Dear Hardy Families,

As the days get shorter and the air finally gets a bit cooler, we hope that you and your children are excited to be at Hardy for the 2022-2023 school year. It was wonderful to see the happy faces and many maskless smiles during the first days of school.

Welcome to our new families and welcome back returning families as we look forward to a fantastic year of learning and growth. The **Hardy PTO plans a variety of activites that will enrich the learning experience for every Hardy student.** In order to make these awesome experiences happen, **we need your help**. The **Annual Appeal is critical to funding our creative arts & sciences budget which DIRECTLY benefits each and every Hardy student**. We plan more field trips and enriching experiences per grade than any other elementary school in the district. As always, these programs are fully funded by the PTO so there are no additional fees.

Here are some examples of actvitities the PTO funds:

* **Creative Arts & Sciences programs** curated to enhance the grade level curriculum via **field trips, author visits & hands on activities at Hardy** (e.g. Water Rockets, Curious Creatures, Ball in the House, Tanglewood Marionettes)
* **Professional development sessions** to help teachers evolve their skills to deliver content in innovative ways
* **Materials to creatively support the school environment** (e.g. innovative indoor recess supplies for classrooms)
* **Outdoor and/or virtual events and programs designed to unite and strengthen our Hardy community**

Your support of the PTO via this annual appeal is **critical** to enabling a successful school year for our Hardy community**. Our goal is for 85% of Hardy families to contribute and the suggested donation is $100 per child; however, we appreciate any amount – more or less – that you are comfortable donating.** If your company has a corporate gift matching program, please be sure to take advantage of that program.

While all donors’ names and donation amounts will remain anonymous, we will track pariciaption by classroom and will publish the overall school participation and classroom participation throughout the next weeks. The **classroom with the highest participation rate** will win an opportunity to play **Bingo with Principal Smith**! If the Hardy community achieves the target of **85% participation, the kids will earn a special school wide spirit day**.

**Donate TODAY -**

* Via the website <https://www.hardyelementary.org/pto> (click on ‘donate’)
* Via Venmo to **@HardyPTO** (*please include your child’s name in the notes section of Venmo*)
* Or, make checks payable to **Hardy PTO** and mail to : Janine Paye 31 Mellon Road, Wellesley, MA 02482

Based on your contribution, you will receive a token of our appreciation:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **HUSKY CLUB ($350+)** | **R.I.S.E. Society ($250+)** | **HONOR ROLL** (any amount) |
| * Hardy Umbrella | * Hardy Thermal Cup (2) | * Hardy Notepad |
| * Hardy Thermal Cup (2) * Hardy Notepad | * Hardy Notepad * Hardy Directory (pdf) | * Hardy Directory (pdf) |
| * Hardy Directory (pdf) |  |  |
| *Note: Hardy Thermal Cups will look different from the ones provided in 2021-2022* | | |

Thank you for supporting the Hardy Community. We are looking forward to an amazing school year and cannot wait to help bring the curriculum to life with these unique programs. Your enthusiasm, time spent volunteering, and financial investments are the lifeblood of the PTO. It is our privilege to pay forward that support to our children, teachers, and staff.

Sincerely,

Janine Paye

Vice President, Hardy PTO