

Produced by the ShreveWood PTA



"Home of the wise owls"

# The ShreveWood Bulletin

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Sept/ Oct 2016

## The President's Pen

Welcome back to school! We are excited for another great new school year! There is a new PTA board this year and we are hoping to continue doing great things for the ShreveWood Community.

This year our PTA newsletter will be distributed electronically only. With our ever-growing student population, copying and distributing a hard copy creates so much waste. We hope you will still take a few minutes to read about what is going on with the PTA and the school. In addition, we have a new website this year! This website will allow you to find out what is going on with the PTA and how you can get involved. We will also post our monthly newsletter, meeting minutes, and other important forms that you might want to check out. You can find our new website at <http://shrevewoodelementary.ch2v.com/>.

We hope you enjoyed our first Welcome Back breakfast held on the first day of school. It was wonderful to meet some new parents and see some old friends. Our hope is to make this a new annual tradition so if you missed it this year, please join us next year!

Our first PTA meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> beginning with a meet and greet at 7pm. The official meeting will kick-off at 7:30pm. We will have a "Committee Fair" at the meeting so that new parents can learn about all the different ways they can help with the PTA. We have many volunteer opportunities that can meet any desired time commitment you have to give. Please come by and learn more about what the PTA does for ShreveWood!

Our biggest – and most anticipated – event is the Halloween Party, held on October 22nd. This party always needs parental help to be a success so please be on the lookout for ways that you can volunteer and make fun memories for your children! And if you would like to be directly involved in organizing the party, please let us know!

The Fall ShreveWood Spirt Wear sale is currently underway. This is a great way to get some official

ShreveWood shirts and shorts so that your kids can show their school spirit! We are using the official owl mascot for the shirts so these are not to be missed!

If you have any concerns or questions about what the PTA does or how you can get involved, please feel free to email me by visiting the new PTA website. I hope the first week of school has gone fantastically for you and your child(ren). If not, remember it is just the beginning of the year... things always smooth out along the way. See you soon!

Sandy Kiersz, PTA President



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If you have a chance to look around the playground, you will notice a new arrival. The PTA is excited to announce Shrevewood Elementary has finally received our very own **Buddy Bench**.

- ❖ **What is a buddy bench?** The buddy bench is a spot for students to go if they would like to meet up with new friends to play on the playground.
- ❖ The bench is an opportunity for shy students or students with special needs to have a place to go and foster friendships.
- ❖ This great addition to Shrevewood will help to continue our mission of kindness and inclusion for all students at Shrevewood.

To learn more about the story of the original Buddy Bench, check out [www.buddybench.org](http://www.buddybench.org)

Carin Lomax, PTA Special Needs Liaison



## Back to School Safety

### Why isn't there a crosswalk on Shreve Road?

This is a question that gets asked of the PTA all the time. And every few years, the PTA tries to get Shrevewood a crosswalk with a crossing guard. Here is the outcome each time:

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) will not appoint a crossing guard on a road where there is not a crosswalk. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is responsible for installing and maintaining a crosswalk on Shreve Road. VDOT safety officials, after studying the traffic patterns on Shreve Road, have determined that a crosswalk is not safe due to the speed limits and limited visibility (curves, hills) on the road. As such, unless major road construction takes place, there will not be a crosswalk with a crossing guard for Shrevewood students.

So what can you do? FCPS encourages all students to take the school buses provided. If you do not wish to utilize the school bus, please park on one of the side streets on the Shrevewood side of Shreve Road (e.g., Fairwood Lane, Holly Manor Drive, etc.) and walk your children along the sidewalk to the front door of the school. If you choose to use Kiss and Ride, please do not stop your car on Shreve Road to wait in the line as this blocks through traffic. Please park your car in a legal spot on Shreve Road or one of the side streets until the Kiss and Ride line is moving and you are not blocking the street.

The police often patrol the area around Shrevewood at the beginning of the school year. In the past, they have ticketed illegally parked cars (including cars parked on the median) as well as cars blocking traffic while in the Kiss and Ride line. Please be safe and follow these recommendations.





Keep a look out for  
"Dining for Dollars" Opportunities!



Make our School  
a Cut Above!

It's Back to School and that means  
it's time to start collecting those  
Box Tops! Every 10 Box Tops= \$1 to  
Shrevewood!! Thank you!



The fall session of Before and After School Programs will begin October 11. Classes will include STEAM, Art, Golf, Minecraft and more! Look for more information in the Thursday folders.

### Announcing Shrevewood *Spirit Wear*

We are excited to offer online ordering for Shrevewood Spirit Wear this year!! Please follow this link to place your order: <https://shrevewood16.itemorder.com/>



Our most SUCCESSFUL fundraiser "Boosterthon" is COMING SOON ...

**Pep Rally – Tuesday Oct 18**  
**Fun Run – Thursday, Oct 27th**

In the past 3 years, with support of students and families, we have raised money for a classroom **set of ipads and an ipad cart, playground equipment and new technology.** The entire Shrevewood student body participates and the entire Shrevewood student body benefits from the monies raised from this fundraiser.

Boosterthon inspires students through a remarkable fitness and character-building experience. This year's theme is ... **Backyard Box Office!** Backyard Box Office is a movie theme all about making a difference by getting into character. It will take students on a step-by-step journey of how to make a difference in their world.

If you want to help with the Boosterthon Fundraiser, please contact Sharon Hymes at [swhymes@gmail.com](mailto:swhymes@gmail.com). Let's make this years' Boosterthon our most successful yet!



# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday, Sept 8— Back to School for Grades K-3 & Lower Non Cat Program**

**Tuesday, Sept 13- PTA Meet and Greet and 1st PTA General Meeting**

**Thursday Sept 15—Back to School for Grades 4-6, Upper Non Cat & Autism Programs**

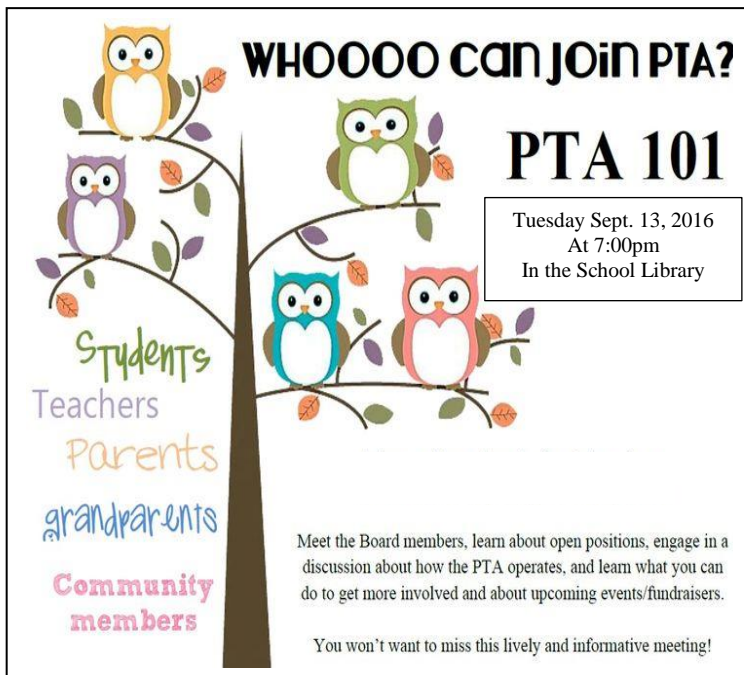
**Tuesday, Oct 11 - Before/After School Programs Start**

**Tuesday, Oct 11—PTA General Meeting**

**Tuesday, Oct 18 - Boosterthon Pep Rally**

**Saturday, Oct 22 - Halloween Party**

**Thursday, Oct 27 - Boosterthon Fun Run**



**WHOOOO can JOIN PTA?**

**PTA 101**

Tuesday Sept. 13, 2016  
At 7:00pm  
In the School Library

Students  
Teachers  
Parents  
grandparents  
Community members

Meet the Board members, learn about open positions, engage in a discussion about how the PTA operates, and learn what you can do to get more involved and about upcoming events/fundraisers.

You won't want to miss this lively and informative meeting!

Have questions, comments or ideas for the 2016-2017 PTA Executive Board? Send us an email via our new PTA website :

<http://shrevewoodelementary.ch2v.com/>

President, Sandy Kiersz

Vice President, Communications,  
Dionne Johnston

Vice President, Programming,  
Michelle Hodge

Treasurer, Jen Fisher

Co-Secretary, Tang Austin and Jen Baldwin

Contact Jen Baldwin at <http://shrevewoodelementary.ch2v.com/> if you would like to advertise in the Shrevewood PTA Newsletter. We offer full, half and ¼ page ad space for a minimal cost.  
Thank you.