

# Descriptions of Helmers PTA School Activities

- **After School Enrichment (Sept, Jan)**

*Does your child take ASE classes? Have you appreciated the many choices Helmers PTA offers our children each session?* Help with registration and/or distributing confirmations.

- **Assemblies (schedule TBD)**

*Do you enjoy making visitors feel welcome on our campus? Do you like assemblies?* Help provide performers with what they might need prior to each assembly, as well as facilitate the arrival and departure of classes in a timely manner. Each 45-minute assembly provides scheduling flexibility for volunteers.

- **Book Fair (Sept, Feb/March)**

*Are you an avid reader? Do you love books, books, and more books?* General help is needed for set-up of displays as well as tear-down. Help ring up purchases, re-shelve, and guide students in finding books of interest to them.

- **Disaster Preparedness (Aug)**

*Do you appreciate the axiom "many hands make light work"? Do you like easy, rote work in a group setting?* Participate in our annual on-campus "Staple Party." Join a large group of volunteers who will alphabetize forms, match student labels with forms, and staple it all to the back of their Emergency Information Cards. You can commit to both days of helping, or just an hour or two.

- **Fall Carnival (Oct)**

*Join a fun group of parents in bringing back one of Helmers' most cherished annual events. Choose where you'd like to serve: planning committee, ticket sales, printing & publicity, ticket taking, set-up/clean up crew, security, and more (strong dads always welcome!).*

- **Family Breakfasts (Sept 17 and TBD)**

*Has your family enjoyed the Mimi's muffin breakfasts out on the Helmers patio?* Assist chairpersons at one or both breakfasts:

Doughnuts for Dads & Dudes ~ Sept. 17; Muffins for Mothers & Others ~ May 7.

- **Family Fun Nights (schedule TBD)**

*Do you enjoy a casual, fun evening out with your family?* Your involvement in Family Fun Nights can be as much or as little as you like! Volunteers are needed to assist in planning or carrying out events such as Italian Night, Family Game Night in the Park, Science or Space Adventure, etc. New ideas are welcome!

- **Fit Team (Fridays from 11:35 to 1:35; Sep-May)**

*Do you like to be outdoors? Do you just love to see a huge number of happy kids jogging at lunchtime?* Supervise and log distances of runners during lunch recesses. Come see how much fun it is to inspire our children to be healthy and fit!

- **Fit Team Planning Committee (2-4 meetings; Sep-May)**

*Do you want to be part of the process?* Help plan the 2008/2009 Fit Team season. Attend 2-4 brainstorming meetings in September; other communication via e-mail. Chairperson is looking for ideas re. student incentives, dates, prizes, logistics, course decorations, etc.

- **Fundraising (Aug-Sept)**

*Do you like to raise money for good causes?* In recent years, Helmers families have raised upwards of \$75,000 for our school. This is unprecedented in our valley. 100% of the proceeds from our annual fundraisers go directly toward funding field trips, CHORDS arts and music program, technology upgrades, Fit Team, Reflections Arts Celebration, Family Fun Nights, and more. Join a dedicated team in planning and executing a fun carnival that will raise money for our school this year.

- **Helmers Dads Committee (schedule TBD)**

*Are you a Helmers Dad who likes to pitch in when physical strength is needed?* Lend a hand with set up and security during various PTA activities (ex: the Family Dance). Be part of the "Helmers Dads Committee" and be a Helmers hero!

- **Helmers Helping Families (Spring)**

*Are you philanthropic? Do you enjoy helping those less fortunate?* In cooperation with the Santa Clarita Valley Food Pantry, you will help distribute empty boxes/bags to classrooms roughly two weeks prior to the food drive on April 23<sup>rd</sup> (which is the same night as Helmers Open House). Students will decorate the boxes/bags and fill them with food. Volunteers will collect the boxes/bags and deliver them to the SCV Food Pantry. Donations of pick-up trucks or vans are also needed and appreciated. The mission of the SCV Food Pantry is to alleviate hunger throughout the Santa Clarita Valley.

- **Hospitality (schedule TBD)**

*Do you enjoy yummy treats at Helmers events?* Help organize refreshments for PTA activities such as Teacher Breakfast, Kindergarten Orientation as well as PTA Association meetings.

*(continued)*

- **Ice Cream Social (June)**

*Do you like warm, summer evenings outside with your family?* The Ice Cream Social is a fun opportunity to welcome our new kindergartners and their families. Help is needed with setting up tables, etc., welcoming new faces, serving ice cream, and then cleaning up.

- **Photo Days (Sept OR Apr )**

*Do you love seeing kids in their best outfits? Do you enjoy helping wiggly ones sit still for the camera?* You must be able to volunteer from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on your assigned day. You will chaperone the children to and from their photo times and locations on campus. You will also help keep students quiet while waiting to have their picture taken, organize students by height for the class picture, as well as provide the occasional hair combing so students look their best.

- **Red Ribbon Week (October)**

*Are you a believer in overall health and well-being?* Help with activities that promote healthy living, drug awareness, and drug prevention among students during this nationwide week of awareness.

- **Reflections: Achievement in the Arts (Nov 6)**

*Do you and your children love the arts? Do you like to see on display the various works of art created by our very own Helmers students?* Parents are needed to help prepare information packets (this can be done at home), collect and make a list of entries, hang the art on the walls, create certificates, shop for prizes and help with execution of the Reflections Gala on Nov. 6.

- **Special Needs (Sept, Dec)**

*Do you know a child with Special Needs? Do you like to "build bridges," both socially and emotionally?* Be part of the PTA team that is dedicated to supporting children at our school with special learning, social and emotional needs. Volunteer to help with Parent Workshops and Inclusion Breakfast.

- **Spirit Wear (Late September-Early October)**

*Do you like seeing kids' faces light up when their bag of school spirit wear arrives?* Help is needed in putting T-shirt and other orders together and then distributing spirit wear to classrooms.

- **Student Bank Days (Thursdays from 11:15 to 1:15)**

*Are you a "money" person? Do you like teaching kids how to manage their finances?* Parent volunteers act as bank tellers. You'll spend a few hours outside during lunch collecting deposits from children, recording amounts in student passbooks, handing out prizes and recording numbers on bank forms. Training is provided.

- **Student Store (one Friday a month from 11:30 to 1:30)**

*Do you enjoy helping kids spend their dimes and quarters on school supplies and trinkets?* You'll deal directly with students, helping them purchase items from the student store.

- **Teacher Appreciation Week (Feb)**

*Do you love teachers? Do you want to make sure they feel appreciated for the long hours they devote to our children each day?* Help host a breakfast, a luncheon, and/or perform other random acts of kindness for our teachers during this week.

- **Technology Committee (schedule TBD)**

*Are you interested in technology? Would you like to help Helmers keep up with the times in this area?* You will meet with others to assess technology needs and investigate/recommend new technology for Helmers students. In recent years PTA was able to purchase three SMART Boards for classroom use, as well as provide tech. support to individual teachers on an as-needed basis. Come share your ideas at periodic meetings held throughout the year.

- **Vision & Hearing Screenings (Fall, Spring)**

*Do you like to walk with children and help them feel comfortable in a quiet setting?* Help escort/chaperone children to and from their bi-annual screenings.

- **Women in History (May)**

*Are you a ham? Do you like to speak in public?* Women are needed to play the role(s) of significant women in history for students during the school day. Scripts and training are provided.

- **Other**

*What interests you?* If you'd like to volunteer in other ways, contact **PTA Volunteer Coordinator Caradawn Holter:** [caradawnholter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:caradawnholter@sbcglobal.net). Thank you in advance for supporting your child's school.