



Cherry Chase School

## 2023-2024 PTA Back to School Packet

August 16, 2023

On behalf of the Cherry Chase Parent Teacher Association (PTA), welcome to the 2023-24 school year! We look forward to a year of fun and exciting learning for all our children.

**What does the PTA do?** Cherry Chase PTA's mission is to positively impact the lives of all children and families at Cherry Chase School. Working together with the school, PTA provides programs that supplement and enrich the core curriculum, with things like classroom supplies and technology, field trips, character development, gardens, and more. PTA also creates the platform for afterschool programs, yearbook, and parent communications, and family events that bring our community together.

**Who is in the PTA?** The PTA is made up of families just like yours, and we depend upon every family's participation to run these programs and events. Get involved through volunteering and your generous financial donations and help make your child's experience at Cherry Chase the best it can be.

### How can you get involved?

- Stay informed - Read PTA's weekly *Charger eBlast* email newsletter to learn about all the things Cherry Chase PTA is up to and how you or your child can be part of it.
- Volunteer - With students or other adults, at school or from home. See page 4 of this packet.
- Donate money - See page 5 of this packet.

### Mark your calendars:

- Fri Sept 8, 5:30pm. Back to School Picnic and PTA Resource Fair. Parent-leaders from across the school will share opportunities to help out and connect to our school community.
- Our two biggest community events. If you are able, take these Friday afternoons off to help out and have fun with your kids.
  - Fri Oct 27 - Fall Festival
  - Fri Mar 22 - Walk-A-Thon & Auction
- Wed Sept 20, 7pm. Join us in the Multi for our first PTA meeting of the year.

I look forward to a wonderful 2023-2024 alongside you and your family at Cherry Chase!

Kristen Kurimoto  
Cherry Chase PTA President  
president@cherrychasepta.org

## Cherry Chase PTA Calendar for 2023-24 School Year

Date	Event
Wednesday, August 16, 2023	First Day of School
Friday, August 25, 2023	First Friday Flag
Friday, September 8, 2023	Back to School Picnic and PTA Resource Fair
Wednesday, September 20, 2023	PTA Meeting
Friday, September 22, 2023	Coffee with the Principal - New Phonics and Math Curriculum Paint Night
Friday, October 27, 2023	Halloween Parade and Fall Festival
Friday, November 3, 2023	Diwali Celebration
Wednesday, November 15, 2023	PTA Meeting
Friday, November 17, 2023	Coffee with the Principal - Emergency and Safety Protocols
Wednesday, January 17, 2024	PTA Meeting
Friday, January 19, 2024	Coffee with the Principal - Student Data and Student Supports at Cherry Chase Elem Family STEAM night
Friday, February 2, 2024	Lunar New Year Celebration
Thursday, February 29, 2024	Drama Performance Night 1
Friday, March 1, 2024	Drama Performance Night 2
Friday, March 15, 2024	Coffee with the Principal - Understanding Neurodiversity
Wednesday, March 20, 2024	PTA Meeting
Friday, March 22, 2024	Walk-a-thon and Auction
Friday, May 3, 2024	International Night
Wednesday, May 15, 2024	PTA Meeting
Friday, May 17, 2024	Coffee with the Principal - Transition to Middle School
Thursday, June 6, 2024	Last Day of School 5th Grade Promotion 8:30 am

*Dates may change without notice.*

Please consult the weekly Charger eBlast or view the Cherry Chase PTA calendar online to find the latest events, such as dine out nights, book fair, garden work times, and parent education events.

<https://www.cherrychasepta.org/calendar-2/>

**CHERRY CHASE**

# **BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC**

Welcome back!  
Connect with old friends and meet new ones!

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8TH**

**5:30-7:30PM**

**CHERRY CHASE ELEMENTARY  
BLACKTOP AND PLAYGROUND**

**PTA RESOURCE FAIR**

5:30-6:30pm

Learn about PTA programs,  
events and volunteering at school



BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC AND  
PICNIC BLANKET



# Volunteers Needed!

Our parent volunteers make our school great! **All our PTA programs and events are only possible through our volunteers' efforts.** You can make a difference to our kids and our community.

## A Sample of Open Volunteer Positions

TK/Kinder Lunch Helpers	Walk students to the cafeteria, help open packages, and provide some supervision. Great way to meet your child's classmates.
ABC Readers	Read books to your student's class and lead a discussion about positive character traits and citizenship. About once a month.
After School Program Chairs	Facilitate an individual ASP. Band Chair is a critical need; other programs are also open. See the ASP info at the end of this packet.
Direct Appeal Chair	Run donation campaign, track participation, plan incentive prize(s). At-home opportunity.
Fall Festival Steering Committee	Help plan this amazing event! Games, food, crafts, pumpkins, prizes. Overall Chair is a critical need, but there are many ways to contribute.
PTA Board Member	Be part of the PTA leadership team. Huge impact. Special Events VP - Help each community event's lead use best practices In School Programs VP - Liaison to school staff, track grant balances
And many more!	



To express interest in any of these roles, to learn more, or to see even more opportunities, go to [tinyurl.com/CCVolunteerPositions](https://tinyurl.com/CCVolunteerPositions). That page will be continuously updated through the year with current opportunities.

## Volunteer Requirements

All adults entering campus during school hours (when the gates are closed) must have a volunteer application approved by the school district.

- A tuberculosis (TB) clearance from your doctor within the past 4 years will be required.
- If you will be alone with students at any point (such as field trip chaperone or after school program), you must be fingerprinted for our district.

We will send more information and the link to the district's application form through the eBlast as soon as we receive it.

# Cherry Chase PTA Makes It Happen...

Cherry Chase PTA benefits every student at the school. A few highlights:

- Cherry Chase PTA is funding the new standards-aligned hands-on science program with \$51,000 this year.
- Cherry Chase PTA provides nearly \$100,000 for other In Class Programs like classroom supplies and books, teacher innovation grants, and field trips with bus transportation.
- Cherry Chase PTA organizes 8–9 school-wide events each year to bring our community together.

## ... With Your Support!

None of these programs and events would be possible without the time and financial help of parents like you. Can we count on your generosity again? Cherry Chase PTA has just 2 fundraisers per year - Direct Appeal and Walk-a-Thon & Auction. The Direct Appeal suggested amount is **\$150 for each child** who attends Cherry Chase, but any amount is appreciated. Remember, your donation is spent at Cherry Chase and is **100% tax-deductible**.

We also encourage you to **become a PTA member** (\$10/individual, \$15/family):

- Membership gives you a direct voice on which programs we sponsor and how funds are used.
- Membership does *not* obligate you to attend meetings or volunteer.
- Membership is *not* required to participate in school events.

## How To Contribute

Visit one of the following <https://www.cherrychasepta.org/e-store/> links to pay by credit card.

Note: The PTA uses PayPal as a payment processor, but a PayPal account is not required.

Thank you for your support!



Donate \$150 per student and become a PTA member



Donate some other amount



PTA membership only



**Stay informed.  
Get connected.**

Community begins with communication! Keep up with all the happenings of your PTA:



### **Read the eBlast**

Weekly email newsletter with the most up-to-date info



### **Visit the PTA website**

[cherrychasepta.org](http://cherrychasepta.org)



### **Subscribe to the PTA calendar**

[cherrychasepta.org/calendar-2](http://cherrychasepta.org/calendar-2)



### **Like the PTA Facebook page**

[facebook.com/CherryChasePTA](https://facebook.com/CherryChasePTA)

Questions? Email [communications@cherrychasepta.org](mailto:communications@cherrychasepta.org)

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## **DirectorySpot Cherry Chase Student/Parent Directory**

Want to get in touch with another Cherry Chase family? The PTA has purchased DirectorySpot, an easy-to-use directory phone app supported on iOS + Android + web.

### **FEATURES**

- EASY SEARCH - By teacher, grade, or name
- TOUCH-TO-CONTACT - Dial and email by clicking on fields within the app
- SECURE - All data is encrypted + personal password protected
- UP-TO-DATE - Updated anytime by the PTA administrator

The DirectorySpot only lists phone numbers and emails – no addresses are included.

Look for more information about DirectorySpot in the Charger eBlast email newsletter in the coming weeks. We will let you know when our directory is ready to be accessed!

To remove your family's contact information from the directory, contact [communications@cherrychasepta.org](mailto:communications@cherrychasepta.org).

# Parent's Approval and Student Waiver

The Cherry Chase PTA funds a variety of activities and programs throughout the year, including International Night, the Fall Festival and Walk-A-Thon & Auction, along with after school and in class programs such as science, music, and art.

A Liability Waiver is required for your child to participate in PTA-sponsored activities. This form **MUST BE FILLED OUT FOR EVERY STUDENT**, even if your child will not be participating in specific events.

**Due Friday, Sept. 8th, 2023 before the Back-to-School Family Picnic**

Complete in 3 easy steps:

1. Go to <https://fs2.formsite.com/ffgN6D/vgzzneeyul/index> or use the below QR code



2. Fill-in all student information and agree to the terms, including the waiver and photo release.

3. Sign at the bottom of the form and click "Submit."

For additional students, click on "Submit Another Response".

Contact PTA Admin VP, at [adminvp@cherrychasepta.org](mailto:adminvp@cherrychasepta.org) with any questions.

## Fall 2023 After School Programs

Dear Parents,

This year, the PTA is proud to bring to you some new as well as popular, returning After School Programs (ASP's). Please review offerings for Fall 2023 below. This programming is decided in consultation with the vendors offering these classes and may be subject to change. We will however try our best to stick to this schedule. These offerings will end in December and a new schedule will be sent out for Winter/Spring sessions.

**Individual program flyers, pricing and registration links will be updated online and shared in upcoming eBlasts.** Enrollment for most programs below will be opened on **August 23rd, 2023.**

Please note that as part of changed Sunnyvale School District guidelines, this year, vendors are being charged a fee to reserve space for after school program offerings. This will result in a fee increase in after school programs offered by vendors. Please follow the QR code provided alongside for ASP descriptions and PTA's scholarship opportunities.



Finally, after school programs are offered by the PTA with the help of program chairs. We eagerly invite all parents to participate and help out by volunteering to be a chair for programs that still have an open chair position.

**Questions? Please contact Sangeetha Iyer, After School Programs VP at [afterschoolprograms@cherrychasepta.org](mailto:afterschoolprograms@cherrychasepta.org).**

	Program	Description	Days/Times/Venue	Dates*	Chair
1.	Adventures in STEM with Lego (Playwell-Tek)	Grades TK/K Let your imagination run wild with tens of thousands of LEGO® parts! Build engineer-designed projects and use special pieces to create your own unique designs! Projects are rotated seasonally to ensure that both new and returning students can explore the endless creative possibilities of the LEGO® building system.	Mondays 2:45PM - 4:00PM Room 7	Sep 11 to Dec 11	Open
2.	LegoRobotics using WeDo 2.0 (Playwell-Tek)	Grades 1-3 Build and program robots in this introductory Robotics class using the LEGO® WeDo® system. Learn, and complete a variety of projects using tilt and motion sensors. This is a great way to prepare young Robotics enthusiasts for our more advanced Robotics programs.	Mondays 2:45PM - 4:30PM Library	Sep 11 to Dec 11	Open
3.	Basketball (One-on-one Basketball)	Grades K-5	Tuesdays 2:45PM- 4:00PM Basketball court	Sep 12 to Dec 12	Open



4.	Lego EV3 (Playwell-Tek)	Grades 4-5  Rise to the challenge to build and program robots using the LEGO® Mindstorms EV3 system! Learn about mechanical and software design, loops, conditional statements, problem solving, and teamwork skills. Design and construct your robot to avoid obstacles, pick up and carry objects, and play sounds. Projects are structured so that students work in an open-ended, investigative environment while having fun.	Tuesdays 2:45PM- 4:30PM Library	Sep 12 to Dec 12	Open
5.	Mosaic Art (by Tejas)	Grades 1-5  Working on Mosaic allows kids to develop their concentration and attention, memory, creativity and hand eye coordination	Tuesdays 2:45PM- 4:00PM Room 7	Nov 7 to Dec 12	Tejas
6.	Mathletes-in- training (CKMathletes)	Grades 1-3  Through these classes, students will <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop their spatial intelligence, number sense, pattern recognition, and modeling skills using linking cubes.</li> <li>• Develop problem solving skills with engaging questions from Math Kangaroo and other in-house math competitions.</li> <li>• Cultivate deductive reasoning by systematically solving different types of puzzles (Japanese Logic Puzzles, Algebra puzzles, etc).</li> </ul>	Wednesday 2:45PM- 4:00PM Room 7	Sep 13 to Dec 13	Open
7.	Soccer (Coach Ken Soccer)	Grades TK-5  Soccer is a great sport to learn and play while enabling kids to build their coordination and fundamental skills, speed, strength, and stamina!	Wednesday 2:45PM- 4:00PM Outdoor Fields	Sep 13 to Dec 13	Anahi Mingo
8.	Cartooning (Young Rembrandts)	Grades K-3  Our students will jump head first into the world of drawing by first learning expressions - our students will learn a variety of skills as their original characters seemingly emote and breathe. Students will also learn to draw cartoons and personify inanimate kitchen objects, tell a joke through pictures and learn to add motion and attitude all session long. Give your child the gift of Drawing and Cartooning. Enroll your child today!	Thursday 2:45PM-3:45PM Library	Sep 14 to Dec 14	Open
9.	Bollywood dancing (Gurus of Dance)	Grades K-5  Learn Bollywood dancing from the best in the Bay areas. Instructors from 'Gurus of Dance' will be teaching this class. Students will have the option to participate in a performance planned by Gurus of Dance in November. Performance Option: 11 sessions (includes tech check and day of performance) Non Performance Option: 9 sessions	Thursday 2:45PM- 3:30PM Multi	Sep 14 to Nov 16	Open
10.	Mathletes (CKMathletes)	Grades 4-5  This program focuses on creative problem solving in Mathematics. Students work alone and together tackling fun problems from Math Kangaroo, Math Olympiads, and informal team competitions. Mathletes will be solving fun problems every week in practice.	Thursday 2:45PM-4:00PM Room 7	Sep 14 to Dec 14	Urmila Kamat

11.	Chess (Academicare)	Grades K-3 Grades 4-5  Chess enhances academic skills and teaches students critical thinking skills, problem solving, strategy, and more. Taught by certified chess club instructors, this program offers exclusive activity booklets and materials. Opportunities to win medals, posters, trophies, etc.	Friday 1:00PM- 2:00PM 2:45PM- 4:00PM Multi	Sep 15 to Dec 15	Selin and Susmita
12.	Step-by-step Art	Grades K-3  Learn to do art from the basics. Kids will express their thoughts, emotions and passions.	Friday 1:00PM-2:00PM Library	Nov 3 to Dec 15	Tejas
13.	Hands on Fun Science	Grades K-3  Calling all Junior scientists! Students will learn about primary and secondary colors, states of matter and about our five senses. We'll make fossils, edible bugs, explore magnetism and static electricity, and do fun Halloween and Holiday themed science experiments!  Grades 4-5 <i>Coming soon</i>	Friday 1:00PM- 2:00PM Room 11  Day TBD 2:45PM-3:45PM	Sep 15 to Dec 15  Oct start	Open
14.	Code for Fun	Grades 2-3 Grades 4-5  Discover the power of programming! Learn what computers can do. Students will be introduced to a block programming language and learn to apply it in creative art and games. <i>*Separate curriculum available for younger and older grades.</i>	Friday 1:00PM- 2:00PM 2:45PM- 3:45PM Room 7	Sep 15 to Dec 15	Open
15.	Drama	Grades 3-5  Starting Arts will lead the Drama Club in a production of the Big One-Oh! The Starting Arts director, choreographer, music instructor, costumer, light, sound and tech crew work together to give kids the ultimate theater experience.	Monday/Wednesday 2:40PM- 4:10PM Multi	Dec 4 to Mar 1	Julie Savage and Rajpreet Bajwa
16.	Band*	Grades 4-5  Learn how to play an instrument within a band. This program is taught by experienced band director Judy Nelson. Beginning Band is for first-time band students. No prior music experience necessary. Intermediate Band is for graduates of Beginning Band. Instrument rental or purchase is required and separate from class tuition.	Tuesdays/Thursdays 4:00PM onwards Multi	TBD*	Open

**Note:**

1. Mosaic Art, Step-by-step Art, Drama, Hands on Science Fun (Grades 4,5 only) programs start late in the Fall. Please check the dates while enrolling for them.
2. Bollywood dance will end early (Nov 16).
3. Band ASP will be offered pending program chair availability.
4. October 2nd 2023 will be the first full day of school for TK/K's. Until then, parents will need to bring TK/K children back to school campus for any ASP's