**PTA at a Glance**

Check out these reminders about upcoming May Watts events and activities. You can click on the appropriate link to get more information. You can also get more information about these and other events at <https://wattspta.membershiptoolkit.com/>. There is also a Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/MayWattsPTA/>

**Upcoming Events**

September 19 – Picture Day

September 25 – PTA General Meeting - Our first PTA General Membership meeting will be at 7pm in the LMC

September 29 – May Watts Spelling Bee Registration Deadline

October 3 – Track & Field Event for 4th & 5th Grades

October 5 – Reflections Projects Due

October 7 – Color Run Fundraiser

October 25 – STEM Night

**PTA General Membership Meeting**

We have our first PTA General Membership Meeting on Monday, September 25 and ALL parents are invited to attend. We will be voting on our budget and talking about all that is going on in the PTA this year! Let’s pack the LMC!

**PTA Budget for this school year**

We are pleased to share the proposed budget for this school year (2017-18) with you all. Please review the budget uploaded here([https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-UJbmjHMJpaRzBUNE15UzJ6R00/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-UJbmjHMJpaRzBUNE15UzJ6R00/view%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)) and we will discuss the budget during the upcoming General Meeting and then vote to pass the budget.

**Color Run Fundraiser – “Let Your Colors Run!”**

Save the date for our first 1 Mile Color Run Fundraiser on Saturday October 7th at 4 pm. The PTA is excited to bring you the first ever May Watts Family Color Run. This will be an event for kids, parents, siblings, grandparents, neighbors and friends. This fun family fundraiser should be a great time for all involved.

**Color Run Volunteers**

May Watts is excited to be hosting our first annual Fun Run.  We are seeking volunteers to help on the day of the run, with a mere 2.5 hour time commitment, and on a Saturday afternoon, making it especially convenient for parents who are always wanting to help out, but just can't find the time!   We need assistance with event registration, color throwing stations, water stations, and color sales/distribution.   We hope you can assist us in pulling off a spectacular event for families! Here is a link to sign up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f044eadaf2fa5fa7-funrun>

**Track and Field – Volunteers Needed!**

The 4th and 5th grade students will be competing in a track and field event on Tuesday, October 3rd.  We are in need of many parent volunteers to help make this event a success.  There will be 12 different events in which the children will have the opportunity to compete.  Each child will be competing in at least 3 events.  4th grade will be from 9:30 to 11:30, and 5th grade will be from 1:00 to 3:00.  If you would like to assist with both grades please sign up in each category.  The children have been practicing in gym class, so ask them about it! This is a fun event that the children really enjoy, and I think you will as well.  Thank you for your help! Please sign up at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4dafaf2ba57-4thand3>

**Box Tops - Free Money For May Watts!**

It’s Box Top time again! Each of those little labels you see on items around your house is worth 10 cents for your child’s school and they add up! Last year May Watts families earned over $1,200 for our school and families have raised OVER $28,000 since May Watts PTA began collecting them in 2003!!

Now it’s even easier with the new Box Tops For Education app! Simply scan your grocery receipt for up to TEN BONUS Box Tops per item!! Simply download the app and watch the Box Tops add up! <http://www.boxtops4education.com/bonusapp>

The Box Tops for Education website also has great coupons on everything from food to toiletries and household goods, lists of participating brands, and additional ways to earn FREE MONEY for YOUR school! [http://www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com/)

Box Tops can be turned in to your child’s teacher or in the mailbox at the front entrance. Please make sure the bag or envelope you send the Box Tops in is labeled with your child’s name and class so they receive credit for upcoming collection contests! Turn them in now so they don't expire!

**Watts Spelling Bee**

After a successful first year, May Watts is enrolled in the Scripps National Spelling Bee 2018 again.

This year, kids in 3rd to 5th grade can enroll for the contest. Interested kids will take a 25 word Grade Level Spelling Bee (written) test after school on Wednesday, November 8th at 6:00 PM in the Gym, LMC & Multipurpose room.

The top few students from each grade will be invited to participate in the Watts Spelling Bee, to be held on Tuesday, January 30th at 6:00 PM in the Gym.

Most of the preparatory work for the Bee will need to be done by students in their own time. There are suggested word lists for each grade level. Students should begin by studying the appropriate list(s) for their grade level, and move up from there. These lists are not comprehensive, but they are a good start. Lists will be shared with the registered parents via email.
There is no registration charge for grade level competition. Students advancing to Watts Spelling Bee will need to pay $5 registration fee. Parents are invited to attend the Tuesday, January 30th contest.

If interested, please register at <http://bit.ly/2wPUPLC>  The LAST DATE OF REGISTRATION IS SEPTEMBER 29th 2017.

**Reflections Program**

2017-2018 Reflections Program:   Reflections is a Fine Arts competition sponsored by the National PTA.  It encourages children from across the nation to showcase their skills and creativity.  The theme for this year's program is "Within Reach."  Students are able to generate contest submissions in any or all of the following categories:  dance, visual arts, photography, music composition, literature, and film.  Students can submit as many projects as they like in as many categories as they like.  A flyer was sent home through backpack mail.  To see program rules and guidelines, please visit <http://illinoispta.org/reflections.html>

All projects are due October 5th.  Completed projects and registration forms should be brought to May Watts between 3:30 and 6:30pm.  Volunteers will be stationed in the hall by the Main Office to collect student work.  This will be the only time to submit Reflections entries.

Reflections Special Artist Division: The National PTA Special Artist Division is an option for students with disabilities who receive services under IDEA or Section 504 to have the opportunity and accommodations they may need in order to participate fully in the program. The Special Artist Division offers modified rules and guidelines to ensure that every student has the chance to be part of the National PTA Reflections® program.  To read more about this option, please visit <http://www.illinoispta.org/reflections.html>  and scroll down to "[17-18 Rules Special Artist](http://www.illinoispta.org/pdf/16-17%20Rules%20Special%20Artist%20Illinois.docx)"

**PTA Membership Form 2017-2018**

Welcome back May Watts!  We are proud to welcome you to join, support, and participate in the May Watts PTA.  The PTA is a partnership between the parents and staff of our school.  We are looking forward to a great year and hope you’ll join in our efforts.  Thank you for your support!

Your $20 membership supports the programs we provide to the school – staff appreciation, STEM, Multi-cultural night, classroom parties, Science Fair, teacher support, and so many others.  With your membership, you also gain access to the Watts family directory – available online and on a mobile app.

Please complete the attached form.  Return it and your payment to school in an envelope marked  “PTA Membership” as soon as possible.

**Thank you for supporting the May Watts PTA!**