



PTO CONNECTION

OCTOBER 2017

Greetings, Sumner Academy families! Your PTO is looking forward to another high-energy quarter, along with all of you. With so many fall and holiday festivities on the calendar, along with field studies, the Auction and more, there is a lot to look forward to over these next couple of months!



Don't forget to turn in your submissions for the Pumpkin Decorating contest by **Friday, October 27th**! This is a fun competition that is always a big hit with the students. We also hope you will join the PTO for coffee in the Cafetorium prior to the Halloween Parade. We will be ready and waiting for you starting at 7:45am.

As always, please make sure to 'like' and follow the **Sumner Academy PTO Facebook page!** The Facebook page is updated regularly with info about PTO events, and also with information about ways that you can help.

As a Sumner Academy parent, **you are already a member of the PTO.** While the PTO has a committed Board, made up of SA parents and staff, we are always in need of fresh energy and ideas! Come to a meeting and see what the PTO is all about! **All parents are welcome to attend, without obligation, and your students may stay in after-care free of charge if you are attending a meeting.** Our next scheduled meeting is **November 13th, at 3 p.m.** in the library. We would love to see you there!



MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

One of the best ways to keep your sanity during this journey we refer to as "parenting" is to realize that you are not alone. Everyone's children do things that are irritating, embarrassing or downright confounding. Unfortunately, most parents do not have the luxury of interacting with a large number of children every day, so it is easy to see a particular situation as unique to your child (be it good or bad). Gaining the perspective of an educator for what is "normal" for a child of a certain age is not always easy, as both parents and teachers lead busy lives (or you might think a teacher is downplaying a situation so you won't feel hopeless). A helpful way to get an honest perspective on your schedule is to read some of the great books on child development. While not everything in a book may apply to your specific child or situation, it is a good place to start.

A book I read recently does not deal specifically with children but is applicable to them as well as adults. *The Four Tendencies*, by Gretchen Rubin, deals with the basic ways people are motivated to do things. The book does a nice job of describing the four tendencies, but it does an even better job of describing how you as a parent (or spouse, co-worker or boss) view the world through your preferred tendency, and how that may be different from those who have other tendencies. It is an excellent tool to give insight if your child seems to be unmotivated. It also does a nice job of highlighting how various tendencies communicate (and how you can inadvertently "set off" someone of a different tendency). The book is a short, easy read and is available in several formats.

My plan is to highlight various books on development, parenting and/or education in future issues of this newsletter, so please let me know if you have recommendations!

Johnna Hutchison



LOWER SCHOOL NEWS



October blew in with a nice change of weather. Be sure to label all of your child's jackets so we can get them back to you when they leave them here at school.

Our first big event is the Annual Halloween Bonfire which will be held on Friday, October 27, here at school on the front playground. All you have to bring is a blanket or chairs, weenies and a stick to roast them on, the works for "s'mores", and your drinks. We provide the bonfires!!!! The student council is selling glow sticks, cocoa, "s'mores kits" and water to make things easier for you. The bonfires make a lasting memory in the students' minds as they play with their friends in the flickering light. We hope you can join us that evening!

On Tuesday, October 31, 2017, at 8:15 am, we will be holding our famous "Halloween Parade" in the Cafetorium. All the students and teachers dress up in their Halloween best and parade by grade level to share their outfits with our Sumner Academy Family. We would love to have you join us that morning. The PTO is having a coffee for the parents after drop-off and before the parade in the Cafetorium, from 7:45 am to 8:10 am. Come rest for a few minutes before the parade starts and sip some coffee too.



The students in grades Pre-K through 4 will all be having Halloween Parties in their classrooms that day. Be on the lookout for a note from your child's teacher about the details of your party. Be sure to send a change of clothes for your student so they can change out of their costume after the parade.

October and November is a busy time for the students in Lower School. In addition to their regular studies they will all be involved in making a project for the Sumner Academy Auction, which is held on November 19th, 2017. The students in grades three and four also take an Etiquette class to prepare for their Holiday Luncheon in December. The students in Pre-K through 4 are all busy learning new songs in music class for the Annual Christmas Program, to be performed for parents and grandparents on Thursday, December 14, at 6:30 PM in the Cafetorium.



We know we see you almost every day in the pick-up and drop-off line: however, we really look forward to seeing you at the Bonfire, Parade, Auction and Christmas Programs. Mark your Calendars so we don't miss seeing you!

Lindy Dillehay



ATHLETICS

MIDDLE SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

The Middle School Volleyball team finished the season with a 5-5 record and an appearance in the semi-final game. The girls played tough throughout the year and we are proud of their accomplishments this season.

RUNNING CLUB AND CROSS-COUNTRY



The Running Club and Cross Country team finished up their season on October 19th, and we had another banner year. Our 3-4 Grade boys team and our Middle School Girls Team won their respective championships, and the K-2 and 3-4 Grade Girls teams finished as runners-up. Several runners were recognized with All-Star selections and will be competing in the All-Star meet on October 26th at Sumner Academy.

K-2 BOYS

Caleb Agee
David Case
Devarsh Patel

K-2 GIRLS

Natalie Frisbee
Prisha Patel
Natalie Stuart

3-4 BOYS

Gavin Kellogg
Cole Kanaby
Trevor Sullivan

3-4 GIRLS

Anah Barto-Fritsche
Kate Stephens

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS

Maxwell Grutter
Caleb Powell
E.J. Scott

MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS

Alex DuBois
Sara Grubbs
Taylor Morris



Congratulation to All Runners!

BASKETBALL

The 2017-18 Basketball season is right around the corner, and the teams are getting ready for their first practice of the year on Monday, October 30th. This year’s 5/6 Grade team will be coached by Coach Morris, our Middle School Girls Team by Mrs. Malone, and our Middle School Boys Team by Mr. Whitaker.

We are always looking for volunteers to help out at the home games. If you are interested, contact Athletic Director Scott Morris at smorris@sumneracademy.org or at [615-452-1914 ext 149](tel:615-452-1914)

Coach Morris



LEGO TEAM

Lego Team is starting Friday, October 27th. We will be working from 2:15-3:05 every Friday afternoon. This team is open to 1st through 4th grade students.



This year, the LEGO challenge is the AQUA ADVENTURE, and more than 40,000 children will participate worldwide. We will learn about out how you use water at home or in your community, the water's journey, and how to improve a part of this journey. Using Legos, we will design, build, program, test, and improve a Team Model to show our water improvement idea. All of this will culminate in a Lego League Expo in February.

DeAnna Ball

DRAMA CLUB

We are offering a new club for middle school this year - Drama Club! We have 16 kids participating. We are taking a short play and letting the students create their own version of the play for the Lower School. We will have directors, actors, wardrobe and set designers, and sound technicians. The students will edit the script, block it out, design costumes and backdrops, as well as run sound and act.

Hopefully, we will also travel with the group to a nursing home or preschool that is close by in December. We also took them to the Nashville Children's Theater to be inspired by a show titled 100 Dresses and had a great time!

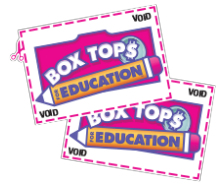
Erin Robertson and Karen Koder



BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

We are excited to announce a new BoxTops challenge for this quarter! We have already collected almost 4000 Boxtops so far this year. If we can collect a total of 5000 Boxtops by December 1, we will have a school-wide dress down day!

BoxTops coupons are on various household items, including many your family probably already purchases. Each BoxTop coupon can earn money for our school - please remember to clip and send in those BoxTops! BoxTops add up quickly and every coupon counts. Don't forget to ask grandparents to clip, too!



The next turn-in date is **November 15th**. Contact Sam Stowers at samstowers@me.com with questions, or check out www.boxtops.com/about for more information.

Do you use dishwasher or laundry detergent pods at home? If so, please send in your empty pod containers! We hope to turn them into decorative BoxTop collection containers for the classrooms.



And please don't forget about these other easy ways to contribute to our school:

Amazon Smile: Go to www.smile.amazon.com for more information and to designate Sumner Academy as your charity.



Publix Partners: Pick up a Publix Partners keycard from the office, and ask the cashier to swipe your card when buying your groceries!



SPIRIT SHOP

We hope you are enjoying your Spirit Shop items! Be on the lookout for information about a possible Spirit Shop offering before the holidays!

SUMNER ACADEMY 5K & FUN RUN

Save the date for the 2018 SA 5K & Fun Run! The event is scheduled for Saturday, September 15, 2018. The 2018 Hendersonville ½ Marathon is scheduled for the following weekend, making our 5K a great taper run! We will again be set up at the Gallatin Civic Center.



SUMNER ACADEMY AUCTION 2017

The Sumner Academy auction is the gala of the year that you do not want to miss. This year's theme is "So Southern Sumner." The event will be held at Bluegrass Yacht and Country Club on November 18, 2017.



The proceeds from the Auction will make it possible for us to continue to maintain our standard of academic excellence. We rely on underwriting and donations from businesses and individuals to ensure a successful and enjoyable event. Last year, our Auction raised \$100,000 in net proceeds! We look forward to another successful event at this year's Auction. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Sheree' Zobl at szobl@sumneracademy.org.

Sheree' Zobl

THE ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

Led by our Board of Trustees, the goal of the Annual Giving campaign is 100% parent participation, no matter the dollar amount that each parent gives. Many foundations and external donors, when choosing schools to support, take the strength of parent participation in Annual Giving campaigns into consideration. When external donors see that 100% of parents have contributed to the annual campaign, they are much more likely to also sponsor our school. Check with the office to make a donation at any time. Every gift counts, no matter the amount!

BALLOON SHOP

Don't forget to order your student a Halloween, Christmas or Valentine's treat from the PTO Balloon Shop! Balloon shop gifts are delivered during class parties, and are always a hit! Please fill out the form below and return with payment to your child's homeroom teacher.

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

Parent Name & Phone Number: _____

Please put an X by the item you would like for your child and write the message you would like on each card on the line below.

_____ Halloween Balloon w/PomPom \$5.00

_____ Holiday Stocking filled w/Goodies
\$5.00

_____ Valentine Balloon w/Goody
Bag \$5.00

_____ Valentine Balloon w/Stuffed
Animal \$10.00

_____ Valentine Balloon w/Goody Bag &
Animal \$15.00

Message: _____

Amount of Order: _____

Check _____ Cash _____

Please make checks payable to Sumner Academy PTO.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

October

27 – Student Council bonfire, 5:45pm

31 – Halloween Parade, 8:15am; **PTO coffee 7:45-8:10am**

November

3 – Middle School Dance, 7:00pm

5 – Daylight Savings Time ends

13 – PTO Meeting, 3pm, Library

18 – Auction – So Southern Sumner, 5:30pm
at Bluegrass Country Club

22 – Noon Dismissal

23-24 – Thanksgiving Holiday

30 – 7th Grade Play, 6:30pm

December

2 – Clinetel Music Recital, 2:00-5:00p

11 – PTO Meeting, 3pm, Library

12-14 – MS Exams, 11:30 dismissal for MS

14 – Lower School Christmas program,
6:30pm

15 – End of Second 9-Weeks, End of
Semester, Noon Dismissal

Dec 18 – Jan 2 – Winter Break

January

3 – Classes Resume, Third 9-Weeks begins

8 – PTO Meeting, 3pm, Library

If you have questions or news you would like included in the next issue, send us an email at pto@sumneracademy.org.