

TIGER TIPS – FROSTWOOD PTA

Welcome to Frostwood Elementary!

This is not a complete list of all the wonderful events and activities on our campus, but it will hopefully give you the chance to become familiar with some of the things you will hear about as you join our Frostwood community.

To stay up to date on Frostwood news, please check the Frostwood PTA website frequently at www.frostwoodpta.com.

PTA AT FROSTWOOD

The Frostwood PTA (Parent-Teacher Association) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and is part of the Texas PTA. The Frostwood PTA exists to support the parents, students, and teachers at Frostwood. Frostwood PTA meetings are held in August, October, November, February, April, and May and all parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. PTA memberships can be purchased on the Big Form each fall, or you may contact the Membership Chair to purchase your membership at another time.

PTA COMMUNICATIONS

Tiger Tales

Get Frostwood news in your inbox! Make sure you have signed up on the Frostwood PTA website so you can receive your weekly Tiger Tales newsletter email.

Website

The Frostwood PTA website has a wealth of information, updated regularly. Forms, our school store, volunteer opportunities, and Frostwood PTA and campus news can be found at www.frostwoodpta.com.

Frostwood Elementary's website also provides critical school and SBISD information. Visit fwe.springbranchisd.com to find the campus calendar, campus news, dress code, and transportation information.

MAJOR PTA EVENTS EACH YEAR

The PTA funds and supports a variety of activities all year, including cultural arts performances, the Discovery Center science programs, the Literacy Library, guest authors and library programs, the Spelling Bee, and much more. In addition, PTA volunteers participate the following major PTA events each year:

- Fall Book Fair (September)
- International Festival Parade (see "International Festival") (October)
- Carnival (see "Carnival") (October)
- Boosterthon (see "Fundraising") (October-November)
- Western Day (February)
- Auction (see "Fundraising") (February)
- International Festival (see "International Festival") (April)
- Field Day (May)

VOLUNTEERING AT FROSTWOOD

There are many opportunities to volunteer at Frostwood! All volunteers wanting to spend time on campus must first register with SBISD. Simply visit: <https://volunteer.springbranchisd.com/> each year to register...it is quick and easy! Many volunteer opportunities will be listed on the Big Form or on the Frostwood PTA website at the beginning of the school year. Then throughout the year, watch Tiger Tales and the website for other ways to help Frostwood. You can assist in the classroom, library, ESL tutoring and more on a regular basis, or watch for volunteer needs with specific events, field trips, and grade level-specific activities. There is something to match each person's availability and interest! A list of Frostwood PTA Chairs is available on the Frostwood PTA website; please contact them to learn more!

PTA UNDERWRITING

The Frostwood PTA offers business and family underwriting opportunities. **100% of the funds raised supports the Frostwood PTA directly** and allows the PTA to fund programs to support teachers and students inside the classroom and with after-school opportunities. **This is the most effective way you can support Frostwood Elementary financially, regardless of the participation level you choose. Each child on Frostwood's campus benefits in some way every day by the programs and activities funded by the PTA budget.** Businesses should contact the current PTA Vice President of Underwriting to find out what opportunities are available. Families can submit donations to the PTA underwriting effort on the Big Form, or by check, each Fall.

NEWCOMERS NETWORK

Let us welcome you to campus and help you become part of the Frostwood community! Each year, the Newcomers Network Chairs host a welcome meeting the Friday before the first day of school. This is a great opportunity to meet other new families and learn the ins and outs of Frostwood. The Newcomers Network Chairs can also help you get to know other Frostwood families and find ways to join in the fun on campus, so please contact them at any time!

Following are some of the many ways to become involved on Frostwood's campus, through the wide variety of events and programs supported by the Frostwood PTA.

5TH GRADE

Safety Patrol/TAPs

5th grade students are selected as Safety Patrol and TAPs to assist the Frostwood students and teachers. Parent volunteers assist the teacher sponsor with the program.

DARE

The Memorial Villages Police Department works with 5th grade students on "teaching students good decision-making skills to help them lead safe and healthy lives." The students celebrate the end of their elementary DARE program with a BBQ with the DARE MVPD officers.

Chorus

5th Grade Chorus is led by Frostwood Music Teacher Julie Sykes. The Chorus often has a Holiday Concert and a Graduation Concert, as well as participating in a SBISD choir festival.

Peer Group

The 5th Grade Peer Group is the first step in the transition to middle school. The Peer Group is a parent group that meets to discuss issues relevant to their children as they move from 5th to 6th grade.

ACADEMIC EVENTS

Odyssey of the Mind

Working in teams, students have the opportunity to create creative solutions to problems, and then compete against other Odyssey of the Mind teams on the local, state, and world levels. To learn more about Odyssey of the Mind, visit www.odysseyofthemind.com or contact the Academic Events Chair to find out about Frostwood teams.

Math Olympiad

Working individually and in groups, students solve contest problems, developing the ability to solve problems creatively, logically, resourcefully, and ingeniously. Contact the Academic Events Chair or Gifted and Talented Liaison to learn more about Math Olympiad at Frostwood.

UIL A+ Academics

UIL A+ Academics is being considered for the 2015-2016 school year. The UIL A+ Academics competitions give students the chance to expand their daily classroom curriculum through learning expanded subject knowledge and building learning skills that will continue to benefit the students for years to come. To learn more about UIL A+ Academics, visit www.uitexas.org/aplus and watch PTA and school communications for more about the program as it starts on Frostwood's campus.

BIG FORM

Frostwood PTA has consolidated all of the beginning-of-school paperwork on the "Big Form." Available online starting in August and closing in September, this form allows you to become a PTA member, support staff appreciation, purchase field trip shirts, make a contribution to the PTA underwriting, purchase additional school directories, buy a 5th grade yearbook tribute, volunteer for Carnival or Auction, and much more! Don't miss the opportunity to take care everything in one place!

BOX TOPS

Check your cabinets, refrigerator, freezer, and pantry shelves...many of the products you already own have "Box Tops for Education" on them. Simply clip your Box Top, tape it to our special submission forms (available on the Frostwood PTA website), and submit them to the Frostwood office when you have completed a form. Each Box Top you turn in is worth \$0.10 to Frostwood, resulting in over \$2,000 to Frostwood each year. Find out more about the Box Tops program, along with participating products, at <http://www.boxtops4education.com/>.

CARNIVAL

Held in the fall, Carnival is a Frostwood favorite! The TigerFest Carnival features games and activities, a cake walk, dunk tank, and tons of family fun.

DAD'S CLUB

The Frostwood Dad's Club is its own organization, currently obtaining 501(c)3 non-profit status. The Dad's Club is undergoing the renovation of the fields at Frostwood, to allow for both soccer and softball practice space. The Dad's Club also supports Frostwood PTA events, such as the Carnival and Auction, and holds social events for the dads at Frostwood.

DIRECTORY

The Frostwood PTA publishes a school directory each year, including teacher and family contact information, class lists, and lunch schedules. Each family receives one large directory free of charge, with additional directories available for purchase. The Directory is now also available as an app on your phone for access anywhere you are!

FUNDRAISING

Auction

The Auction is the largest fundraiser of the Frostwood PTA. Typically held in February or March, funds raised from the Auction are used to pay for teaching specialists in reading and math, a Spanish teacher, and other projects that benefit all the students at Frostwood.

Boosterthon

The Boosterthon Fun Run is held each fall. The students spend a week learning character skills and gathering pledges from friends and family around the world. At the end of the week, the students participate in a Fun Run on campus during the day, celebrating their accomplishments together. Funds raised from the Boosterthon Fun Run support the general PTA budget, which provides for activities and programs supporting all teachers and students at Frostwood.

"Frostwood Nights"

Occasionally, area businesses will offer Frostwood families discounts or an opportunity to have a portion of the money spent at their establishment donated back to our Frostwood PTA. Watch for these opportunities in Tiger Tales and on the Frostwood PTA website.

GRADE LEVEL COFFEES

Plan to attend the Grade Level Coffees! Each grade level will have a coffee one morning in the weeks after the start of school. Hosted in the home of a family in that grade level, you'll have the opportunity to hear about some of the PTA events taking place that year, and spend time meeting new friends and catching up with old ones!

GREEN TIGERS

Green Tigers is Frostwood's student recycling organization. Throughout the year, students learn about recycling, and lead the school in recycling projects and events.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Salad Bar

Frostwood PTA is proud to provide funds and volunteers to offer a salad bar to Frostwood students during their lunch periods on Wednesdays.

Garden and Orchard

The Healthy Lifestyles committee has worked with SBISD, Urban Harvest, teacher sponsors, and parent volunteers to plant and maintain a garden in front of Frostwood and an orchard in the back of the school. Students learn about healthy eating habits and gardening as they maintain and harvest foods in the garden. Parent volunteers provide leadership in the planning and maintenance of the garden and orchard.

KSHAC (Kids Student Health Advisory Council)

KSHAC is a group of 4th and 5th grade students, led by parent volunteers and teacher sponsors, who learn about and participate in programs that support the healthy development of both mind and body. KSHAC is part of an overall SBISD effort, focused on student health.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

The International Festival Parade and Festival are two of the most exciting events on Frostwood's campus! In the Fall, students participate in the I-Fest Parade, wearing costumes representing countries all over the world. In the Spring, families come together to attend the International Festival, enjoying food and performances representing the diverse backgrounds of many of our Frostwood families.

+WORKS

+Works ("Positive Works") is a non-profit organization focused on using positive community change to address bullying and other issues facing children and families. Parents, teachers, and students have come together to lead a +Works movement and build a positive community on Frostwood's campus. To learn more about +Works, visit www.positivethinkingworks.org or contact the +Works Chair.

SBEF (SPRING BRANCH EDUCATION FOUNDATION)

Spring Branch Education Foundation is an independent 501(c)3 non-profit foundation supporting the schools and programs of Spring Branch ISD. SBEF supports campus programs through their twice-annual grant process, awards scholarships to graduating seniors, and provides funding to support the education of students in the district. To learn more about SBEF, visit their website at www.springbranchisd.com/sbef.

Running for the Arts

One of the SBEF fundraisers is the popular Spring event, Running for the Arts. Students, families, and community members join together in May for a 5K run/walk and a kids K. Funds from this event support the efforts of SBEF.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The Frostwood PTA provides pre-packaged school supplies for purchase each spring and early summer. These school supply packages include all SBISD-requested items by grade level. If purchased through the Frostwood PTA, these supply packages will be waiting for your child in their classroom before the first day of school. If you choose to purchase your own supplies, please obtain the list from fwe.springbranchisd.com.

SISTER SCHOOL SOLUTION

Frostwood Elementary's "Sister School" is Housman Elementary. Each week, Frostwood volunteers help on the Housman campus, and Frostwood students and parents participate in various projects and item collections during the year. To volunteer, contact the Sister School Solution Chair or visit the Frostwood PTA website.

SCHOOL STORE

Spirit Wear

Each year, a variety of Frostwood apparel and other items are available for purchase on the Frostwood PTA website. Check the website for what's new!

Field Trip Shirt

Frostwood Kindergarten through 4th grade students are required to purchase a Field Trip shirt to use on Frostwood field trips. This shirt allows teachers and chaperones to quickly see which students belong with the Frostwood group. 5th grade students use their Chorus shirt on field trips and are not required to purchase a Field Trip shirt.

YEARBOOK

Frostwood Elementary yearbooks are available for purchase each year. Check the Frostwood PTA website in the Fall for information on how to purchase a yearbook for your child. 5th grade parents may purchase Tribute ads (included in the yearbook) for their students on the Big Form. Yearbooks are delivered to students on campus before the end of the school year.