

Otter Newsletter for Week of December 13, 2009

Our first home meet is here! This Saturday marks the 21st season age group swimmers have donned the cap of the Otter and dived into the LVC pool to compete. Thanks and congratulations to Coach Jim and Coach Mary who have been on deck training and encouraging Otter swimmers since that very first Otter home meet twenty-one Decembers ago.

Now, on to the meet details:

- 1) **Jim hopes to post the meet line up at the pool later this week. Please check the line up sheets to make sure your swimmer's intention to swim or not swim is accurately reflected.** If the plans recorded on your meet sign up sheet have changed, please email Jim immediately at jgardner@acschools.org. For meet day emergencies only, contact Jim at 270-7012 or David at 644-1220.

- 2) **Swimmers should report to the racquetball courts no later than 7:10 on Saturday for warm ups.** Younger swimmers (those 12 and under that need to be lined up by our wonderfully patient and conscientious line up ladies) should plan on staying in the courts when they are not competing. Bring blankets, chairs, and "amusements."

- 3) **Swimmers who like to make posters and signs celebrating their team, coaches, or the season are encouraged to do so.** We'll post all of the artwork on Friday night. Please any posters or signs in the red bin outside of Mary's office.

- 4) **Otter parents are needed to do three things:** 1) Cheer for and encourage your swimmer and their teammates; 2) **Sign up to volunteer** for one of the MANY jobs we have available so that we can run an efficient meet; **and 3) Bring your assigned item to the bake sale.** Here are the needs:

Volunteer Opportunities:

- To help staff a shift at the bake sale (a great job for those with young kids), email Deb O'Connor at deb.oconnor@comcast.net.
- To officiate or finish judge, email Kathy Wingert at dkwingert@comcast.net. (Volunteers thus far are Gil Weik, Lisa Gehenio, Kathy Wingert and Paul Marakowski. MORE needed!)
- To time, email Kris Fox at kfox@lebanon.k12.pa.us.
- To set up and tear down, email Rachiele Peters at rachiele_peters@pasd.us.

****Remember that if you have a child swimming, your family is expected to provide at least one volunteer.**

Bake Sale Assignments (by the first initial of your last name):

A-E: 6 pack cans of soda (Coke, Diet Coke, or Sprite) and pre-cut fruit or veggies sliced and placed in individual plastic bags

F-J: 6 or 8 pack of 16oz. flavored water or Gatorade and candy (Skittles, PB cups, M&M's, Air Heads, or Fruit Roll-ups)

K-Q: 6 pack cans of soda (orange, caffeine free Coke/Diet Coke) and 1 dozen donuts or pre-sliced bagels

R-Z: 6 or 8 pack of 16oz. water bottles and snacks (single serving size pretzels, chips, etc.)

****Remember that every competitive family is expected to contribute to the bake sale. If your child is not swimming on Saturday, you can make a monetary donation so that items can be purchased to replace your physical contribution by placing a donation check in the O'Connor folder.**

Other Important Info:

Team suits and caps will be distributed this Thursday from 4:30-6:30 and Friday, December 18 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. If you have questions, contact Rachiele Peters (suits and caps) at rachiele_peters@pasd.us. Otter wear questions should be directed to Karen Peachey at kpeachey@verizon.net.

The Frosty Frolic is a fun invitational held on Sunday, January 3, at Elizabethtown College for swimmers ten and under as of that date. The meet is completely voluntary, and you get to sign up for the events you want to swim. It's an especially nice meet because swimmers swim only those their age (i.e. 6 year olds only swim 6 year olds.) If your child would like to participate, you must sign up by this Friday with Jim. The cost per event is \$3.50, which will be collected at the meet.

Thinking ahead to summer.... **For those that plan to be "summer" Otters (and we hope you all do), the A-C Pool is running a Christmas special on memberships.** If you apply and pay by January 15, you get last summer's "early bird" price—a great deal on something you know you are going to buy at some point anyway. For details, go to the pool website, www.annvillecleonapool.com. Please note that summer Otter participation requires an A-C Pool membership.