



# The Irwin Inquirer

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

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MARCH 11, 2015

## Let Me Run Season Begins March 23

**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!**



Register soon at [www.letmerun.org](http://www.letmerun.org)!  
Team size is limited.

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).

## Teacher and Assistant of the Year

Congratulations to our Teacher of the Year **Andrea Kebert** and to our Assistant of the Year **Traci Couden**.  
Many thanks to you both for everything you do for Irwin!

## Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT
Thursday, March 12	Make-Up Day for Snow Day in February
Friday, March 13	Make-Up Day for Snow Day in February
Wednesday, March 18	March Staff Breakfast, hosted by Kindergarten, 8:00am
Thursday, March 26	Spirit Night, Nothing But Noodles, <a href="http://1605.Elizabeth.Avenue">1605 Elizabeth Avenue</a>
Friday, March 27	Men of Irwin Monthly Meeting, 8:00am
Friday, March 27	March Birthday Celebration, 3:30pm
Tuesday, March 31	End of Quarter

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

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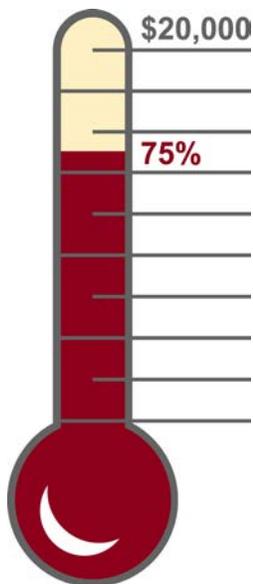
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## Are You a Wise Owl?

*We are now 75% of the way to our \$20,000 goal for the 2014–2015 school year! If you have not yet made a Wise Owl donation for this school year or if you would like to make an additional donation, you can do so **right now** online at the Owl Store.*



## Volunteer Opportunities

- **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**—The Mother/Son Event will be held on Friday, April 17. We will need help with the set-up, breakdown and everything in between. The Signup Genius link will be sent out next week.
- **SAVE THE DATE**—Teacher Appreciation Luncheon Thursday, May 7. We will need 4 volunteers per classroom, 10:45am–2:00pm. More details and Signup Genius link to come.
- **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.

### 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)

*A big **THANK YOU** to all of the 1st Grade parents and other Irwin parents that provided food, monetary donations or their time for the February Staff Breakfast that was held on Wednesday, February 25th! Without your participation this event would not have been possible. The staff loved and appreciated all the yummy food!*

*Thanks again!  
Irwin Teacher and Staff Appreciation Committee*

## March Staff Breakfast

Happy March!

Once a month, the IRWIN PTA hosts a Staff Breakfast for the teachers, administrators and support personnel here at Irwin. **Each grade level takes a turn "hosting" but ALL FAMILIES are encouraged to participate.**

For March, the **Kindergarten** classes are asked to host. **The staff breakfast will be Wednesday, March 18 in the Staff Overlook Lounge.**

**Sign up to help with the March Staff Breakfast here:**  
[signupgenius.com/go/10c044aa4ac23abfa7-march1](https://signupgenius.com/go/10c044aa4ac23abfa7-march1)

Let's show the staff at Irwin how much we love and appreciate them! The monthly breakfast is one of the Staff's favorite events we do for them. Please consider donating food items or your time to make this month's breakfast a successful event. *Keep in mind we have 70 staff members at Irwin.*

### Donation Details

For your convenience, you may send in donated items with your child OR drop your donated items in the labeled buckets in the front lobby on Tuesday, March 17. This will ensure that all donated items are received and distributed. You may also drop off hot breakfast items by 7:45am in the Overlook Lounge on Wednesday, March 18. *If you submit a homemade item, please label your container so that it can be properly returned.*

Thank you in advance for your support!  
Irwin PTA Teacher and Staff Appreciation Committee

## 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](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a084da8a72eab9-irwin)



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[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 25. 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 should be emailed by March 19.**



## Recruiting for the 2015–2016 PTA

It's not too early to take action and make a commitment for the next school year!

The Irwin PTA needs your involvement! Our organization 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 accomplished so far at Irwin, with the help of the PTA; let's make sure we stay involved, so great things can be done going forward.

**We are now recruiting PTA Board Members for the 2015–2016 school year.** The Elected Officer positions are President, Vice President Maroon, Vice President Gold, Secretary, and Treasurer. The [EXECUTIVE BOARD CANDIDATE APPLICATION](#) is available for download from the Irwin PTA website.

There is also a need for people to serve in non-elected chair positions on our PTA Board. Your unique talents and skills can be put to use for the following PTA committees: Nominating, Audit, Advocacy, Fundraising, Membership, Community Partnerships, New Families, Men of Irwin, Communication, Spirit wear, School Store, Events, and Teacher and Staff Appreciation. We will also need to fill the positions of Assistant Treasurer and Volunteer Coordinator.

If you have questions about any of these positions or other functions in the PTA, please feel free to reach out to Alan Hendrix ([president@irwinpta.org](mailto:president@irwinpta.org)), Yolanda Gilliam ([volunteers@irwinpta.org](mailto:volunteers@irwinpta.org)), or Patricia Mate ([nominating@irwinpta.org](mailto:nominating@irwinpta.org)).

—Patricia Mate, nominating committee chair

## Save the Date for the Mother / Son Event

**Come enter the “World of Minecraft” on Friday, April 17 from 7pm – 9pm in our Irwin Gymnasium!**

Mothers and sons will enjoy onsite picture taking, interactive games and activities, our first ever mother/son dance contest, DJ, prizes, food, and more!! Come enjoy mother and son time as you work together to accomplish various challenges!



**Cost:** \$20 Mother / Son pair, \$10 each additional son  
**Minecraft World Attire:** Dressy casual (preferably no jeans or sneakers)

**Look for registration forms and details in Thursday folders!**