

Underwood Elementary



October 2015

Mark Your Calendars...

Spirit Night:
Skate Party at United Skates
Thursday, October 8, 6-8:30 p.m.
(\$6 admission)

Unicorn Trot Pep Rally
Friday, October 9
2:15-2:45, 3rd-5th
3:00-3:30 K-2nd
(wear your Underwood t-shirts)

Spirit Week
Monday, Oct. 12-Friday, Oct. 16

Unicorn Trot
Friday, October 16

Spirit Night Dinner:
Cameron Village Chick-fil-A
Tuesday, October 20, 4-7:00 p.m.

**PTA General Membership
Lunch & Learn on Internet Safety**
Thursday, November 5, 12:00 p.m.

**First Friday Coffee with
Mr. Shillings**
Friday, November 6, 9:30-10 a.m.

Dear Underwood Families,

The first six weeks of school have flown by filled with learning and fun. Thanks to all of you that participated in our Meet the Teacher, Welcome Back Picnic and Open House. We as a staff truly enjoy meeting and building partnerships with our families to help support our students in their education.

Throughout the year you will continue to get info and reminders on all that the PTA, administration and teachers have planned via Tuesday folders and MemberHub. Also be sure to follow us on Twitter (@underwoodgtm) and visit our website at wcpss.net/underwoodes.

As the leaves start to turn, our students will continue to be given the opportunity to be challenged to develop individual talents and to demonstrate academic, creative and social growth in order to become a productive, responsible citizen. This will be done through classroom core instruction, elective opportunities and daily practice.

Lastly, thank you to everyone at Underwood for making me feel so welcomed! It feels like I never left.

Travis Shillings,
Proud Principal of Underwood GT Magnet Elementary

PTA Membership/Annual Fund Results

The results are in! Thank you for your generous support of our school through PTA Membership and donations to the PTA Annual Fund.

PTA Members: 320
PTA Memberships Online: 56
PTA Annual Fund Donations: \$12,000 (exceeding our \$7,000 goal)

The PTA was able to sponsor the First Tee Golf Program at Underwood in addition to funding our other initiatives that make Underwood the place to be.



8TH ANNUAL
Unicorn Trot!
October 16

Get Ready to Run!

Unicorn Trot is coming, Friday, October 16th

Pledge Today! This year's goal is to raise \$20,000!

Please encourage your children to ask family, friends (near or far) and neighbors to sponsor them in the Unicorn Trot!

- Pledge online. Go to underwoodpta.org/events/unicorn-trot and click on Sponsor a Student.
- Pledges are due the day of the race – October 16th!
- Remember to see if your employer matches donations!

Funds raised during our largest fundraiser for 2015-2016 go directly making our school a better place!

Donations enable the PTA to fund programs in technology, cultural arts, leadership and conscious discipline education, hospitality for teachers, wellness initiative, buildings and grounds, and Science Olympiad.

Fun!

The Unicorn Trot is a great opportunity to promote school spirit, work together toward a common goal and encourage health and fitness. And, it's a lot of fun!

On the day of the event, all students will receive a Unicorn Trot t-shirt to wear, thanks to our corporate sponsors. They will take

the field with their grade level while D.J. Nick Neptune keeps the crowd pumped up and running. JoJo Polk from Core Fitness will also encourage the kids as they run.

New this Year

4th and 5th graders have the chance to participate in a color run if they meet their fundraising goal of \$2,000 per grade! Also, all grades will attend a pep rally on Friday, October 9 that will include new teacher relays, N.C. State Cheerleaders, special emcee JR Richardson, DJ Lord Redbyrd, and more...

Prizes!

Students who turn in pledge donations by October 16 will win prizes! Daily prize drawings starting Monday, October 12 and a FitBit will go to the student who raises the most money and the teacher whose class raises the most money! Ice Cream parties will go to for the classes with the most pledge participation, most laps completed and most money raised!

JOIN us! Come Cheer! Volunteer!

Parents are encouraged to come support our students! We are excited for the BEST UNICORN TROT ever! Please contact Allison Marsh (allisonmarsh@yahoo.com) or Lisa Price (lvprice74@gmail.com) with questions or to volunteer.



Underwood Spirit Week:

Friday, October 9

Unicorn Trot Pep Rally

Wear your Underwood gear!

Monday, October 12

Crazy Hair/Crazy Socks Day

Tuesday, October 13

Favorite Sports Team Day

Wednesday, October 14

Wear a Hat!

Thursday, October 15

Pajama Day

Friday, October 16

Wear your Unicorn Trot T-Shirt!

Cash for Used Ink Cartridges

We are continuing our Ink Cartridge Recycling Program at Underwood this year! Please send used ink cartridges in with your student or drop them off in the white collection box located to the left inside the door of the library under a podium. In order to conserve space, please remove cartridges from any packaging before placing them in the box. Thanks for helping turn your trash into cash for our school!! Questions?

Contact Kerry Hazen at khazen@nc.rr.com or Andrea Trowell at atrowell@wcpss.net.

2015 Book Fair Coming Soon

The Monster Book Fair knows goose bumps are scary fun, so join us for some hair-raising reading. Share the love of books with your family, friends and neighbors during our many spooky events.

SCHEDULE:

Nov. 23 and 24 Parent/Adult Sneak Shop

Nov. 30–Dec. 4 Open to All/Class Preview & Sales

December 1 Moonlight Reading and Cookies & Milk

December 4 Donuts with Dads & Grandfriends

Look for more information on events, times and volunteer opportunities. Questions? Email Elizabeth Mankin emankin@att.net

**100% of money
raised goes to
Underwood PTA!**





Cultural Arts 2015/2016 Season

The Cultural Arts Committee announces its 2015/2016 season. Members have confirmed three performances and one writer residency. Two additional residencies and an exhibit at CAM Raleigh are in negotiations. The current lineup includes:

December 2015

Bright Star Theater Company will perform Traditions Around the World for our entire student body.

February 2016

Hot Horns Brass Instruments will perform their From Pop to Rock program for all Underwood students.

April 2016

Ballethnic Ballet Company will perform their Athleticism of Dance program for all grades and complete mini workshops for a select group of students.

April 2016

Writer Diane Silcox-Jarrett will work with fourth grade students in a Writer in Residence program.

Details on the remaining programs will be released as they are confirmed. Funding for all Cultural Arts Programs comes from our PTA. Additional funding is provided through a grant from the United Art Council of Raleigh and Wake County.

Of special note, our partnership with CAM Raleigh will continue. Two programs are in the works for Spring 2016. Additional details will be released as they are available. Until then, students are invited to attend a free family event from 12 pm to 5 pm on October 18. We encourage all interested families to help us continue our new relationship by enjoying a day at CAM Raleigh.

**Do you like to
take pictures?
Sign up for the
Yearbook Committee!**



The Yearbook committee is still looking for grade-level reps from 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th grades to help take pictures at special events throughout the year. The Yearbook committee depends on parents to send in candid pictures from events like the Unicorn Trot, Winter Carnival, Field Trips, etc. If you like to take pictures, please consider signing up for one of these open grades. You can do so online by clicking on the MemberHub Dashboard/Clicking on Join Open Hubs on the left hand column, and clicking on Yearbook or by emailing Beth Dickinson at twoflgators@gmail.com to sign up. The next big event we need photographers for is the Unicorn Trot. If you cannot commit to be the main grade-level photographer, a call for pictures will go out later in the year. Please hang on to your pictures or send to Beth Dickinson.

Looking to get involved in Underwood PTA?

Sign up on MemberHub/Join Open Hubs/ and click on any Hub you wish to join for a committee.

This newsletter is published monthly. Please fill out a communications request at <http://bit.ly/PTAcommrequest> by the 20th of the month if you have something you would like included in the next newsletter. For questions, contact co-editors Julia Fellers-Green at jrfellers@gmail.com or Amme Fleming at amme-fleming@gmail.com.



Underwood GT
Elementary School
1614 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27608