

Porter Academy Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday November 30, 2016

Quick Reminders:

- Don't forget to complete the SSO forms to redirect your state tax dollars to provide Porter Academy student scholarships and send them to Porter Academy by December 15th. Email with details sent earlier today.
- Holiday Bazaar this Friday (1:00-5:00) and Saturday (9:00-2:00) in Porter Academy gym. See attached flyer
- Complimentary Christmas Pageant December 9th. Contact Ms. Hannah for tickets. See attached flyer.
- Safari Minutes are due tomorrow
- We understand it is difficult, but please make your best effort to get here on time each day. Students coming in late does negatively impact learning. Thank you.

Message from Ms. Lynn

We had a wonderful school assembly yesterday during which we celebrated our Super Citizens. It makes me so happy to see all of our students cheer for their classmates as they are acknowledged for their good choices. Students were acknowledged for being a good friend, being polite, being a leader to their peers, working hard, and finding ways to be helpful to their teachers and classmates. It truly touches my heart to see our students developing into such good citizens.

We also presented awards for the classroom thankful banners. Every class did a wonderful job on their banner, finding unique ways to express their gratitude. Special congratulations to Upper School Blue (first place) and the Sea Turtles (runner-up)!

The students were presented with two new challenges: one group and one individual. Their group challenge is to decorate their classroom doors to give our school a festive feel for the holiday season. I am excited to see their creativity at work! The individual challenge is one of kindness. We have cleared our front bulletin board, and the children have been challenged to completely fill it with Random Acts of Kindness. Each time they go above and beyond to do something kind for someone else outside of school, they are to write it (or ask their parent to write it) on a small piece of paper (these will be coming home soon) and turn it in to their teacher to hang on our front bulletin board. These are supposed to be things that they don't already do on a regular basis—we're trying to get them thinking outside the box about ways to be helpful and kind. Here are a handful of ideas to get their thoughts going: helping parents fold laundry/cook dinner/clean house/care for yard without being asked, make dinner/dessert for a neighbor, write a kind note to someone to let them know you appreciate them (family, friend, firefighter, police officer, soldier, veteran, mail carrier), raise money for a charity, donate toys/books to someone in need, plant a tree, or pick

up litter. Please help your child come up with ways to be kind to others so we can fill our bulletin board, and our hearts, with kindness.



Porter Academy is dedicated to educating children by utilizing individualized programs that are appropriate to each student's development level and learning style. Your child can succeed in the right environment.

Important Dates

Dec 2-3: Holiday Bazaar

Dec 9: Complimentary Christmas Pageant

Dec 15: 1:00 Dismissal; SSO forms due to Porter Academy

Dec 16-Jan 3: No School—Winter Break

Jan 3: Teacher Work Day

Jan 4: 1st day of second semester

Jan 16: No School—MLK Jr. Holiday

Feb 17-20: No School—Mid-Winter Break

Mar 3: End of 3rd 9 week period

Mar 10: Inclement Weather Day

The Character Education trait for November is Kindness—
“I will choose to help people feel good”

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Parent Pipeline—Holiday Bazaar this Friday and Saturday

Porter Academy parents and friends have worked together to create a Bazaar to raise money for our school while providing high quality goods and services to you. Please come by the Porter Academy gym this Friday between 1:00 and 5:00 or this Saturday between 9:00 and 2:00. Please see the attached flyer for information about the goods and services that will be available at the Bazaar. To set up an appointment for photography (people and/or pets), please sign up here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4caeea2daa8-porter>

Parent Pipeline—Complimentary Concert for Porter Families

The family of one of our students performs in this Christmas Pageant each year, and they have generously offered free admission to all Porter Academy staff and students/families this year! The pageant will take place December 9th at Mt. Pisgah Church, and this will be a “kid friendly” performance. They are not worried if children need to get up to move around or go to the bathroom and quiet rooms will be available if children become overstimulated or restless in the performance. Please contact Ms. Hannah for tickets (hcha@porteracademy.org).

Survey from Smart Lunches

Now's your chance to give your opinion on the perfect lunch program - what solution works for your family? Simply go to this link: <https://websurvey.sawtoothsoftware.com/Slunch/cgi-bin/ciwwweb.pl?studynome=Slunch&SID=735> and tell us what you think! The survey takes about 10-15 minutes to complete. Completed entries will be entered to win one of five \$250 Visa gift cards. The more people who participate, the better we will understand what parents truly want in a lunch program. Thank you.

Special Offer for all staff and parents of current students in GISA schools

Paul Thigpen Chevrolet is offering any GISA staff member or parent of a GISA student a \$1,000 discount on all vehicles purchased at their dealership. Staff need to show staff ID and parents need to show a copy of their child's school contract. So if you are in the market for a new vehicle, you may want to consider buying from Thigpen Chevrolet. They are located in Vidalia, GA, but they are willing to deliver the vehicle to you if you don't want to travel to them. www.paulthigpenchevy.com

Crazy Hat and Sock Day



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Grandparents and Special Friends Celebration

Thank you to everyone who came to our Grandparents and Special Friends Celebration! It was such an exciting day for our students because they were able to share their special place with someone they love. I am very proud of what excellent hosts our students were for their grandparents and special friends, and I hope that all of our visitors enjoyed themselves. Please see our Facebook page for more photos.

One of our very wise grandparents mentioned that they would like to be more involved in school activities, but that they were not always aware of these activities. So we have started an email list to help keep any interested persons informed about school happenings (via the newsletter and emails about special events and fundraisers). If you know any family members/special friends interested in receiving this information, please email their names and email addresses to Lynn at Ischoeneck@porteracademy.org.



We love expanding our Porter Academy family!

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