

## in this issue >>>

- ≈ Seattle Kids Marathon
- ≈ Calling All Parents
- ≈ Chloe Step Club
- ≈ Fall Fundraiser
- ≈ We Want To Hear From You



Issue  
**ONE**

Chloe Clark Elementary  
**PTA**  
everychild.one voice.



# The Explorer Compass

Parents, teachers and the community working together to promote educational excellence for our children.

## President's Corner

By Melissa McGann, President

**H**ere we are in September again, and judging by the happy faces of students (and parents!) in the hallways, everyone seems ready to be back in school! If this is your first year at Chloe Clark, you are in for a treat—welcome to one of the best schools in the area! From teachers and staff to parent volunteers and the community at large, Chloe Clark students are provided with a supportive and constructive environment in which academic knowledge and moral character skills are fostered.

I am honored to be returning as your PTA President this year. This will be my fifth year at Chloe Clark—my older daughter, Emily, left the “Chloe bubble” this year to begin fourth grade at Saltar’s Point, and my twins, Keira and Andy, are in the first grade. When I first became involved with the PTA, I

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Seattle Kids Marathon

By Kristi Grund, Chloe Step Coordinator

The Seattle Kids Marathon is on Saturday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 10am and our goal this year is to have 200 Chloe Clark students participate! The Seattle Kids Marathon is structured to allow children – kindergarten through eighth grade – to complete a full 26.2 mile marathon at a rate that is fun and safe for their growing bodies. . . “one mile at a time.” It also encourages them to read 13 books and accomplish 13 do-rights (good deeds) which equal 26 miles.

The first 25 miles (or 62,500 steps) are “honor” miles. Run or walk them in one half or one mile increments at school or at home on a safe route designated by parents.

Kids run the last 1.2 miles of their marathon together on race day. As the kids cross the Finish Line they are greeted with a bottle of water and a Space Blanket! There will be post-run festivities with Radio Disney and the kids will receive their Finisher’s Shirt and goody bag containing their Finisher Certificate and their Medal.

For more information and to register please check out the Seattle Kids Marathon website at [www.seattlemarathon.org](http://www.seattlemarathon.org). The website will give you more information about race day and also provides suggestions of



*(Continued on page 3)*

# Join the PTA Board!

By Melissa McGann, President

Serving as a PTA volunteer is a wonderful way to stay connected and be involved in your child's education. Whether you are a working parent or an at-home parent, there are many ways for you to get involved. The Chloe Clark PTA has over 15 active committees and is always looking for volunteers to help.

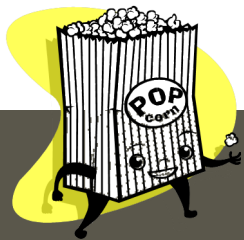
Visit [www.chloeclarkpta.com](http://www.chloeclarkpta.com) and click on "Board" for a complete list of our Board committees. In particular, we are looking for volunteers for our Chloe Creations (art program), Run 4 Fun, Box Tops, Chloe Step Club, Math Night, Popcorn, Science Club, and Staff Appreciation Committees.

We are also looking for volunteers to chair some exciting events this year that promise to be fun for the entire family: Family Game & Craft Night Coordinator (event on Dec. 2nd); Family Bingo Night Coordinator (event on Feb. 4th); and Spring Fitness Carnival Coordinator (June 10th).

For more information, please email Melissa McGann at [president@chloeclarkpta.com](mailto:president@chloeclarkpta.com) or Diane Henderson at [volunteer@chloeclarkpta.com](mailto:volunteer@chloeclarkpta.com).



- 9/2—First Day of School
- 9/7—No School
- 9/8—PTA Board Meeting 6:30pm
- 9/15—Fall 2010 Fundraiser Begins
- 9/22—PTA General Membership Meeting & Coffee Social 9:30am  
**Free Coffee and Muffins!**
- 9/23—First Day of Autumn
- 9/24—Half Day



## Popcorn Sales Start October 1st

.25 cents per bag (limit 4 per student)

(Continued from page 1)

did so as a parent wanting to be involved in my daughter's daily activities. Now, with three children in school plus my family's involvement in a variety of clubs and sports, I know first hand what it means to be busy and feel stretched in a million different directions. However, I strongly believe that nobody can advocate for children as well as their own parents and caregivers, and parental involvement in the school is important for nurturing solid parent-child bonds. I know I am not alone with these feelings, since Chloe Clark consistently ranks near or at the top in volunteer hours throughout the district!

The Chloe Clark PTA has historically been a very strong presence at the school, and I am honored to continue that tradition. With your fundraising dollars and donations, we have been able to fund teacher and support staff grants, field trips, and educational classroom supplies, as well as large capital improvements like the marquee/reader board in front of the school and assistance with acquiring the rock climbing wall in the Community Room. We are also proud to offer several enrichment programs and events with the intent of providing exceptional learning opportunities for all Chloe Clark children, such as the Chloe Step Club (replacing the Explorer Track Club), the Chloe Creations art program and Reflections Week workshops, Science Club, Math Night, and school assemblies, as well as family-oriented events like Family Craft & Game Night, Family Bingo Night, the Explorers Run 4 Fun 5K run, and much more.

All of these programs need volunteers, though—they don't happen on their own. **The PTA is a member-driven organization run and led by volunteers!** I encourage each parent to volunteer just three hours throughout the year in support of the school or school-related events. You will be benefiting not just your child, but the entire Chloe Clark community.

I am excited to do my part in helping the Chloe Clark PTA achieve its mission: *Parents, teachers, and the community working together to promote educational excellence for our children.*

**Chloe Clark Elementary**  
**PTA**<sup>®</sup>  
*everychild. one voice.*<sup>®</sup>

(Continued from page 1)

books and do-right activities. There you can download tracers for miles, books, and do-rights and use them to track your progress.

The registration fee is \$15 plus an additional \$1.50 online processing fee. If you would rather mail in your registration form, blank registration forms will be available in the school office. Please return them to the school so we can mail them in as part of our team.

**Be Part of the Chloe Clark Team! We have set up a team, so when your register on-line, choose the team “Chloe Clark Elementary School”.**

Please contact our Chloe Step Coordinator, Kristi Grund at [chloestepclub@chloeclarkpta.com](mailto:chloestepclub@chloeclarkpta.com) with any questions.

*If we reach our goal of 200 participants, the prize will be Kevin Schmidt, our Health and Fitness Teacher dressed up as students’ choice for the race! Let’s reach that goal!*

## PTA Website

Have you visited **the** Chloe Clark PTA web site? It’s the perfect place for parents and community members to get up-to-date information about Chloe Clark PTA events, activities, and fundraising programs.

The PTA’s web site is also a great resource throughout the year for current volunteer opportunities, program announcements, Board Meeting minutes, and past issues of the PTA monthly newsletter. For more information visit [www.chloeclarkpta.com](http://www.chloeclarkpta.com)—check it out today!

## Ready-Set-Read Program

By Christy Johnson, Vice President

Reading is the ultimate gift you can give a child, and with the help of the Ready-Set-Read program our school will be honoring super readers. Our goal with the Ready-Set-Read program is to encourage more reading inside and outside the school.

The Ready-Set-Read program is very easy. Each month the Chloe Clark PTA will send home a reading chart. Each student will write their name and teacher’s name on the reading chart, then they will color one of the objects in for every twenty minutes of reading they do for the month. Once all of the objects are filled in send it back to school by the due date on the sheet and your child will receive a Reading Certificate and a Farrelli’s coupon along with the next month’s reading chart. At the end of the year the students that participated each month will get special recognition.

If you have any questions or issues through out the year concerning this program please contact Christy Johnson our coordinator of this program at [vicepresident@chloeclarkpta.com](mailto:vicepresident@chloeclarkpta.com)



### You get the following awards for finishing each “milepost”:

- 13 Books: a special certificate
- 13 Do-rights: a special certificate
- 5 miles: award token, chain and award certificate
- 10 miles: 10 mile award token and award certificate
- 15 miles: 15 mile award token
- 20 miles: 20 mile award token and award certificate
- 25 miles: 25 mile bonus award token

## Calling All Parents

By Diane Henderson, Volunteer Coordinator

Want to know one of the best ways to positively influence your child’s academic experience?

### **VOLUNTEER AT HIS/HER SCHOOL!**

That’s right, just a little bit of your time spent volunteering will significantly improve your child’s school experience. The National PTA website has this to say, “The research is in, and the results are conclusive: students whose parents are actively involved in their education do better at school...Specifically, students with involved parents have greater academic success, better attitudes about school, and fewer behavioral problems.”

And with all the great things happening at Chloe Clark, there is definitely an opportunity for every parent to get involved. These include, but are definitely not limited to, helping in your child’s classroom, field trips, popping popcorn on Fridays, working at one of our off hours programs, like Family Game Night or the new Science Club, completing various tasks at home, helping out in the office or serving on the PTA. The list here could certainly go on and on.

So, no matter how much or how little time you may have available, there’s always an opportunity to get involved at Chloe Clark. And it’s easy to get started. Just stop by the front office and pick up a volunteer packet, or email me at [volunteer@chloeclarkpta.com](mailto:volunteer@chloeclarkpta.com) and I’ll make sure a packet gets to you. Together, we can improve on the already amazing education our children are getting at Chloe Clark Elementary.

Together, we can improve on the already amazing education our children are getting at Chloe Clark Elementary.

# Chloe Step Club

By Kristi Grund, Chloe Step Coordinator

We are excited to introduce a new fitness incentive program this year with the assistance of our Health and Fitness Teacher, Mr. Schmidt – the **Chloe Step Club**. Students will wear a pedometer during school hours and record their steps weekly. Each school morning, students will clip on their assigned pedometer located in their classroom and then at the end of the school day, the students will leave the pedometers at school. As part of an integrated program with Mr. Schmidt, students will learn and reinforce the lessons of physical fitness, movement, and overall health education.

The Chloe Step Club has already been implemented in the kindergarten classrooms of Ms. Ashton and Ms. Sabado and the third grade classroom of Ms. Stalder. We will be launching the Chloe Step Club school wide on **October 1<sup>st</sup>**. This new program replaces the Explorer Track Club with which returning families will be familiar. All Chloe Clark students will be able to participate in the Chloe Step Club whether or not they run laps. Our hope is that those students who enjoy being active, but do not necessarily want to run laps during recess will have an opportunity to learn ways in which they can use movement and physical fitness to accumulate steps. Those students who enjoyed our Explorer Track Club and continue to run laps will also flourish in this program accumulating steps quickly.

You will be amazed at how much your child moves during a week. Some of the students will move more than 50,000 steps per week! Working together, the PTA and Mr. Schmidt are developing a t-shirt reward program as the students reach achievable milestones – amazingly, some students may move five million steps or more during the school year! The Chloe Clark PTA strongly believes in educating students on personal fitness and health instruction, and this year we have dedicated \$1,500 towards this goal. Thanks to Mr. Schmidt's commitment, DuPont Kids' Fitness and Anytime Fitness have also made generous donations to make the Chloe Step Club a reality.

We look forward to seeing the excitement and happiness on the students' faces as they record their steps and keep moving. Volunteers will be an integral part of this program in the weekly recording of the students' steps. If you want to help with this program or have any questions, please let us know!

As a parent of a Chloe Clark student, we are asking for your help to make our program truly successful. **Each child will be responsible for a \$3 user fee.** This is NOT a fee for purchasing the pedometer—it covers the cost of the battery for one year. Return the form at the end of this newsletter with payment to your child's teacher (**payable to Chloe Clark**). Please note that if your child's pedometer is lost or broken, you will be responsible for the \$10 replacement cost. All pedometers will stay with the school to be used for years to come.

## First Box Tops Store of the Year on Wednesday, October 6th at lunchtime



### For more information, contact

**Melissa McGann**

PTA President

[president@chloeclarkpta.com](mailto:president@chloeclarkpta.com)

**Kristi Grund**

PTA Chloe Step Club Coordinator

[chloestepclub@chloeclarkpta.com](mailto:chloestepclub@chloeclarkpta.com)

**Kevin Schmidt, Teacher**

Chloe Clark Health & Fitness

## Back to School

By Christy Johnson, Vice President

First let me say how wonderful it was to see such a huge turn out for Back-to-School Night!! Second, it was great that so many of you showed interest in the PTA. As we have all experienced, coming back to school carries many emotions, for some it is a relief, others it is sad because it means summer has ended. There is a way to make the transition easier for everyone involved. Here are some ways to have a great school year!!

- If your child is uneasy about school ask why/what is bothering him or her? Make sure you don't dismiss this fear and maybe give your child an example of when you were scared.
- Meet with your child's teacher, if you haven't already, so that your child knows you are working as a team for them.
- Make going to school exciting by telling them about what they will be doing through out the year.
- Then there is always the dreaded school work, to help with this make sure your child has a quiet place to study, and that you have the supplies needed for them to complete this. (pencils, paper, crayons, etc.)
- Last but not least set up a routine. Studies have shown kids do far better when following a routine

Have a great school year!!

# Fall Fundraiser Q&A

By Sarah Arnett, Fall Fundraiser Chair

This year, the PTA has decided to try something new for our Fall Fundraiser. Due to repeated suggestions and comments from the past, we are not going to sell anything. We are opting instead to try a 'donations only' fundraiser. With any new idea, there are many questions. Here are some answers.

## Where does the money go?

The PTA funds many things—some obvious and some behind-the-scenes. Every year, the PTA gives teachers and staff money for supplies. They help fund field trips. They provide new equipment for the school—the PTA paid for the reader board in front of the school and helped with a portion of the rock climbing wall.

There are also several PTA activities throughout the year that are offered at no charge to the Chloe Clark community, all funded through the PTA. This year, the PTA is adding some new activities. There will be Science Nights, a Family Craft/Game Night, and a Spring Fitness Carnival in addition to Math Night and Bingo Night that have been successful in the past. Prizes, refreshments, and supplies all take funding, and the PTA puts the money to good use.

## I already paid for my PTA membership, isn't this enough?

The money collected for membership dues is mostly allocated to the PTA on the state and national level. It does not pay for our school's PTA activity.

## What's in it for my kid?

In addition to all that was listed above, we have some incentives for the students. The class with the highest percentage of participation will win a pizza party. The student with the highest dollar amount in donations will win an iPod nano. All students who participate will receive a ribbon. Students will also receive a raffle ticket for every \$20 in donations, and another iPod nano will be raffled off at the end of the fundraiser.

## Will my donations pay for a leaf on the 'Leaf your Mark' wall?

No. 'Leaf your Mark' is a separate program. If you are interested, more information is on the PTA website.

## How much of the Fundraiser will go to the PTA?

This is the remarkable thing about a 'donations only' fundraiser—100% will go to our school!

## How will it work?

On September 15, students will receive a collection envelope. The envelope will be printed with identifying information and a list to keep track of donations. Parents, neighbors, friends, etc. can donate cash or write checks (payable to Chloe Clark PTA). Envelopes are due on October 13. We ask that parents verify the total donation amount in the envelope and sign before turning it in. There is also a website for online donations from grandparents, friends in other states, etc. A link to the donation site is on the PTA website ([www.chloeclarkpta.com](http://www.chloeclarkpta.com)). Click on 'fundraising,' then 'Fall Fundraiser.'

## Does the PTA have a goal for the Fundraiser?

Yes. We are hoping to raise \$7,500. If each student raises just \$13, this goal is achievable.

## Is my donation tax deductible?

Yes. After all donations are submitted, each student will receive thank you cards for their donors. We suggest that donors keep the card for their records. The online donation site will also send out a confirmation and thank you note.

## How does this all end?

Students will receive their raffle tickets and donor thank you cards in their Wednesday envelopes on October 20. Grand totals and winners will be announced during Community Time on Tuesday, October 26. The raffle will take place and awards will be given at this time.

Thank you in advance for your participation and cooperation. We are hopeful this will be a positive change for our PTA. If you have any further questions, please drop me an email--[fallfundraiser@chloeclarkpta.com](mailto:fallfundraiser@chloeclarkpta.com).

# Explorer Science Club

By Christy Johnson, Vice President

One of this year's PTA goals is "Inspire children through arts, science and physical fitness." So we are very excited to introduce the Explorer Science Club sponsored by the Chloe Clark PTA. The goal of the Explorer Science club is to provide Chloe Clark students with an additional opportunity to learn about the world around them through hands on science.

The Explorer Science Club will be completely optional and open to all students K-3 attending Chloe Clark. There will be one to two meetings a month and each month will have a different theme. Each month's theme will have one large group project and then the students will break up into smaller, age-specific groups. There will be no cost to the families, only an optional donation of supplies.

We will be starting in October so look for additional information to come home in the Wednesday envelope with your child.

If you have any questions or would like to help with this wonderful opportunity please contact our coordinator of this program at Christy Johnson at [vicepresident@chloeclarkpta.com](mailto:vicepresident@chloeclarkpta.com).



## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Do you have an idea for a PTA project or event? If so, we want to hear from you! A **PTA Planning Form** is available on our web site for anyone who is interested in submitting an activity idea. Visit [www.chloeclarkpta.com](http://www.chloeclarkpta.com) and click on the "Forms" section to print the PTA Planning Form. Completed forms may be returned to the main office or the PTA mailbox. All written ideas will be given consideration by the PTA Board. Join us in continuing to provide new and different events for our membership and the students at Chloe Clark!

## October 2010—Mark Your Calendars

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

10/6—Box Tops Store

10/6—PTA Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.

10/11 to 10/15—Reflections Week

10/19 to 10/22—Half Days & Parent Teacher Conferences

10/28—Math Night 6:30pm

### Chloe Step Club—Pedometer

**Clip & return form with payment — \$3/child (payable to Chloe Clark) — to oldest child's teacher by Friday, September 17th.**

#1 Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

#2 Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

#3 Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_