



## Important Dates

**December 5-** PTA General Meeting/Holiday Coffee (9:30am)  
**December 10-** Winter Concert  
**December 21-** Winter Break begins at end of school day  
**January 2-** School resumes

## Direct Donation

During Grandparents/Special Friends Day, committee Co-Chairs, Paula Kovinsky and Tammy Waechter introduced our campaign; It's Easy as A-B-C! to our visitors. The presentation was well received. They were sold.

During the two days of visitation, grandparents and special friends generously contributed a total of \$1,771 to Direct Donation and PTA Membership. Wow! We truly appreciate each visitor's willingness to donate, in order for the PTA to fund all of its instructional programs and support its teachers. To date, we have accumulated a total of \$23,740 toward our goal. We are almost there but still need families to make their contribution to meet our goal by December 31st. If each Sparks family pledged \$50.00, we would definitely meet our budget of \$25,000. But remember – no matter what amount – each contribution is important to the PTA, especially to our children. The Children Thank You!!! -Paula Kovinsky & Tammy Waechter

## Grandparents Day

Grandparents and Special Friends Day was a huge success! Sparks Elementary welcomed over 560 visitors over the two-day period. It was brought to our attention that at least one set of **great grandparents** were in attendance. Abe and Shirlee Oler, (great grandparents of Timmy Popowski) visited Sparks. Many thanks to the teachers, staff and especially all the volunteers who made this such a special event!

## Found

Two items have been found at Sparks. One is a "Big Sis" charm bracelet. The other item is a SAAB key chain with Toyota keys. Please contact Mrs. Lucas in the office if either of these items is yours.

## Library Gift Fund



Spark's Library Gift Fund Committee would like to thank the families of the children listed below for making a contribution to the fund. A number of books have been purchased for the benefit of Sparks Elementary Library honoring these students who had October and November birthdays:

## Please Join Us...



The next PTA General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 5th at 9:30AM in the school cafeteria. Holiday coffee and treats will be available for your enjoyment so please plan to drop in and learn more about what's going on at Sparks Elementary.

## Green News

### Eco-nights

Many thanks to Wayne Hudson, owner of ECOLOGIC, for leading the November Eco-nights activity on how to prepare your home to save energy in the winter. We would also like to thank Barb Tilley for sewing the draft stoppers that we filled with sand as our take home project for the night. The next Eco-night activity is "Starry Nights" where we will be using telescopes to look at the night school. This activity is already full and we have over 100 people registered for the event.

### Bottles

We are collecting Gatorade bottles for an environmental activity in mid-December. If you have any at home, please rinse them out and send them in to Pokey Fair in room 115.

### Recycling

We are still recycling paper, ink cartridges, and cell phones. We get \$\$\$\$ for our environmental education program when you recycle these items at Sparks. All items can be dropped off in the boxes in the lobby. If you have any questions please email Pokey Fair at efair@bcps.org.

# Congratulations Reflections Participants!

## 2007 PTA Reflections Program: "I can make a difference by..."

WOW! What a turn out, our participation continues to grow. Thank you students for such creative and beautiful entries! We will be judging the week of the 26th, winners will be announced shortly after. Our winners will then go on to compete in Baltimore County. We look forward to having all our participants join us for a Reflections Party with awards, pizza and activities later in the year. Thanks to all the staff, teachers, parents and the wonderful talented Sparks students for making this year a great success.

-The Reflections Committee: Kelly Tannian, Manda Simon, Judy Townsley, Alicia Bowers and Jeanine Conover

## Treasured Recipe Cookbooks Now on Sale!

Thank you to all of the parents and grandparents that submitted recipes for our "Sparks Treasured Recipes" cookbook. Because of the overwhelming response and the number of recipes we received we were not able to compile the cookbooks in time for Grandparents Day; however, we'd like to offer them to you now as a special keepsake for only \$5.00 to cover the cost of printing. Along with family recipes, the book also includes quotes from the students in each class regarding things they are thankful for in their lives. We will be accepting orders until December 12<sup>th</sup> so be on the lookout for the flyer coming home and don't delay in getting your orders in. What a wonderful gift for the holidays! Please contact Kathy Patti at [katherinepatti@aol.com](mailto:katherinepatti@aol.com) with questions.



## Attention Online Shoppers!

Now is the time to do your holiday shopping at the Box Tops Holiday Marketplace, where you'll earn cash for your school with every gift you buy! Plus, many of the Marketplace stores below are giving a little something extra this season so shop now and give the gift that gives twice!

At the Box Tops Marketplace, you can shop at over 60 online stores including Home Depot, Target.com, WalMart.com, Barnes & Noble, Lands End, and Oriental Trading. A portion of every qualifying purchase is donated to your school - all at no additional cost to you! Go to [sparkspta.org](http://sparkspta.org) and click on Box Tops to register as a Box Tops shopper for Sparks. Then use the Box Tops Marketplace as your online shopping portal and Sparks will benefit with every purchase you make!

