

# CORBELL

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY CORBELL PTA

# Chronicle



September 2010 • Weldon Corbell Elementary • 11095 Monarch, Frisco, Texas 75034 • Volume 24



## A Word From The

## BIG KAHUNA

Hello Corbell Parents,  
School is off to a great start so far! We've enjoyed seeing our returning students and have been very impressed with all of our new students. We appreciate your help in making our first week go so smoothly. It's going to be an awesome 2010-11 school year!

David Wehmeyer, Principal

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This Newsletter was brought to you  
this month by the letters P-T-A!

**Texas**  
**PTA**

everychild.onevoice.®

Click the link above to see what is  
happening at the state level

**RELAX.... this is  
going to be a breeze!!**

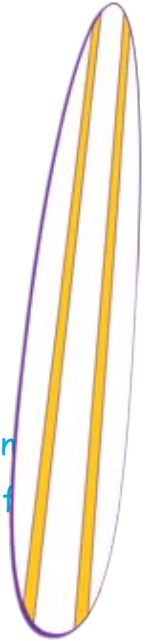
If your child is going to be absent  
from school:

1. Please email the school at [garciam@friscoisd.org](mailto:garciam@friscoisd.org) or call the office at **469-633-3550**.
2. Send a handwritten note or a doctor's note when your child returns to school.


## Ride the Wave This Month....

September Dates to Remember

- Sept. 2 Curriculum Night  
(K-2 5:30; 3-5 6:30)
- Sept. 6 No School-Labor Day
- Sept. 7 Family Fun Night-5:30  
PTA Meeting-7pm  
(Spirit Store Open)
- Sept. 10 Grandparents' Luncheon
- Sept. 16 Watch D.O.G.S. kick-off  
pizza night--6:30pm
- Sept. 30 Fall Picture Day



Happy Birthday!

	Mr. Wehmeyer	2nd
	Mrs. Brown	10th
	Mrs. Ramsey	15th
	Mrs. Gleason	16th
	Mr. Anderson	29th

## Don't Miss THE BOAT!

The Corbell PTA will be publishing the annual Student Directory in October.

Advertise your business and support the Corbell PTA and students at the same time!

Ads are reasonably priced & tax deductible!

- \$25 Quarter Page ad [5"x3.5"]
- \$50 Half Page ad [5"x7.5"]
- \$100 Full Page ad [8"x10"]

Consider sending your young learners some encouraging words with a

**\$10 Parent ad [Business Card Size]**

Contact Vickie Miller at,  
[Vickieliz\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:Vickieliz_2000@yahoo.com) to place your ad today!

## Hang Ten with us at Family Fun Night!

September 7th, 5:30-7:00 pm

Bring your family and come join our **LUAU** celebration!

Enjoy face painting, limbo, hula dancing, games & treats! Let's have fun getting to know other Corbell Families!!!



## Swim on in... ...to the Library!!

The library needs volunteers!  
Please come by the library or email [thompske@friscoisd.org](mailto:thompske@friscoisd.org) if you would like to help!! Thanks!

**Put on  
your Happy  
Face!!**

School Pictures for  
the Fall will be  
September  
30th!!

# Life's A Beach

with Mrs. Ramsey, Counselor

As the counselor at Corbell Elementary, I wear many hats and will be responsible for a variety of school activities.

Corbell is a very caring school. You will find that we all work together as a team to help the children reach their maximum potential.

Elementary counselors are responsible for all standardized and state testing within the building. What this means is that I organize, coordinate, train, collect, and finally distribute the results from the testing that will be done at a variety of grade levels.

Another responsibility of the counselor is to teach classroom guidance lessons. Classroom guidance takes place when I go to individual classrooms to deliver lessons that develop the skills children need to help get along with others as well as make tough decisions confronting them daily. The basis for these lessons most often evolves from a piece of literature that I share with the students in a story time format. Through the story, we address the issues that impact us as individuals and we also discuss how these issues could be handled in a win-win solution. This is one of the best ways I can get to know the students and they get to know me. Guidance lesson topics may address skills such as: organization, social skills, getting along with others, proper behavior, study skills, test anxiety, and making good choices depending upon the need within the building or a particular grade level.

Throughout the year, we will have College Week, Red Ribbon Week, the Angel Tree Gift Collection, and the Food Drive. Details will be in future newsletters.

Our children are our greatest assets and I want to help each student be the very best that he/she can be.

For more Counselor news, please visit my webpage at:

<http://teachersites.schoolworld.com/webpages/CounselorRamsey/>

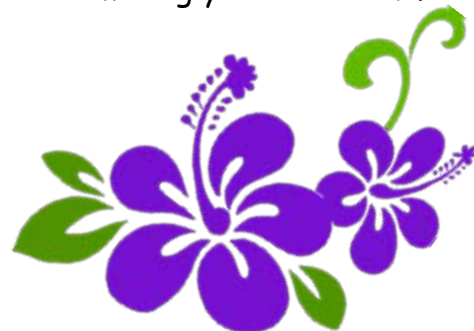
## DIVE INTO ART with Mrs. Gonzalez, Art

Aloha Corbell!!! I am so excited to see all of you again and a big welcome to all the new families at Corbell!!!

We have so much fun in art each week I can't wait to get started!! Each grade level will be studying various artists and art techniques. We will create art projects based on the artist or technique we are studying at the time. We will be focusing on a variety of artists such as Picasso, Monet, Klee, Lichtenstein, Rousseau, Mondrian, and O'Keeffe just to name a few.

Students will keep all their artwork in their own portfolio which will stay in the art room until the end of the year. The reason for this is so that when various art shows come up during the year I am able to display all the amazing talent we have here at Corbell. Who knows, we might have the next Picasso right here at Corbell!!!

Please remember that we do tend to get messy in art class. All the students are welcome to wear the smocks I have in my room, but sometimes that isn't enough for our talented artists, that is why it is best to save your child's favorite outfit for a non art day. Thank you for allowing me to work with your child and explore their creativity again this year in art!! We are going to have an amazing year in art!! Mahalo!!



## 10 Ways Parents Can Help Teachers

By Mimi Doe

1. Give your child a hug before she ventures out the door and tell her how proud you are of her. Your child's self-confidence and security will help her do well both in school and in life.
2. At the end of the school day, create a routine such as 10-20 minutes listening to your child talk about his day—before you check phone messages, read the mail, or begin dinner.
3. Fill your child's lunchbox with healthy snacks and lunches. Have dinner at a reasonable hour and a healthy breakfast. A well-balanced diet maximizes your child's learning potential.
4. Include calm, peaceful times in your children's afternoons and evenings. Maintain a schedule that allows them to go to school rested.
5. Create a specific homework space that's clutter-free and quiet. Encourage double-checking work, but allow your kids to make mistakes, as it's the only way teachers can gauge if they understand the material.
6. Fill your child's life with a love for learning by showing him your own curiosity, respecting his questions, and encouraging his efforts.
7. Fill your home with books to read, books simply to look at, and books that provide answers to life's many questions.
8. Be a partner with your child's teacher. When you need to speak to him or her in reference to a specific issue with your child, do it privately, not in front of your child. Make a point never to criticize your child's teacher in front of your child.
9. Set up a system where routine items are easily located—such as backpacks, shoes, signed notices. Create a central calendar for upcoming events to avoid the unexpected.
10. Tuck a "love note" in your child's lunch bag to let her know how special she is. Knowing they are loved makes it easier for children to be kind to others.

## Cowabunga for Corbell Dads!!

On **Thur., Sep. 16** we will be having our 2nd annual 'Dads and Kids' Pizza Night at our school. All Corbell Students can bring their dads to the school cafeteria from **6:30-7:30** for **FREE pizza & drinks** and a short presentation about our **WATCH D.O.G.S.® (Dads Of Great Students) Program**.

**WATCH D.O.G.S.®** is an innovative program being used by schools across America which helps them to be positively impacted by the committed involvement of fathers and father-figures in their student's life. Our goal is to have you spend at least one day this year at the school to be a positive male role model and to help promote a safe and positive school environment.

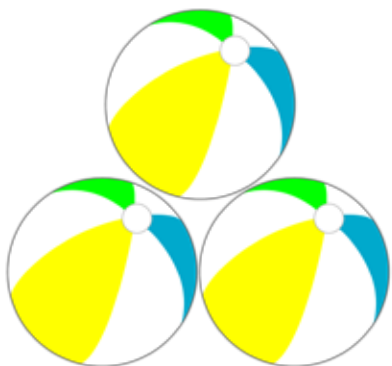
Dads, granddads, uncles, step-dads and adult brothers . . . this is your chance to have a night out alone with your Corbell student in a fun atmosphere at school!

If you would like to attend, please email Laurie Deckert at [thedeckerts@grandecom.net](mailto:thedeckerts@grandecom.net) and state how many students will be joining you or call the office for more info. (469) 633-3550.

## Aloha From the Life Skills & Active Learning Classes

We're back...Hello Corbell from the Life Skills and Active Learning classes. As many of you know last year was our first year at Corbell and we considered it a success. We wanted to re-introduce ourselves for this upcoming year. We have lots of learning and fun experiences planned and we hope you are as excited as we are.

It's always fun to meet new friends and we look forward to everyone getting to know us. Keep a look out for articles about us and always feel free to come in and spend time here. Don't be shy, come in and give us a try!



# Keep that Island Beat.....

## .....with Mrs. Schettler, Music

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.

Kindergarten 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. Kindergarten will be performing "Old Mr. Wehmeyer had a Farm" on Tuesday, March 22nd following the 6:30 pm PTA meeting. We will conclude the year with a composer study on Camille Saint-Saëns and "The Carnival of the Animals".

1st grade will take the beat vs. rhythm and learn about one and two sounds on a beat. These different sounds on a beat become quarter notes and eighth notes. After they have mastered the rhythm of quarter notes, eighth notes, and quarter rest, we will learn about pitch. First grade will be performing "How Does Your Garden Grow" on April 19th following the 6:30 pm PTA meeting. We will conclude the year with a composer study on Sergei Prokofiev and "Peter and The Wolf".

2nd grade will review 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. Students will also expand their knowledge of harmony by performing on the Orff instruments. During the spring we will do a thorough study of all the instruments of the orchestra.

3rd 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 entire third grade will discuss opera and the orchestra, and will be attending a live performance of "Little Red Riding Hood" performed by the Fort Worth Children's Opera in October. Third grade will also be performing "School House Rocks" on Friday, October 8th at an 8:15 am assembly.

4th grade will expand on all the previous knowledge by beginning studies on the recorder. The students will apply known songs, movement, and Orff instruments to the 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.

5th grade will expand on all the previous knowledge by continuing studies on the recorder with Recorder Karate. During the year, the students will earn recorder belts by studying nine songs on the recorder. Each song will be taught through music notation, memorized, and performed in trios in front of their class. The fifth grade students will conclude the year at the Celebration of Learning with a recorder ensemble concert. Throughout the year, the students will also be studying the history of the Star Spangled Banner, Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker. The 5th grade will attend a concert to see the Plano Symphony Orchestra perform "The Magic of Meter" in March.

This is going to be a great 2010-2011 school year!! Corbell ROCKS!!



Don't Miss Page 10!!!  
Great Information on the  
**Wild Walk** and  
**Fall Book Fair!**



# SAY "ALOHA" TO A GREAT BOOK

with Mrs. Thompson, Librarian

Welcome back! I hope your summer vacation was relaxing and filled with lots of great books. We have lots of exciting things happening in the library this year!

Did you know that you can access the Corbell Library Catalog from home?

Students can search the online catalog to look for their favorite books and some of the great new books we have in the library. Students can also check to see how many books they have checked out and the book's due date. Follow the directions listed below to browse for library books and log onto your library account.



Searching for a book -

1. Go to Corbell Elementary's Webpage- <http://www.friscoisd.org/schools/corbellindex.htm>
2. Click on "Library Catalog" (left side panel).
3. You can search by Keyword, Title, Author, Subject, or Series.
4. Click on a book title for more information (book status, summary, and call number).

Logging onto an account-

1. Click on "My Account" at the top of the page.
2. Type in your six digit library number. This is the same number used to log on to the computers.
3. Press the Login button.

Once you are logged on, you can view the books checked out and their due dates by clicking on Items Out.

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## DON'T WIPEOUT...SURF IN & SEE ....Mrs. Conner, Nurse

### Important Changes to Medication Policy

The district shall not purchase oral nonprescription medication for students beginning with the 2010-11 school year.

To receive district approved oral nonprescription medication (Tylenol, Advil, Benadryl, Tums, Cough Drops, & Throat Strips) while at school, the parent/guardian must complete & sign the Request for Administration of Medication form & send the age appropriate medication to school in the original container (smallest container available) & must be properly labeled. The nurse may give up to 10 doses of the district approved oral nonprescription medications. When students take 10 doses of a medication, the parent/guardian will be notified & a doctor's note will be needed in order to continue to give the student the medication.

All other nonprescription medications must have a doctor's note and must be in the original container & must be properly labeled. The parent/guardian must complete & sign the Request for Administration of Medication form & send the medication to school.

All prescription medication that cannot be scheduled for other than school hours may be given at school. We must receive a completed & signed Request for Administration of Medication form from the parent/guardian. The medication must be in the original container & must be properly labeled.

A list of medications that are used in the school clinic is available on request from the school nurse. Please contact your school nurse with any questions.

# Aloha



## from the President

John F. Kennedy once said, "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future." Well, that

sounds great, but even if you accept the notion that change is good, that doesn't mean it comes without doubts and fears. Our Corbell family recently said goodbye to many of our friends who were rezoned to Purefoy Elementary. The PTA board lost more than half of the amazing volunteers that made Corbell PTA the best in the district. At the same time our neighbors at Robertson Elementary were rezoned yet again, and faced the challenge of adapting to a new school. For all of us, the future looked uncertain.

Then, an amazing thing happened. Without any prompting at all, our school family embraced the change! Parents who knew next to nothing about the PTA stepped up and offered to take on a PTA board position. Your new board gathered in August for the first board meeting of the school year and discussed the many ways we plan to bring programs and resources to existing Corbell families and those joining us from Robertson. I was struck by the enthusiasm, dedication and optimism of this group!

But Corbell PTA is so much more than just the board! It encompasses ALL of us - parents, grandparents, and faculty. Already, hundreds of Corbell PTA members like you have signed up to donate their time, talents, energy and money to help our children Ride the Wave of Success this year! Incredible! If you haven't already, please join me in this effort - we can't be advocates for our children without YOU!!

Your new Corbell PTA website will be up and running soon! In the meantime, information on membership, events and volunteer opportunities is available on the Corbell website, [www.friscoisd.org/corbell](http://www.friscoisd.org/corbell). Click on the "Welcome Letter from Corbell PTA" link for more details. Also, please feel free to contact me anytime at [kcmecom@tx.rr.com](mailto:kcmecom@tx.rr.com).

Hanging Ten in 2010,  
Kathy Mecom  
Corbell PTA President

2010-2011



Riding the Wave of Success!

## RIDE THE WAVE WITH US

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!!

### Corbell PTA 2010-2011 Goals

- I. Maintain (or exceed!) membership percentage in spite of reduced student population
- II. Increase effectiveness of communication among PTA, staff, and parents through emails, website, newsletter, Facebook.
- III. Promote diversity and inclusiveness within our PTA and school; find ways for all parents to be involved.
- IV. Add student and parent programs about healthy living, bullying, Internet safety.

### It "PAYS" to be a Member

#### Did you know?

-PTA members can save money thanks to National PTA's Member Benefits Provider Program

Check it out at:

[http://pta.org/member\\_benefit\\_providers.asp](http://pta.org/member_benefit_providers.asp)

# Corbell Parents are YOU Ready to... *Catch the Wave!*

## *Catch the Wave!* JOIN THE PTA

Corbell PTA looks forward to sponsoring many fun and educational programs throughout the year that will benefit the children at our school. We can't do this without your support!

### What does PTA do?

In short, the PTA exists to bring programs and resources to Corbell students and their families.

### How do we do this?

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

- \*A student directory
- \*Musical instruments
- \*A monthly newsletter
- \*Special Ed Advocacy and Inclusion
- \*Talent Show
- \*Teacher Appreciation Events
- \*Field Day
- \*Reflections Art Program
- \*3 Classroom Parties
- \*Extensive Guided Reading Library
- \*Watch D.O.G.S. Program for dads
- \*Multicultural Night
- \*Fall and Spring Book Fairs
- \*Healthy living program and much more...

Now that you know how important and beneficial it is to be a PTA member, let me tell you how easy it is to do...

The Corbell website has a PTA page with more information about how you can get involved as well as a membership form that you can print, fill out and send to school in your child's backpack along with your dues.

You can check it out @ [www.friscoisd.org/schools/elementary/corbell/corbellpta.htm](http://www.friscoisd.org/schools/elementary/corbell/corbellpta.htm)

For more information about joining the Corbell PTA, please contact Janelle Griffiths @ [janelleg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janelleg@sbcglobal.net).



Corbell PTA offers a variety of volunteer opportunities, so there is something for everyone! Whether you have a lot of time to give or just a little, all help is welcomed and greatly appreciated!

To receive regular updates regarding volunteer opportunities, please contact Amy Houck at [volunteeratcorbell@yahoo.com](mailto:volunteeratcorbell@yahoo.com) and become a member of Corbell's Volunteer Community.

Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something.  
~Author Unknown



## GET WITH THE (\$STORE) PROGRAM!!

PTA gives you many opportunities with Corbell Elementary School to help us earn money.

**KROGER:** Help earn money for Corbell by shopping at Kroger! Please join the Neighbor to Neighbor program by bringing in your flyer, that will be sent home, to Kroger. They will scan the barcode and link your purchases to our school. Once you are linked, you are in the system for the year! PLEASE NOTE: YOU MUST SIGN UP EVERY YEAR.

**TARGET:** Get a Target Red Card and Take Charge of Education. Here's how it works: Visit [Target.com/tcoe](http://Target.com/tcoe) or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate Weldon Corbell, then use your REDcard whenever you shop. When you use your REDcard (Target Visa Credit card, Target Card or Target Check Card), Target will donate up to 1% of your purchases to the school of your choice. If you don't have a REDcard, it is easy to apply. Get started in person at any Target store or go to [Target.com/redcard](http://Target.com/redcard). All are welcome to participate in the program.

**BOX TOPS:** Collect those box tops and win a prize! Top collectors from each month will be awarded. Please cut all box tops and place them in a ziploc bag, include your child's name, teacher's name and grade. Collection containers can be found in each pod, or in the lobby of the school.

For more information about any of the store programs or spirit nights, please contact Shari Zibby at [sszibby@tx.rr.com](mailto:sszibby@tx.rr.com).

## Room Parents are FUN Parents

THANK YOU to our SUPER room parent volunteers. We are very excited to start a great year together! There are many classes that need room parents, so please volunteer to join our wonderful team of parents!

Our introductory meeting is going to be **Tues., Sept. 28th** at **9:30 am** in the cafeteria.

If you are interested in becoming a room parent, and did not sign up during Meet The Teacher night, please contact Lori Mayer at [mayerfam@hotmail.com](mailto:mayerfam@hotmail.com) or Carrie Bourne at [carrie.bourne@genesismetro.org](mailto:carrie.bourne@genesismetro.org).

## WE'VE GOT SPIRIT, YES WE DO!!

Every month the Corbell PTA sponsors Spirit Nights at area restaurants. The store then donates a % of the sales generated from those Corbell families that chose to attend!



Wed. September 8



Wed. September 15



Fri. September 24

## New For Corbell

Parents Night Out program at WOGA Gymnastics!! We will have 2 dates available to us, one in the Fall and one in the Spring. Reminders will be sent out for these dates

\*Friday November 5

\*Friday April 8



## What is for sale at the \$\$?



Hoodies/Sweatshirts	TBD
T-Shirts	\$10
Window Decals	\$5
Aluminum Sports Bottle	\$4
Cinch Packs	\$4
Coin Bags	\$1.75
Rulers	.80¢
Pencils	.50¢
Erasers	.50¢
Pens	.50¢
Bookmarks	.50¢

## When is the \$\$ open?

Tuesday, Sept. 7	PTA mtg/Family Fun Night
Thursday, Nov. 18	Spirit Store during lunch
Friday, Nov. 19	Spirit Store during lunch
Thursday, Feb. 24	Spirit Store during lunch
Friday, Feb. 25	Spirit Store during lunch
Thursday, March 10	Open House

T-shirt order forms are available in the front office for the next month. Spirit items are for sale throughout the year. Items & prices are subject to change.

# It's Time for the **WILD WALK** ~ No Surfing Allowed!

The Wild Walk is coming!! This will be the PTA's 5th year doing the walk-a-thon as our one and only 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 **October 5th & 6th**, and the students will participate during their PE class. Each participant will receive a Wild Walk t-shirt. The students will be looking for sponsorship, with either a 'per lap' or flat fee donation. The children will walk or run laps to earn money for the educational programs and activities that will take place this school year at Corbell.

Some of the programs that will be funded by the Wild Walk are the High-Touch High-Tech Grade Level Programs, Family Fun Night, anti-bullying and internet safety programs as well as library and guided reading books for the school. In addition, if we meet our goal of \$25,000, there will be enough funds to pay for all the school parties without having to ask the parents to donate again.

We are still looking for sponsors who would like to advertise on the Wild Walk t-shirts or banner to help offset the cost of the walk-a-thon. We want all the monies earned by the students to go directly to the school. If you have a business that would be interested in sponsoring, please email Michelle Cassano at [mbcassano@yahoo.com](mailto:mbcassano@yahoo.com). Our deadline is quickly approaching, so we need to hear from you before September 20th.

If you would like to be a part of the planning of the Wild Walk, we would love to have you and are always looking for new and fresh ideas to keep the event exciting for the children. Please contact Michelle Cassano if you would like to donate your time.

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

## COMING SOON TO A LIBRARY NEAR YOU!!

**Scholastic Fall Book Fair**  
**November 3 - 12**  
**"Reading Saves The Day"**  
**Celebrating the Everyday**  
**Hero in Us All!!**



Join us in the Corbell Library, November 3-12 for the Scholastic Fall Book Fair! This is a fun and exciting event for our school.

The PTA Book Fair committee is forming so please contact the Book Fair Co-Chairs via email if you are interested in being involved. The Co-Chairs this year are Sara Fortenberry, [sara.fortenberry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sara.fortenberry@sbcglobal.net) & Robin Craft, [robin@ro-bears.com](mailto:robin@ro-bears.com).

The first committee meeting will be in September in the Corbell Library. Committee opportunities include these areas: decorating, planning, hospitality, class previews/wish lists, One For Books, Teacher Wish Lists, Preschool Story Time, Family Fun Night, volunteer, & set-up/take down.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Amy Houck and look at the [www.lotsofhelpinghands.com](http://www.lotsofhelpinghands.com) website.

Be a Hero with your kids and help "Save the Day" with books!