



Important DATES:

August 24
 First Day of School
 First Day Celebration in Cafe

September 4
 Rachel's Challenge

September 7
 No School - Holiday

September 10
 Spirit Night (Location TBD)

September 11
 Fall Fundraiser Begins

September 14-22
 Fall Book Fair

September 14
 PTA Board Meeting 9:15am

September 22
 Hearing Screening

September 24
 School Pictures

October 1
 Spirit Night (Location TBD)

October 2
 Fall Fundraiser DUE

October 12
 PTA Board Meeting 9:15am

October 16
 No School - Holiday

October 29
 Literacy Parade

October 30
 No School - Holiday

November 1
 Daylight Savings Time



Welcome to the 2009-2010 School Year!

Although summer break never seems to be long enough for my family, we are all excited for the new school year to begin. This summer brought many changes for Windy Ridge. As we said goodbye to teachers and staff, we also had to say goodbye to our Principal Mrs. Sarah Concepcion. But as we sent her away with well wishes, we also welcomed a new member to the Windy Ridge family. Please help me extend a big Silver Hawk welcome to our new Principal Ms. Sheilla Smith Johnson. The PTA wishes her much success with the new opportunities that Windy Ridge brings and we extend our helping hands.



Once again, congratulations to Windy Ridge on receiving another "A" rating and for being selected as a FIVE Star School! Our school is the best because of our dedicated parents, teachers and staff! We make a great team.

As always, the PTA is looking forward to working with you this year. Our web site is a great source of information. Check it out at www.windyridgepta.org.

Show your Windy Ridge support by joining the PTA and getting your school T-shirt to show that Silver Hawk spirit. Windy Ridge has the best volunteers in the world! There are many different ways to help our School, our Children and our Team, so get involved today!

I look forward to meeting and working with you this year. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our executive board members or me.

Sincerely,
René Weising
 2009/2010 PTA President

**Congratulations to our Windy Ridge PTA
 2009-2010 Executive Committee**

President	René Weising	407-292-1727	weisin_r@bellsouth.net
V.P. (Communications)	Joanna Bradford	407-291-6077 ..	joannabradford@bellsouth.net
V.P. (Fundraising).....	Sally Sawyer	407-578-9334	sassysally@cfl.rr.com
V.P. (Programs).....	Mindy Bender.....	407-522-2689	lorminno@aol.com
Treasurer	Katrina Ruiz	407-253-9752	kruiz@cfl.rr.com
Recording Secretary	Michelle Dunlap.....	407-295-2662	mdunlap12@cfl.rr.com
Corresponding Secretary	Ann Biro	407-578-7992	abiro@cfl.rr.com

Want to Volunteer at Windy Ridge? Go to <http://volunteer.ocps.net> and click on the **School Volunteers** link located on the left side and then **Online Application** to apply or update an ADDitions Volunteer Application. Remember, you **cannot** volunteer until you are approved by Orange County Schools.

Help Your Child and Support Windy Ridge—Join the PTA!



Welcome to another school year! The PTA has many exciting events planned for this year. In order to continue to provide

quality programming, we need your support. 100% Participation is our Goal! Help us make it happen and join today!

By joining and supporting PTA, you make an even greater difference in the lives of our children.

Windy Ridge PTA is an active organization bringing fun events and educational enrichment to our students, such as: Reflections Art contest, funding for classroom and learning materials, mentoring program for new teachers, Spring Fling, Teacher Appreciation luncheons, coordinating classroom homeroom reps, funding for Middle School textbooks and more!

It's easy to join and an Annual, Single Membership is only \$5. With that Single Membership you receive a Chick-fil-A Coupon.

Membership forms are available online at www.windyridgepta.org or email Mindy Gerber at mgerber2@cfl.rr.com.

**Mindy Gerber - mgerber2@cfl.rr.com
Denise Groux - dgroux@aol.com
PTA Membership Co-Chairs**

How to Stay Informed at Windy Ridge?

- 1) Sign up for our PTA eNewsletter at www.windyridgepta.org. In an effort to "Go Green", this will be our last "printed" newsletter.
- 2) Attend monthly PTA Board Meetings. Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 9:15am in the Media Center. All PTA members are invited to attend. Come check it out and Get Involved!
- 3) Check out our PTA website regularly at www.windyridgepta.org.
- 4) Other useful websites include:
Windy Ridge - www.windy.ocps.net
Orange County Public Schools - www.ocps.net
Orange County's PTA - www.occpa.org
National PTA - www.pta.org
FCAT (grades 3-8) - www.fcatexplorer.com
Orange County Public Library - www.ocls.info
ProgressBook - <https://parentaccess.ocps.net>

Homeroom Representative News

Welcome back to what will be another exciting school year! We hope you had a fun, relaxing summer with your family. We are your new Homeroom Representative Program coordinators and are looking forward to continuing this worthwhile program which is so helpful to our teachers and students.



Please consider being a homeroom representative for your child's classroom this year. It is a great way to get to know your child's teacher and friends, and also to offer much-needed assistance to your teacher! Watch for sign-up sheets in your child's classroom at Meet the Teacher and Open House. If you missed signing up at Meet the Teacher, please fill out the form included in your Windy Ridge folder and return the bottom portion to your teacher.

There are many ways to volunteer in the classroom, big and small, once or ongoing. Please explore how you can be involved. For those of you who do sign up to be homeroom representatives, there will be an informational meeting in September to explain the program. We look forward to working with you!

**Nanette Campbell - 407-299-7723
ncampbell2@cfl.rr.com**

**Susan Weems - 407-295-7989
sawdcw@gmail.com**

Homeroom Representative Coordinators

Kindergarten Liaison / Welcoming Committees

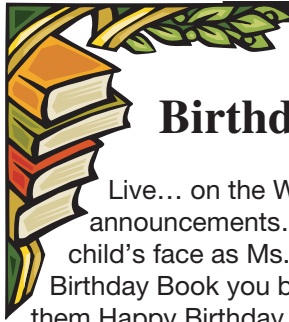
We would like to welcome our new families to Windy Ridge and let you know that the PTA is here to support you and your children. We are co-chairing the Kindergarten Liaison and Welcoming Committees this year at Windy Ridge. If you are a Kindergarten parent or are new to our school, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me with any questions. If you are interested in volunteering to help out with either of these committees, please let us know! Being a part of these committees and others through the PTA is a great way to get involved and meet other Windy Ridge families.



**Kim Richard - 407-521-0564
kkkkrichard@earthlink.net**

**Josephine Medcalf - 407-924-6312
jmedcalf@att.net**

Kindergarten Liaison/Welcoming Committees



Birthday Books

Live... on the Windy Ridge morning tv announcements... Imagine the look on your child's face as Ms. Johnson presents them with the Birthday Book you bought. Their friends are wishing them Happy Birthday all day because they saw them on tv!

It's so easy to do! Birthday books are books you buy and donate to the school media center to commemorate any special occasion. A plaque is placed inside the book dedicating it to your child, with a personalized message and date. Ms. Johnson then personally presents this special gift to your child on the morning tv announcements. They have the first opportunity to check it out, then it will remain a part of Windy Ridge's library for all to enjoy. It's a great way to teach your kids about giving back and sharing special occasions with others.

AND... they're not just for birthdays! Consider giving a birthday book in your child's name to celebrate the holidays or in honor of your child's teacher. Check it out on www.windyridgepta.org under the Birthday Books link. There you will find a list of books you can buy from the school to give and the forms necessary to do so. Please email me if you'd like more info or if you'd like me to send you a reminder in the month of your child's birthday.

Kim Thomson - Birthday Books Chair
ksthomson@cfl.rr.com

Box Tops for Education

The Box Tops for Education program is back again. Hopefully you have been busy clipping Box Tops this summer.



How Can You Help Us Succeed?

- > **Submit your Box Tops in a bag or envelope** clearly marked with your child's name and teacher's name so they may be counted in our school wide contests.
- > **Coupon MUST have an expiration date** and it **MUST** be current.

Thank you again for supporting our school through this easy money making program.

Lisa Thibodeau | ezmajrelda@yahoo.com
Box Top Coordinator

Please Support our School Nurse

Did you know that our school nurse is not paid for by the Orange County Public School System? One half of her salary comes from the Health Central Foundation and the other half is paid for by donations from our school.



Windy Ridge must raise over \$22,000 this year to pay for Nurse Garrison. We have several fundraisers planned so look for flyers to come home soon. **If each child in our school made a donation of \$25.00 we could cover this bill without fundraising.**

I can't imagine our school without our Nurse Garrison. She takes such good care of our kids with her kind and gentle demeanor. Won't you please support her today by sending a check to our school? **Please make your tax deductible check payable to "Health Central Foundation."**

Thank you for your support!

Maggie Stewart - stewarm@ocps.net
Nurses Fund Chair

***DID YOU KNOW...** the Windy Ridge clinic saw 8,000+ kids last year? That is an average of 7 visits per student. Have you given to the Nurse Fund yet?*

Windy Ridge T-Shirts



Show your school spirit and purchase your new Windy Ridge T-shirt. T-shirts can be worn on school field trips, spirits days and other special events. Parents can purchase them too! Questions? Please email me at lorminno@aol.com.

Mindy Bender | lorminno@aol.com
T-Shirt Chair

School Directories

Every year, Windy Ridge PTA publishes a school directory that is available to Windy Ridge families and staff who join PTA. This is a great resource for planning play dates, finding a phone number to verify homework assignments with a classmate, etc. **You will be included only if you have submitted a completed form.** The form is provided in your Windy Ridge folder and at the front desk or on the PTA website at www.windyridgepta.org. Your directory is included with your PTA membership.

Questions? Contact **Michelle Dunlap** at 407-295-2662 or mdunlap12@cfl.rr.com.

2009-2010 National PTA Reflections Contest



Theme:
“Beauty Is...”

Start planning now for your entry in one of the following categories:

- Literature
- Musical Composition
- Photography
- Visual Arts
- Dance Choreography
- Film/Video Production

Watch for further details.

Contact - Susan & Jason Wald
 swald@cfl.rr.com
 407.292.5724

Fall Book Fair...Save the Date

The Fall Scholastic Book Fair will run **September 14 - 22** in the Media Center. As always, we will need volunteers to set up, run and pack up the event. Volunteer shifts will run from Set-Up first thing Friday, Sept. 11 to Pack-Up on Wednesday, Sept. 23. Please contact me via email to get your preferred time slot!

The Book Fair sales hours are during school: 9am-2:40pm (1:40 on Wednesday), and during at least one of the Open House nights.

Note to Parents: When sending in a pre-written check with your child to purchase books at the Fair, please make sure to add in 6.5% sales tax and make your check payable to Windy Ridge, not Scholastic. Thanks! Also, look for the Teacher Wish List display to help add books to your child’s classroom library.

Nanette Campbell
Book Fair Co-Chair
 ncampbell2@cfl.rr.com - 407-299-7723

Congratulations to our ‘09/’10 Board Members & Chairs

If you are interested in joining a committee or filling an open chair position, contact René Weising at **407-292-1727** or **weisin_r@bellsouth.net**. (* indicates that people are needed to help the committee chair.)

Fundraising Committees **Sally Sawyer**
 Birthday Books..... Kim Thomson
 Box Tops Lisa Thibodeau
 Fundraising Chairs Susan Weems & Mary Walsh
 Health Central Nurse..... Maggie Stewart
 Partners in Ed..... Louise Given
 Spring Fling Carnival*..... Sally Sawyer
 Spring Fling Concessions* OPEN
 Spring Fling Baskets Tina Newell & Katrina Ruiz
 Spring Fling Drawing Room* Susan Mishriki
 Spring Fling Dinner*..... Wendy Cuppy
 Spring Fling Marketing/Publicity..... OPEN
 Spring Fling Silent Auction* Ann Biro & Nanette Campbell
 Spring Fling Tickets* René Weising
 Spring Fling Volunteers* Louise Given
 T-Shirts..... Mindy Bender

Communications Committees **Joanna Bradford**
 County / Legislation Chris Meikle
 Directory Michelle Dunlap
 Directory Ads..... OPEN
 ESE Liaison Patsy Ng
 Homeroom Rep Chairs..... Nanette Campbell & Susan Weems
 Kindergarten Liaison Chairs Kim Richard
 Josephine Medcalf
 Membership Chairs Mindy Gerber & Denise Groux
 MS Liaison..... Mily Hernandez
 Newsletter* OPEN
 Nominating Committee* TBD
 Public Relations..... OPEN
 SAC Liaison..... Tina Newell
 Teacher Liaison Mindy Bender
 Web Site* Ann Biro
 Welcoming Chairs Kim Richard & Josephine Medcalf

Programs Committees..... **Mindy Bender**
 5-Star Book Nicole Kalicak
 ADDitions Chairs OPEN
 Awards Katrina Ruiz
 Beautification* Carole Adams
 Book Fair Chairs..... Nanette Campbell & Mily Hernandez
 Dad’s Committee* Chris Meikle
 8th Grade Celebration*..... Sharon Anderson
 5th Grade Celebration*..... Louise Given
 Hospitality* OPEN
 Programs OPEN
 Reflections..... Susan & Jason Wald
 Teacher Welcome Luncheon-August*..... Mindy Bender
 Family Event* Chris Meikle
 Family Event* Christina Carey

Contact info can be found on our PTA website at www.windyridgepta.org. **Get Involved Today!!**