

# Murphy Elementary Newsletter

1100 Pratt Rd, Metamora MI 48455  
(810) 538-2345, phone  
(810) 538-2346, fax



Jeff Stanton, Principal  
Laura Van Y, Dean of Students  
Jerrri DePuy, Secretary

## Mark Your Calendar

Come join the fun at our annual Murphy Golf Outing on May 30. Tee-Off is at 8am at the Metamora Golf and Country Club. Registration forms are available on our website or in the office.

## 2015 Talent Show

The Murphy Talent Show will be held at Lapeer High School Auditorium on May 15th at 6pm. It is free and family friendly. Come out and support our students and their friends.

## Miss the Bake Sales?

How about we go bigger and better with a *Good Eatin' Sale*? In the next couple weeks, be on the lookout for a flyer to come home to advertise the all new healthy items only sale. It will be during all lunches like previous bake sales. Prices may vary a bit as we are still in the planning stages. Here's to keeping our kids happy and healthy.

## Dress Policy Reminder

Hopefully the weather will start getting warmer and with that said, we would like to remind parents and students of some of our dress code policies. Please be careful of shorts/skirts that are too short. The following items are not allowed at school:

spandex clothing/leotards, tube tops, halter tops, bike shorts, or clothes that show the child's middle. Hats are not to be worn in school. **Please remember your child should wear only tennis shoes outside for recess.**

Sandals, flip flops and Crocs are not appropriate for play and can be very dangerous. Student Dress Code details can be found in the Student handbook.

## Murphy Spring Clean-up Day

### Saturday, May 9th, 9am-Noon

Hey Parents! Our gardens and playground need some TLC and this is a great opportunity to help out. If you have an hour to spare and would like to help tidy up and spread woodchips, join Mr. Stanton, Mr. Hutton, Mrs. Van Y, and Cash (Mr. Stanton's dog) at the school!

If you can bring any of the following materials that would be fantastic. Our school's resources are limited.

- Rakes
- Garden Tools
- Wheelbarrows
- Tillers
- Clippers
- More Rakes
- Tarps
- Gloves
- Shovels
- Mulch

## Title I Corner

### How to Read an E-Book with Your Child Reading Rockets (2013)

Electronic books are becoming more and more commonplace. Here you'll discover practical tips for sharing e-books with your child, and how to keep the focus on reading and the story. Electronic books, called e-books, are becoming more and more commonplace these days. Some readers, like the first generation Kindle and Nook devices, offer a basic digital version of a print book. Children scroll through the pages to read, and the experience is somewhat similar to reading a traditional book.

Newer, full-color, touch screen devices such as iPads and the Nook Color have expanded what is possible to include e-books with many more features. These "enhanced" e-books offer a different reading experience. Often bought as apps through iTunes, these e-books provide lots of choice. A user can choose to have the whole book read to them, or can choose to read the book themselves. E-book enhancements consist of a range of things, but often include listening to music that complements the story, playing story-related games, completing coloring pages, and more. Most children find interactive e-books fun and engaging. But do they help develop important early literacy skills such as letter names and letter sounds or more complex skills such as comprehension?

The e-book market is too young to have enough solid research on the topic to know for sure yet, but researchers have spent lots of time watching families with young children engage with e-books. These observations suggest that it's easy for kids to get carried away with the digital nature of the e-book. Parents can help keep the focus on reading and the story by following three simple suggestions:

- Recognize the novelty factor. The first few times your child is interacting with a new e-book, allow time for exploration of the features. Once your child has spent some time exploring, set out to read or listen to the story without too many non-story related interruptions.
- Enjoy the features, but don't forget to focus on the story. See if you can help your child find a balance between having fun with the games and sticker books and really enjoying and understanding the story. As with all books, engage your reader in conversations about the story. "What do you think will happen next? What is your favorite part of the story?"
- Stay present with your child and the book experience. It's tempting to let the device do the work — read the story, play a game and interact with your child. But there's no substitute for quality parent-child conversation. Keep talking, commenting on interesting words and ideas, and sharing your love of literacy with your child.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion

The Fifth Grade Promotion and Luncheon will take place on Tuesday, June 9th. The ceremony will be at 6pm. The luncheon will take place during the school day at 2pm. There will be a clap-out for the 5th graders following the luncheon, around 3:05pm. Save the date!

## Lost + Found

All items remaining in Lost and Found will be donated to charity after the end of the year. There are snow pants, and many, many hats, gloves, mittens and sweat-shirts. If your child is missing something, be sure to make time to stop by the school and look through the piles.

## Buy One Get One Free Book Fair

May 1<sup>st</sup> – May 8<sup>th</sup>

BOGO will be open from 8am to 4pm Monday – Thursday, Friday 8am to 10am.

We still have a few spots open that we could use some help. Wednesday, May 6, we do not have anyone to open the Book Fair at 8am. Please contact Mrs. Bara to see where you might be able to help.

## Transportation Department

**Reminder:** Babysitting forms must be filled out **each year** and should be filled out now if you know who your Day Care provider will be in the fall. You can get your forms from the school office or the Transportation Department.

# MURPHY ELEMENTARY

## PTC HAPPENINGS

### April Flashback

Board Nominations occurred at our April meeting and we also finalized the board members for next year. The PTC board for the 2015-2016 Murphy PTC will be:

President - Holly Grzyb  
Vice President – April LaBar  
Treasurer – Crystal Paton  
Secretary – Debbie Martinez  
Communications Liaison – Dawn Ray

The new board will lead the May PTC meeting. I, Robin Buchanan, as the outgoing Communications Liaison would like to say a huge thank you to Holly Grzyb for being the president the past few years. It has been a lot of fun working with Holly and the team!

### May Preview & News

**The next PTC meeting** will be on [Wednesday, May 20th](#) at 8:30 am in the library. Each PTC meeting includes principal updates from Jeff Stanton and teacher updates as well. There are still some big events coming up before the end of the year that we will be talking about. Come see what's up!

**Teachers Appreciation Week** flyers went home in your child's backpacks. This year's theme will match the same theme as March Reading Month which was Rockstar! If you did not get the flyer please drop us a line and we'll email you one. As in years past we are looking for food donations for breakfast and dessert and also for "prizes" to be used for drawings to be held each morning for the teachers. Please show your support for our great teachers and help us make this a big success! The week long festivities start May 4!



**Hanging Baskets for Murphy!** In cooperation with the *Pickle Barrel* of Metamora, \$20 gift certificates good for hanging baskets for Mother's Day, the school gets \$5 per gift certificate sold! You can use the certificates for yourself or someone you love. They are good for anything at the Pickle Barrel. Any child who sells a certificate gets a free ice cream cone from the Pickle Barrel too!

**It's Shocking** – the bolts have been striking all over the place and they look cool! If you did not receive the forms to nominate someone to get some bolts in their yard, let us know and we'll send them along. They are also available in the school. Single bolts with either Lapeer or Murphy laser cut into them are available for purchase too! \$20 and you can be sporting a bolt in your yard. Bolt sales and shocking will continue through the end of the school year so you can still help us with this super fun fund raiser.



**Carnival Time is almost here** – the PTC will again be holding a year end carnival for the students, staff and general public to attend to celebrate the end of the school year. This event requires lots of help so please be generous with your time so that it is a success. We have games and activities for the kids and it is a great way to help gear up for summer!

**Gift Card Fund Raiser** – the PTC has come up with a new fund raiser that everyone will love! Coming soon (keep an eye out for the flyer)!! The concept is simple, it doesn't require many volunteers and it will raise some money for our school. You purchase gift cards and the school gets money!!!! Cool huh? These are gift cards to nationally recognized stores so you can purchase them for loved ones who don't live in Lapeer area! Stock up for birthday party, graduation or even get a start on Christmas!



The PTC has an easy to remember **email address!** [MURPHY\\_PTC@YAHOO.COM](mailto:MURPHY_PTC@YAHOO.COM) Please feel free to use it at any time to email us questions or comments. Missed a flyer (dog ate it, lost in the kiddies backpacks) or just need another one? Send us an email. If you want to receive emails from the PTC with meeting minutes, newsletters and general messages let us know!

### **Free Money for the PTC and Murphy**

Some things that the PTC sponsors that we do not ask for a ton of volunteers for but yet yields serious results is the collecting and turning in of labels, boxtops and bottlecaps. Please read below for the items we do collect. You'd be amazed at how much money these bring in for very little effort. We thank our volunteers – Jennifer Meister and April Lebar who collect, trim and bundle or enter these!



**Earn Money with Amazon.com** - Start every Amazon purchase with [www.lapeerschools.org/murphy](http://www.lapeerschools.org/murphy), then click on the red link at the bottom of the page. Remember to use the school link to purchase books for Kindle readers too, because even free books count as items purchased.

**Juice Pouch Brigade** – Don't forget that we collect empty juice pouches. So help us help the environment and turn them in. Please try to make sure the pouches are clean on the outside, empty on the inside and leave the straw in (this prevents that little bit of juice that usually remains in the bottom from leaking out).



**Collecting Box Tops and Campbells Soup Labels!** These are a very effective way to get money and supplies into your children's classrooms and do not require any money out of pocket from you. Box tops go directly to your child's teacher. Campbell's soup money is pooled together and then used to purchase additional supplies.



Are you a CocaCola product drinker? Then collect the bottle caps and enter the points for Murphy School online. You can select the school to donate to. We have collected 12,633 points as of 2/17/15! These points are now redeemable for gift cards instead of just catalog items! If you can enter the points and donate them that would be the best, but if you cannot, send them in and we'll enter them for you.



Murphy Elementary PTC is on Facebook. **"Like" us on Facebook** to get the scoop on our events.

Feel free to contact the PTC board at any time. PTC Contact Information: President – Holly Grzyb, [hollymgrzyb@gmail.com](mailto:hollymgrzyb@gmail.com) Vice-President – April LaBar – [ajlabar@gmail.com](mailto:ajlabar@gmail.com), Treasurer – Crystal Paton, [drakecrystal22@yahoo.com](mailto:drakecrystal22@yahoo.com), Secretary – Debbie Martinez, [debbielexi@yahoo.com](mailto:debbielexi@yahoo.com), Communications Liaison – Dawn Ray, [raydawn4@aol.com](mailto:raydawn4@aol.com).