



# The Irwin Inquirer

Our vision is to become a model of excellence in the education of gifted and talented students.

VOLUME 1 · ISSUE 10  
FEBRUARY 25, 2015

## Are you a Wise Owl?

Wise Owl donation forms and envelopes were sent home last week in students' Thursday folders. Please take a moment to fill out the form and return it with your contribution. Donations can also be made right now online through the [Owl Store](#).

We are well on our way to our \$20,000 goal but please remember, in order to be a school of this caliber it takes all of us to ensure we sustain this level of excellence.



**Are you a Wise Owl?**

Help us reach our goal!

**Wise Owl = Direct Donations**

Want to know what Wise Owl Funds pay for?  
Please visit [www.irwinpta.org](http://www.irwinpta.org)

Student Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check one:**  
*(return form to school)*

**Payment Options:**  
*(thank you)*

We'd like to give an initial or additional donation to the Wise Owl Fund:

- \$100 per student suggested donation
- Other Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted a Matching Gift request to my employer. [www.irwinpta.org/matching-gifts-programs.html](http://www.irwinpta.org/matching-gifts-programs.html)

We are not contributing to the Wise Owl Fund at this time.

**Payment Options:**

- Check or cash enclosed.
- Paid on-line at [www.irwinpta.org](http://www.irwinpta.org)
- We will stop by the Parent Room on Thursdays 8:45-9:15 AM to make our donation directly.

**\$20,000**



**64%**  
*(almost there)*

### IN THIS ISSUE

Are you a Wise Owl?  
1

Upcoming Events  
1

March 2nd is  
Book Character Day  
2

Volunteer  
Opportunities  
2

Stay Connected  
with the Irwin PTA  
2

Recruiting for the  
2015–2016 PTA Board  
3

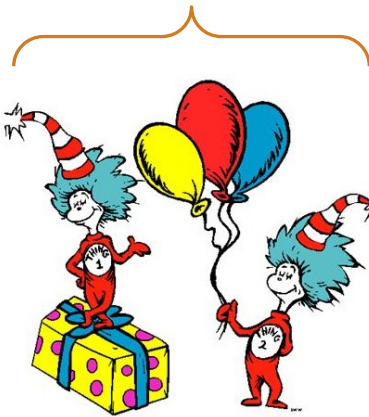
Let Me Run  
Team Details and  
Registration  
3

Hats Needed for the  
Spring Concert  
3

## Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
Friday, February 27	Men of Irwin Monthly Meeting, 8:00am
Friday, February 27	February Birthday Celebrations, 3:30pm
Monday, March 2	Dr. Seuss's Birthday—Book Character Day
Tuesday, March 3	PTA Board Meeting, 7:45am
Tuesday, March 3	Open House, 9:30am
Tuesday, March 3	<b>RESCHEDULED</b> —1st Grade Black History Program, 9:45am
Thursday, March 5	Senior Leadership Team Meeting, 4:45pm
Friday, March 6	Men of Irwin, Lunch with Dad, 11:00am–1:00pm

Find event details in articles in this newsletter or check the Irwin PTA [Google Calendar](#).



## March 2nd is Book Character Day

*In celebration of the birthday of Dr. Seuss, Irwin students will be dressing up as their favorite book characters. Our students always express such amazing creativity in their character and costume choices. We can't wait to see what they come up with this year!*

## Volunteer Opportunities

- **The Teacher and Staff Appreciation Team** is in need of volunteers. This team works to create an atmosphere where our teachers and staff can do their best work to help our children. Please contact committee chair Lisa Stephenson at [appreciation@irwinpta.org](mailto:appreciation@irwinpta.org) for a detailed description of committee roles.
- **The Literacy Team is still in need of volunteers.** Leveled Literacy volunteers needed to unpack and organize books. Please contact [volunteers@irwinpta.org](mailto:volunteers@irwinpta.org) for more information and detailed instructions for this task.
- **Irwin Student Newspaper.** The student newspaper is in search of a parent volunteer to help students, in grades 3-5, organize and compile a digital newsletter. Meetings with the students will be held during the school day every other week. Contact: [volunteers@irwinpta.org](mailto:volunteers@irwinpta.org)

### NOTES FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS

- Use the Remind app to be notified of volunteer opportunities throughout the year. [www.remind.com/join/iacpta](http://www.remind.com/join/iacpta) or text @IACPTA to (704)918-1271.
- To ensure we are able to track volunteer hours please be sure to select the volunteer option when you sign in at school.
- All adults volunteering at Irwin with students must complete the online volunteer registration and screening at: [www.cmsvolunteers.com/volunteer.php](http://www.cmsvolunteers.com/volunteer.php).

—Yolanda Gilliam, IAC membership chair/volunteer coordinator

## Stay Connected with the Irwin PTA

**CALENDAR:** Irwin PTA Calendar dates can be found on the [irwinpta.org](http://irwinpta.org) website. You can change the display of the calendar with the tabs in the upper right corner or add this to your own Google calendar with the  button in the bottom right corner.

The calendar can be accessed directly from your computer or smartphone.

Please use the following address to access your calendar from other applications. You can copy and paste this into any calendar product that supports the *iCal* format.

<https://www.google.com/calendar/ical/ridfkn0idgrmukaa8ril1den3c%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

Or use the following address to access our calendar in any web browser: [ow.ly/C5ljF](http://ow.ly/C5ljF)

**FACEBOOK:** Go to our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/groups/irwinpta](http://www.facebook.com/groups/irwinpta) and click "JOIN GROUP" in order to receive Facebook messages.

**TWITTER:** Follow [@IrwinPTA](https://twitter.com/IrwinPTA)

**QUESTIONS:** Don Schmit, [communication@irwinpta.org](mailto:communication@irwinpta.org)



Irwin Academic Center  
329 N. Irwin Avenue  
Charlotte, NC 28202

Phone:  
980-343-5480

Fax:  
980-343-5574

Website:  
[schools.cms.k12.nc.us/irwinacademiccenterES](http://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/irwinacademiccenterES)

PTA Website:  
[www.irwinpta.org](http://www.irwinpta.org)

The next Irwin Inquirer will be published on March 11. If you have announcements you would like to have included in the next issue, please contact Lisa Newell at [lweedmannewell@gmail.com](mailto:lweedmannewell@gmail.com). **All materials must be emailed by March 5.**



## Are you interested in serving on the PTA board?

Now that half the 2014–2015 school year is behind us, we need to start thinking about next year. We are responsible for continuing the legacy of the Irwin PTA! Our PTA provides key functions to the school: volunteer, financial, and community support.

**Family engagement in education is essential to the success of our school.** Great things have been done so far...let's make sure we keep involved so great things can be done in the years ahead!

**We are now recruiting parents to serve as PTA Board Members for the 2015–2016 school year.** The positions are: President, Vice President Maroon, Vice President Gold, Secretary, and Treasurer. Please email [nominating@irwinpta.org](mailto:nominating@irwinpta.org) for details.

—Patricia Mate, nominating committee chair

## Let Me Run Team Details and Registration

**Let Me Run** inspires boys through the power of running to be courageous enough to be themselves, to build healthy relationships, and to live an active lifestyle. **All 4th and 5th grade boys are invited to join us for our inaugural spring season!**



Please register at [www.letmerun.org](http://www.letmerun.org). Team registration is open from February 17 to March 10, with late registration available until March 17. Team size is limited, so register early!

The team will meet after school two days a week for seven weeks on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:30–5:45. **Practice starts on Monday, March 23** and consists of the Unity Lap, a run, proper stretching, and a lesson from our curriculum. Topics discussed include anger management, goal setting, honesty, bullying, etc. The season ends with the Let Me Run 5k on Saturday, May 16 in Huntersville. Contact Lori Klingman ([lori@letmerun.org](mailto:lori@letmerun.org)) for more information about the season or to sponsor the team. You may also contact the coaches at [LetMeRun@irwinpta.org](mailto:LetMeRun@irwinpta.org).

## Character Hats Needed for the Spring Concert

4th and 5th grade students will be performing in the upcoming Spring Concert on Thursday, April 23 at 6:30pm. This year's theme is "The American Dream." Look for more details in the coming weeks.

Mrs. Johnson and the students are already hard at work preparing for the concert. **In order to portray the various characters featured in the concert, they are in need of a variety of hats.** If you have hats that could be borrowed or skills that could be utilized for making hats for the production, please sign up using the Sign-Up Genius link below. Hats can be dropped off in the Music Room by April 15 and will be returned after the concert.

[www.signupgenius.com/go/70a084da8a72eab9-irwin](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a084da8a72eab9-irwin)