



# The Branch

## The Newsletter from the PTA

Redwood Elementary  
School

September 2010  
Volume 12, Issue 1

Editor: Tracy Share  
[redwood\\_branch@yahoo.com](mailto:redwood_branch@yahoo.com)

### A message from the Principal.....

Dear Parents and Friends of Redwood School,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to a new school year. We are off to a wonderful beginning with children visibly excited about learning.

We are currently involved in the construction process. As of this writing, a new roof is being installed over the gymnasium and stage area. Two additional classrooms, to provide for the L. E. A. P. S. preschool program, have been added to our expansion project bringing the total of new classrooms to six. The east playground has been dismantled and the equipment is stored off site. The playground site will be relocated to the north of its former location. Students will use the west playground and adjacent field temporarily until the project is complete. All student entry and exit has been relocated during the construction process. We appreciate those parents who normally pick up children in grades two, three and four who are able to park on Moorewood Ave. and not enter the driveway as this area is needed for bus traffic. This makes the process much safer for our children. We also remind you to follow the traffic flow arrows on the driveway as you drive through the campus. **Never ask your child to walk between parked cars to be picked up or dropped off.** This places the child in great danger. Your patience and understanding is appreciated.

Many improvements have been made to the school over the summer including extensive painting, refinishing of classroom doors, electrical improvements and the addition of new tile in four classrooms. Additional improvements are currently being worked on for this school year.

Our first PTA meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM in the cafeteria. We welcome your attendance and participation.

Our third and fourth grade students performed extremely well on the Ohio Achievement Test in late spring. The results are in and we have met all requirements to maintain our "Excellent" rating with the state of Ohio. **Redwood School has been awarded commendations by the Ohio Department of Education for academic excellence for seven years in a row.** Congratulations to everyone on this achievement! More information is available on past performance in the Parent/Student Handbook.

Third grade parents are asked to mark Tuesday, October 5, 2010 on their calendar as this is the day students will take the Ohio Department of Education Reading Achievement Assessment. We need all students to; 1. get plenty of rest the night before, 2. eat a healthy breakfast, and 3. arrive at school on time. We are confident that all students will be successful on this assessment.

Congratulations to Mrs. Stuart and everyone involved in the Jump Rope for Heart campaign. Redwood School was commended by the American Heart Association for raising \$15,071.63 last spring. **This total placed Redwood first out of 300 schools to participate in this program in northeast Ohio.**

Those attending home varsity football games and the newly renovated stadium are asked to review the flyer that was sent home to be aware of new procedures at that facility.

On behalf of the entire Redwood School staff, I wish you and your family an excellent school year with us.

Regards,  
Jim Flanigan, Principal

# From the PTA President:



Redwood Parents and/or Guardians,

August 24, 2010

Welcome all new students and families! And for those returning, Welcome Back! I hope you all enjoyed a nice summer and that your first few weeks of school are running smoothly. My name is Nancy Sutsko and I am Redwood's PTA President. This is my 2nd year at Redwood and I have two children that are students here. My daughter Anna is entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade and my son Carter is entering 2nd grade. This is my first year as PTA President and I am very excited for all that is to come in the next year. Redwood is a terrific school and I am thrilled to be a part of such a great organization.

**Every child, one voice.** The PTA is the leading child advocacy group in the U.S. and it does great things for our kids at Redwood. The Redwood PTA is dedicated to making this simple motto a reality. We hope that you will help us by becoming a member. Membership is just \$5. You would be surprised how much this little bit helps.

**Why become a member of the Redwood PTA?** Every child at Redwood benefits from the many enriching, fun, and substantial things the PTA does. With your membership and continued support we can continue to offer our students and faculty at Redwood all that they need to keep Redwood at the top of its class. Besides being a member of the PTA to help the school, it's truly a great way to get involved, meet the staff at Redwood, make new friends and have fun all at the same time.

### **Some things the PTA provides/or has provided in the past include:**

- The School Directory
- The School Newsletter "The Branch"
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Recognition
- Reflections Art Fair
- The Pumpkin Festival
- Funding for the following: Playground equipment; drinking fountains, cameras to keep the children safe; computer software; ActivBoards and accessories, hand sanitizer, and recess games and activities to name a few
- Teacher Gifts including classroom carpets, cubbies, books, and other classroom needs
- Plus, with Membership you will receive countless discounts at various organizations and businesses
- Scholastic Book Fair
- Snowflake Shoppe
- Academic Breakfasts
- Homecoming
- Teacher Appreciation Week

**We will be accepting Membership Forms at the upcoming Parent Teacher Night which is Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup> so don't forget to bring your checkbook.**

Redwood PTA meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 9:30am in the cafeteria. Meetings last about 1 hour and small children are always welcome. Please join us, we always welcome new faces! For those of you unable to attend, the minutes and any recent announcements are in The Branch or you can check out our Redwood PTA website at <http://www.avonlakecityschools.org/staff/redwood>. Our website is also full of great information like announcements, 2010-2011 Events Calendar, Handouts, Contact Information for PTA Committee Chairs and more, so please, check it out! **You don't need to attend meetings to be involved. Anyone can contact me with ideas or concerns that they would like voiced at a meeting.**

### **Some BIG Fall events to look forward to:**

- September 8 – First PTA Meeting
- September 27 – October 1 - PTA Scholastic Book Fair
- October 2 – The Homecoming Parade
- October 9 – Annual Pumpkin Festival

There are a lot of events happening this fall and volunteers are the only way that the PTA can survive and thrive. You don't have to be a member to volunteer. We can ALWAYS use your help. Even if you have only a small amount of time to offer, it makes a difference. I am looking forward to a great year at Redwood and with your help and support I know we can make keep Redwood at the top! Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Warm Regards,

Nancy Sutsko

930-0330 or [nsutsko@yahoo.com](mailto:nsutsko@yahoo.com)

## Redwood Spiritwear

This year, Redwood Spiritwear is changing things up. We no longer only have one design to choose from, or one product. The choices have expanded, as well as the different types of art that can be put onto the item you choose. The process has also changed allowing us to take orders periodically throughout the school year – no more one due date to make sure you get your order in. Should you decide at any time throughout the school year you want to order, chances are you will fall into a space between order due dates. Attached is a copy the order form with all the products being offered as well as the different logos and options. The company does accept cash, checks and CREDIT CARDS!

**The first due date will be September 17, 2010. It takes 2 weeks to process the order, so all orders should be back by Oct. 1. Just in time so you can wear your new spirit wear to the Homecoming Parade and the Pumpkin Festival!**

Go ahead and order items for Christmas/Football season as we will change up the product line to include “springier” items as we spring into 2011.

Please do not hesitate to call or email me with any questions!

Melissa Mayo  
[MelissaW01@aol.com](mailto:MelissaW01@aol.com) or 440.242.5311

## Welcome to Redwood New Staff Members!

Lisa Zaworski    LEAPS Techer  
Jennifer Fazio    LEAPS Supervisor

## Health and Safety News

by Jen Drabik

Welcome to the new school year! I hope everyone had a wonderful, safe summer and enjoyed the hot weather as much as I did with my family. We spent endless days enjoying the new pool and countless hours being outdoors. As the PTA's Health and Safety Chair, I look forward to sharing the latest news regarding our children's wellbeing. Recent studies have continued to reinforce the importance of physical fitness activity and achieving higher grades. Physicians and exercise experts recommend that children receive \*at least\* 1 hour of vigorous physical activity per day so lets enjoy that time outside while we still can! I can be reached at [fraggae@hotmail.com](mailto:fraggae@hotmail.com) or 933-0336 if needed.



## Save the Date for the Pumpkin Festival October 9 from 11a-3p.

Lots of volunteers will be needed to make it a success!  
Look for a sign-up sheet in the next couple of weeks!

## FALL PTA FUNDRAISER

The PTA is pleased to announce that our Fall Fundraiser:

**Enjoy the City Coupon Book**

[www.enjoythecity.com](http://www.enjoythecity.com)

The sale will begin September 20, 2010. The books sell for just \$20 each and they contain thousands of dollars in savings for the most popular places around. We are counting on your help to make this a successful fundraiser. More information will be sent to you soon.

## Attention Redwood Parents:

The Pumpkin Festival is looking for donations for our always popular raffle.

*Are you a small business owner?*

*Do you have access to goods or services you can donate?*

All proceeds of the Pumpkin Festival go to the Redwood PTA and help fund the many special programs and services that are offered throughout the year to all of our children.

We'd greatly your help so that this year's raffle can be the best one yet!!

Contact Michelle Allen (440) 933-0743 or Kristen Johnson (440) 930-5553

Thanks in advance for your support!!!

## HOMECOMING PARADE:

**The Avon Lake homecoming parade is just a few weeks away and as usual Redwood Elementary will have a float.** There are a few ideas

coming together and I would like to get your opinions. One idea is we play up the fact that we won the "Fox 8 Cool School" the kids could all

wear sunglasses or "We Are Wild About Redwood" and do a

Fall/Woodsy kind of theme. I would love to have some volunteers for this project! If you are willing and able please contact me.

Thank you in advance!

Nikki Kovacs

[nikgrib@aol.com](mailto:nikgrib@aol.com) or 440-930-4724

**Need** to update your email address send it to:  
[redwood\\_branch@yahoo.com](mailto:redwood_branch@yahoo.com)

All Branch Newsletters are posted online at  
[www.avonlakecityschools.com](http://www.avonlakecityschools.com)  
under Redwood!!!!

Please join us!

What: **Redwood PTA Meeting**

When: Wednesday, September 8, 9:30am

Where: Redwood Cafeteria

Children Welcome

Click here for quick link to:

[To the Redwood Website](#)

For access to:

Gradebook Wizard

Lunch Menu/accounts

Much more



## Redwood Library News

**Karen Schneider,  
Librarian**

### WELCOME TO THE REDWOOD LIBRARY!

During the first few weeks of school the students go over safety rules, good behavior, and the proper use of library books. An information sheet goes home to the parents for their records.

Throughout the school year students in grades 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> will learn how to use INFOHIO. This will enable your child to get accurate information for reports and learn fun facts. INFOHIO also allows your child to search for books in our library from school or at home!

An author visit is being planned. This is a great opportunity for students to learn the writing process from a professional and purchase an autographed copy of the author's book.

A Barnes & Noble bookfair is also being planned. This is a fun event for the whole family to help raise money to purchase new books for the Redwood Library.

If any parent is interested in coming in to read a story please let me know. The kids love visiting readers!

I look forward to sharing my love of reading with your child. Please feel free to contact me with any comments, questions, or concerns.

Karen Schneider

[karen.schneider@avonlakecityschools.org](mailto:karen.schneider@avonlakecityschools.org)

933-5145 x 6005



### **Birthday Book Club**

A great way to give back to the school and help fill the library with more great books is the Birthday Book Club!! For your child's birthday purchase a book to donate to the library.

**Last school year the library received  
96 NEW books  
Thanks to the Birthday Book Club!**



### **Book Fair**

**Sept. 27 - Oct. 1**

## Physical Education at Redwood

I am looking forward to another year of physically educating your child. Many skills are developed through the school year. In the primary grades we learn to throw, kick, skip, shoot, roll, climb, run, dodge and many, many other skills. Besides all the locomotor and manipulative skills we emphasize working safely, being a good sport, sharing equipment and space. The older grades refine these skills and put them in game like situations. It is my hope that your child will leave the gym everyday a little tired, having learned or improved at least one skill. They will also leave happy because they were treated with respect by all their classmates. Please help your child remember their gym days. They need to dress in comfortable clothing and most importantly have a **pair of tennis shoes on their feet**. Since we do not require students to keep a pair of tennis shoes in their locker sandal and boot days are difficult if they do not have tennis shoes. Tennis shoes help all of us participate safely.

Thank you,  
Renee Stuart  
Redwood Physical Education  
Teacher



## Date Book

### Aug 24

First day of School  
Gr. 1 -12  
Kindergarten  
Orientation

### Aug. 25

LEAPS &  
Kindergarten  
Orientation

### Aug. 26

Kindergarteners &  
LEAPS 1<sup>st</sup> Day  
Parent Information  
Night:  
6:30 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
7:15 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>th</sup>

### Sept. 6

NO SCHOOL - Labor  
Day

### Sept. 8

PTA Mtg. 9:30 AM

### Sept. 24

School Pictures Day  
Class & Groups

### Sept. 28 -Oct. 1

Book fair

### Oct.2

Homecoming  
parade  
9:00 am

### Oct. 5

Reading  
Achievement  
Assessment 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

# REDWOOD PTA MEMBERSHIP FORM 2010-2011



**Please send this form with your cash or check payable to Redwood PTA.**

Redwood PTA meetings are scheduled for 9:30 AM the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month (except December) in the Redwood Cafeteria. We hope to see you there!

Parent(s) Names \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address(es) (used for newsletters, directories, volunteer requests, and other PTA updates)

\_\_\_\_\_

Child #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Child #2 \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Child #3 \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Child #4 \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

(All information will remain confidential used exclusively by the Redwood PTA and is not authorized for publication to any outside sources. )

## Quantity

## Total

\_\_\_\_\_ Membership(s) X \$5 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation to Redwood PTA General Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(To help with Redwood PTA budget)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation to PTA Council Scholarships \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Goes to PTA Council for scholarships award to ALHS seniors)

Total Enclosed ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership cards will be available for pick up at the Redwood Office the first week of October.**

Yes, I would like a membership card

No, I do not want a membership card

Please note that the cost is \$5 per membership (i.e., per parent or guardian), NOT per child. Also, each campus PTA in the district is a separate entity; therefore, joining the PTA of another school (e.g., Troy or Learwood) does not include membership in the Redwood PTA, and vice versa.

**QUESTIONS? E-mail or Call Cindy Thatcher at [cthatcher@centurytel.net](mailto:cthatcher@centurytel.net) or 440-930-8673  
or Michelle Allen at [marcymouse@oh.rr.com](mailto:marcymouse@oh.rr.com) or 440-933-0743.**

For PTA Use:		
Check # _____	Cash \$ _____	JBF _____



Dear Parents and Guardians,

My name is Julie Norris and I'm the volunteer Box Tops coordinator at Redwood.

Box Tops is all about the difference 1 can make. This year, our goal is to raise \$2500. Here are five easy, everyday ways you can help:

**Clip** — Clip the Box Top from hundreds of participating products and send them to school. Each one is worth 10¢ when our school redeems them from Box Tops for Education.

**Shop online** — Shop at your favorite online stores through the Box Tops Marketplace® (boxtops4education.com/marketplace). Up to 15% of your purchase total is automatically donated to our school, at no additional cost to you. Plus, you'll get exclusive Box Tops deals and discounts!

**Read** — Buy books online through the Reading Room<sup>SM</sup>, a partnership between Box Tops and Barnes and Noble. Our school receives up to 6% of qualifying purchases.

**My Class Essentials™** — This is a free online registry to help classrooms get the learning tools they need. Our school earns a 2% cash donation with every purchase.

**Sign up** — It's easy and free. Sign up to support our school at [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com), where you can:

- See how much our school is earning with Box Tops
- Enter online promotions for chances to win Bonus Box Tops and other prizes
- Print money-saving coupons for your favorite Box Tops brands
- Make mealtime easier with family-pleasing recipes

You can also sign up for Box Tops email newsletters that will keep you updated on the program, and for Marketplace newsletters with Box Tops members-only deals and discounts.

To learn more, visit [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com)—and thanks for choosing to make a difference for our school with Box Tops!

Sincerely,

Julie Norris

**BOX TOP LINK to  
[NEW COLLECTION  
SHEET!!](#)**

Your school will come in  
first place when you fill this  
sheet with Box Tops!

**Redwood PTA Minutes:**

**Look for the September minutes in the October Issue!**



American Heart Association | American Stroke Association

*Learn and Live.*

Cleveland Metro Division  
1689 East 119th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44106-3988  
Tel: 216.791.7500  
Fax: 216.791.5202  
[www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org)

Redwood Elementary School  
Mr. Jim Flanigan  
32967 Redwood Blvd  
Avon Lake, OH 44012

Dear Principal Flanigan,

As you know, your school supported the American Heart Association by participating in *Jump Rope for Heart* and this past year. What you probably don't know is that by raising \$15,071.63, your school ranked **1st** for the most funds raised from a *Jump Rope or Hoops for Heart* event out of the 3 counties covered in my territory! This is quite an accomplishment, as I have over 300 schools that have the opportunity to participate in *Jump Rope or Hoops for Heart* in those 3 counties. I would like to personally say congratulations and thank you for your hard work and your continued support of the American Heart Association. We appreciate you allowing us to work with your school and specifically our lead volunteer, **Renee Stuart**, to put on this wonderful event. Volunteers are the lifeline of the American Heart Association. Thank you for your dedication to the success of our partnership, and for working hard in getting the children, staff and families involved and excited.

With the rise of childhood obesity, physical activity and healthy living has continued to be an important issue with the American Heart Association and myself. The *Jump Rope for Heart and Hoops for Heart* programs promote the importance of starting early in life with exercise, nutrition and community service. The money that your school has raised will help build healthier lives free from heart disease and stroke by funding valuable research; research that will help in advances of surgery and building healthier communities for decades to come.

Once again, thank you for your support of the mission of the American Heart Association through *Jump Rope for Heart*. Not only do the students and families enjoy participating, but they are helping others as well as themselves. I look forward to work with you, Renee and your school this upcoming year!

You're the Cure! Together we CAN build healthier lives free from cardiovascular disease and stroke.

Best Regards,

Michael R. Long  
Youth Market Director  
American Heart Association  
Great Rivers Affiliate

# September

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Labor Day</b> <b>No School!!</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>PTA</b> <b>Meeting</b> <b>9:30 am</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Spirit Order</b> <b>Forms Due</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>PTA</b> <b>Fundraiser</b> <b>starts</b> <b>Enjoy the City</b> <b>Coupon Book</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  <b>Picture</b> <b>Day!!</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Oct. 1</b>	<b>Oct. 2</b> <b>Homecoming</b> <b>Parade 9 am</b>
	<b>Scholastic Book Fair!!!</b>					

## 2010

