



# SIERRAMONT PTSA Newsletter

## November 2015



<https://sites.google.com/site/sierramontptsa/home>

*Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving. ~W.T. Purkiser*

Dear Sierramont Parents:

As our holiday season is fast approaching, it is the perfect time to pause and reflect on all the incredible things for which we are thankful. First and foremost, we are grateful for your support; we are very passionate about meeting the needs of all the staff and children, and your support makes a world of difference. Parent involvement and a strong partnership between parents, teachers and students are key components to our success. I am sure that we can count on your continued support throughout the year.

This month signifies the “Festival of Lights” or “Diwali”. It is celebrated with great enthusiasm all across the globe. The word “Diwali” is derived from the Sanskrit word “Deepavali” which in simple terms means row of lights. This festival symbolizes the triumph of good over evil, light over darkness, knowledge over ignorance and hope over despair. In Hinduism, it is believed that when the Lord Rama (a Hindu God) returned from exile after defeating the demons, because it was a new moon night, people in his kingdom lighted lamps along the path to guide him and his army. In Sikhism, the holiday signifies the day when their religious Guru Har Gobind freed himself and other Hindu Kings from oppression. In Jainism, it signifies the attainment of “Nirvana” (release from cycle of life, death and rebirth) by Lord Mahavir.

This month also signifies the celebration of Thanksgiving where we gather together as a family and express gratitude for all the good fortune in the past year. What a great opportunity for our children to meet their cousins and peers to exchange various ideas about education and life.

Both these holidays also provide us with an opportunity for reflection, to remember those that are less fortunate and to renew our commitment to reach out to those in need.

I wish you and your family a Happy Diwali and a Happy Thanksgiving! Enjoy some time together as a family!

### FUNDRAISER/PROGRAM INFORMATION

- **Box Tops:** Congratulations to our October boxtops winners!!!
  - Miranda Torres
  - Meilan Wong
  - Emi Wong
- **Shoparoo:** We are almost a 50,000 points which is equivalent to \$100. With 54 supporters currently and steadily growing, I think we are doing well with this program. Thank you for all your support! You can download the app on your smartphone today and start earning points for the school. Just take a picture of your receipts and submit it to collect points. Very simple and no additional purchase required! Visit <https://goo.gl/jaXBrq> for more information.
- **Labels for Education:** Get more information on this program on our website. For more information visit - <https://goo.gl/pTxFyq>
- **Ocean Super Market:** A big thanks to all the families that help support this initiative. Ocean Super Market is an important partner for us. **These gift cards make a great holiday gift!**
- **Amazon Smile:** Amazon donates 0.5% of all sales to Sierramont PTSA. There is no additional cost to you. Book mark the Amazon Smile page whenever you shop at Amazon. Anyone can support us, so please spread the word. Use this link to shop: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/77-0556550>
- **My Coke Rewards:** This program has been improved a lot. You can now send in Coke caps or codes from all Coke company beverages, like Fanta, Minute Maid, FUZE, etc. Thanks to all the families that help with this. Your support makes this program work for us!

### REMINDER

We have the position of Historian and Fundraising chair still open. E-mail us today and let us know which role interests you most.

PTSA Meetings are on the first Tuesday of every month at 6 PM in the school library.

Like our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/SierramontMiddlePTSA>

Visit our website to see the complete list of programs. Thank you for your support as always.

