumni to help make this adventure a success!!** Set up/clean up, overseeing stations, and taking pictures of our "couples" are a few of the areas that will need volunteers. It would be great to have Cedar Hill Alumni at the event to lend their help and expertise. What a great way to fill volunteer hours, too!! Please email Kerry Testa and Karen Dashefsky at [boysnightout@cedarhillpto.org](mailto:boysnightout@cedarhillpto.org). We need you!!

Also, so many of you have graciously offered to make or bring refreshments for Boys' Night Out. **We are still in need of several dozen goodies**. If you are able to help out, it would be greatly appreciated! Chocolate chip cookies, brownies, sugar cookies, Rice Krispie treats, a fruit and a veggie platter. Please contact Kerry Testa at [ellablue15@gmail.com](mailto:ellablue15@gmail.com).

### THE BIG BOX TOP CLASS CHALLENGE IS ON!

This year's annual Box Top Classroom Challenge runs for one month and begins this **Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**. Please send in your **neatly** clipped, **unexpired** boxtops *on the attached collection sheet* to be deposited into your child's homeroom collection bag. We strongly recommend the 25-count collection sheet (vs the 10-count version) as they cut down on paper and ink and postal costs for the school!

Please keep in mind some of these helpful BoxTop guidelines:

- **DON'T** attach more BoxTops to the collection sheets than the amount the sheet was designed to hold.
- **DON'T** attach extra BoxTops to the **BACK** of any collection sheets, only the **FRONT**.
- **DO** attach your extra BoxTops to another collection sheet, even if it is not completely full.
- **DO** submit bonus BoxTops and box top certificates in a sandwich bag labeled with your child and teacher's names.

The class with the most BoxTops will receive a class **pizza party!!!!!!** For the class that comes in second place, the PTO will provide a special snack for their snack time. Collections in classrooms will **begin January 9th and end on February 3rd**. Look for updates in the upcoming SCOOP on class standings to let you know which classes are in the lead. The winning class will be announced on March 1st. If you have any questions please send an e-mail to [boxtops@cedarhillpto.org](mailto:boxtops@cedarhillpto.org). Thank you for following these guidelines and HAPPY CLIPPING!!

## **JAMES GELSEY RETURNS TO CHS 4TH GRADE**

The PTO is proud to welcome back James Gelsey, author of such dynamic childrens' series such as the *Scooby Doo!* mysteries, *Dragon Booster* books and his latest book *Caper Gets Even*. His program is always a big hit with students and teachers alike. He will visit with each 4th grade class daily on **January 23-25**. This three-day presentation seeks to empower students as they explore the creative writing process. Our 4th graders will acquire new writing tools, develop their confidence, and have a great time as they navigate the writing process. **Volunteers needed to attend one of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade classroom presentation (about one hour per day) and to provide items for the teacher luncheon on Jan 25<sup>th</sup>.** For more specific information and to volunteer please contact Nancy Fabian at [Fabe22@optonline.net](mailto:Fabe22@optonline.net) and Julie Portas at [Jssportas@yahoo.com](mailto:Jssportas@yahoo.com)

## **GET READY FOR READ THROUGH WINTER!**

It's a new year and what's a better resolution for students than to **read more** in 2012? The *Read Through Winter* program is designed to encourage reading through a friendly class competition. The class goals, listed below, are challenging yet attainable if **every student** participates. Starting the week of **January 16**, your child will use a simple reading record to keep track of the number of minutes he/she reads. All after-school required reading counts, the time you spend reading to your child counts, any minute of independent reading counts. Every Monday the completed Reading Record will be returned to the school in your student's backpack and our parent volunteers will tally the results. Keep an eye on the posters located by the classrooms to see how each class stacks up. In order for this program to be successful we need **VOLUNTEERS to track the number of minutes each class reads**. If you are interested in helping us tally minutes--which you can do in the leisure of your own home at your own time, please send an email to Nicole Schubert at [schubertfamily@optonline.net](mailto:schubertfamily@optonline.net). It's a great opportunity for working parents or ones with younger children that prevent them from volunteering in the classroom to get involved. Please help us make this program a success!

### **Read Through Winter Goals**

Total minutes for each **class** from Jan 16<sup>th</sup> - Feb 27<sup>th</sup>

Kindergarten 15,000 minutes

First Grade 18,000 minutes

Second Grade 25,000 minutes

Third Grade 28,000 minutes

Fourth Grade 30,000 minutes

Fifth Grade 35,000 minutes

Get Ready, Get Set, READ!!

## **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FEBRUARY 2, 2012**

Kindergarten registration for the 2012 – 2013 school year will be held on **Thursday, February 2, 2012 from 2:00 pm until 6:00 pm**. **Volunteers are needed to welcome parents and help out at the registration table** checking required paperwork in one hour shifts. Volunteers are welcome to have their children with them. Please contact Karen Sedlazeck at [ksedlazeck@yahoo.com](mailto:ksedlazeck@yahoo.com) if you would like to volunteer.

## **STAFF VALENTINE'S BREAKFAST - COOKS AND SERVERS NEEDED**

Would you like to help with this year's CHS Staff Valentine's Breakfast? We are not only in need of **bakers and cooks** but items like **juice and fruit** that get sent in, a **set up crew**, and **servers** for that Tuesday morning **February 14<sup>th</sup>** before school. Email Lisa Bortner and Renee Marchetti at [Valentinesbreakfast@cedarhillpto.org](mailto:Valentinesbreakfast@cedarhillpto.org) and let us know how you'd like to be involved.

## **W.O.W. BOOK ORDERS**

Wizard of Words Week is Coming in February. Wizard of Words is a fun-filled week of activities for the K-2nd grade students to celebrate the joy of reading. It is scheduled for **February 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>**. The highlight of the week will be a visit from author and illustrator **Robert J. Blake!** Mr. Blake is the author and/or illustrator of twenty-four books including Painter and Ugly, Little Devils, Swift, Togo and Akiak. Prior to Robert J. Blake's visit on February 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, your K-2nd grade child will

become familiar with Mr. Blake's books through reading and creating unique projects with his/her teacher in the classroom. You can also familiarize your child with Robert J. Blake's work by checking out his books from the Bernards Township library and visiting his website at: [www.robertjblake.com](http://www.robertjblake.com). We are pleased to offer a selection of his books for sale at a discounted price. The books will be signed by the author and delivered to the children on the day of his visit. If you have a child in grade K-2, you can use the attached form to place a book order. Please include a check payable to "Cedar Hill PTO" in an envelope marked "W.O.W." To ensure the books arrive in time for the signing, please return the completed forms with payment to your child's teacher by **Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**. Please email [wizardofwords@cedarhillpto.org](mailto:wizardofwords@cedarhillpto.org) with any questions.

### **W.O.W. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**We are looking for several volunteers to help us get ready for this exciting author's visit.** Volunteers are needed to help us with various items including, decorating the school, organizing crafts, puzzles and games for the students, coordinating a scavenger hunt around the school, assisting with book orders, and helping with the author/teacher luncheon. The bulk of the work will be done in January and February so you will be free through the holiday season! Please email [wizardofwords@cedarhillpto.org](mailto:wizardofwords@cedarhillpto.org) if you are able to volunteer to help us with this exciting event.

### **CALLING ALL CEDAR HILL SCIENTISTS...**

Does your child like to experiment? Ask all kinds of questions about the world around him/her? Then the Cedar Hill Science Fair is for you! Please encourage your child to participate in the annual science fair to be held on **March 31<sup>st</sup>**. Students from grades 3 – 5 will be guided through using the Scientific Method to answer their question about the world around them. Results are displayed on poster presentations. All participants are recognized in a ceremony following the fair. Students may work alone or in groups of 2 or 3. Parent advisers are key to the projects' success! **Ideally, we will have a parent advisor for every 6 participants, so please consider volunteering.** See attached ideas and info sheets, suggested timeline and student contract for more detail. Questions? Please contact Kim Gardner at [kingardner11@optonline.net](mailto:kingardner11@optonline.net).

### **BE GREEN...RECYCLE AND RE-GIFT**

The Benefit committee could use your unwanted gifts. If you received an extra iPod shuffle in your stocking, a bottle of wine that isn't a favorite, a cookbook you will never open, or anything else you think might be a great addition to our growing list of auction items, please let us know. Feel free to drop them in the office with a note identifying the items as Benefit donations. If we cannot use your donation, we will either return it to you or donate it on your behalf. Thank you for thinking of us!

### **CALLING ALL 4TH & 5TH GRADERS**

Sign up to participate in the 9th Annual Spelling Bee sponsored by the Junior Woman's Club of Somerset Hills on **Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>** at Bedminster Township School. Check-in begins at 6pm, **deadline to register is January 19<sup>th</sup>**. Please see attachment for more information and registration form. Contact Bridget Aмео at 757-6777 with any questions.

### **HELPFUL WEBSITES:**

CEDAR HILL SCHOOL - <http://www1.bernardsboe.com/CedarHillElementarySchool/> (school procedures and policies can be found on this website)

LUNCH MENU - <http://www1.bernardsboe.com/CedarHillElementarySchool/CMFiles/Docs/Jan.pdf>

MY NUTRIKIDS - LUNCH PREPAYMENTS - <https://www.mynutrikids.com/Login.aspx> (online account for student lunches)

SCHOOL CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS - <http://www1.bernardsboe.com> (you can also sign up for Friday Folders and Honeywell Alert system here)

CEDAR HILL UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS -

[http://www1.bernardsboe.com/CedarHillElementarySchool/Upcoming\\_School\\_Events.aspx](http://www1.bernardsboe.com/CedarHillElementarySchool/Upcoming_School_Events.aspx)

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION - <http://www.boxtops4education.com>

BERNARDS PEC- <http://www.bernardspec.com>

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

**Boys Night Out Registration Form**

**Box Top Collection Sheet**

**Science Fair Suggested Timeline**

**Science Fair Information Sheet**

**Science Fair Student Contract**

**Science Fair Ideas A to Z**

**Spelling Bee Registration**

**WOW Book Order Form**

**Submissions to the Cedar Hill Scoop may be emailed to Cristi Vilade at [CHScoop@cedarhillpto.org](mailto:CHScoop@cedarhillpto.org).**

**Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at 5 pm for inclusion on Friday.**

**PTO Presidents, Karen Richman and Alicia Martine, can be emailed at [chsinfo@cedarhillpto.org](mailto:chsinfo@cedarhillpto.org).**

**Editor: Cristi Vilade**