



Windermere Elementary PTA Newsletter

Mustang News

September 2015

Dates to Remember:

- September 15
Individual Picture Day
- September 17
Open House
- September 18
Crazy Hair/Crazy Hat
Day
- September 22
Spirit Night at Burger Fi
- September 24 & 25
~~Donuts with Dad
sponsored by All Pro
Dads—Event has been
POSTPONED~~
- October 8
Mustang Stampede Pep
Rally



Thank You!

Swirl donated the
delicious cupcakes to
our Kindergarten
Round Up.

<http://shellswirls.com>

Swirl

(Simply divine cakes and treats)



A Letter From Your PTA President

Dear Parents and Friends,

We enjoyed meeting you at our Kindergarten Round-up, Meet the Teacher, and our Welcome to Windermere breakfast!

Now is a great time to revisit our "to do" list to see what boxes still need to be checked off:

- ✓ Join PTA! Your dues help support WES students and staff. Together, we provide educational tools and programs to help keep Windermere a top notch, A rated school.
- ✓ Sign up to volunteer at WES. Children love to see their parents involved in school activities. <http://volunteer.ocps.net>
- ✓ Attend WES Open House on Thursday evening, September 17th. Get a glimpse into your child's daily routine at Open House. Don't forget to stop by the cafeteria and visit our PTA table & shop our Spirit Wear boutique.
- ✓ Join us for dinner at Burger Fi at The Grove in Windermere. Our WES Spirit Night is Tuesday, September 22nd.



If there is anything we can do for you, please don't hesitate to contact us at ptawindermere@gmail.com.

Thank you for being part of Windermere Elementary!

Your WES PTA Board, President, Sue Ann Reichard; Vice Presidents, Andrea Hanes, Holly Specht, & Christie Blevins; Recording Secretary, Katina Flynn; Corresponding Secretary, Shannyn Wellington; Treasurer, Monica Fernandez; Vice Presidents – Support, Amy Prevet, Nicole Derda & Michael Rossi



Welcome to our new Assistant Principal, Dr. Wellington-Trawick.





What Is ADDitions And How Do I Become Involved?

ADDitions is the volunteer tracking system set up and managed by Orange County Public Schools (OCPS). You must be registered and approved before you are able to volunteer in the classroom, chaperone a field trip or help with an in-school activity.

Registering is EASY! It only takes about 15 minutes to complete an online application. Go to <https://www.ocps.net/es/cr/resources/Pages/ADDitions.aspx> or

[Click Here](#) to complete the application.

OCPS has added an additional security feature to the program. You will need to upload a picture of yourself and attach it to your profile. It can be any picture, even one from Facebook.

NOTE: If you were an ADDitions volunteer last year you must go online and update your application for this year. Your status will remain inactive until your profile is updated.

School Nurse Program

Thank you for your continued support of the School Nurse Program. Nurse Sue has been very busy in the clinic taking care of the healthcare needs of our children. Your contribution is tax deductible and goes towards a fantastic cause. Please fill out the donation form online, affix your donation

to the form and turn them into your child's teacher or drop it into the PTA mailbox near the front office. Please make checks payable to the WES School Nurse Fund.



Jules' Story

Windermere residents, Kim and Avery Goldberg, received devastating news in July that no parent should ever have to hear. Their beautiful, 9-year-old daughter Julianna (Jules), had been diagnosed with stage 3 Hodgkin's Lymphoma. A series of scans and test have revealed that it is in her neck, next to her lungs and under her liver. While they are thankful that this is a treatable disease, it is an extremely scary and life-changing situation for this beautiful family of seven. Although Julianna has rapidly lost her hair, she continues to amaze us with her grace and acceptance of all her current



circumstances. This cancer cannot diminish both the interior and exterior beauty that Jules emits into this world!

Julianna is currently un-

dergoing her third of four scheduled rounds of chemo-therapy. We are very excited to report that her latest scans show that Jules is an "early responder" to the treatments and it looks like additional chemo and radiation will not be needed! We hope the next announcement will be that she is in full remission and returning to WES in the near future!

So many of us know that the Goldberg's are truly the most loving and kind-hearted family and our Windermere community wants to stand up and show them that they will not fight this cancer alone. Several families among our community have set up fundraisers over the last several weeks to support this cause. The money raised will be used toward any additional medical costs not covered by insurance and the remainder will be donated to pediatric cancer charities in honor of Jules. The Goldberg's are committed to taking this horrible situation and use it to do good in this world.



If you want to be part of TEAM JULES, log onto:

www.JuleStrong.com

This website offers updates on the family, details on upcoming events and a place to donate online.

Thank you all for your support, prayers and donations to help the Goldberg family.

Together we can make a difference!

Mustang Education Fund

Welcome back to school!

Thank you to everyone who made their annual contribution to the fund. Because of you, we will purchase even more technology for the school this fall. In addition, we just purchased 40 laptops for Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grades. Look for them in your child's classroom later this month.

We have much fun planned this coming school year! Look for Tech Week in December and mark your calendars for the annual Windermere Wine & Dine on Saturday, January 30th.

If you haven't had the opportunity to contribute, there's always time! You can donate online at <http://mustangeducationfund.org/> or drop a check in our mailbox at the school office. Please

make checks out to Foundation for OCPS and designate Mustang Fund in the memo.

Questions?? Email us at mustangeducationfund@gmail.com



"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."

— Winston S. Churchill

Papa John's Pizza Night makes WES a Big Winner!

Thank you to all our families who supported WES PTA at our first Papa John's PIE night of the year. For the first time ever, we broke the \$3k mark in sales! That means a 20% donation from Papa John's instead of 15%. We received \$694!!



We had 176 total orders!

And the Winners of the Pizza Party:

First Place - Mrs. Campbell's class with 17 orders!
Second Place - Mrs. May's class with 15 orders!
Tie for Third - Mrs. Horvath's and Mrs. Beavin's classes with 11 orders each!

Papa John's was so pleased with this tremendous turnout that they are donating pizza parties to all four classes.



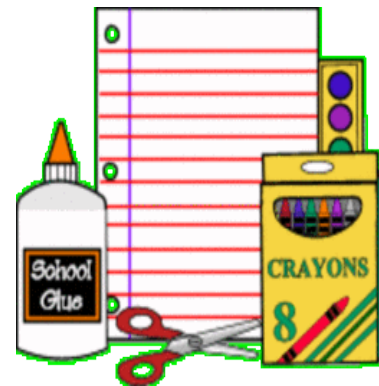
Emma Fecik
from Mrs. May's class prepares to dig in!

School Supply Thank You!

A big thank you goes out to our School Supply Committee Chair Kerry McGavin. It was her brain child that made our back to school shopping so much easier this year!

Through EPI we sold 250 boxes and made \$1200 for the PTA.

If you missed out on the fun, not to worry! The program will be back again for next year. Keep a look out for information in the Spring.



PTA Year In Review and Glimpse into the Future

Every year, WES PTA provides many resources, programs, and special events to benefit the students and staff at Windermere Elementary School.

Here's an update on what PTA has achieved this past school year and what we look forward to in 2015-2016:

Playground Upgrades and Improvements: With the financial support of PTA, new equipment was installed this past spring on the big playground and a mural was painted for our younger students. This year we are adding a Buddy Bench and a new gate with sidewalk.

WES Garden: An idea was born and proposals were made to OCPS. We hope to break ground this year! A new and interactive learning environment for our children is in the works including an irrigation system, new fruit trees and a pergola. Our 3rd graders participated in the Bonny Cabbage program this year and we won a prize with our Carton 2 Garden submission!

Father / Daughter Dance: A runaway success each year! The cafeteria is filled to capacity, the décor is magical, the young ladies (and Dads) steal the show with their dance floor moves and grooves

Accelerated Reader Program: Every Tuesday and Thursday, we provide students with the opportunity to come to the Media Center from 8:15am to 8:45am and take A/R tests. It is a huge success and we have many new readers who excel throughout the year.

Email Communication: We will continue with this great communication tool as we reduce our paper footprint. Contact us at ptawindermere@gmail.com. Look for our monthly newsletter in your inbox!

WES APP: This is an amazing and easy to use app which allows the school to send out notifications directly to your phone. Download the Windermere Elementary School app today!

PTA website: Our website is getting better and better. Please continue to make use of this informative tool.
www.windermerepta.com

WES Facebook page: "LIKE" us at Facebook.com! Keep an eye out for notification of all our local events as well as National and Florida PTA news.

Spirit Nights and Papa John's Pie Nights: We will continue Spirit Nights and PIE nights on a monthly basis. Look for some new additions to our calendar! Each grade adopts a Spirit Night and the revenue made at these events goes to that grade to purchase extra curriculum materials. And all proceeds from Papa John's are set up in a special fund for our staff to draw from as needed. So when you support our local businesses, it comes right back to your child's classroom.



Picture Day is September 15th

Individual picture day is September 15th. Dress your best because this picture will be used in the yearbook. You can order your picture package online or via the picture form. The form must be turned in on the 15th.



If you order online be sure to send in your confirmation code with your form on picture day.

Mustang Spirit Night

Each month a local establishment is selected for a Spirit Night. It is a win-win since we get to socialize with our school friends, enjoy a good meal and the school receives a portion of your check!

This month our Spirit Night will be held on **September 22nd at BurgerFi.**

It's a fun way to give back to the school!



Living Garden Update

Our School Garden plans are slowly progressing. After some on site meetings with OCPS over the summer and resubmission of approval forms, things are looking up.

Our "Learning Garden" plans will soon turn into a ground breaking day and we will need many hands to turn this into a welcoming outdoor classroom area for all to enjoy.

If you have any experience in gardening, construction, want to help with materials or ideas, please contact Amalie Skorman at



Askorman@cfl.rr.com.

Even without a garden yet, our garden club has already been hard at work!

Last year, we submitted an entry to the Carton2Garden contest with our 3rd graders and the help of the Tech Club, led by Mr Frank. Thanks to our students, volunteers and professionally produced video, WES **won** \$1000 from KidsGardening.Org.

To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.

-Audrey Hepburn

Easy Ways to Give to Your School

There are so many programs out there that give money to schools without a lot of effort. Here is a brief outline of some of the programs. Do you know of one that is not listed? Email michaalrossi@gmail.com and I will be sure to include it in the next Newsletter.

Target: You can link your Target Red Card to our school. Target will donate 1% of your Red Card purchases to the school. To link you card go to <https://www-secure.target.com/redcard/tcoe/home> or [click here](#).

Amazon.com—You can sign up for Amazon Smiles and 0.5% of your purchase will go to the Windermere PTA. Sign up at smile.amazon.com.

Box Tops for Education—We all know about clipping box tops, but did you know that box tops brought in \$3,000 last year? Those little pieces of cardboard really help our school. Stay tuned for an upcoming Box Top drive!



[amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)



Where's Windy? & Mustang Stampede

Back by popular demand, the kids will have to figure out where our Mustang Windy is hiding.

That is only one of the many fun activities planned for this year's Annual PTA **Fundraiser**. We have great sponsors and prizes for the kids. Even Mrs. Greer has volunteered to do something extra special!

The **Fundraiser** kicks off with a fun Pep Rally on October 8th followed by a two week collection period. All donation envelopes are due back to school on October 22, our Event Day.

Parents, mark your calendars! Volunteers are needed for both events.



**WINDERMERE
ELEMENTARY PTA**

11125 Park Avenue
Windermere, FL 34786

Phone: (407) 876-7520
Fax: (407) 876-7523

E-mail:
ptawindermere@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

www.windermerepta.com
and
www.facebook.com/
windermereelementary
schoolpta



Mustang Pride



Windermere Elementary wants our very own 4th grader, Jules Goldberg, to know she is not alone in her fight against Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

**Join with us as we show our WES support for Jules
the week of Sept. 14th -18th**

**Monday, Sept. 14, 2015 – 11am-8pm
Ellie Lou's Brews & BBQ**

Ellie Lou's Brews & BBQ in Ocoee has teamed with WE-S for a JULESTRONG Spirit Night raising money for Jules and Pediatric Cancer

Location: 336 Moore Rd., Ocoee, FL 34727 – in the Publix's shopping center off Maguire Rd.

To make it convenient and easy to handle all our WES families, here are 3 ways to participate:

1. Come & sit down to enjoy the BBQ of Ellie Lou's at their Ocoee restaurant for lunch or dinner. Please note that the seating is limited, but the BBQ is divine!
2. Orders to go! Check out the menu online at www.ellielous.com and then call in your order to (407) 347-9515. They will have your meal ready to help expedite your family's meal time needs.
3. Tailgate with their food truck in the Ellie Lou's parking lot with a quick-serve, abbreviated menu (food truck will be there from 5-8pm only -- feel free to bring along some portable chairs or blanket)

Friday, Sept. 18, 2015 – JULESTRONG Crazy Hair & Hat Day at WES

WES PTA's Guardian Angels will be hosting a Spirit Day at school to show our support for Jules. Students may wear a crazy hat or make their hair extra funky! Please be sure your child follows OCPS dress code.

Students that choose to donate \$1 to our Guardian Angels will receive a very special JULESTRONG bracelet to show their support all over town! Volunteers will be collecting money in the car rider loop and in the bus circle. All money collected on this day will be donated to the JULESTRONG fund.

ALSO...if you have a JULESTRONG shirt, please be sure to wear it on Friday!

Want to know more about Jules? Visit www.julestrong.com

COMING SOON

Stampede News
Nurse's Notes

IDEAS?!?

If you have any ideas, questions, or comments about the newsletter, please contact Michael Rossi at michaalrossi@gmail.com
Please do NOT reply to the e-mail address the newsletter is sent from, as it is for distribution purposes only. Thank you!