

Get your piece of the P.I.E.

Story and photos by Tina Miles



A group of kindergarten students happily wait for the guest reader to begin the session. Staff members from the 902d MI Group participate in monthly reading sessions as part of the Partners in Education program.



Capt. Joyce LuGrain reads to a group of students in a morning kindergarten class at Meade Heights Elementary School here. Members of the 902d Military Intelligence Group donate their time in once-a-month reading sessions as part of the Fort Meade's Partners in Education program.

School is back in session, the Autumn season is upon us, and it is the perfect time for PIE. Not the kind you eat but the Partners in Education (PIE) program.

This is a program that partners Fort Meade military units with local schools in a volunteer mentoring program.

The 902d Military Intelligence (MI) Group is partnered with the Meade Heights Elementary School located on Reece Road.

Staff members of the group give their time in once-a-month reading sessions for various grade levels within the school.

The program is extremely beneficial to the students as well as the participants who provide role models for positive reading, according to school officials.

One session and you are hooked. The gratification received for dedicating just 30 minutes of your time, once a month, is more than worth it, noted volunteers. Recently, a small group of 902d MI Group volunteers read to the younger grade levels, and the reception was fabulous, enjoyed by teachers and students alike.

The success was so overwhelming that word spread throughout the school. And now other teachers from the higher grades are requesting guest readers. Volunteer your time and get a piece of the PIE.

For more information about Partners in Education, call Barbara Board, school liaison officer, at 677-3843.

The writer is the 902d Military Intelligence Group public affairs officer.