Give me a P-T-A!

Welcome to a brand new school year at Corbell Elementary!

One of the primary reasons Corbell has been and continues to be such an excellent place for our children to go to school is the strength of its PTA. It’s a fact that parent involvement increases student achievement. What great reason do YOU need to get involved?? Even if you work full-time or have young children at home, we invite you to be an “OC (off-campus) Volunteer.” You can contribute in a variety of ways without having to be at school. Check out the Volunteer page on the PTA website for upcoming opportunities!

Your PTA board has been working all summer to prepare an enriching, fun and beneficial year for your children. Our first event of the season is Corbell Kickoff, and last year’s event was a huge hit! Look for the huge inflatables and the food trucks. You don’t want to miss this fun evening with the family. You can always check the PTA website for the most current calendar of events.

Don’t delay! Join the PTA today and be part of Team Corbell – Where Champions Are Made! The first class in each grade to reach 100% membership will receive a popcorn party and a coupon for one free Chick-fil-A sandwich!

Please feel free to contact me at any time at president@corbellpta.org.

Michelle Cassano
Corbell PTA President
Corbell PTA looks forward to sponsoring many fun and educational programs throughout the year that will benefit the children at our great school. **We simply cannot do this without your support!**

**WHAT DOES PTA DO?**

Corbell PTA is busy throughout the year enhancing our student's academic experience, bringing the Corbell community together and giving back to our school.

The PTA collects dues from its members and conducts only ONE fundraiser per year. With these funds, the PTA provides all these things and more:

- A student directory
- Fall Book Fair
- Corbell Kickoff Family Event
- Field Day
- Annual Talent Show
- Reflections Art Program
- Spirit Nights
- Multicultural Night
- Spring Book Fair
- Environmental Programs
- Online Spirit Store
- Healthy Living Programs
- iPads and Laptops for the school
- Monthly newsletters
- Classroom Parties throughout the year
- Special Ed and Advocacy Inclusion
- Teacher Appreciation Events
- Family Movie Night
- Extensive Guided Reading Library
- Watch D.O.G.S Program for dads
- Community Store Programs
- Critterman Event
- Classroom Technology
- and much more...

*Can you imagine Corbell without all that?!*

**REMEMBER - Joining the PTA doesn't have to mean volunteering.** Sure, we value every minute our parents give to help our mission, but membership doesn't mean you have to volunteer.

**HOW DO I JOIN THE PTA TEAM?**

Visit the Corbell PTA website- it’s loaded with information about how you can get involved and has a MEMBERSHIP FORM that you can print, fill out and send to school in your child’s backpack or drop off at the front office. You can check it out at [www.CorbellPTA.org](http://www.CorbellPTA.org)

*Remember, the first class in each grade to get 100% of their parents signed up for PTA gets a popcorn party AND coupons for free Chick-fil-A sandwiches!*

For more information about joining the Corbell PTA, please contact Angela Mason at [Membership@CorbellPTA.org](mailto:Membership@CorbellPTA.org)
It’s almost time for our annual fundraiser here at Corbell – The Wild Walk! This will be our 8th year doing the walk-a-thon as our school fundraiser, and we know it will be another huge success because of the great students, parents and staff here at Corbell.

The Wild Walk will take place on Tuesday, October 1st and the students will participate in The Wild Walk during ‘specials.’ The children will walk or run laps to earn money for the school which will help fund educational programs, teacher appreciation, college scholarships, technology and learning tools for the classroom. This year our goal is $30,000 so we need everyone to participate!

The students will be looking for sponsorship, with either a ‘per lap’ or a flat fee donation, and each child will receive a Wild Walk T-shirt. This is Corbell’s one and only fundraiser. The Wild Walk allows Corbell students to be actively involved in raising money for their school while getting physical exercise and having a great time in the process! Some programs that will be funded by The Wild Walk are the High-Tech High-Touch Grade Level Programs, Shakespeare on the Go, The Critterman, Corbell Kickoff, as well as library and guided reading books for the school.

We encourage you to come out and support our students during this fun time! Feel free to walk beside your child or stand on the sidelines cheering them on. We are so fortunate to have such supportive families here at Corbell!

September 17th 5:30 pm
ROOM PARENT INFORMATION

A great way to become part of the Corbell Team is to be a room parent. If you are interested in being a room parent for your child’s class, please complete the blue form that came home with your child and return to your teacher by Friday, September 6th. Volunteers are much appreciated and we are looking for 3 specific positions for each classroom. The best placement for room parents will be determined and notified by September 13th. The room parent orientation meeting will be held in the school’s cafeteria on Tuesday, September 24th at 9:30am.

In addition to the extensive list of programs, events, and resources provided by the PTA, we will focus on four goals this school year. Please join us and help make them happen!!

Corbell PTA 2013-2014 Goals

1. Continue effective communication among PTA, staff, and parents through email blasts, website, newsletter, Facebook and flyers.

2. Organize the teacher workroom and implement the Copy Cats program to allow the teachers to have more time in the classroom and less time at the copier.

3. Keep improving and creating opportunities for parents to get involved from home and outside of school.

4. Build on new Healthy Lifestyles position by promoting healthy lifestyles programs and educating parents and students with healthy alternatives.
The reflections program is designed to encourage students to create their own works of art. We will be sending home more information soon, but we wanted to give you some time to start thinking about the theme and visualizing your artistic masterpieces. For more information please visit http://www.txpta.org/programs/reflections/
Big Library Read Program runs September 16-30th!

Get the free eBook or audiobook from Overdrive.

Millions of readers around the world are participating in the Big Library Read of the eBook and audiobook, *Fancy Nancy: Nancy Clancy Super Sleuth*, and you are invited to join in the fun!

On **September 16**th,

Go to: [http://friscoisd.lib.overdrive.com](http://friscoisd.lib.overdrive.com)

Use your child’s school ID # (6 digit ID number) to log in and get the Nancy Clancy ebook or audiobook for free.

Frisco ISD students can check out 2 titles at a time from Overdrive (in addition to the books they check out from the library).

Access Overdrive using the Overdrive app on your smartphone, Apple devices, Nook, & Kindle or use your computer.

Overdrive has lots of great picture and chapter books available for check out throughout the school year and summertime!

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The Library Needs Volunteers!

Please come by the library or email thompske@friscoisd.org if you would like to help! Thanks!
Welcome to the 2013-2014 Corbell Music Room! My name is Mrs. Schettler, and I have been teaching at Corbell Elementary since we opened in 2006. I received my bachelor’s degrees in Bassoon Performance and Music Education from the University of North Texas . . . GO MEAN GREEN!!! When I’m not singing, dancing, or playing instruments with the kids you will often see me running or riding my bike around The Trails with my family. My loving husband, Curtis, is a band director in Plano ISD, and we have two energetic boys, Cole (5, now in Kindergarten at Corbell) and Carson (3 in October), and a sweet Boston terrier, Cookie.

This year, we will be singing, playing instruments, moving, and dancing to many American folk and multicultural songs. Each grade level curriculum is accumulative and based upon the previous year’s knowledge. In Kindergarten, we will be moving to and learning about the steady beat by experimenting with speaking/singing, fast/slow, high/low pitches, and loud/soft. From these comparatives, we will learn about beat vs. rhythm in classical music. We will also study the instruments of the orchestra through a composer study on Camille Saint-Saens’s “The Carnival of the Animals”.

In first grade, we will begin working on our music literacy with identifying and reading quarter notes, eighth notes, and quarter rest. In the spring, we will continue our rhythmic reading development and work on melodic reading by identifying a minor third, skip, as so and mi on the lines and spaces. At the end of the year, we will identify a step, minor second up, as la. We will conclude the year with a composer study on Sergei Prokofiev’s “Peter and The Wolf”.

Second grade starts the year reviewing all 1st grade concepts and begin their rhythmic skills with identifying a half note as one long sound over two beats. The students will expand their steps and skips of mi so la to the full pentatone (do re mi so la), and identified do as the tonal center. Students will also expand their knowledge of harmony by performing on the Orff instruments.

This fall, Third grade will review all 2nd grade concepts and expand the pentatone on the staff and identifying absolute pitches on the staff. The rhythmic studies include four sounds on a beat as sixteenth notes. The students will do a thorough study of the opera and will attend a live performance of “The Three Little Pigs” in October during the school day.

Fourth grade will expand on all the previous knowledge by continuing to develop their singing voices, performing on the African drums, and beginning studies on the recorder. The 4th grade class has been selected to perform and represent our school at Merry Main Street on Saturday, December 7th (more info to come). They will also lead the annual Corbell Holiday Sing-a-Long on Friday, December 13th for the Celebrate Corbell Friday Assembly at 2:00 pm. When we return after winter break, we will begin studying the African drums. For the rest of the semester, the students will apply known songs, movement, and Orff instruments to beginning recorder pieces. They will improve their music literacy by playing and singing from the staff. We will conclude the year with a composer study on Ludwig Van Beethoven.

Fifth grade will continue to master their singing voice and continue studies on the recorder with Recorder Karate. Throughout the year, the students will earn recorder belts by studying different songs on the recorder. Each song will be taught through music notation, memorized, and performed in trios in front of their class. The 5th Grade class has been chosen to sing the Star Spangled Banner at a Texas Legends Game (our tentative date is Friday, January 31st – more info to come later). We will review the instruments of the orchestra this spring before the 5th graders choose their electives at middle school, and in March the 5th grade will attend a concert to see the Plano Symphony Orchestra.

This is going to be a great 2013-2014 school year, and I cannot wait to see our students develop their musicianship and wonderful singing voices. Corbell ROCKS!!!
September birthdays

David Wehmeyer-2nd
Ana Ringhofer-4th
Kim Fry-7th
Jennifer Brown-10th
Kristen Ramsey-15th
Cathy Gleason-16th
Tina Nixon-25th
Brandi Mann-27th