



# George Peabody Whale Watch

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October 2007 ♦ PTA Monthly Newsletter ♦ Volume 3, Issue 2

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## President's Corner

Wow, I can hardly believe we're halfway through October already! Thank you to Everyone for helping us get off to an enthusiastic start!

Thanks to you, our Membership Drive which officially ended last week, brought in just over \$10,000!! This is the first time the drive has hit 5 digits!! Membership currently includes about 84 families and staff members. It's not too late if you haven't sent in your membership form yet. Thank you all for your contributions!!

As our membership grows, communication becomes even more important. There are several ways to keep up with the exciting things happening at the school. The newest electronic way is to join the George Peabody List Serve. You can send and receive announcements for upcoming events happening at school or in our community. You can also send questions, comments, and/or suggestions to our Peabody Community.

To join our online community, send an email to [GPPTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:GPPTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

Come to our monthly meetings. They are usually the first (or second) Thursday of the month which means our next meeting is on **November 1**. At our meetings, we share information about what's happening with our different committees, upcoming local and school events, and the status of PTA funds generated and dispersed. We try to couple an informational workshop (like the one a couple of weeks ago on Reading for Beginners) on PTA meeting nights to take advantage of your evening visit. One of our parents who attended the training on Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) will present a workshop on how VTS is being used in the classroom this year. The workshop will be before the meeting so we hope you can make it to both.

Lastly, we also pass information on paper! Don't forget to read the notices that come home weekly in the Wednesday folder.

Thank you for your volunteer time and financial contributions! We support!

Sharon Ohlson  
Peabody PTA President

## Healthy Halloween

Here are some tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics for a healthy Halloween.

- ◆ A good meal prior to parties and trick-or-treating will discourage youngsters from filling up on Halloween treats.
- ◆ Consider purchasing non-food treats for those who visit your home, such as coloring books or pens and pencils.
- ◆ Wait until children are home to sort and check treats. Though tampering is rare, a responsible adult should closely examine all treats and throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious items.
- ◆ Try to ration treats for the days following Halloween.



## Mark Your Calendar

Following are some upcoming dates to keep in mind. Mark your calendar to save the dates.

Date	Event
October 18	Volunteer Workshop with Ms. Krey at 3:00 PM
October 19	Gift Wrap/Cookie Dough Fundraiser Ends
October 19	Fitness Day
October 20	Beautification Day
October 27	SF School District Enrollment Fair
October 29 No- vember 2	Parent/Teacher Conference Week (remember dismissal time is at 1:40 PM one hour early) <b>AND</b> Book Fair
October 31	Halloween Parade at 10:40 AM
November 1	PTA Meeting (6 PM - 8 PM)
<b>November 9</b>	<b>** NO SCHOOL ** - Veteran's Day</b>
November 17	Peabody's Playground with Coach Drew
November 20	Emergency Preparedness Day

### Avoid Cavities — Wendy Hanrahan, RDH (mom of Finnagh Rm. 1)

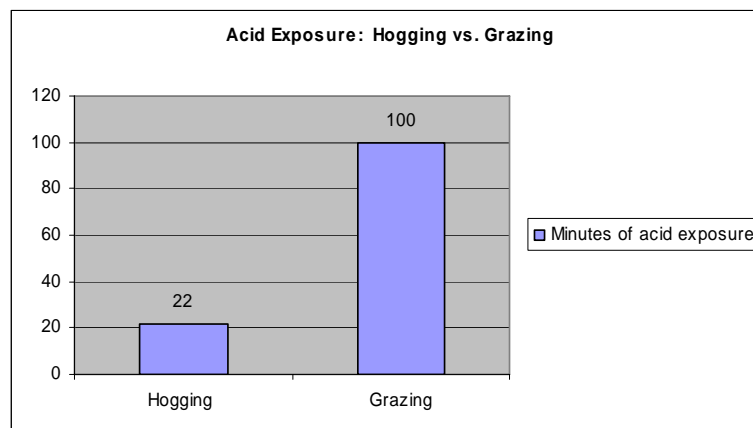
I'm sure your children, like mine, are reminding you that Halloween is quickly approaching. I love watching my children dress up for Halloween, but I absolutely shudder with dread over the candy. I'm sure you are well aware of flossing daily and brushing twice per day with a fluoridated toothpaste to avoid cavities.

Did you know there are other factors that causes cavities? It's how the sugar is delivered. A liquid sugar, such as soda, does not linger in the mouth as long as a sticky sugar, such as caramel. Think of how the caramel sticks in between your teeth or the biting surface of your teeth.

Another factor is the frequency of the sugar being eaten. Did you know that when you have sugar it creates an acidic environment in your mouth for 20 minutes afterward? This acid starts the break down of the tooth surface. This may sound crazy but it is better to let your children eat "a lot" of their candy after lunch or dinner.

Think of a pig eating 5 candy bars in one 2-minute sitting. The sugar creates acid in the mouth for the 2 minutes that it is eating the candy and 20 minutes afterward. That's 22 minutes that the acid is eating away at the teeth. Now think of a cow grazing on 5 candy bars, eating 1 candy bar every 20 minutes. The mouth is exposed to acid for the 20 minutes after eating the candy, but another candy goes in causing another 20 minutes of exposure to acid and yet another candy bar is popped into the mouth and so on until the remainder are finished. The acid is working away at the teeth non stop for 100 minutes! That is an invitation to tooth decay and the dentist's office.

I hope this note will help avoid cavities in your children. Have a safe night of trick-or-treating and remember to monitor what your children are ingesting and how they are eating their treats!



## Passive Fundraising — Anna M. Alexander (Andrew Chan's mom)

Thanks to all families for your continued donations of UPC codes from products with Labels for Education and Box Tops for Education coupons. Those of you who shop at Costco may notice Box Tops coupons on several non-food items such as paper goods and plastic storage bags. Do cut them out and bring them in. There is a box in the main office where you can drop them off.



This year I have discovered additional programs that can benefit our school. I have enrolled George Peabody in the *Project A+ program* sponsored by **Tyson Foods** and the *Home Team School Rewards Program* sponsored by **Fast Fixin'**. Please bring in these labels if you purchase any of these products.



A reminder also, that you can register your credit/debit cards and grocery clubcards at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) to support George Peabody. I'm always looking for new programs which contribute to schools such as **Target's Take Charge of Education Program** and **Office Max's MaxPerks Program**. Just send me a note at [ama329sf@aol.com](mailto:ama329sf@aol.com). Once again, thanks for all your donations.



## eScrip: Fast, Easy, and Secure — Matt Chaikin

Please take 5 minutes to help your children and our school! This is your chance to make a **BIG** difference with a **CASH** donation, and it does not cost you an extra penny. Don't believe it? Check this out:

<http://www.escrip.com> - George Peabody PTA – ID# 137700211

### Fundraising that's Easy, Fast, Secure and a Proven Success!

We offer the best vehicle for simple, year-round fundraising. eScrip streamlines the whole fundraising process. eScrip is proven to be a fantastic resource for fundraising where participating business partners contribute a percentage of your grocery loyalty cards, credit card, and debit/ATM card purchases to George Peabody PTA

### Here's How it Works

You register any one or all of your existing grocery loyalty, debit and credit cards for use in the program. Participating merchants will make contributions to your chosen group, based on purchases made by you, just by using the cards you have registered. Your purchases are tracked and available to you online, allowing you to see just how much you are earning on your child's behalf!

**BUT WAIT!** There's even more you can do. When you shop online, without having to do anything else, you can generate cash for GPPTA on websites like eBay, Expedia, Barnes & Noble, Dell, HP, 1800Flowers and 100's of others.

How? With **AUTO Track**. You will generate contributions automatically on **ALL** your online purchases. AutoTrack is a free software program that generates contributions on purchases at stores you use, know and trust. You pay exactly the same as you would normally shopping online but also generate contributions through the eScrip Online Mall.

A free service for eScrip members, AutoTrack is "always-on" when you start up your PC and helps you contribute at your favorite online stores. After you enroll, make sure to go to the "**Coupons for Kids**" page to save yourself extra cash on your everyday grocery purchases. Plus eScrip will make a 5 cent donation for EVERY coupon redeemed.

### About ESI

Electronic Scrip Incorporated (ESI) is a California-based corporation dedicated to establishing relationships between commerce and community -- to provide resources to organizations and projects that support children. ESI introduced the eScrip program in 1999 and has distributed over \$120 million to schools and youth organizations across the country.

**Personal note:** This program is passive and uniquely simple. Enroll one time, and that's it. No click-thru banners required to generate income. Thanks go to Mickey Sattler, Great Idea!

## Room Parents Update

Below is an updated list of Room Parents that we have so far. There are still 2 positions open, so if you have some time and would like to help, please let your child's teacher know.

Room #	Teacher	Grade(s)	Room Parent	Child(ren)
1	Ms. Elizabeth Levett	Kindergarten	** STILL OPEN **	
2	Ms. Sandra Krey	Kindergarten	** STILL OPEN **	
3	Mr. John Mehring	K 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Alice Mark	Joshua Daguman
4	Ms. Ann Stratton	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Alice Lee Tina Freeman	Lauren Wong Sage Freeman
5	Ms. Kim Chan	1 <sup>st</sup>	Anna Witcher Kutz	Sebastian Kutz
6	Ms. Velta Savelis	1 <sup>st</sup>	Norman James Tanya James	Westley James
7	Ms. Anna Bockris	4 <sup>th</sup>	Cindy Fong	Cyril Fong
8	Ms. Karen Kimura	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jill Huse	Carson Huse
9	Ms. Agnes Leong	3 <sup>rd</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup>	Frances Greenwood	Je nonee Gaines
10	Mr. Daniel Gelfand	5 <sup>th</sup>	Tina Freeman Maria Ubungen	Kaila Freeman Monique Ubungen
11	Ms. Brownstein-Lum Ms. Anastasia Crocker	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Alda Wong	Cailyn Wong
12	Mr. Patrick Ng	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Teresa Pak Lisa Louie	McKenzie Powell Brandon Kyono

## Kidquake

**Kidquake** is the children's event associated with **Litquake** which is the annual San Francisco Literary Festival that brings together a wide range of authors for a week of readings, panel discussions, and interactive events.

On October 10th, Mrs. Stratton's and Ms. Kimura's 2nd grade classes went on a field trip to the San Francisco Main Library to hear story telling, work on a project, and meet some authors and illustrators. They met several talented authors who also do their own illustrations. Among them are Belle Yang, Yuyu Morales, Oliver Chin, Annie Barrows, and Bob Barner.

## The Magic Flute

On October 12th, the students in Ms. Bockris' 4th grade class performed the opera **The Magic Flute** in the auditorium of Roosevelt Middle School. They worked really hard to memorize their lines, to act out their roles and sing their song. They performed with cast members from the San Francisco Opera Guild. They did a wonderful job. Thanks to Roosevelt for allowing us to use their auditorium for this fine event.



## Contribute to the Newsletter

Our PTA monthly newsletter is printed on the third Wednesday of each month. I am always looking for ways to improve our newsletter. If you have something to add; an announcement, idea, or suggestion, I would love to hear from you! Please submit your article by the second Wednesday of the month to the e-mail address listed below.

Patricia Khuu, Editor  
E-mail: [kdphuong@gmail.com](mailto:kdphuong@gmail.com)