



THE TRAVELER TIMES

An REL-PTL Newsletter

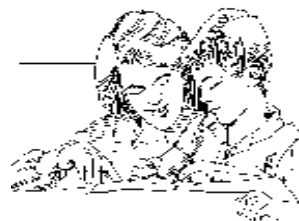
August 2007
Volume 1, Issue 1

REL-PTL
630 Cousar St.
Bishopville, SC 29010

Parent Involvement Key to Student Success

According to a study by PTO Today, "when parents are involved in their children's education, the children are more likely to: earn better grades; score higher on tests; pass their classes; attend school regularly; have better social skills; be more positive in their attitude toward school; complete homework assignments and graduate and go on to post-secondary school. In order to open more doors for involvement by the parents of our students, the REL-PTL, along with Mr. Philip Rizzo, REL's new Head of School, has decided to offer many new possibilities for interaction between parents and their students. One of these opportunities will be that parents may join their children during their respective lunch period any Wednesday during the school year (visitors must stop by the office to pick up a visitor badge first.) PTL meetings for **all parents**

will be held the third Monday of every month (except Dec., Feb. & June) at 7:00 pm. To begin most meetings, one of the elementary grades at REL will entertain the group with something they have learned in their class! There will be opportunities to become involved in your child's classroom by being a classroom volunteer for such activities as reading to the class, helping the teacher prepare displays for the classroom, or presenting material on a certain specialized field of study. The PTL is also looking for parent volunteers to help with an after-school chess team for all ages (3rd-6th, 7th-8th and 9th-12th) and with a school newspaper that will be done after school as well (staff will be comprised of 9th-12th grade with jr. staff at all levels.) If you have any expertise in these areas, please email PTL President, Katherine Woodham, at



"Parental involvement is more important to student success, at every grade level, than family income or education."

kwoodham@sc.rr.com or the ptl webmail address, ptl@releeacademy.org. There are also many needs that the REL Athletic Booster club has during their sports seasons—two of which are gate ticket sales and canteen workers! If you would like to help with the Athletic Booster Club, you may contact Michael Bruce at Alex's Realty. We want our students at REL to be successful and we must, as parents, do all that we can to help them achieve that success!

August PTL Calendar

Event	Date	Time
Open House for Kindergarten through 6th grade	14th	7:00 pm
Open House for 7th - 12th grades	15th	7:00 pm
NOTE: Parents please bring your students schedules		
PTL Monthly Meeting	20th	7:00 pm
Sally Foster Gift wrap goes home !	20th	

Sally Foster Paper to go out Aug. 20th

Due to many requests from our parents last year, we have decided to go back to selling Sally Foster gift wrap and gifts. The packages will go home with your children on August 20th ! We encourage you all to help us in this fundraiser as it is one of the largest money makers for the Academy, running neck and neck with the Auction and the cookie dough sales. The sale will run through September 10th and all sales will be final on that day. In order to help the PTL-Sally Foster Committee, please

make sure you do a few things when you send in your orders:

- * Please complete entire form by ensuring student's name is on the top of the form inside
- * Please carry all money totals across and down.
- * Please make sure that the total wrapping paper sold equals the total amount included in the envelope
- * Please make sure that the

outside of the envelope is sealed with tape.

Hope Barrett is the Chair of the Sally Foster sales and she is looking for any individuals who can help her count money on September 10th. This is a huge but extremely important task and will take probably all of that school day so, if you can help, either email the PTL site or give her a call at Alex's Realty.

Help Is Needed!

Parent work days for REL are scheduled for Sat., Aug. 4th and 11th !

Please come and give a little bit of your time to help get REL ready for school to begin...Wear some old clothes & come sometime between 8 am and noon! Parents are our most valuable resource and, whether you realize it or not, YOU ARE NEEDED !



Ideas to Start the Year Right !!

It's school time again! You're probably feeling excited and maybe a little sad that summer is over. Some kids feel nervous or a little scared on the first day of school because of all the new things: new teachers, new friends, and maybe even a new school. Luckily, these "new" worries only stick around for a little while.

Teachers often go over classroom rules so you'll know what's allowed and what's not. Pay close attention so you'll know if you need to raise your hand to ask a question and what the rules are about visiting the restroom.

You might already know a lot of people in your classes on the first day. But it's a great day to make a new friend, so try to

say hello to kids you know and new ones that you don't. Make the first move and you'll be glad you did and so will your new friend!

Feeling Good on Day One

Seeing friends you haven't seen in a while can make the first day a good one. You also can make the day feel special by wearing an outfit you like. Maybe you got a great T-shirt on vacation, or your new sneakers put a spring in your step.

It can make you feel good to be prepared and have all the supplies you need. Get your supply list before the year begins, so you can come stocked up on pencils, folders, and whatever else you'll be needing. Once you've covered the basics, you might tuck an extra dollar or two in your backpack for an emergency (like forgetting your lunch money). Or maybe you'd like

to bring along a book or magazine to read while you're on the bus.

Whatever you put in your backpack, make sure you pack it



the night before. This prevents the morning panic when you can't find your homework or lunch box. Speaking of lunch, that's something else that can help you feel good at school - whether it's the first day or the 100th day. Pack it the night before if you don't like what's on the menu at the canteen. Try to include a variety of foods in

your packed lunch, especially fruits and vegetables.

Here are a few final tips for a fantastic first day:

- * Get enough sleep.
- * Eat a healthy breakfast.
- * Try your best.
- * Develop good work habits, like writing down your assignments and turning in your homework on time.
- * Take your time with school work. If you don't understand something, ask the teacher.

Just remember that your attitude most definitely impacts the work that you do ! There will be a few bad days in a normal school year, but they will not all be that way and one bad day never lasts forever !

PTL Board & Committee Chairs 2007/2008

President: Katherine Woodham
 V. President: Wanda King
 Secretary: *(Volunteer Needed)*
 Treasurer: Renee Johnston

Sally Foster- Hope Barrett
 Book Fair- Wanda King
 World's Finest- Dawn White
 Sock Hop- Kim Williams
 Open House- Dawn Ellen

Campbell's Soup- Charlene Craven
 Teacher Appreciation- Missy Kirven and Wendy Welch
 Grandparent's Day- Laura Hawkins
 Phone Tree- Jeanie Davis
 Webpage- Gail Kirven & Michele Jordan
 Elementary Bldg.- Gail Kirven
 M.S. Bldg.- *(Volunteer Needed)*
 H.S. Bldg.- Nancy Haithcock
 School Mall- Anna Doby



**Buying from
 www.SchoolMall.com
 will send REL -PTL money all year
 long too !**

**PTL will provide breakfast for the
 faculty & staff on Monday, Aug.
 13th ! If you can help, please send
 an email to ptl@releacademy.org
 or call Missy Kirven at 428-2537 !**

**Please don't
 forget to clip
 Campbell's
 Soup UPCs all
 year !
 Send to your
 homeroom!**

“Boo-Hoo” Breakfast ! (for Parents of Kindergarteners!)

Bringing your precious angel to Kindergarten can be a traumatic experience for anyone (no matter how great and wonderful the teachers are...) so, in order to alleviate those “I'm leaving my baby” blues, the REL-PTL will have a light breakfast in the library on Wednesday,

August 15th for all K5 parents around 8:00 am (or whenever you can break yourself away!) and on Monday, August 20th for K4 parents at 8:30 am and for K3 parents at 9:00 am ! This will provide a time for parents of kindergarteners to meet each other and share a little

empathy, too! There will be a few door prizes which might also help to brighten the day! So, make plans to drop by the school library (upstairs in the Administration building) for just a little bit of good cheer, great food and an encouraging word or two!

We are glad you're here !

2008

January 10

Regional Spelling Bees

January 11

Teacher Appreciation Day

January 21

PTL Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm

Entertainment- 4th Grade

2007

August 14

Open House—Grades K-6 7:00 pm

August 15

Open House—Grades 7-12 7:00 pm

August 20

PTL Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm

August 20- September 10

Sally Foster Sale

September 17

PTL Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm

*Entertainment-K5***September 25—October 2**

Scholastic Book Fair

October 15

PTL Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm

*Entertainment- 1st Grade***October 25**

Teacher Appreciation Day

November 13

Chess Tournament

November 19

PTL Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm

*Entertainment- 2nd Grade***December (Date TBA)**

Grandparent's Day

February 9

Sock Hop

February 11 (2nd Monday due to Feb. Feb.)

PTL Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm

*Entertainment- 3rd Grade***March 03—March 21**

World's Finest Candy Bar

March 17

PTL Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm

*Entertainment- 4th grade***March 19**

Teacher Appreciation Day

April 21

PTL Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm

*Entertainment-5th grade***May 5-9**

National Teacher Appreciation Week

May 19

PTL Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm

Entertainment-6th Grade

**Please don't forget to clip
 Campbell's Soup UPCs all
 year !**