



SPOTLIGHT ON CORDLEY

November 2011
Cordley Elementary PTA

Save those Box Tops and Soup Labels

Looking for an easy way to help raise money for Cordley? Here are a few ways you can help.



Box Tops When you purchase an item that has a Box Top for Education on it, cut off the Box Top and save it. Turn in Box Tops in the Campbell Soup can in the front of the school or send them to school with your child. You may be surprised how many you can collect once you start noticing them on products you already buy. The box tops are collected, counted and sent in. Then, the school is sent checks twice a year.



Campbell Soup Labels When you purchase any Campbell Soup brand item, clip off the little box that tells how many points the item is worth. Turn in the labels in the Campbell Soup can in the front of the school or send them to school with your child. The labels are counted and sent in. With these points, the school can purchase school supplies and materials. To see a list of participating products, go to: <http://www.labelsforeducation.com/How-to-Earn/Participating-Products>.

Find more PTA news and information on our web page: <http://cordleypta.weebly.com/>

Cordley Holiday Families Program



Please check your Wednesday folders for your letter about the Cordley Holiday Families tradition and consider participating this year. Cordley Holiday Families is a gift assistance program for Cordley families. If you are a family requesting assistance, please remember that forms are due no later than Tuesday, November 29th. If you are a family who can help, please look for snowflakes on the PTA bulletin board beginning in early December. Extra forms will be placed on the information rack in the school's lobby.

Pick up Your Equal Exchange Goodies



Thanks for your help in making our Equal Exchange fundraiser a success. We raised about \$2000 for our school through this sale. Fundraiser orders can be picked up at parent teacher conferences on November 9 and 10. Three classrooms won parties for their participation in the fundraiser. Mrs. Sudbeck, Mrs. Hammerschmidt and Ms. Hyde's classes are the winners! Each of these classes will be treated to a chocolate party later this month. Please contact Linda Hoopes (865-2489 or lmhoopes@hotmail.com) if you are willing to help with any of these parties. We will need cups for water or milk and graham crackers or pretzels to add to the chocolates. Parent volunteers are needed to serve the food.



Thank you to our room parents for coordinating the fall party. Also, thank you to all the parent volunteers who provided treats, drinks, paper goods and who helped with the party. The kids had a great time. If you would like to help with the winter party, please contact Jeannie Houts (jmhouts@ku.edu) or the room parents in your child's classroom. The winter will be December 22, 2011.

We are Looking for Some Helpful Hawks

Dear Cordley Parents,



At the October PTA meeting we had a lengthy discussion about the increasing numbers of families dealing with ever increasing financial burdens. Cordley families have always been incredibly generous in support of our greater Cordley family – the Holiday Family Project, scholarships for clubs, carnival passes, silent auction donations, Farm to School, and teacher wish lists to name a few examples. Cordley is home to an amazing combination of dedicated and caring parents, teachers, staff, and kids and personally, I am thankful everyday to be part of Cordley.

Back to the Helping Hawks. The Cordley PTA would like to organize a list of go-to families willing to donate needed items. Such a list would be modeled after two groups here in Lawrence, the Lawrence Elves and 100 Good Women. These generous individuals give anonymously when requests come from school staff and teachers for things like shoes, baby supplies, clothes, toiletries, etc. These two groups help with requests that come from all of our schools in Lawrence and there are many such requests these days.

Here at Cordley, it is difficult for the PTA to donate funds towards and then shop for multiple, small-scale needs that come up suddenly as we have a set budget and need to vote on expenditures. So, if we were to have a list of families willing to share in giving when needs arise, it would be a more effective way of handling these requests.

How it could work. Requests for needed items would come through, and only through, our Counselor and Social Worker Catherine Bolton. Requests from Ms. Bolton would go out to an anonymous list of donors. No requests for cash will be made. Once someone has agreed to fulfill the need, the rest of the list of donors will be notified. Families receiving the donation will also remain anonymous. For example – A request comes into your email box for socks along with a number identifying the request. You happen to be going to Target that day. You let Ms. Bolton know that you will purchase the socks and deliver them to the school office with the assigned number attached.

Requests for aid will still go out to the citywide groups, but a system of Helping Hawks here at Cordley helps us share in support of our Cordley kids. If you are willing to put your name on a Hawk list, please contact Catherine Bolton at cbolton@usd497.org. This effort is not tied to the holiday season, so you can add your name to the list at any time during the school year. If you are willing to help coordinate this effort on behalf of the PTA, please contact Sharon Ashworth at sharon.ashworth@sbcglobal.net or at 865-2491. And thank you.

Farm to School Lunch— Deliciously Successful!



Thanks to all the farmers, volunteers, parents, students and staff who made this year's Farm to School lunch a huge success. Special thanks to Matt Hyde at **715** for his amazing *Harvest Pasta*, Kate and Rafael Gonzalez at **Global Café** for their hearty *Autumn Chili* and Cary Strong at **Aimee's Café and Coffee House** for the tasty *applesauce*. A round of applause to Brad Hoopes for playing piano while students and staff dined. Also, a warm thank you to our two lunch teachers, Cheryl_____ and _____ for their help.