



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

Copy Deadline
15th of each month

9 Publications yearly
September to May

OCTOBER



A Message From The Principal

We have had a wonderful first month of school. On a daily basis we are working on our student drop off/ pick up line. We ask that parents remain with their vehicle at all times and refrain from cell phone use when navigating the car line. Our parking lot continues to be a challenge. At certain times in the morning there is a lot of congestion and we ask that the cars continue to move and not wait for a space to open. If you are waiting for a car to exit a space, please stay to the right and allow cars to pass on the left so that we may have a continuous flow of traffic. When backing out of a space, please be aware of parents and students and other vehicles. We ask that you pack your patience when navigating the car line and parking lot each day. I thank parents for cooperating with our staff members as they are there to assist in the safe arrival/dismissal of your children each day. Our number one goal is the safety and security of your children during the school day.

We are once again an "A" school and are proud to announce that Morikami Park met all of the requirements for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). The teaching and support staff are looking forward to another rewarding school year which will be marked by student success and hard work on everyone's part.

We understand that communication is of utmost importance in establishing a successful home/school partnership. In an effort to inform our parents about policies and procedures, we have created a Parent Handbook which is part of the student agenda.

Please review the Handbook and let us know if you have questions about any of the areas that are covered in it. We will also send information updates separately as needed.

We will work tirelessly to provide challenging educational opportunities for your child each day they are here, but to be as successful as we can be, we need your help. Open communication is vital to insure a successful home-school partnership throughout the year. Please make every effort throughout the year to be involved and stay in touch with us. The more you are involved with your child's classroom, the better your child's school experience will be!

We are very fortunate to have an active and dedicated PTA that supports the instructional and enrichment programs at Morikami Park. We invite you to join the PTA and participate in their General Assembly meetings which keep parents informed of the many activities they have planned for the school year.

Mrs. Coletto and I look forward to a rich, rewarding school year at Morikami Park. Please call us if you have any questions or concerns.

With Morikami Pride,

Mrs. Quiñones
MPES Principal

PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD 2011-12:

PRESIDENT: Jane Andrews - jfandrews@bellsouth.net, VP FUNDRAISING: Melissa Biggs - melissacid@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

Wow! What an amazing start to the school year we have had so far! Both Skate Night and our Fall Fundraiser were hugely successful. Thank you to everyone that came out to help support our safety patrols at Skate Night and to those of you that participated in the Fall Fundraiser.

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Our 5th Annual MORIKAMI GOES PINK event is Tuesday, October 4th. Show your support at school and wear PINK today! If you wear PINK today it is a NO UNIFORM day! Remember....Real men (and boys, too!) wear PINK!



We are adding all kinds of new activities to the event this year. Just a few of the activities and treats that will be available are PINK hair extensions from John Michelle Salon, Mootz's Italian Ices, custom cupcakes, cakepops, Photo Booth, face painter, balloon artist, DJ by Pure Energy and much, much more. Something for everyone! Enjoy a family spaghetti dinner prepared and served by the West Boca High School Culinary Department. Last year we raised over \$800 at this event! Let's set our sights high and see if we can raise over \$1000 this year for breast cancer research! Come out for a great night of fun, and at the same time support a cause that is near and dear to almost every one of us.

Thursday, October 13th is not only an Early Release Day, it's also Sports Jersey Day! Support your favorite team!



Our Fall Book Fair runs from Wednesday, October 12th through Wednesday, October 19th. What better way to volunteer than helping students pick out books! We are all about reading in October!



We finish the month with our Fall Festival Parties on Monday, October 31st! Come and enjoy your child's class party and all the costumes! Just remember that siblings are not allowed to attend these parties.

It is packed schedule that has something for everyone. Can't wait to see you and your families at the PTA and Morikami events this month! Don't forget that volunteers are what make our school so wonderful! Get involved!

Jane Andrews
MPES PTA President

954-579-6961
PTA@morikamiparkelementarypta.org
or jfandrews@bellsouth.net

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!

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>

Recycling Matters!

Plastic - Please join us in asking your child to **recycle in the cafeteria**. All empty milk cartons, juice boxes, aluminum foil and recyclable plastic go in the blue bins. We also have **classroom blue bins**, and the classroom environmentalist needs to empty these **often** in the collection bin outside the cafeteria on the playground.

Paper can be recycled in classrooms in the **cardboard collection bins**. The **Recycling Club** will be collecting paper but if bins overflow in between pickups, classroom environmentalists can empty them in the **green collection cans** around campus. These are located at the top of stairwells upstairs and also outside near the Aftercare doors. **Volunteer parents** – please recycle in the copy room!

Got glue sticks? Drop them off in the orange bucket in the media center. We also take old, broken **crayons** there.

Cell Phones for Soldiers – Help our troops by donating your old cell phone in the collection bin in the front office.

Soccer cleats and tennis shoes – Your discards are treasures the less fortunate in South America through **Sumado Manos**. Shoes beyond re-use are donated to **Nike Grind** and recycled into playground surfaces. Leave all in the PTA room, #136 across from the Math & Science Lab.

Friends of Morikami Preserve

Please help us gather **corporate contact information**. Email the name of your company to mpes.green@gmail.com and we will contact them regarding our Corporate Sponsorship Program. Learn more at: http://www.morikamiparkgreenpage.org/Friends_of_Morikami.html

Please join us for our next **Friends of Morikami Preserve meeting** on Monday, **October 17th** at 2:15pm in Mrs. Russell's classroom. Please rsvp to email address below. All ages welcome!

Thank you,

Cindy Papadoyianis

PTA Green Chairperson

morikamigreeneschool@gmail.com



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!

Xpressive Designs

DG Sales, Inc.





VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Volunteer! Volunteer! Volunteer!

We had a great turn out at the Volunteer Orientation Breakfast last month and have so many people signed up in the computer system to volunteer. Please know that whether you can volunteer one hour or ten or one hundred it all counts toward making Morikami as wonderful as it is. Last year we totalled 16,000 volunteer hours and this year our goal is 18,000!

Our next 2 events this month are Pink Night (Oct 4th from 4:30 - 7:00) and Scholastic Book Fair (Oct 12 - 14 & 17 - 19).

For Pink Night, there are 2 volunteer shifts:

4:30 - 6:00

6:00 - 7:30

Help is needed to polish nails pink, sell items, set/clean up, and more.

Email Melissa - melwigdor@aol.com - which time slot you can help in.



The Scholastic Book Fair is as follows:

Oct 12 - 8am - 2pm

Oct 13 - 8am - 11am

Oct 14 - 8 - 2pm

Oct 17 - 8am - 2pm & 3pm - 6pm

Oct 18 - 8am - 2pm

Oct 19 - 8am - 10am

Email Nicole - knic1000@yahoo.com - which day and time you can be there.

Thanks for all your help so far!! Remember to sign in every time you volunteer - both at home and in school - so we can keep track of your hours.

Nicole West and Melissa Wigdor Co-Volunteers Coordinators

Knic1000@yahoo.com

Melwigdor@aol.com

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



561.577.1929

UNIFORM EXCHANGE

Thanks to all of you who have made donations. Please include your child's name and teacher's name when making a request.

Christy Holt
Uniform Chairperson
christyh64@aol.com

BOX TOPS & LABELS FOR EDUCATION

Help Morikami earn FREE money and equipment by clipping labels on everyday products you use. You can also contribute with purchases made online at specific merchants, visit www.boxtops4education.com to register. Please turn in clipped box tops to your child's teacher or the school office.

Lisa Warren
Box Top Coordinator



STATE AND NATIONAL PTA

www.floridapta.org

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!



BIRTHDAY BOOK CLUB

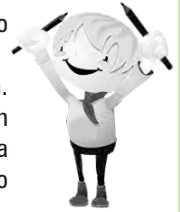
We're off to a great start, Morikami! We've received so many incredible titles already! If your child's birthday is during the months of August, September, or October, you should have received a Birthday Book Club mailing via backpack. If you have not, please visit www.morikamiparkelementarypta.org. Information on the program as well as the form are available there. Having trouble deciding on titles? Contact your child's teacher, as they may have a wish list. Perhaps you'd like to donate books you've already enjoyed; we welcome gently used books as well! Each donation should be accompanied by the form provided and brought to the Media Center. Books will be processed and participants will be scheduled to appear on the morning announcements as close to their birthdays as possible. You, the parent, will receive notification a few days prior to that day. Parents are always welcome to view the morning news broadcast in the Media Center, typically each Friday. DVD recordings are available for purchase and make for a wonderful keepsake! Thank you Morikami Park!!!



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.



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IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, October 4th
Students must wear PINK to qualify for No Uniform Day to support Breast Cancer Awareness

Tuesday, October 4th - 4:30 - 7:00pm
PTA Family Social - Morikami Goes "PINK" Night in the Cafeteria

Wednesday, October 5th - 6:00pm
SAC meeting in the Cafeteria

Tuesday, October 11th - 7:15am
Safety Patrol meeting in the Cafeteria

Wednesday, October 12th
Wear red uniform shirt or red dress today

Wednesday, October 12th - 14th, 17th - 19th
Fall Book Fair in the Media Center

Thursday, October 13th - 11:30am
Early Release Day - NO UNIFORMS DAY!
Sports Jersey Day - Support your favorite TEAM

Friday, October 14th
PTA Membership Drive Ends

Tuesday, October 18th - 4:00 - 8:00pm
The 15th Annual Showcase of Schools at the South Florida Fairgrounds Expo Center

Friday, October 21st - No School for Students!

Tuesday, October 25th - 6:00pm
Exhibition Night for 5th Grade

Wednesday, October 26th
No Homework Pass for 100% PTA Membership Participation

Thursday, October 27th
School Photo Make-Up Day - Uniforms ONLY

Thursday, October 27th
1st Annual Family Literacy Night
Join us for a Night of Literacy with our special guest readers. More details about this exciting new event to come!

Monday, October 31st
Fall Festival Parties



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MORIKAMI GOES PINK

5th Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Event

Come to show your support and enjoy an evening dedicated to Breast Cancer Awareness

Tuesday, October 4th 2011

in the school CAFETERIA from 4:30-7:00 pm

Advanced Ticket Sales: \$8 adults, \$5 school aged children

Tickets include: Spaghetti dinner with roll, salad and dessert

Served and prepared by West Boca Culinary School

Ticket Cost Without Spaghetti Dinner \$3 per person

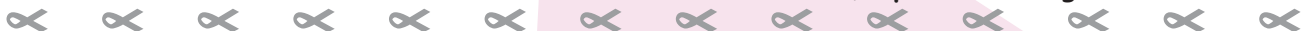
drinks will be available for purchase

John Michelle Salon will offer pink hair extensions and more for \$10 each

DJ & MUSIC & PHOTOBOTH & GAMES & MUCH MORE FUN FOR EVERYONE!

Entertainment provided by: Pure Energy

Sponsors/Donors to this event: John Michelle Salon | American Cancer Society | Face Art By Daisy
Balloon Masterz Entertainment | Mootz's Italian Ices | DG Sales, Inc.
Sound Storms Entertainment | Xpressive Designs



Please order your tickets in advance. This is a catered event, we will have very limited supplies for walk-ins.

Student Name: _____ Phone number: _____

Teacher: _____ Grade: _____

*If you wish to purchase a ticket for any teacher, please write down teacher's name below:

Number of adult tickets: _____ x \$8.00 = \$ _____ teacher: _____

Number of child tickets: _____ x \$5.00 = \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Morikami Park Elementary PTA and send with your child to school in the envelope labeled (PTA/PINK) no later than September 30th.
Returned checks will incur a \$25.00 charge. All sales are final, no refunds.

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE NATIONAL BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION

Thank you for being a part of this wonderful cause!

Morikami Park



Foundation

Dear Morikami Parents,

If you would like to know what's going on with the Morikami IB Foundation, please attend our next open meeting on November 9th at 6:00pm.

We are looking for creative people to make this years Gala the best one yet! Please attend our first auction meeting on Oct. 18th at 8:00am in the media center.

- ✓ We are looking for creative people to put baskets together.
- ✓ We need shoppers to help fill the baskets.
- ✓ We need help setting up the day of the gala.

As a parent you will find many opportunities, that will fit within your availability.

For more information about the Morikami IB program, go to www.MorikamiIB.org