

# MARION CROSS SCHOOL

# PTO **December** NEWS

## **UPCOMING PTO Events**

All month: Canned tomato drive for the 19 Days of Norwich

All month: The Giving Tree virtual wish list

## **Important MCS Event Reminders**

Tuesday, Dec. 15: Holiday Concert, 3rd through 6th Grades — 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the MCS Gym

Wednesday, Dec. 16: Holiday Concert, K through 2nd Grade — 5 to 6 p.m. in the MCS Gym

Wednesday, Dec. 23: Holiday Break

## **Gift Making Festival a success**

The Gift Making Festival was a fabulous success measured by the great turnout and smiles of students and families alike. We raised more than \$1,200 with all profits going towards the funding of PTO Teacher and Family Grants. The PTO Grants are used to help provide special student experiences and to enrich the academic environment of the students of MCS. To [learn more about PTO grants](#) visit the PTO's website. A big thanks is due to our amazing and creative Gift Making Craft Chairs, Megan Tompkins and Corin Benedict, and to our fabulous Gift Making Cafe Chairs, Katie Madden and Laura Perras. The crafts were beautiful and fun and the food plentiful and delicious. A huge thanks to the many, many families who volunteered to help make this event a success. We could not have done it without you!

## **PTO awards fall grants**

The MCS PTO uses fundraising dollars to offer teachers and families grants that can provide special school experiences and to help enrich the student's academic experiences. We are happy to announce that thanks to the hard work and generosity of our MCS families, we were able to fund a total of \$1,888.50 in fall grants. The grants were used to fund a collection of fiction books for the 3rd grade team, white boards for the 2nd grade team, French dictionaries for all grades and the French classrooms, a variety of garden supplies for the School Community Garden, and a new *CLOSED* sign and mats for the Norwich Ice Rink. Congratulations!

## **Giving Tree returns with teacher wish lists**

Are you wondering what to give your child's teacher this holiday season? As you are planning your gift giving, consider taking a look at what your teachers have put on their wish list [visiting our virtual Giving Tree](#). If you wind up buying or donating something off of the list, please indicate that by typing "purchased" next to the item. Questions? Please [email Chelsea Nolan](#). Happy holidays!

## **Join the PTO for the 19 Days of Norwich by bringing in canned tomatoes**

The PTO is once again participating in the 19 Days of Norwich. This year, as was done last year, the MCS PTO is collecting canned tomatoes. Donations can be dropped off at the front office and your child's classroom. We thank you for joining in this effort to make this a happy holiday season for all.

## Milton Frye Nature Area Committee seeking new members

The Committee is charged with maintenance, oversight, and educational programming for the Nature Area adjacent to the school. This land is a wonderful and much used resource for our school children and for the community. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month in the MCS library from 3:30 to 4:30. Our most recent project was the invasive plant management project. We are currently working towards the construction of an educational shelter for the kindergarten Forest Friday program, and other educational programs and classes. Past work which could be renewed, includes interpretive signage and trail signage. We also have offered public educational programs during most seasons. This component of our work would benefit from new ideas and assistance. If you would like to volunteer or would like more information, please contact Lindsay Putnam at 802-649-1668 or [Lindsay.Putnam@hanovernorwichschools.org](mailto:Lindsay.Putnam@hanovernorwichschools.org). Thank you.

## Local Business Partners for December: Dan & Whits and The Norwich Bookstore

The PTO's Local Business Partners Program is featuring two businesses this month: Dan & Whits and The Norwich Bookstore. In addition to deep community roots, both businesses share a commitment to giving back to the community. At this time of year, Dan & Whits works to infuse the spirit of giving into the holidays with its 19 Days of Norwich while the Norwich Bookstore does its part with the Book Angels program. [Learn more about these programs](#) and the people behind them by visiting the PTO website.

Thank you business partners!

