

The Solon Early Childhood PTA Newsletter

The Solon Early Childhood PTA is a unit of the Parent Teacher Association (PTA), organized for the parents of preschool age children (birth-5) regardless of what school the child will attend. Expectant parents are also welcome.

We always welcome new members from Solon and the surrounding communities. If you are the parent of a preschool age child or infant, we have something for you!

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER!!

Memberships run from July, 2014 to June, 2015. Please look for further information via email or the website when membership forms for 2014-2015 will be available! Please renew your membership to continue sharing in the fun!

**SAVE THE DATE for SECPTA's
March 14th Fundraiser!**
Details on page 17!

The 2014-2015 SECPTA Directories will be available at the January General Meeting. Don't forget to pick one up!

CHRISTA'S COLUMN:

Notes from the SECPTA President:

Happy New Year! I know it's only January, but I'm ready for warm weather to come back again! This is about the time of year that I start hibernating and dream of spring. It's a good thing SECPTA has so many fun things in store to help pass the time away.

Our January Program is full of Organizing Tips to help us get prepared to get ready for Spring Cleaning (can't you tell I have warm weather on the brain?). Our calendar is full of fun field trips to help you get through these cold winter months and days off school.

Make room on your calendar for some adult fun. Our fundraiser will be March 14th. It's a fun evening with friends and it supports a great cause. Our fundraising is what allows us to provide such great field trips at a reduced price, give two FREE children's parties each year and all the other great activities we have. Please come out and join us for this great adult only night. Invite your non-SECPTA friends too!

I want to thank J for another great Progressive Dinner. I hope you were able to join us for a fun night out with other parents. Let's also give a big thank you to Toby for all her hard work on the newsletter and Christy and Emily for their work on Publicity.

Also, it's time to start planning for next year. If the nominating committee calls you, please seriously consider their offer. SECPTA works due to the dedication of all its volunteers. It's a rewarding experience that I hope you would consider.

Christa

president@secpta.net

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SECPTA GENERAL MEETINGS:

Happy New Year! Take a break from the holiday let-down and enjoy one of our general meetings. SECPTA general meetings are held once each month and are a place to socialize, build community, learn something, and meet new people. Our SECPTA theme for this year is 'friendship' and our general meetings are the first place to embrace that theme. The meetings are open to the public, free of charge, do not require an RSVP. Complimentary child care and refreshments are offered at every meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to email us, otherwise we're looking forward to getting to know you at one of our general meetings!

Tara M, VP of Programs and Emily G, Chair of Programs
programs@secpta.net

January's General Meeting and Program:

Tuesday, January, 27th at 6:30 pm

Solon Community Center (35000 Portz Parkway) in the Main Banquet Hall

TOP TEN ORGANIZING TIPS

By Organizing 4 U, local professional organizers

January is Get Organized Month and one of the top three New Year's Resolutions is to GET ORGANIZED! Here is an opportunity to learn some tricks of the Professional Organizing trade from Muffy Kaesberg and JoEllen Salkin, co-founders of Organizing 4 U. Their Top Ten Organizing Tips is a summary of the same tips they provide to their customers, and you will discover useable strategies that will help you get organized and stay organized, both at work and at home.

Schedule:

6:15pm	Arrival, sign-ups, refreshments, Project Night Night service project
6:50pm	Business meeting, followed by Organizing 4U's presentation
8:00pm	Meeting adjourns

All general meetings include complimentary child care in a room immediately adjacent to the meeting, as well as food and drinks to enjoy. January's refreshments will be meat, cheese, fruit, veggie & dessert trays.



SAVE THE DATE!

February's General Meeting is:
February, 24th, 2015, 6:15-8pm

A Presentation on the Future of Solon Schools by Mr. Joe Regano

"The Power of Play" presented by The Inspired Treehouse

"Babbling and Beyond: A parent's guide to speech and language milestones during the first 5 years"

Presented by Rebecca Bowen, Speech-Language Pathologist



SAVE THE DATES for SECPTA's ADULT OUTINGS

Adult Outings are the perfect way for the Moms and Dads of SECPTA to get together, away from the kids to socialize! If you're new to the area or just looking for some new friends to spice up your life, then try to attend as many of our fantastic outings as you can! All of the outings are scheduled for both weeknight or weekend evenings and range from just going to a local tavern for drinks or participating in the annual progressive dinner...



With everyone concerned about the economy these days, people are cutting back on luxuries such as Spa treatments and weekly manicures. It is such a shame...because everyone needs a little pampering now and again!

So on **Saturday, February 7th**, the **Moms of SECPTA** will take matters into their own hands by having a **Spa Night at Home!**

We are offering a fun evening for the Moms complete with but not limited to: manicures, footbaths, massages, facials, and a consult with a Premier Jewelry Consultant! We plan to laugh at ourselves for doing something a little different on a Saturday night but at the same time, we will manage to unwind with other Moms who just need to treat themselves well!!! Wearing comfortable clothing is a must (perhaps flannel p.j's and fuzzy socks?) as the key is to go home feeling relaxed, refreshed and spoiled by SECPTA... and no trip to the Spa would be complete without healthy snacks, dessert, water infused by fruit of some sort and a gift to take home at the end of your Spa visit...

Start time is 7 o'clock..the cost is \$10 per lady due at sign up..and space is limited to 12 ladies..so sign up today!!



On **Friday, February 6th**, the **DADS of SECPTA** will be having a **Poker Night!** The play will start promptly at 7PM and it will last until the last chip is won (or whenever you're told to be home).

The buy-in will be determined from the number of Dads participating and the game of choice is Texas Hold'Em. Dads are to bring their own beverages while SECPTA will provide all the munchies because you can't make good card decisions on an empty stomach.

This will definitely be a fun time and directions will be emailed to those who sign up as well as specifics on the evening. So freshen up on your Poker skills and meet other Dads of SECPTA! You'll be glad you partook in this one!!

OUTINGS CONTINUED.....

SAVE THE DATE for a COUPLES OUTINGS in MAY

We now have the last couples outing for the school year planned!

On Saturday, May 16th, the COUPLES of SECPTA will have an OVERNIGHT EXCURSION TO KELLEY'S ISLAND and enjoy its great restaurants, bars, nature preserves, shopping and so much more!

We still start Saturday morning by hopping on the ferry (by car or foot is your choice) at 10am but if you need to come at a different time, totally OK! While on the ferry, you can enjoy the sights of the Marblehead Lighthouse and Perry's Monument in the distance and the boats partaking in the great fishing of Lake Erie!

Once on the island, you can ride over to the Kelley's Island Venture Resort where we have ten rooms blocked for our group (we can add more if interest is shown) with a starting price of \$145.00 (not including tax) for a King bedroom. There are many different suites to choose from so book early to get the room you want! You'll have more information below on how to book your room...



After you're settled in, you are free to explore the island on your own, or we can go around the island as a group in our golf carts! You will enjoy the sights such as, but not limited to, the Glacial Groves and downtown and much, much, more! We will have dinner as a group at The Kelley's Island Wine Co. where you will enjoy some of the best pizza the islands have to offer! The night will unfold as only nights can unfold on an island and you will have the opportunity to sleep in on Sunday morning as there will be no kids of your own to jar you awake!

Depending on the number of couples, SECPTA will be covering the cost of your golf cart rental **OR** the cost of dinner Saturday night at the winery!

Please know that because this is a touristy island, we only have these 10 rooms reserved until February 6th. During this time, if there are more than 10 couples interested, we can add however many rooms we may need. After February 6th, you can still make a reservation but there are no guarantees that rooms will be available...

Should you want to partake in this legendary Couples Outing, please let J of Adult Outings know you will be reserving a room so she can plan for this outing accordingly. Then call Lindsey at the Kelley's Island Venture Resort: (567) 283-5136 to make your reservation and tell her that you are part of the Solon Early Childhood PTA group!

If you've never been, below are links you may scope out to see if Kelley's Island is a good fit for you!

<http://kiventureresort.com/index.html>

www.kelleysislandchamber.com

www.kelleysislandwine.com

Sign up for these outings at the General Meetings or RSVP to J at adultoutings@secpta.net

SECPTA's Coffee Club:



Come in from the cold and relax after the holidays with a warm cup of coffee and friends! Join us at Erin's house in Solon on January 23rd and Lauren's house on February 3rd in Chagrin Falls.

Coffee club is a completely free way for you to enjoy socializing for a couple hours with other parents while your children run around and make some new friends!! Food, drinks and a craft will be provided. All you need to do is bring your family!!

When: Friday, January 23rd

Where: Erin's House in Solon

Time: 9:30 – 11:30 am

To RSVP, please email Danielle with your name and your children's names and ages to coffeeclub@secpta.net.



ATTENTION NEW MEMBERS!!

Is your family new to SECPTA? Then this event is for you!

Come meet other new members and their families while enjoying a hot, fresh from the oven pizza that you and your family help create. All the supplies for pizza making, including the kitchen, will be provided by Young Chef's Academy in Solon. All you need to bring is your appetite and imagination for creating the most delicious pizza pie!

Mark your calendars for January 31st from 11:30- 1:00pm, when each family will get to create their own pizza! We will visit and get to know one another, while the pizzas cook, and then we will dig in and enjoy some tasty eats. All ages are welcome but we ask that only kids ages 3 and older help cook. The cost is only \$10 for the entire family and includes pizza, salad and drinks. That is an afternoon of family fun for cheaper than an XL pizza from your favorite pizza joint!

Please note we have had such an overwhelming response already to this event that we are currently signing up families on a waitlist. Thank you for your interest and we will keep you posted on future New Members events!

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Jeanne and Liz

newmembers@secpta.net



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR
THE CHILDREN'S VALENTINE'S DANCE PARTY**

Saturday February 7, 2015 from 3-5pm

at

Orchard Middle School Gymnasium.



There will be a DJ, prizes, snacks and MORE!!

Please sign up no later than January 19th, 2015 either at a SECPTA meeting or by emailing parties@secpta.net.

Please also let us know if you are available to help out by baking, setting up and/or cleaning up afterwards. Any and all help is greatly appreciated!



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

New members ~ please be on the lookout for emails from SECPTA!

If two weeks have passed and you have not received our SECPTA emails, please contact Joanna at correspondingsecretary@secpta.net so you can be manually added to the email list.

Also, please check your spam folders and be sure to add SECPTA to your contacts so you can receive our communications.

Once you're a member, "like us" to get up to date information on all things SECPTA!



FITNESS

Take the first step with us to a journey of physical, mental and emotional healthy living with SECPTA Fitness activities!

Try some of our alternative programs throughout the year to rejuvenate your mind, body and spirit.



For more information contact Megan C.
at fitness@secpta.net



Call Us To Schedule Your Massage
828-231-6159
www.thewombwellnesscenter.com

Solon Early Childhood PTA **DINE TO DONATE**

Order from Domino's Pizza on
Wednesday, January 14th
and 10% of your order will benefit SECPTA!

Domino's Pizza
33670 Aurora Road
Solon, Ohio
(440)248-2030

Carry-Out or Delivery Available



SECPTA is a non-profit organization serving
families with children from birth to
Kindergarten in Solon and surrounding areas.
Please visit us at SECPTA.net



Would you like your child playing with kids their own age?

Would you like it to be at a convenient time in your schedule?

Would you like to talk to other moms that are going through similar growing pains with their little one?

Well then **PLAYGROUPS** may be for you!

My name is Tania and I am in charge of SECPTA Playgroups. Please fill out the playgroups form at the back of this newsletter, to give me better idea of what group to place you in. Once a group is formed I will communicate between the members the best place to meet. It could be at a park, a member's home, or any place you can think of.

We are just now getting forms in so no worries that you will be the new one to the group. No obligation to stay in the group if your schedule should change. One last benefit is that you may tire out the little ones.

Please feel free to email me with any questions.

Hope to hear from you soon! 😊

Tania C.
playgroups@secpta.net

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ClevelandHomes.com



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SECPTA SERVICE

A SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM SERVICE!

Thank you to all of the families that participated in the Adopt a family this year. The generosity of this group is always so amazing and it is really heartwarming to know that together we made a big impact in these three local families. Being able to personally deliver the gifts to two of the families this year was such a special experience. I can say with certainty that their holidays are brighter because of SECPTA and all of you! Thank you for the participation and support.

I have a few great service opportunities for you and your kids in the works for the first half of 2015. Keep an eye out for emails with the specific details. And of course if you have any ideas for activities, please email me at service@secpta.net. Because together, we do make a difference!

Wishing you and yours, health and happiness for the New Year!



Be sure to come to the general meetings a few minutes early to help with the tie blankets and encouragement cards for Project Night Night. We will be doing them every month before the business meeting starts.

Welcome SECPTA Adventurers!



Access to fun, age-appropriate field trips is one of the many great benefits that members of SECPTA are provided.

The 2014-2015 Field Trips Committee is hard at work planning some fantastic outings and we hope that you will join us!

The members of the Field Trips Committee are:

- Karolina B.
- Trudi F.
- Mary K.
- Rebecca M. (chair)
- Thera P.
- Carlynn S.
- Christy S.
- Marie S.
- Tina S.
- Nancy L.

Our committee's goal is to provide fun, kid-friendly activities and events to help keep you and your family busy! Many of our trips are subsidized, so you can do things with your family you've always wanted, but maybe found too costly. Other trips provide access to places and events that only large groups are afforded. Come with us and enjoy outings with your children and the camaraderie of other SECPTA families!

We are always open to ideas and suggestions, especially at the beginning of the year, when we still have openings in the schedule. Please email any trip suggestions you may have to fieldtrips@secpta.net.

Looking forward to meeting you on a SECPTA field trip!

Rebecca M.
Field Trips Chair
fieldtrips@secpta.net

IMPORTANT FIELD TRIP POLICIES

SIGN-UP POLICY:

Field trip sign-ups are FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED. Sign-ups will be accepted in the following order:

1) BOARD MEETINGS:

As a privilege to Board members, sign-ups will be made available to members at monthly board meetings starting at 7:45pm. Sign-ups will conclude at 8:00pm at the start of the Board Meeting.

2) GENERAL MEETINGS:

Sign-ups will begin at 6.15 pm at every General Meeting. A line will form at the Field Trips table where you will be able to sign up and make payments. For those events requiring payment (cash or checks only), a reservation is not confirmed until payment is received. Please try to bring your completed Sign-Up Form (found on the last page of this newsletter) to the meeting to facilitate a timely sign up procedure.

3) IF YOU CAN'T OR DIDN'T ATTEND THE GENERAL MEETING:

Once the sign ups at general meetings are complete, you may sign up by e-mailing the designated Field Trips Coordinator for each particular field trip. (Name@secpta.net)

Once you have confirmed a reservation (*some trips may be booked*), please send payment to the Field Trips Chair, Rebecca M, payable to SECPTA, including the trip title in the Memo line.

Payment should be received prior to the event date. ***Please note that no one is officially signed up until his or her name is on the sign-up form and payment is received.*** The treasurer has no access to these forms, and does not sign members up for field trips.

****Please note**** Most field trips have deadlines. Once the deadline has passed, we cannot accept any further sign ups or additions to the waitlist. We apologize for any inconvenience.

PAYMENT POLICY:

Payments for field trips will be occur at the same time as sign ups at the general meetings or by email if you missed the meeting. Payments accepted include cash, check, or prior trip "credit." We recommend not writing your check until your trips are confirmed. All checks should be made payable to SECPTA. Field trip credits will be tracked by the committee and are applicable within the 2014-15 Field Trips "year." Credits will not be issued for "no-shows" or ticketed events.

WAITING LIST POLICY:

The Field trips Committee will make their best effort to accommodate all members who have an interest in attending Field trips in one or more of the following ways:

WAITING LISTS CREATED - Waiting lists will be created for all "full" field trips. Members will be contacted if spots become available.



INCREASING TICKET NUMBERS - If there is an overwhelming demand for a particular field trip, the committee will make their best effort to accommodate members by increasing the tickets/spots available. Please understand that some field trips have a limited amount of space/tickets available, and an increase may not be possible.

ADDITIONAL DATES SCHEDULED - If there is an overwhelming demand for a particular field trip, the field trips committee will make their best effort to schedule additional dates if possible.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

In order to minimize SECPTA's expense for "No-Shows" and out of courtesy to your fellow SECPTA members, it is imperative that you contact the designated Field Trip Planner via email or telephone, at least 24 hours prior to the event so we can fill your spot with another member.

Attendance will be taken at all Field Trips. No refunds/credits will be given for "no-shows" who have not given proper notification of cancellation.

Not showing up for a trip which you agreed to attend can be a major problem for our organized field trips. In order to minimize "no-shows", we will be sending at least one reminder email prior to each trip. Also, we recommend that you keep your portion of the Sign-Up Sheet, as a reminder of which trip you agreed to attend. Each trip coordinator will let you know the best way to contact them, if you are not going to make it to an event, especially at the last minute. Please also remember that many trips are subsidized, so a "free" trip to you may not have been free to SECPTA.

ILLNESS POLICY:

Children and/or parents should not attend any SECPTA events if they exhibit any of the following symptoms:

Diarrhea more than once within 24 hours of the event; Severe coughing; Difficult or rapid breathing; Yellowish skin or eyes; redness of the eye or eyelid including discharge, eye pain, matted eyelashes, burning or itching; Temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher; Infected skin patches; unusual spots or rashes; unusually dark urine and/or gray or white stools; stiff neck with an elevated temperature; sore throat or difficulty swallowing; vomiting within 24 hours of the event; evidence of untreated lice; scabies, or other parasitic infestations.

LOOKING FOR NEW IDEAS AND MEMBERS!

As we already stated, our committee is continually looking for new ideas for field trips. If you have any leads for future events or are interested in joining the committee, please email us (fieldtrips@secpta.net). Your help is always appreciated!!

FACEBOOK

Please "like" SECPTA on Facebook for reminders about field trips sign ups and other useful SECPTA info!

CONTACT INFORMATION

In an effort to keep things simple, please use fieldtrips@secpta.net to contact us.

You may receive different contact information for a particular trip you are scheduled for from that field trip coordinator. That information is specific to each trip.





FEBRUARY FIELD TRIPS



Sign-ups will take place at the January General Meeting!
Please bring the attached Sign-Up Form already completed.

"Like" SECPTA on Facebook for a reminder of what trips are eligible for sign-ups at the Meeting.

FEBRUARY TRIPS

2/3/15 (Tuesday) Great Lakes Science Center - Sounds Float

Sounds like science...it is! Come observe and describe the sounds we hear & uncover the mystery behind what our ears tell us. Experiment with pitch and vibration. The morning includes a sound demonstration (Sounds Like Science), workshop (Sound Sleuths) & many exhibits. The workshop/demo is 30-45 minutes long and begins promptly at 10am. Please arrive at 9:45am. The rest of the time at the science center is free for exploration! This fieldtrip has a maximum of 30 people.

Time: 9:45 am arrival at ticket counter; Workshop at 10:00 am
Location: Great Lakes Science Center, 601 Erieside Ave. Cleveland
Cost: \$8 per person
Ages: 3-5 years
Contact: Carlynn@secpta.net
Sign-up deadline: 1/28/15



2/5/15 (Thursday) Math Monkey

Math is FUN at Math Monkey! By engaging children through the use of our game-based program, we are able to introduce challenging material to our Math Monkeys and help them build mental agility and concentration. Children will be split into Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten classes, which will run concurrently with 7-10 kids in each. Preschool - Our youngest troop of children learn an introduction to basic math concepts such as number identification, counting, patterns, shapes and more. Pre-Kindergarten - Students continue to learn to read and write digits 0-9, develop an understanding of quantity (more/less) and master the basics of addition, subtraction, coins, clocks, shapes and story problems. Open to approximately 25-30 kids.

Time: 10:30 am -11:30 am
Location: Math Monkey, 26801 Miles Rd., Warrensville Heights
Cost: \$4 per child
Ages: Preschool (3-4) or Pre-Kindergarten Age classes will be offered.
Please sign up for the one which is appropriate for your child.
Contact: Rebecca@secpta.net
Sign-up deadline: 1/27/15



2/8/15 (Sunday) Shrek the Musical

The Twinsburg Community Theatre presents Shrek the Musical for the young audience, at Twinsburg High School. Approximately 120 minute performance including intermission. Limit of 20 tickets available.

Time: 2:00 pm
Location: Twinsburg High School - 10084 Ravenna Rd.
Cost: \$4 per person
Ages: Most suitable for 4-5 year olds and up
Contact: Marie@secpta.net
Sign-up deadline: 2/6/15



2/10/15 (Tuesday) Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) preschool play date

Designed for the youngest art lovers, this field trip is about exploring, playing, and creating. MOCA educators lead open-ended and fun activities that help preschoolers learn about color, line, shapes, and textures. This play date will occur before the museum opens to the public, allowing kids and their caregivers to explore the museum on their own terms in creative and unexpected ways. Maximum of 30 children. Everyone in the group is welcome to stay afterwards and experience the museum for as long as they'd like.

Time: 10:00 am – 11:30 am (please arrive by 9:50am)
Location: MOCA, 11400 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland
Cost: \$6 per adult, children are free
Ages: 3-5 years
Contact: Karolina@secpta.net
Sign up deadline: 2/1/15



2/11/15 (Wednesday) Main Street Cupcakes

Join us as we decorate cupcakes for Valentine's Day! Each child will get to design their own Valentine's Day themed cupcake with colored frosting and sprinkles. Such a popular trip we have scheduled 2 30 minute time slots, 11:00 and 12:00. Please choose 1 and there is a limit of 12 children per time.

Time: 11:00 am -11:30 am and 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm
Location: 238 North Main Street in Hudson
Cost: \$3 per child
Ages: All Ages
Contact: Mary@secpta.net
Sign-up deadline: 2/8/15



2/13/15 (Friday) Swimming at the Solon Recreation Center

Join other SECPTA friends for the morning Toddler Swim at the Solon Rec!! Before we know it, it will be time for spring break and summer suits!! Let's begin getting acclimated to the pool again! Plan to swim with your child, as an adult must accompany all children in the water. The Play Feature will be turned on for the last 1/2 hour.

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Location: Solon Recreation Center, Portz Parkway
Cost: Free to any paid members of the Solon Recreation Center
Solon Residents age 7 and up \$4
Non-Solon Guests age 7 and up \$5
Children age 6 and under free
Ages: All Ages
Contact: Marie@secpta.net
Sign-up deadline: None



2/16/15 (Monday) Greater Cleveland Aquarium

Bring the whole family on the kids' day off to enjoy all that the Greater Cleveland Aquarium has to offer. This field trip is for admission to the aquarium for you and your family to explore 'under the sea' at your own pace. We'll meet at the door then you and your kids will be free to roam and stay as long as you'd like. All sign ups **must** be received by 2/6/15 because we have to pay in advance.

Time: 11:00 am
Location: Greater Cleveland Aquarium, 2000 Sycamore Street, Cleveland
Cost: \$8 per child, \$10 per adult, children under 2 years are free
Ages: All Ages
Contact: Christy@secpta.net

Sign up deadline: 2/6/15



2/17/15 (Tuesday) Young Chef's Academy

Join us at Young Chef's Academy where we'll prepare a yummy treat. Each child will have the opportunity to assist in the baking process. We'll be measuring, stirring, sifting and baking in an environment just right for little ones. Pre-school field trips are a great opportunity for "little chefs" to explore their culinary curiosities.

Time: 12:30 pm - 1:30pm
Where: Young Chef's Academy, 28500 Miles Rd., Solon
Cost: \$5 per child
Ages: 3+
Contact: Tina@secpta.net

Sign up deadline: 2/14/15



2/21/15 (Saturday) Play and Learn Station

Play and Learn Station is an imaginative, hands-on, parent/child literacy learning center that helps prepare children (ages birth to five) for kindergarten. Its purpose is to stimulate children's natural curiosity to discover and explore, and to help them master fundamental skills necessary for school success. Come play and learn together! Limit 10 families.

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Where: Shaker Heights Main Library
16500 Van Aken Blvd., Shaker Heights
Cost: Free
Ages: Birth - 5 years
Contact: Trudi@secpta.net

Sign up deadline: 2/13/15



2/22/15 (Sunday) Winter Blast Weekends at Lake Farmpark

Enjoy February snows by strapping on snowshoes and striking out into the winter woods. Warm up with cocoa and cookies along the way! For a warmer Farmpark experience, be sure to try your hand at traditional crafts and activities including candle and soap making, wool processing and more! Plus meet the animals and enjoy the regular winter activities families have come to know and enjoy for years at the Farmpark!

Time: 10:30 am
Where: Lake Farmpark, 8800 Euclid Chardon Rd., Kirtland
Cost: \$4 per person (children under 2 are free)
Ages: All Ages
Contact: Tina@secpta.net

Sign up deadline: 2/20/15



2/24/15 (Tuesday) Music Together

Music Together is an internationally recognized early childhood music program committed to helping families, caregivers, and early childhood professionals rediscover the pleasure and educational value of informal music experiences. Join us for a fun morning with songs and instruments. We will have two slots, as only 15 children are able to attend each time. Please choose which time you are available for.

Time: 9:30 am - 10:30 am and 10:30 am - 11:30am
Location: Solon Library, 34125 Portz Parkway, Solon
Cost: Free
Ages: Birth - 5 years
Contact: Rebecca@secpta.net
Sign up deadline: 2/20/15



2/26/15 (Thursday) The Children's Museum of Cleveland

Shake off the winter doldrums and pretend you are at the beach with their new Egyptian Sands exhibit and Splish! Splash! exhibit, at the children's museum! The new seasonal exhibit allows children and their families will travel back in time to explore ancient Egyptian family life by writing their name in hieroglyphics in the Scribe House, preparing a meal in the Courtyard of an Adobe Home, fishing on the Nile or by building and exploring a Pyramid. We will also explore the 16 foot water table, with dams, locks and a water wheel. There are other awesome permanent exhibits, come check out the fun! Minimum of 12 children, maximum of 20.
www.clevelandchildrensmuseum.org

Time: 9:30-11:00am (please plan to arrive 5-10 minutes early)
Location: 10730 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland (University Circle)
Cost: \$3 per child (infants under 1 are free)
Ages: Birth - 5 years
Contact: Rebecca@secpta.net
Sign up deadline: 2/20/15



.....MORE TRIPS ON THE NEXT PAGE.....

FIELDTRIPS COMING UP IN MARCH...

We have two great opportunities at Playhouse Square this March and because they are ticketed events we need to register early. One is the 3rd show in the award winning Children's Series, and the other is the always popular Sesame Street LIVE. Come join us at these two amazing shows!

3/14/15 (Saturday) The Ugly Duckling and The Tortoise & the Hare

Hans Christian Andersen's "The Ugly Duckling" has helped generations of children understand one of humanity's universal struggles. Lightwire Theater bringing this classic story to the modern stage offering hope to us all as we root for the ugly duckling who exemplifies resilience and heroism along the way to becoming a beautiful swan. Aesop's fable, "The Tortoise & the Hare," now more than 2,500 years old, continues to drive home the time-tested adage, "Slow and steady wins the race." Lightwire Theater returns, with its dazzling visuals, signature electroluminescent puppetry, poignant choreography and creative use of music ranging from classical to jazz to pop, literally bringing these beloved tales into a new and brilliant light. Limit of 50 tickets available to this 3rd show in the Children's Theater Series at Playhouse Square. <http://www.playhousesquare.org/events/detail/the-ugly-duckling-and-the-tortoise-the-hare>

Time: 11:00 am
Location: Ohio Theater, 1511 Euclid Ave., Cleveland
Cost: \$8 per person
Ages: 4-9 years
Contact: Rebecca@secpta.net
Sign up deadline: 2/14/15

children's Theater series

3/20/15 (Friday) Sesame Street Live: Make A New Friend

No matter where you're from or where you've been, everyone is special – so join in! Elmo, Grover, Abby Cadabby, and their Sesame Street friends welcome Chamki, Grover's friend from India, to Sesame Street. Together, they explore the universal fun of friendship and celebrate cultural similarities, from singing and dancing, to sharing cookies! Join the fun and make a memory with your friends and family! We have 50 great seats to this show but may be able to get more if there is demand. <http://www.playhousesquare.org/events/detail/sesame-street-live>

Time: 10:30 am
Location: Playhouse Square, 1501 Euclid Ave., Cleveland
Cost: \$7 per person
Ages: All
Contact: Rebecca@secpta.net
Sign up deadline: 2/20/15



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Presenting SECPTA's

Shamrocks and Shenanigan's Fundraiser!

March 14th, 2015
7-10 pm
at the Solon Community Center

Tickets are \$25 per person and will be available at all meetings
and online (with a \$2 PayPal fee).

Come join in the fun and help support SECPTA and all of its activities.

We will have a 50/50 raffle, raffle baskets, silent auctions, a lucky duck pull for 5, a DJ with trivia and a photo booth!

Heavy hors d'oeuvres are included along with water, iced tea, lemonade and dessert. All other drinks are BYOB. Grab a group of friends and coordinate appetizers and beverages to bring.

Can't attend, but still want to support SECPTA? SECPTA always accepts donations. If you cannot attend, but would like to make a direct donate to SECPTA, then please mail a check payable to SECPTA to Marlee Chase at 5445 Parkside Trail, Solon 44139.

We will also be selling 50/50 raffle tickets, for \$1 per ticket, at the General Meetings. You do not need to be present to win.

This fundraiser is what allows SECPTA to provide all of our fun field trips at a discount, two FREE children's parties a year, all the FREE Coffee Club events, the FREE Welcome Picnic, the subsidized Adult Outings and all the FREE food, babysitting, and speakers at all of our Meetings.

**Please consider supporting SECPTA
so that we can continue to offer all of these events and more!**



Do you know a SECPTA friend who has recently had a baby? Is there someone in SECPTA who may recently have had surgery and is in need of a helping hand?

HELPING



HANDS

If so please let us help them! The Helping Hands members look forward to preparing a home-cooked meal for a fellow SECPTA member who may need the extra hand! Whether it is for a new mother or a family going through a tough time, we are here to help.

Please let us know if there is a member 'in need' by contacting Leah at helpinghands@secpta.net.



Would you like to schedule a date with your spouse, an appointment, or shopping trip, and not have to bring the kids?

What about having dependable, reliable babysitting, that's also FREE?

Then the SECPTA Babysitting Co-op is for you. It's a group of SECPTA members that exchange babysitting services for each other. The Babysitting Co-op provides members with a babysitting option where no money is exchanged.

Participation can begin once the person is a paid SECPTA member, attends a co-op meeting, and completes an authorization form. **Monthly meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month and are hosted by co-op members.**

To join or find out more information, please contact Laura C. at babysittingcoop@secpta.net

ADVERTISE WITH US!



Looking to increase sales for your small business?

Have an event and you want to get the word out?

Let SECPTA can help you
ADVERTISE!

Contact Marlee C. for more details at
waysandmeans@secpta.net

Please ask about special member pricing!



GROSS SCHECHTER DAY SCHOOL



Contact Rachel Gonsenhauser
Director of Admissions
216.763.1400 ext. 403
rgonsenhauser@grossschechter.org

SUNDAY PLAYDATES 10-11:30am

January - February Playdates include hands-on science, math and technology exploration (ages 2 - 8).

OPEN GYM
sports, games and physical fitness activities (ages 2 - 8)

JAN 11 - SUNDAY PLAYDATE

JAN 25 - OPEN GYM

FEB 1 - OPEN GYM

FEB 8 - SUNDAY PLAYDATE

FEB 22 - OPEN GYM

MONDAY FUN DAY! music & story time
Birth - age 4
EVERY MONDAY 10-11am
THROUGH MAY 18
with a few exceptions, please check website
www.grossschechter.org/mondayfunday
ALL ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY!



27601 Fairmount Boulevard ☆ Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124 ☆ www.grossschechter.org/sundayplaydates

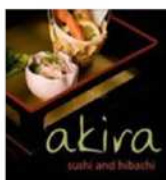


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Akira Hibachi—dine in: buy 1 select Hibachi dinner (Chicken, Teriyaki Steak, NY Strip Steak or Shrimp) and get the second of equal or lesser value at half price; take out: 15% off all food orders

Arby's—free classic with meal purchase

Buffalo Wild Wings—\$5 off \$25 food purchase

Domino's Pizza—buy large pizza at regular price, get any bread product free

Dunkin' Donuts—10% off any combo purchase

Freeway Lanes—free shoe rental with game purchase (limit 4 people)

Gionino's Pizza—buy 1 regular priced large pizza and get any small pizza free

Grantwood Golf Course—free bucket of balls with 18 hole greens fee/cart purchase

Menchie's—10% off total purchase

Rinaldi Jewelry—15% off regular priced item except loose diamonds

Rube Adler Sports—free name printed on any in-stock Solon spirit wear item

Señorita Bonita's—free dessert with \$40 purchase

The Pond—\$10 off After-school Learn to Skate Program

Waterway Carwash—\$5 off any full service wash

Which Wich—free 22oz drink with a 'wich' purchase



Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Email address: _____

Just \$10 per card—checks made payable to SMS PTA. Card Expires 11/2015

mail order form to: **SMS PTA Comet Card, 34545 Blue Heron Dr, Solon, 44139**



SOLON CITY SCHOOLS

Steps to Kindergarten - 2015

Step 1: Kindergarten Information Night

Date: Wednesday, February 18th

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Solon High School Auditorium

- An information night to welcome incoming kindergarten parents to the Solon City Schools.
- Kindergarten registration folders will be distributed. Folders available afterwards in each school office.

Step 2: Kindergarten Registration

Dates: Wednesday, March 4th for last names: A-L

Thursday, March 5th for last names: M-Z

Time: 8:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Location: Arthur Road Elementary School Cafeteria

- A time for parents to turn in registration documents.
- A time for parents to schedule kindergarten screening appointment for incoming kindergartener.

Step 3: Kindergarten Screening

Date: Wednesday, March 25th

Time: Scheduled appointment time made during Kindergarten Registration

Location: Your child's elementary building

- An opportunity for incoming kindergarteners to meet and work with kindergarten teachers.
- An opportunity for incoming kindergarteners to visit their new school.

Direct questions to guidance counselor:

Lewis	(440) 349-8001
Parkside	(440) 349-7376
Roxbury	(440) 349-7437





“KICK OFF TO KINDERGARTEN” PROGRAM at MILLER SCHOOL

It's time to think about the next school year already!

Miller Elementary School's "Kick Off to Kindergarten" program for the upcoming Kindergarten class (Class of 2028) will be held at Miller School on Tuesday, February 10th, 2015 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

This is an informational meeting for parents of students entering kindergarten in the fall of 2015 that will outline the Kindergarten program and procedures for registering kindergarten students. During this meeting, parents will receive a registration packet of information that will be given out at the end of the meeting.

Please fill out the Kindergarten Registration forms and bring them, along with the required information and your child, on one of the following ***Kindergarten Registration dates /times***:

Tuesday, March 10th ~ 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. or 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. or 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 11th ~ 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

In the Aurora School District, a child who is five on or before September 30th is eligible for Kindergarten. If you have any questions, please contact the Miller School office.

and Twinsburg:

Wilcox Kindergarten Kick-Off

Starting 2/19/2015 at 6:30:00 PM and ending on 2/19/2015 at 7:30 PM

Event Groups: • **Twinsburg City School District - Wilcox Primary**

Description: Location: **Wilcox Primary**

ב"ה



After School Care at Solon Chabad Jewish Center 5570 Harper Rd

Looking for a great aftercare program where your children will beg to stay?

Check out our daily activities, beautiful grounds, small groupings, fun staff and safe environment. Your search is over!

We offer after school care for children grades k – 4 Monday thru Thursday 2:30 - 6:00 pm, Friday 2:30 - 5:00 pm.

Transportation provided from Solon Schools. For more info, log on to www.solonchabad.com/aftercareinfo

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2014-2015 SECPTA Playgroup Request Form

Playgroups are a great way to build your child's confidence, help your child develop age appropriate social skills, and give you a chance to interact with other adults. Playgroups are organized by age and meet once a week at member homes on a rotating basis or at locations planned by the specific playgroup.

Date: _____
Parent's Name _____
Phone Number _____
Email _____
Best way to be reached _____

Please list all children who will be attending the playgroup:

Name: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____
Name: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____
Name: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____
Name: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____

Please indicate your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd playgroup choices below by placing a 1, 2, and 3 next to the day and time that best fits with your availability. M=morning, A= afternoon, E= evening

Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
M	M	M	M	M	M	M
A	A	A	A	A	A	A
E	E	E	E	E	E	E

Forms may be returned in person, by mail, or email. My contact information is:

Tania Cieza
34226 Russell Dr.
Solon, OH 44139
playgroups@secpta.net

Solon Early Childhood PTA (SECPTA) Membership Form 2014-2015

All memberships run July 2014-June 2015
Please send completed form and payment to:

Kristen Cash
29308 North Village Lane
Glenwillow, OH 44139

Dues: \$30 one-vote family membership (entitles entire family to attend SECPTA activities)

For an additional \$4.00, members may add a second adult member, which entitles the second adult to a vote, board eligibility, and ability to handle SECPTA financial transactions.

Checks are to be made payable to SECPTA.

Please call Kristen (216-544-7562) if you have any questions

Membership Information: New or Renewal (Please circle one)

Name _____

Other Adult _____

Street Address/city/zip _____

Phone Number _____ Cell phone (opt) _____

Primary EMAIL _____

Children Names & ages _____

Do we have permission to publish your info in our member directory? Yes or No (circle one)

SECPTA runs on volunteers. Will you help us? What are you interested in?

I understand that the information provided above will be included in a membership directory distributed to all paid members of the Solon Early Childhood PTA. I understand that my child/ren must be accompanied by an adult at all activities and that adult is responsible for the behavior and safety of my child. I understand that children and/or parents should not attend any SECPTA events if they exhibit any of the following symptoms:

Diarrhea more than once within 24 hours of the event; severe coughing; difficult or rapid breathing; yellowish skin or eyes; redness of the eye or eyelid including discharge, eye pain, matted eyelashes, burning or itching; temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher; infected skin patches; unusual spots or rashes; unusually dark urine and/or gray or white stools; stiff neck with an elevated temperature; sore throat or difficulty swallowing; vomiting within 24 hours of the event; or evidence of untreated lice, scabies, or other parasitic infestations. I consent to the use of any photographs taken of my minor child/ren at SECPTA events for utilization in SECPTA promotional materials (names will never be used).

In case of accident, neither the Solon Early Childhood PTA nor its membership shall be held responsible.

X _____ Date _____

Received _____ Check Number _____ Amount paid _____ Initials _____

FEBRUARY FIELD TRIPS

SIGN UP SHEET

Parent Name(s): _____

Email Address: _____

Best contact phone number: _____

Child Name(s) and Age(s): _____

FEBRUARY FIELD TRIPS

Science Center: _____ People @ \$8 \$ _____

Math Monkey: _____ Kids @ \$4 \$ _____

_____ Kids 3-4yrs

_____ Kids 4-5yrs

Shrek the Musical: _____ Tickets @ \$4 \$ _____

MOCA: _____ Adults @ \$6 \$ _____

Main Street Cupcakes: _____ Kids @ \$3 \$ _____

_____ Kids @ 11:00

_____ Kids @ 12:00

Swimming at the Solon Rec: \$ _____

_____ Kids 6 & under @ Free

_____ Solon Residents @ \$4

_____ Guests @ \$5

Cleveland Aquarium: \$ _____

_____ Kids @ \$8 _____ Adults @ \$10

(Children under 2 are free)

Young Chefs Academy: _____ Kids @ \$5 \$ _____

Play & Learn: _____ Families @ Free \$ _____n/a_____

WinterBlast at Lake Farmpark: \$ _____

_____ People @ \$4 (Children under 2 are free)

Music Together: \$ _____n/a_____

_____ Kids @ 9:30

_____ Kids @ 10:30

Children's Museum: _____ Kids @ \$3 \$ _____

(Infants under 1 are free)

Ugly Duckling Performance: _____ People @ \$8 \$ _____

Sesame Street LIVE: _____ People @ \$7 \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

paid by CASH / CHECK (circle one)

You can keep this portion for your records.

☐ **2/3/15 (Tuesday 9:45) Great Lakes Science Center - Sounds Float**

☐ **2/5/15 (Thursday 10:30) Math Monkey**

☐ **2/8/15 (Sunday 2:00) Shrek the Musical**

☐ **2/10/15 (Tuesday 10:00) Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) Preschool Playdate**

☐ **2/11/15 (Wednesday 11:00 or 12:00) Main Street Cupcakes**

☐ **2/13/15 (Friday 10:00) Swimming at the Solon Recreation Center**

☐ **2/16/15 (Monday 11:00) Greater Cleveland Aquarium**

☐ **2/17/15 (Tuesday 12:30) Young Chef's Academy**

☐ **2/21/15 (Saturday 10:00) Play and Learn Station**

☐ **2/22/15 (Sunday 10:30) Winter Blast Weekends at Lake Farmpark**

☐ **2/24/15 (Tuesday 9:30 or 10:30) Music Together**

☐ **2/26/15 (Thursday 9:30) The Children's Museum of Cleveland**

Trips Coming up in MARCH...

☐ **3/14/15 (Saturday) The Ugly Duckling and The Tortoise & the Hare**

☐ **3/20/15 (Friday) Sesame Street LIVE: Make A New Friend**

