

Sharkbytes

ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD

Mark your Calendar!

October

- HALLOWEEN PARADE
Oct 31 / Fri 2:00

November

- PTA MEETING
Nov 5 / Wed 7:00 pm
- REFLECTIONS ENTRIES DUE
Nov 10 / Mon
- AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK
Week of November 17-21
- GRANDPARENTS DAY
Nov 21 / Fri 9:00 am-12:00 pm

December

- PTA MEETING/HOLIDAY TEA
Dec 4 / Thurs 9:30 am
- WINTER CONCERT
Dec 9 / Tues 7:00 pm

January

- PTA MEETING
Jan 7 / Wed 7:00 pm

February

- PTA MEETING
Feb 4 / Wed 7:00 pm
- HULA FOR HOPKINS
Feb 20 / Fri
- SCIENCE FAIR
Feb 26 / Thurs

March

- PTA MEETING
Mar 5 / Wed 9:30 am
- ICE SKATING PARTY
Mar 27 / Fri

To contact the Sparks PTA

✉ 601 Belfast Road, Sparks MD 21152

☎ 410.357.0046

@ kimgraybill@comcast.net

Give A Child a Chance to Play

NEXT UP will be collecting sports equipment on October 25, 2008 at Sparks Elementary School. Everything from soccer balls to lacrosse sticks will be collected and donated to My Neighbors Foundation and PAL (Police Athletic League). The PAL Program provides after school activities for under privileged children in Baltimore City and County. A box will be set up for donations between 10:00 and 2:00, so please clean out your garage and donate to NEXT UP!

Giant...Graul's...Box Tops

We currently have 49 families that have designated their Giant bonus card to support Sparks Elementary. Thank you! If you haven't already done so, please go to Giantfood.com and register. **Our school code is 01190.**

Please collect and send in your Graul's receipts with your child. They are green this year, and only the Hereford location offers the Cash for Kids program.

Keep clipping those box tops for education and send those into school also with your child. Your support of these programs is very much appreciated!

Grandparent's Day

Grandparent's/Special Friends Day will be held on November 21st from 8:30 am until 12:00 pm. The theme this year is "Hearts of Gold." Look for information coming home on this very special day. Or, go to our PTA website www.sparkspta.org to find the invitation and additional information. Feel free to RSVP online!

Take Charge of Education

We've discovered a terrific way to raise funds for our school. It's super-easy. All you have to do is use your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. Sparks Elementary will receive a percentage of the amount of each purchase in the form of a cash donation from Target through the Take Charge of Education® program. It's easy.

Just visit www.target.com/tcoe, or call 800.316.6142 to designate our school. Our school ID is 57740.

So if you're going to Target anyway, please consider using your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. Thanks to those who are already doing their part to make a great school even better.

The most recent Target donation to Sparks Elementary (9/08)	\$ 106.37
Total of all Target donations to Sparks Elementary since 1997	\$ 3,609.61
Amount accumulated toward the next Target donation	\$ 20.24
Number of REDcard holders who have designated Sparks Elementary	16

Sparks Yearbook Party

Calling all HMS 6th Graders who attended Sparks Elementary last year! Our Sparks 2007-2008 Yearbooks have finally arrived! Come back to pick up your yearbooks and enjoy visiting with friends! Friday November 7th from 4:00-5:00pm. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

The Ice Cream Social was a Huge Success!

We had a record number of attendees and a great time was had by all. A huge thank you goes out to all the volunteers, especially the teachers for scooping and the PTA for lending a hand. Special thanks also go out to our local business sponsors. Without their generous donations, the Ice Cream Social would not be possible.

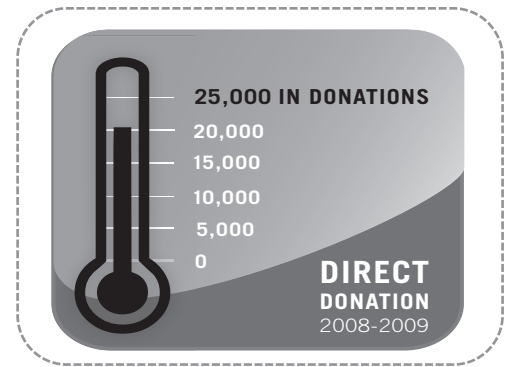
Grauls
Wegmans
Giant
Food Lion
Sam's Club
Target
Wal-Mart
Kingsdene Nursery
Watson's Nursery
Martin's Inc.
Hunt Valley Catering

Congrats to second-grader Becky W. for guessing the correct number of Smarties (260) in the candy jar. She won four tickets to Regal Cinemas. Way to go Becky!

After such an amazing night, we are reminded that it is the dedication of our families who give so much of their time and effort to our school events that make Sparks Elementary such a wonderful school.

Direct Donation Update

Even without the generous donations and new memberships contributed at and since the Ice Cream Social, we're at 75% of our PTA membership goal and already over \$20,000 in donations toward our goal! As soon as all the i's are dotted and t's are crossed on the latest wave of contributions, good news will be shared.



pta reflections program

Enter this year's PTA Reflections Program

We want to see you sing, dance, make a video, write a poem or story, paint, draw, make a collage or even take a picture. Be inspired by this year's theme... **WOW!**

- Think about what **WOW!** means to you. Get inspired!
- Go get your Entry/Rules packet in the office or download the materials at: <http://www.sparkspta.org> (use the link to Reflections)
- Read the rules and pick a category: photography, literature, musical composition, visual arts, dance choreography, film-video. You can enter more than one!

- Create an original entry that means **WOW!** to you!
- Hand in your entry in the OFFICE, by Nov. 10th and pick an entry prize!
- All entries will be displayed and judged during American Education week.
- Winners get a chance to compete with other schools, at the county, state and national levels.

All entries receive a participation ribbon, have a chance to win a **WOW!** t-shirt and are invited to an awards celebration, later this year.

START TODAY! The due date for all entries is Monday, November 10th.

Any questions? Contact Kelly Tannian: tannianhouse@comcast.net

