



November 22, 2013

Give to those in need this holiday season

If you would like to help spread holiday cheer to families in need, please consider giving to Christmas Sharing and the Madison mitten tree:

Christmas Sharing

Christmas Sharing started more than 25 years ago as a joint effort between churches and schools in the Wheaton area to provide for needy families during the holiday season. Needed items include clothing (gently used is okay), new underwear and socks, blankets, winter coats, mittens, boots, paper products, baby wipes, diapers, baby food, baby clothes, toys, food, face/body soap, cleaning supplies, and other nonperishable goods. The program also needs cash donations. Christmas Sharing tables will be set up near the main doors, and we will be collecting donations through Dec. 6.

Madison mitten tree

Take a mitten off the mitten tree and buy a gift for a Madison student in need. Each mitten will have a specific gift request with size and gender. The mitten tree will be in the front hallway outside the office. Please wrap the new item and attach the mitten to the outside of the gift. Return the present to Lisa Parrilli, Madison social worker, no later than Dec. 13.

Thank you so much for your support. Questions? Contact Lisa Parrilli, Madison social worker, lisa.parrilli@cusd200.org.

Wheaton School District 200 PTA & Family Tree Resale

[Recycling for Vouchers](#) is a partnership between District 200 and Family Tree Resale on Roosevelt Rd. in Glen Ellyn. Here's how it works:

- District 200 families donate gently used stuff to Family Tree Resale.
- Family Tree Resale donates vouchers to District 200 social workers who distribute them to District 200 families in need of assistance.
- Local District 200 families shop for free at Family Tree Resale.

Click [here](#) to learn more about this generous program.

Climbing wall plan moving forward

Thank to you everyone who filled out both Madison PTA surveys. In the first survey, responses demonstrated that the majority of people wanted the PTA to spend its money on teacher wish lists. We have now granted \$8,209.09 for that purpose.

The PTA still has about \$4,000 from the Run-a-Thon to be spent this year. After receiving many positive responses to the second survey and discussion at the last PTA general membership meeting, we have decided to continue to fundraise for a climbing wall. We plan to have the climbing wall installed over spring break or before. The climbing wall costs about \$10,000. We need to raise additional funds of about \$6,000 before the climbing wall can be installed.

If you pledged a dollar amount in the second survey, please make checks payable to Madison PTA with "climbing wall" in the memo line. If you didn't have a chance to fill out the survey and would like to contribute, please do so.

Look for more ways to contribute with fundraisers after the holidays. If you would like to be part of the climbing wall fundraising committee, please contact Robyn Beres, robynberes@hotmail.com.

iPad donation drive makes local news

If you upgrade to a new iPad, please consider donating your old one to Madison. We're reaching out to the community, hoping others will consider donating their iPads for use in the classroom. Please spread the word to your friends and family. Here are some news stories for you to cut & paste and share. You can also find them on the Madison PTA page of www.cusd200.org.

Wheaton Patch

<http://wheaton.patch.com/groups/announcements/p/donate-your-used-ipad-to-madison-elementary>

mysuburbanlife:

<http://www.mysuburbanlife.com/2013/11/06/madison-elementary-seeks-used-ipad-donations/ad78rh7/>

Triblocal:

http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2013-11-08/news/ct-tl-wheaton-ipads-1114-20131108_1_wheaton-school-ipad-new-devices

Parent Teacher Conference dinner donations thank you

The PTA Staff Appreciation Committee would like to thank the Day Family, Quentin Family and Kammerzell Family for their donations to help make the dinners for our teachers on the evenings of parent-teacher conferences a success. We would also like to thank Jason's Deli and Addante's for their generosity and assistance in helping their community schools.

Join chess club

Madison chess club has already started, but it's never too late to join in. The club meets on Thursdays from 6:30 - 7:30pm in the art room from now until spring break (enter door 2). Madison chess club is for all grades, kindergarten through fifth.

We have two coaches who will teach your kids how to play chess if your child is a beginner, or build on their skills if they already know how to play.

We look forward to seeing Madison students interested in building their chess skills. If you have any questions, please contact your Madison chess coordinators: Sam Hurtado (hurts1@yahoo.com), Krista Caprini (caprini2323@gmail.com), or Jennifer Sutherland (jmsuth@yahoo.com).

Thank you for Halloween candy donations

Thank you for all who turned in Halloween candy. Madison donated 160 pounds of candy. Madison's donation was the largest single donation the dental office received. The dental office sends all the candy to the troops through Operation Gratitude.

Madison also collects batteries to be recycled. You can also donate them on your own at Whole Foods. For more information, contact Moyra Gorski at moyragorski@me.com.

Recycle holiday lights

Madison is collecting working and non-working strands of incandescent or LED holiday lights and extension cords Nov. 25-Feb. 10. A collection box is in the school office. Madison will then pass them on to the Wheaton Public Works Department who will strip and recycle the copper and plastic parts. No materials will be shipped overseas.

Questions? Please contact Moyra Gorski at moyragorski@comcast.net.

Explore More Day committee members needed

Want to help organize what could be considered the most exciting day of the school year? Explore More Day co-chairs are especially looking for committee members who have younger children who could help continue this event in the coming years.

Explore More Day is always the Friday before Memorial Day. It's a day when kids "explore" new things—from a new sport to a new food to a science experiment or craft—kids learn something different. Kindergartners and first graders have their classes planned for them; second through fifth graders choose from about 40 classes. If you'd be interested in being on the committee, contact Dani at dmdeleon@sbcglobal.net or Stephanie at powell06@comcast.net.

PACE testing to begin in Spring 2014

In March/April 2014, the Program of Accelerated Curriculum and Enrichment (PACE) will host testing for currently enrolled second through fifth grade students. Students currently in PACE classes do not need to re-test for 2014-2015. Students may be recommended for testing by their teacher and/or parent. The deadline for a parent to request PACE testing is Fri., Jan. 24, 2014.

Save the dates

Click on the [calendar](#) on the Madison section of www.cusd200.org to view upcoming dates. See below for some highlights:

Nov. 25-29: Thanksgiving recess

Dec. 9: Madison Memos deadline

Dec. 11: Market Day pick up

Dec. 17: Winter Concert

Dec. 20: Classroom winter parties

Dec. 23 – Jan. 3: Winter break

Did you know?

Madison PTA is a 501c3 organization. Madison PTA files taxes every year to maintain its status. Your donations to Madison PTA are tax-deductible.

