



PTA Plan-It Newsletter

MORIKAMI PARK ELEMENTARY
PTA-NEWSLETTER
By the Parent Teacher Association

6201 Morikami Park Rd.
Delray Beach, FL 33484
561-894-7300

Principal
Mrs. Stacey Quiñones

Assistant Principal
Stephanie Coletto

MPES PTA President
Jane Andrews

Editor
Kattia Alvarado

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NOVEMBER



A Message From The Principal

It is hard to believe that fall is upon us and the first trimester of school is quickly coming to an end. Our teachers and students have been busy in our classrooms collaborating, learning, and inquiring into their daily curriculum. Our school clubs are up and running and I am happy to announce that our school tutorial program started on October 17th. It certainly has been a busy time here at Morikami Park.



Thursday, November 10th will find us at the end of our first trimester of the 2011-2012 school year. Teachers have been focused and working on teaching the standards and assessing student progress. Report cards are expected to be sent home on November 30th. We encourage you to take some time to review the report card with your child, paying special attention to the performance level and mastery of the standards. Teachers will be working on reviewing the same information with your child.

As we approach the upcoming Thanksgiving Holidays, we want to take this opportunity to THANK YOU for the many gifts of caring you have shown in a variety of ways including:

- Working with the staff as a team effort on behalf of your child
- Supporting the PTA
- Attending school functions such as our Open House, Curriculum Night, Book Fair Family Night, and Literacy Night
- Participating in Parent Teacher Conferences
- Volunteering in our classrooms or serving as room parents
- Helping your child with homework
- Offering to our staff words of encouragement, respect, and simple gestures of kindness that contributes to the positive school climate that helps each child learn and grow ...

This is often the time of year where schedules are busy and our immunity is run down. Take time to keep yourself and your family well and enjoy the company of friends and family this Thanksgiving! I am truly grateful for the wonderful students, families and teachers at Morikami Park! The Morikami Park Family wishes all of our students and families a safe Thanksgiving Holiday.

Mrs. Quiñones
MPES Principal

PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD 2011-12:

PRESIDENT: Jane Andrews - jfandrews@bellsouth.net, VP FUNDRAISING: Melissa Biggs - melissancid@bellsouth.net, VP MEMBERSHIP: Corinne Levine - cordan1@comcast.net, CO-VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Nicole West - knic1000@gmail.com and Melissa Wigdor - melwigdor@aol.com, TREASURER: Kim Fox - kimberlyfox7@yahoo.com, SECRETARY: Wendy Schner - wschner@hotmail.com

PTA WEBSITE: www.morikamiparkelementarypta.org



MESSAGE FROM YOUR PTA PRESIDENT

Happy Fall! We had our first taste of cool weather and toward the end of October which was a great way to finish out a spectacular month at Morikami. And it was a fantastic month. We had Morikami Goes PINK!, Fall Book Fair, Costumes for Kids donations, 1st Annual Family Literacy Night, and ...the list goes on and on.

What can I say? Morikami Goes PINK was marvelous! What a night! Is there any better way to bring a group of people together for a great cause than with superb food, entertainment and fun for everyone! We had over 400 people attend this year's event and as anticipated, this year's event was even better than last year.

This year we added more activities and ways to help raise money for Breast Cancer Research. We brought back our tried and true friends from **Pure Energy Entertainment and West Boca High School Culinary Department**, but we added lots of new ones as well. How about the face painter (**Face Art By Daisy**) and the balloon artist (**Balloon Masterz Entertainment**)? They were amazing! Did you try one of the cake pops or custom cupcakes donated by **Xpressive Designs**? And talk about yummy, did you try one of the many flavors of ices that **Mootz's Italian Ices** donated to the event? And the photo booth (**Sound Storm Entertainment**) – I hope I wasn't the only adult who got in there and took some zany shots! What about the balloon columns on the stage donated by **Party Perfect**? Beautiful! Did you take time to peruse all the cool items that **D&G Sales** provided? We have the best and most generous families around. And let's not forget our wonderful **Morikami volunteers and staff** who tirelessly worked to plan this annual event. **Thank you to everyone!**

Together with John Michelle Salon, Pure Energy Entertainment and all the other vendors who so graciously donated their goods and services, we raised money that will directly benefit Breast Cancer Research. DJ David from Pure Energy gave us all the tunes for the night and West Boca High School Culinary School provided a spaghetti dinner extraordinaire!

So you ask, "How much did we raise at Morikami Goes PINK?" **\$3,000 IN 2 ½ HOURS! WOW!**

As we head into Fall, we slow it down a little bit. There are still many things going on at school – PTA Reflections program (entries due Wednesday, November 30th), Field Days (Monday, November 21, Grades K-2 and Tuesday, November 22, Grades 3-5) and much more.

The PTA takes it down a notch and we start to look at how we can give back not only to the school, but to our community as well. With Thanksgiving right around the corner, we will support Student Council and their Annual Food Drive. Get a head start and check through your kitchen cabinets and keep an eye open for the local grocery store specials for items that will help out others who are less fortunate in our community.

Check out the inside of the PTA Plan-It Newsletter for a Calendar of Events for November. It has been a busy start to the school year. Now it's time to focus on family and community!

Thank you for supporting your PTA! Don't forget that it's never too late to get involved! PTA needs you, Morikami needs you, and most importantly the students need you!

Happy Fall Ya'all!

Jane Andrews
MPES PTA President

954-579-6961

PTA@morikamiparkelementarypta.org or jfandrews@bellsouth.net

Please e-mail me if you are interested in getting involved with the PTA!



PTA FUNDRAISING



Our Fall Fundraiser has been an enormous success! All funds raised will directly benefit our school by providing many enhancements for learning. Some of the events the fundraiser will support include: Multi-Cultural Day, Field Trips, IB Teacher Training, Math and Science Night and much more!

THANK YOU Morikami Families for all your support!

Melissa Biggs
2nd VP Fundraising
melissacid@gmail.com

PTA WEBSITE

Dear Parents, I invite you to visit our PTA website for updated PTA and School information. We are also using a new Email program to keep you informed so don't forget to sign-up through our website.

Nancy Ng
Website Coordinator
nng2079@gmail.com

PTA Website
www.morikamiparkelementarypta.org



MORIKAMI GREEN NEWS

Please "like" us on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/MPESGreenProgram>

Congratulations to the Brushstrokes Mural Club in Aftercare for participating in the Wyland Art Mural Contest for schools. We were honored to have a professional film crew on hand to capture the moment as students began putting paint to canvas to create an expression of what Living Green, Living Healthy means to them. Check out the mural in the hallway near Aftercare and stay tuned on how you can view film clips online.

The winning murals will be on display this weekend at the Wyland Living Green Fair going on at Mizner Park on Nov 5th and 6th. Families will find an incredible variety of interactive activities at the fair, including these: Zip line through the clean water maze * Compete and win at the Green Game Show * Enjoy a recycled fashion show * Help paint a 50' mural with Wyland * Check out the Jr. Sprouts Program with Farmer Jay * Celebrity Chef cooking stage with environmental speakers * Yogathon and more! Log onto www.LivingGreenFair.com to find out about ticket information.

Also check out the Think Pink Rocks Concert at the Mizner Park Amphitheater on Sat, Nov 5th. Help to raise money for breast cancer while enjoying music with friends and family. Log onto www.thinkpinkrocks.com to learn more.

November is a beautiful month to take a nature walk. We are fortunate to have so many incredible beautiful paths to choose from. The Wakodahatchee Wetlands just north of Morikami on Jog Road provides an extensive wildlife viewing opportunity while enjoying the weather and getting a little exercise. Other great choices include Loxhatchee National Wildlife Refuge and Pine Jog Environmental Education Center (both our partners) as well as Green Cay. Enjoy some time in nature and notice how good it makes you feel!

Best wishes,

Cindy Papadoyianis

PTA Green Chairperson

morikamigreenschool@gmail.com



PTA MEMBERSHIP

It is not too late to join the Morikami PTA. Remember, by supporting PTA you are supporting our school! Please send your purple form in or pick one up in the office. 100% membership means a

NO HOMEWORK PASS
FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL!

NURSE'S CORNER

Flu season is coming! Flu season is coming!

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat and lungs. Signs and symptoms of the flu are:

Fever (although not everyone will have a fever), chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle and body aches, headaches, fatigue, and occasionally vomiting and diarrhea as well.

The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccine each year. They are now available from your family doctor or pediatrician as well as medical clinics and pharmacies in the area.

Don't let the Flu get You!

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

We will **SEE** the first and third grade students for vision and hearing screenings beginning November 2 through November 7.

If your child currently wears eyeglasses, please instruct them to wear their eyeglasses to the screening.

Diane Morris, RN, BSN
Morikami Park Elementary
School

dmorris@hcdpbc.org





FUNDRAISING INFORMATION

Thank you for your participation in the Fall Fundraiser. The Fall items will be delivered to the school on Wednesday, November 2!!

A flyer will be placed in your child's backpack as a reminder.

Thanks again for your support!!

Melissa Biggs
VP Fundraising

ADOPT-A-CLASS

Have you had a chance to adopt your child's teacher? Or maybe the Media Center or one of the Foreign Language teachers? It is not too late to show your support for our teachers by participating in the Adopt-A-Class program. Our school continues to offer outstanding classroom opportunities for our children because of the generosity of our supporters. There are still some classes and fine arts teachers that have not been adopted. If you need a copy of the form or have any questions, please contact:

Michele Blair
fmichele@bellsouth.net

MORIKAMI CAFE CATERERS

Now Appearing at the Cafe: "The Organwise Guys." Come meet this month's members.

Parents, Let the Cafe Caterers give you one less thing to think about in the morning by providing breakfast for your child. We have hot breakfast daily, including delicious Cheesy Grits, fresh fruit and Orange Juice. We also have whole wheat toast and a variety of cereal.

Let us cater your child's lunch as well. We offer many Nutritious Entrees and have sides which include, Fresh from the Farm vegetables, fresh fruit, fruit cups, salad, carrot and celery sticks and juice. Milk is available with every meal. We offer chocolate, low-fat and Skim.

~ "Power Up" with Breakfast. The most important meal of the day!!!

Jeanine M. Swick
School Food Service Manager
Morikami Park Elementary #1951
Px 87310 (561) 894-7310

UNIFORM EXCHANGE

We now have a uniform request form available on the PTA website. You may download it and send to school with your child. We will do our best to fulfill your request!

Please remember to donate your out grown uniforms! They can be sent in with your child marked "Uniform Exchange" or dropped off at the office.

Christy Holt
Uniform Chairperson
christyh64@aol.com

BOX TOPS & LABELS FOR EDUCATION

Hello Parents - I'd like to give you an update on our 2011 - 2012 Boxtops redemption. So far this year we have submitted over 4,000 Boxtops which is equivalent to over \$400.00! The annual goal amount that was set for Morikami Park by the Boxtop Headquarters is 16,430 Boxtops (\$1,643.00) for the school year. I think we would all enjoy topping that! Please keep clipping and/or have the children complete the attached sheet(s), you can never send in too many. If you happen to know how many you are submitting, please indicate the amount on the envelope/bag, I love when parents do that, especially with a 16,430 anticipated redemption!

Keep Clipping...

Karen Filoramo
Box Top Coordinator





BIRTHDAY BOOK CLUB

November, December, and January birthdays... Birthday Book Club is celebrating now! Students with birthdays from November thru January should have received their literature by now. The green letter outlines the purpose and process, the blue one is a form that should accompany every donation. Please consider becoming a member; classroom libraries are growing quickly thanks to MPES students!

If you are in need of Birthday Book Club paperwork, simply visit our PTA website: www.morikamiparkelementarypta.org and click on the Birthday Book Club heading. There will be an option to "click here" for forms.

Turn your donation(s) in quickly, as we have limited space on the weekly segment. We will do our absolute best to schedule members as close to their birthdays as possible.

Thank you, Morikami Park Elementary!

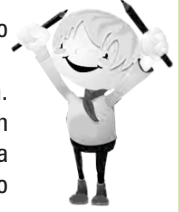
Best regards,

Jamie Monaco



GET YOUR AD IN THE PTA PLAN-IT FOR \$15/MONTH

Email your ad in to Kattia Alvarado at katselkie@yahoo.com. Deadline is by the 15th of each month with a check made payable to Morikami Park



Elementary PTA. You can drop off the check at the office attention PTA. You can submit your ad in a jpg, pdf, or eps format.

WRAP N MATS ARE BACK!

Order yours today! Make checks payable to MPES PTA

Made in USA, \$8

Cut this out and return with cash/check:

Circle: Boy, Girl or Adult pattern

Child's name _____

Teacher's name _____

Phone number _____

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On Saturday Dec. 10th and Sunday Dec. 11th at the Crest Theater at 3:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at Dance Academy.

For further information, please call or visit us at the studio:
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STATE AND NATIONAL PTA

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www.pta.org

JOIN THE PTA'S EMAIL LIST

Please join the PTA's mailing list. Just go to www.morikamiparkelementarypta.org and click on the yellow and blue button marked JOIN NOW! It only takes a few minutes to join!



TREASURER'S CORNER

Dear Morikami Park Family,

We're off to a great start this year! As you may have read, we've had fantastic participation from our families, staff and administration for the Fall Fundraiser, Adopt-A-Class and PTA membership drives!

In the event you've ever wondered, "where does the money go?", here is an overview of how we use the funds from the various initiatives.

As a result of our success, the PTA was able to provide our fantastic school staff and administration with a "Welcome Back to School" breakfast for the teachers, where they each were given a \$30.00 Office Depot gift card. The PTA is proud to give our teachers a warm welcome back to school!

As a PTA, we like to take care of the people that take care of our children. All Morikami bus drivers receive a gift card on their birthday. In September we treated the MPES staff to coffee and pastries for breakfast one morning, and will provide a holiday luncheon in December as our way of saying thank you for the great job they continue to do.

From an administrative perspective, we insure our organization so that we are able to host events, such as Pink Night and Skate Night. The PTA also funds our website, Meet the Teacher, Birthday Book Club, Helping Hands and Uniform Exchange. This year we have already provided money for additional technological enhancements to the school, helped to purchase Spanish workbooks, and provided over \$2,000 to the administration to purchase FCAT Supplies.

Thank you to all of our families, teachers and support staff who assist the PTA to make all of the above possible!

Kim Fox
Treasurer

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Annual MPES PTA Carnival

The Annual Morikami Park Elementary School PTA Carnival will be held on Saturday, January 28th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We are planning to really grow our carnival this year with new activities as well as a large vendor shopping area.

If you or anyone you know sells jewelry, clothing, shoes, purses, household goods, candles, toys, stationery, etc., please encourage them to join us as we always have a great turn out for this event!

Vendor tables are available at a cost of \$50 for Morikami families and \$65 for outside vendors (non Morikami families). Please submit your application no later than Wednesday, January 18th to Samantha Vassallo. Please include a complete list of the items you would like to sell. Applications will be reviewed and approved on a first come basis.

Please email Samantha at samanthavassallo@rocketmail.com with any questions.

Samantha M. Vassallo
Carnival Chairperson





IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, Nov 2nd
Start Vision/Hearing Screening K, 1, 3

Thursday, Nov 3rd - 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Club Photos for Yearbook
If you joined a Morikami Club your photograph will be taken today. Uniforms only!

Sunday, Nov 6th
Daylight Savings - Turn clock back!

Tuesday, Nov 8th - 7:15 AM - 8:00 AM
Safety Patrol Meeting in the Cafeteria

Wednesday, Nov 9th - 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
SAC Meeting

Friday, Nov 11th
Teacher work day. No school for students

Monday, Nov 14th-18th
Stomp Out Bullying Week runs from
Nov. 14th - 18th. Stand up against bullying!!!!

Tuesday, Nov 15th - 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Magnet Open House
New families to Morikami Park 2012-2013
school year.

Friday, Nov 18th
Wear your favorite sneakers to STOMP out Bullying!

Monday, Nov 21st
Field Day Grades K - 2nd
Wear your PE shirt, field day t-shirts or new
spirit t-shirts with your PE shorts.
Bring a hat to wear!

Tuesday, Nov 22nd
Field Day Grades 3rd - 5th
Wear your PE shirt, field day t-shirts or new
spirit t-shirts with your PE shorts.
Bring a hat to wear!

Wednesday, Nov 23rd
Thanksgiving Holiday. No School

Thursday, Nov 24th
Happy Thanksgiving! No School

Friday, Nov 25th
Thanksgiving Holiday. No School

Tuesday, Nov 29th - 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Family Math Night at Publix-Woodfield
Shopping Center

Wednesday, Nov 30th
1st Trimester Report Cards go home today.

Congratulations to the Winner of the 2011 MPES Spirit T-Shirt Slogan Contest!


Ryan Wigdor
1st Grade

Ryan's winning slogan will be used on our new Morikami Spirit T-Shirt which will be available for sale November 1st – November 8th. Spirit T-Shirt Order form is attached to the newsletter and it can also be downloaded from the PTA website.

What makes the new Morikami Spirit T-Shirt so special????

The Spirit T-Shirt can be worn every Friday with Jeans! Yes, you read it correctly...JEANS! JEANS!

Just remember, no holes or tears in the jeans. Don't want to wear jeans? No problem, you can always wear your Spirit T-Shirt with your regular uniform bottoms (shorts, skirts or skorts) on Fridays.

contact us for immediate assistance
click [here](#) to email:

561.994.8833

www.partyperfect.co

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MPES UNIFORM EXCHANGE REQUEST

STUDENT: _____

TEACHER: _____

GRADE: _____ **ROOM #:** _____

CONTACT: _____

PHONE OR E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

SHORT SLEEVE SHIRT SIZE: _____ **COLOR PREFERENCE** _____

LONG SLEEVE SHIRT SIZE: _____ **COLOR PREFERENCE** _____

SHORTS SIZE: _____ **COLOR PREFERENCE** _____

LONG PANTS SIZE: _____ **COLOR PREFERENCE** _____

PE SHIRT SIZE: _____

PE SHORTS SIZE: _____

SKORT SIZE: _____

JUMPER SIZE: _____

BLOUSE SIZE: _____

SWEAT SHIRT SIZE: _____

NOTES: _____

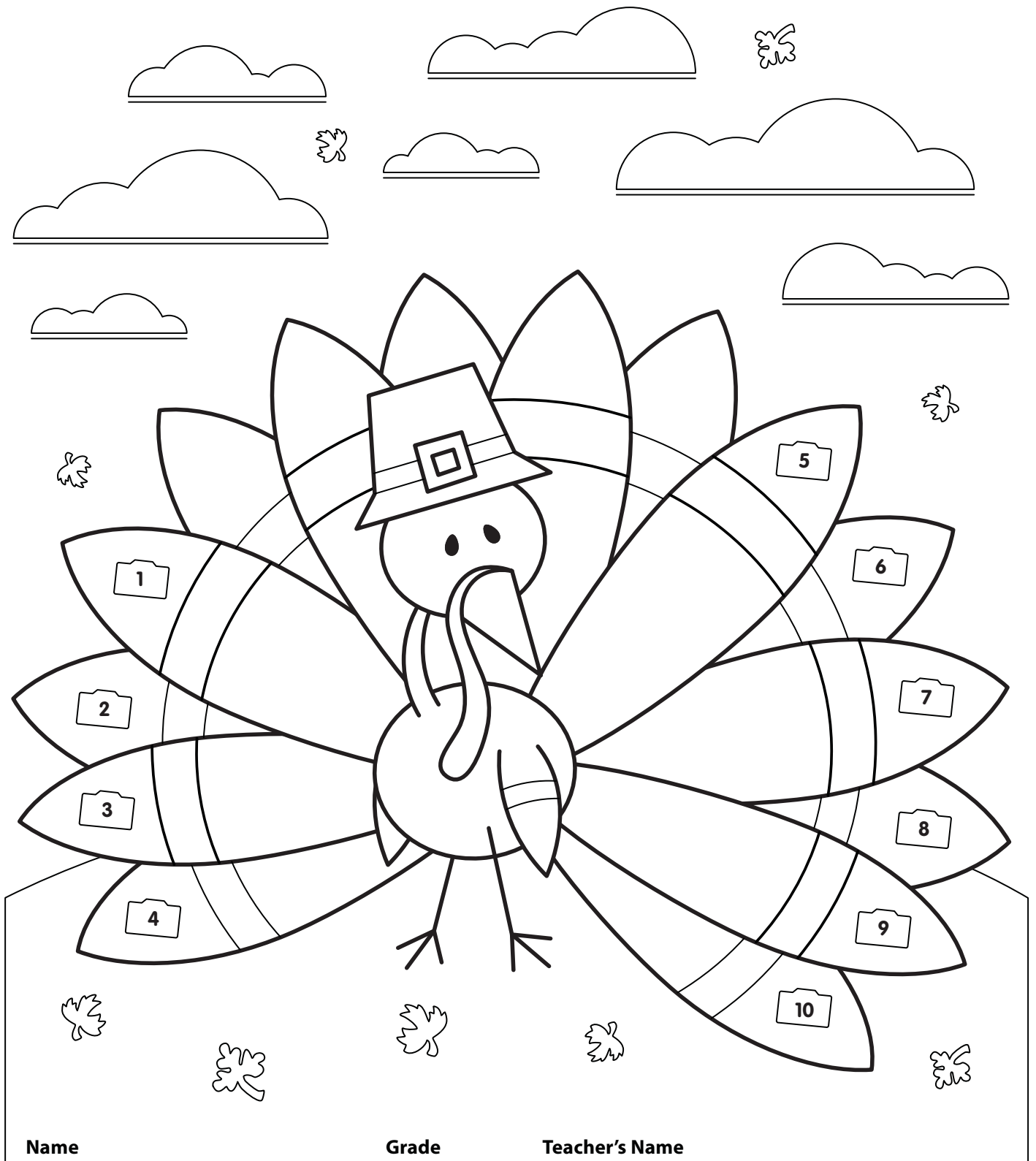
We will do our best to fill your request. If we do not have the particular item/color we will substitute it for another. If you find you need to exchange any item, please return it with a note explaining what you need. All requests, donations and exchanges can be sent in via your child's backpack.

Please remember to donate your out grown uniforms. Thank you!

Questions? Email us at pta@morikamiparkelementaryschoolpta.org



It's turkey time! Show your school how thankful you are with 10 Box Tops.



Thank you for helping! Every Box Top you collect is worth 10¢ for your school.
For more collection worksheets and projects, go to www.boxtops4education.com/activitycenter



CARNIVAL VENDOR APPLICATION

WHAT: The Annual MPES PTA Carnival
WHEN: Saturday, January 28, 2011 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
WHERE: Morikami Park Elementary School Field

Dear Vendors,

You are cordially invited to rent a vendor space.

Requirements:

- \$50.00 Fee for Morikami families.
- \$65.00 Fee for outside vendors (non-Morikami families).
- Vendors will be asked to supply their own table and/or display unit and shade if desired.
- We ask that you supply a complete list of items to be sold.
- Please submit this application by Wednesday, January 18th, 2011 to Samantha Vassallo
- Entries will be reviewed and approved on a first come basis.
- Upon approval, Samantha will contact you to inform you of acceptance.

Please email Samantha at samanthavassallo@rocketmail.com with any questions.

2011 MORIKAMI PARK PTA CARNIVAL Vendor Application

Name(s) _____

Email _____

Phone _____

List items to be sold _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Spirit T-Shirts!!



Pre-Order Only!
Nov 1st to Nov 8th

Show your Morikami Spirit by wearing a custom designed Spirit T-Shirt with the winning slogan from 1st Grader Ryan Wigdor: **"Inquiring Minds Want to Grow"**

T-Shirts are white, 100% cotton and have a color design on the front. They are only \$10 and may be worn **every Friday with Jeans!** Or any other Spirit day. T-Shirts can be pre-ordered only. All proceeds benefit MPES PTA.

Please order the size carefully!! There will be no "trade-ins" available. If you are unsure, order a size larger. All sales are FINAL. Send this filled out order form together with your payment in an envelope in your child's agenda. You may also drop it off at the front office. Sample sizes of t-shirts will be available to view in front office from 7:30-8:00 a.m. November 1st-November 8th.



Please choose quantity and size:

Sizes	Qty	Sizes	Qty.
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth x-Small (6-8)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult x-Small	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Small (6-8)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Small	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Medium (10-12)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Medium	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Large (14-16)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Large	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth XL (YXL)	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult x-Large	_____
		<input type="checkbox"/> Adult xx-Large	_____

Total Shirts _____ x \$10 Each = _____ Total Cash/Check Amt _____

Students Name _____
 (Please Print)

Teacher's Name _____ Grade _____

Please pay cash or check made payable to: **Morikami PTA.** Returned checks will incur a \$25.00 charge.