

Fairfield Magnet



PTA Newsletter

Fairfield Elementary Magnet PTA 2011-2012

Executive Officers

President – Staci Zeagler
1st VP/Membership – Allison Manning
Co-Chair – Laura Weego
2nd VP/Fundraising – Melanie Peacock
3rd VP/Hospitality – Amy Randall
Recording Secretary – Laura Gooszen
Treasurer – Micheal Collins

Board Members/Committee Chairs

Room Mother Coordinator – Stephanie Taylor
February Fling – DeAnna Collins
Co-Chair–Sarah Gleason
Auction – Emily Hobson and Meb Tujague
Field Day – Lacey McCollum
Carnival – Angela Waltman
Yearbook – Heather Berry
Co-Chair– Laura Grieder
5th Grade Coordinator – Karen Payne
Co-Chair–Sukie Perkins
Faculty/Staff/Teacher Appreciation (TAP) –
Joanne Black
Co-Chairs–Candy Kemper & Sharon Leethy
PTA Contests – Lisa Turnbull
Co-Chair–Natalie Howell
Grandparents' Day – Amy Moushon and
Angela Watson
Spirit Wear – Tammy Tisdale
Co-Chair–Stephanie Easterling
ArtBreak – Dorothy Shemwell
Building & Grounds – Jennifer Hemmings and
Arcadio Miranda
Library – Lori Edmonson
Co-Chair–Mary Richter
Teacher Representatives–Stephanie Farris
and T.J. Kelly



Four State PTA Contest Award Winners represented Fairfield PTA at the State PTA Convention in April. Pictured from left to right are Hannah Hobson, Luke Muslow, Taylor Reed and Raiden Reed. Great job and thank you! We are so proud of you!

BULLDOG BASH **sets the tone...**

for a great year at Fairfield! The main hallway was a bit chaotic from 3 to 5:30 August 14th, but in a good way! Families, school paks, tables, and COOKIES all found their places! PTA membership and spirit wear were the hot items for purchase, and the teachers received many donations to their Bulldog accounts that were greatly appreciated! After the meetings, paperwork, and chit chat, the hall became quiet again awaiting the arrival of students just four days later.

August 30, 2011
Volume 8, Issue 1

SPIRIT WEAR

Southern Belle t-shirts will not be available for long. See the order form in your Bulldog Folder.

Long sleeve t-shirts are on order. Order forms for spirit items are available in the school office.

An online PTA Spirit Store will be available soon! We will be adding a link from the Fairfield website so that you can purchase items from the comfort of your home and have them delivered to your home-FREE!

WATCH FOR DETAILS!

Inside this Issue

Principal's Message	2
President's Message	3
Fundraising Information	4
Box Tops Contest Information	5
Membership Information	6
Playground Information	7
Dates to Remember and PTA Contact Information	8

A Note from our Principal

Welcome to everyone! As Fairfield continues to attract the brightest and the best we started our year with a student population of 428. In addition to the 66 new kindergartners we have also added 30 new students in grades 1st – 5th. Our waiting list is substantial and all of this speaks to the overall climate of our Fairfield Community! This includes everyone: students, parents, extended family, faculty, staff and our strong community supporters. I don't know about a village, but I definitely believe that it takes this complete community to sustain Fairfield.



We have one new faculty member and a couple of moves for this year! Mrs. Terri Pettigrew joined us after teaching 7 years at Claiborne Magnet. She is in room 23 teaching 4th grade ELA replacing Mrs. Lisa Benson who was looking for a change. Mrs. Benson moved to room 27 to teach 5th grade Science and Social Studies replacing Mrs. Farris. Mrs. Farris is the new science lab teacher. Mrs. Farris replaced Mrs. Cook in this position. Mrs. Cook is a retiree who returned to work and one of the changes Caddo made to help balance the budget was to not rehire retirees. Although this may seem like a lot of movement, it in no way compares to last year!! We are so glad to have Mrs. Hillidge back in 1st grade after her year off, Mrs. Benson has returned leaving her twins in good hands with her mom, Mrs. Guy has rejoined us after her horrific accident, and Mrs. Gaddie is with us once again after her extremely difficult spring semester. I would once again like to thank you all for all the support and kindness that was shown to Mrs. Guy and Mrs. Gaddie during their time of need! The Fairfield family is such a blessing to all of us, and I am very proud to be a part of it!

Thank you for fulfilling teacher grant requests and placing additional technology in our classrooms. The new piece of playground equipment is awesome and if the temperature ever permits, we will get to try it out!!!

I believe that PTA is the force that allows us to go beyond needs to achieve dreams. Every single minute of time, every monetary gift, every word of encouragement helps build a stronger Fairfield community.

Thanks for everything you do and for trusting us with your children!

Kathy Barberousse, Principal



Ashley Dillard meets and greets Kindergarten parents at the annual Tears and Cheers Breakfast as they sign up for a raffle give-away.

Tears & Cheers

On Wednesday, August 24th, our new crop of "Baby Bulldogs" spent their first day at Fairfield. After Moms, Dads, and Grandparents settled their Kindergartners into their new classrooms, they swung by the cafeteria for the PTA Tears and Cheers Breakfast. What a wonderful turnout! We saw lots of returning Kindergarten parents as well as plenty of first timers to Fairfield. A light breakfast was served, goodie bags were distributed, Fairfield t-shirts were raffled and lots of good advice was given to our new parents. Thanks so much to Christie Rust, Ashley Dillard, LaTrivia Rochell and Julie Golsby for helping me prepare for the breakfast. Kindergarten is off to a great start!

-Amy Randall, PTA Hospitality Chairperson

GO BULLDOGS

DON'T MISS THE PTA MEETING!

DATE: October 4th (in the auditorium)

TIME: 6:00 – 7:00

Student Award Presentations

PTA News including Fundraising Results and Awards

A Note from the President

Welcome!!! Whether you're back for the 10th year or here for the 1st, I'm so glad you're here! You are what makes our PTA successful. I am so excited about the upcoming year and am looking forward to what we can accomplish together.

Our PTA is involved in so many of our school's activities, and volunteers are always welcomed. Please join our PTA, which always has parent and staff participation, and if you haven't already, consider volunteering on one or more committees. This is a great way to get to know other parents while becoming more involved. Please take the time to fill out the Helping Hands Form that accompanies this newsletter. The committee chairs and co-chairs are in place, but they definitely need more committee members!

At our May PTA meeting, over \$11,000 in teacher grants were awarded. We also presented awards to Grandparent Volunteers of the Year and 5th Grade Parent Volunteer Awards. We also watched as the Alliance for Education presented Fairfield with the Path to Excellence award. Our PTA meetings are a huge part of being a member. We are able to honor students, parents, teachers, and the school publicly, and we want to do that as often as possible!

I'm looking forward to seeing the results of our cookie/magazine fundraiser this year. We seem to meet or beat our goal each year, and the goal goes up each year. With each tub of cookies or magazine that you sell, it puts us that much closer to making a purchase for our school that will benefit our children.

Your PTA has already assisted in many areas preparing for the beginning of school. Please join me in thanking:

Ms. Barberousse for her endless time and support of the PTA.

Allison Manning for selling memberships and business listings and working so diligently on the PTA directory.

Melanie Peacock for planning and organizing our fundraising efforts and for baking 37 dozen cookies for the Bulldog Bash!

Amy Randall and the Hospitality Committee for providing a wonderful Tears and Cheers Breakfast for our new Kindergarten Puppy Parents.

Micheal and DeAnna Collins for using their time and resources to provide us with great service for purchasing memberships, spirit wear, yearbooks, etc., at the Bulldog Bash and the Back to School nights.

Candy Kemper and the TAP Committee for organizing a bountiful breakfast for the teachers, faculty, and staff the day before school started.

Tammy Tisdale and Stephanie Easterling for selling Spirit Wear at our many events.

Heather Berry for selling ads and organizing our yearbook.

Karen Payne and Sukie Perkins for throwing the "Big Dogs" a great pool party to start the year off right.

Mrs. Farris and Mrs. Kelly for serving on our PTA Board as teacher representatives.

I am truly so excited about the events and programs that we have in place here at Fairfield. It is with pleasure that I serve on the PTA at the best school around! Please feel free to contact me anytime with questions, concerns or suggestions at smzeagler@bellsouth.net.



Awesome Prizes! \$100!

August 30th – September 13th

All O.S. products are \$16.



Hope you have some room in your freezer! It's cookie time and we've set our sights high for this year's fundraiser. Beginning Tuesday, August 30th through Tuesday, September 13th, we will be selling Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Dough and magazine subscriptions/renewals. This is the PTA's only "selling" fundraiser of the year and it enables us to give generously to our school. The purpose behind the PTA's fundraising efforts is simple....to provide resources to our teachers and students that otherwise would not be available to them. Last year alone, the PTA awarded Fairfield over **\$36,000** in **new playground equipment**, a **Risograph machine** and **technology equipment** including: **7 Smartboards with Bluetooth**, **6 Ipod Touches**, **3 Interactive CD ROMs**, **a set of classroom books**, **a listening center table and robotics for the Science Lab**. That amounts to almost \$86 per child in resources! We plan to upgrade the sound system in the auditorium this Fall with the proceeds of this year's fundraiser and will continue to evaluate the needs of the school and make additional 'awards' to Fairfield in the spring of 2012.

Last year, this fundraiser earned **\$22,000** with just over \$51,000 in sales. The Otis Spunkmeyer products are very high quality, delicious cookie dough, brownies and soft pretzels...we hope you had the opportunity to sample some of the cookies at Bulldog Bash. The individual tubs contain three dozen pre-portioned cookies and are available in many different flavors. They can be kept frozen prior to baking for several months and allow you to bake one, five or three dozen cookies at a time. All of the Otis Spunkmeyer products sell for **\$16 each**.

Please encourage your child to participate in this fundraiser. There will be prizes given for children who sell 1 or more units. At 20 units, the child will win a **Fairfield Fun Day** compliments of **Games2U** during the school day. Games2U will bring the fun to Fairfield with a mobile video game van (Wii, Xbox360, Playstation), Laser Tag and Booger Wars. If we reach our fundraising goal of **\$55,000** in total sales, we will give away **\$600 cash** - \$100 per grade. Everyone selling 15 units or more will be entered into this Mega Prize drawing and six families will receive \$100 cash! Be sure to read over your fundraiser information to learn more about the "Lucky Ducks" that will be awarded throughout the sale...these ducks will earn additional prizes and privileges.

In order to more efficiently process our fundraising orders, **PLEASE turn in only one check** (or cash) made out to Fairfield PTA. If you sell to multiple customers, ask them to make their checks payable to **YOU** and then write **ONE** check to turn in with your order.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help with any of our fundraising efforts, please contact Melanie at 868-3623 or melaniefpeacock@yahoo.com. I look forward to an exciting, fun-filled year.

Thank you for supporting our PTA and our school!



One check per order payable to FEM PTA.

Summer Box Tops Contest!!!

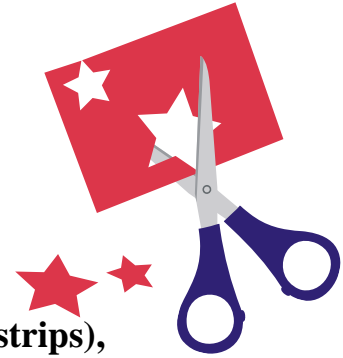
**Deadline for Box Tops, labels and UPCs to be turned in is
THIS Friday, September 2nd.**

Place in an envelope or plastic bag labeled "Summer Box Tops Contest"
with your child's name and homeroom teacher's name on the outside.

1st Place - \$25 Credit at the Scholastic Book Fair

2nd Place - \$15 Credit at the Scholastic Book Fair

3rd Place - \$10 Credit at the Scholastic Book Fair



Don't forget that we collect:

**Box Tops for Education,
Tyson Food labels (A+ box ends and tear strips),
Campbell's Labels for Education UPCs,
and Community Coffee UPCs.**

Please turn in labels the first Friday of each month.

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

Are you looking for a way to advertise your business to almost 400 hundred families for as little as \$15? Consider placing an ad in the PTA student directory. For more information, please contact Allison Manning at allisonandjames@bellsouth.net.
Ad deadline is September 1st.

Congratulations!!

**Mrs. Allien,
Teacher of the Year
Mr. Gary Gafford,
Support Staff of the Year**

YEARBOOK - The yearbook is underway and pictures are still needed from last semester (Feb Fling - end of year parties). Please submit your pictures via CD Rom or email at femyearbook@yahoo.com. Yearbooks and yearbook ads are on sale now. Yearbooks are \$30 and ads vary by size. Please look for your yearbook and yearbook ad order forms to come home in Tuesday Bulldog folders.

WE WANT



YOU!

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Don't miss out on joining Fairfield's PTA. Our goal for PTA memberships this year is 500 members! We can reach this goal, but we will need YOU. We would love for each child that attends our school to have every parent or guardian join. A grandparent, friend, neighbor, or business person can also join. Our PTA is awarded at the district and state PTA meetings for our membership numbers which brings Fairfield the recognition that it deserves.

You might ask... Why do I need to join? Our PTA has a direct impact on improvements at our school. Last year, our organization paid for new playground equipment and awarded technology grants to our wonderful teachers. Our children benefit greatly from the technology that we are purchasing for the classrooms.

Your \$6 membership offers many more advantages. The advantages to membership include being a leader and decision maker for your PTA, getting connected and meeting new people, being able to have a vote and a voice about the things that PTA does, volunteering your skills and hobbies for our children, and having ownership in what your PTA is doing for Fairfield. You will also receive a copy of the student directory.

Becoming a member is easy, just return the completed form below with payment to the school. Checks can be written payable to FEM PTA. We will no longer be using the one forms, so we will accept cash or check in an envelope with the form below.

We look forward to having you at our first PTA meeting, Tuesday, October 4th. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Allison Manning at allisonandjames@bellsouth.net or 773-7930.

PTA Membership, Attn: Allison Manning

of Members _____ @ \$6.00 each, Parent PTA Membership = \$ _____

of Members _____ @ \$5.00 each, Grandparent PTA Membership = \$ _____

of Members _____ @ \$5.00 each, Friend or Neighbor PTA Membership

Total Enclosed: _____ Cash _____ Check # _____

Name _____ Child's Name _____

Teacher/Grade _____

THANK YOU!

We love our Grandparents!

On September 30th, we will once again invite our grandparents and VIPs to visit our school and spend the morning with their “grands.” Kindergarten-2nd graders will have the opportunity to show off their talents, teachers, and school. Students can invite grandparents or any other special someone that would like to attend with them.

Fall Book Fair

The Fall book fair will kick off on Grandparents’ Day September 30th and run through October 7th. The book fair will open each day at 7:50 and close at 2:30. It will be open all day on Tuesday, Oct. 4th, so that you will be able to shop before and after the PTA meeting. We will be using funds from the book fair to purchase more technology for the library. Grandparents’ Day and library volunteers will be receiving an email soon requesting help. We are looking forward to a successful book fair. If you are not contacted but would like to help with the book fair, please contact Lori Edmonson at 423-3423 or bullyforbugs@yahoo.com.

PTA Contests

You will be receiving information soon about PTA contests for 2011-2012. All entries must be judged by the contest committee at Fairfield before being submitted to the Caddo District PTA. They will then send district winners to be judged at the state PTA level. Any state winners are then sent to the National PTA.

The Reflections Theme this year is “Diversity Means...” The deadline for entries is November 1st. The Safety Drawing Theme this year is “At Work, At Play, Let Safety Lead the Way.” The deadline for entries is February 1, 2012.

This is a great way to show off our Fairfield talent! The more entries, the better, so please encourage and help your child participate!



Before

Deborah LeMere volunteered last year to research the purchase of new playground equipment for our front playground. After granting all of our teacher’s wishes inside the school, the PTA made the decision to try and make the outdoor purchase happen. With approximately \$22,000 to work with, Deborah began the real work. She managed to get a piece of equipment that was on sale, had it reduced even more, and had the installers cut their price so that we could afford it. We are so lucky to have parent volunteers like Deborah at Fairfield. We also couldn’t have done it without selling those cookies and magazines. Great job, everyone!

After



Dates to remember

- Aug. 30 Cookie and Magazine fundraiser begins
- Aug. 30 Directory Artwork Due
- Aug. 31 School Pictures in Uniform
- Sept. 2 Box Tops Due for Summer Box Tops Contest
- Sept. 5 LABOR DAY, School Closed
- Sept. 13 Cookie and Magazine fundraiser ends, All forms and \$ due
PTA Board Meeting, 5:45 at Fairfield
- Sept. 20 Spirit Night at El Chico from 5:00 to 8:00
- Sept. 30 Grandparents' Day for K-2nd grade, 8:30 to 10:30
Book Fair Begins
- Oct. 4 PTA Meeting at 6:00 in the Fairfield Auditorium
- Oct. 7 Book Fair Ends
Box Tops Due
- Oct. 18 4th/5th grade Program, 6:00 at Fairfield
- Oct. 19 Teacher Luncheon to celebrate the End of the 1st Nine Weeks
- Oct. 21 FALL BREAK, School Closed
- Oct. 26 Pumpkin Shine on Line at Betty Virginia Park
- Oct. 31 Halloween T-shirts and Blue Jeans allowed for students

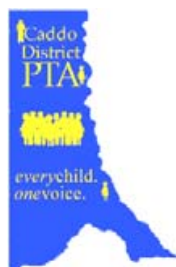


PTA Online

Fairfield PTA
www.fairfieldmagnet.org

Caddo District PTA
www.caddodistrictpta.org

Louisiana PTA
www.louisianapta.org



National PTA
www.pta.org

Save the Date!

Fairfield
Fall Carnival

Saturday, Nov. 5th
11:00 to 3:00

Inflatables
Confetti Eggs
Cake Walk ~ Games

