



PTA

Soaring Through May!

Volume 17

5/15/09

THE EAGLE'S EYE Center Grove School PTA

Upcoming Programs/Events

CG Datebook

Italian Dinner Night	May 21 at 5:30pm or 6:30pm
Memorial Day/SCHOOL CLOSED	May 25
District Field Day	May 26
Kindergarten Orientation	May 27 at 9:30am
5 th Grade Farewell Party	June 5
Kindergarten Carnival	June 10
3 rd Grade Picnic	June 11
5 th Grade Moving Up Ceremony	June 19 at 9:30am
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL	June 22

Italian Dinner on May 21

Come celebrate Center Grove at the annual Italian Dinner Night on Thursday, May 21.

This is an evening of great food with awesome showcases from each grade on their technology projects. Come visit the classrooms and walk through the school to see the exciting work your children have done!

Tickets are \$8 per adult and \$5 per child. To make your dinner reservations for this fun event, please complete the flyer in your Friday Folder.

Field Day on May 26

The date for this year's field day is Tuesday, May 26. All 4th and 5th graders will participate in this fun event.

Kindergarten Orientation

Kindergarten Orientation day is Wednesday, May 27, from 9:30am to 10:50am. Please make sure you have registered your child before this date so they can participate!

Save the Date: 5th Grade Farewell Party

The date for this year's 5th Grade Farewell Party is Friday, June 5, with a rain date of Friday, June 12.

The party will be held at the Stardust Pool as in previous years. Parents should have already received the information/permission slip.

If you have any questions, please contact Michele Ross at 973-537-9842.

*We soar high above the rest -
Center Grove students
strive for the best!*

Go Eagles!

President's Message

By Heather Sheehan, PTA President

Can you believe there are only 29 days of school left as I write this? I can't... partly because I am looking at all the unfinished projects I thought I would get to this year "while the kids were in school."

Here at the CG PTA, we still have a lot going on! The Italian Dinner promises to be a great night. Please be sure to come by, enjoy some yummy pasta and meatballs served up by your favorite teachers (and principal), and see your children's technology projects on display.

We are also working with the school district to build a patio in the front of Center Grove, which will be used as an outdoor learning space. In order to build this, we are selling engraved bricks for a limited time. What a great way to commemorate your children's time at Center Grove, honor a loved one or special teacher, or just show your support with a family brick. Please see the order form in today's Friday Folder.

Finally, don't forget that yearbooks will be coming in soon. If you forgot to pre-order a yearbook, we have a limited number of books available, and you can reserve one for \$17. Please contact either Karen Buch or Robin Morris to reserve one today.

We had a fabulous Staff Appreciation Week last week! CG staff received a microwave and a Keurig beverage maker for the staff room. They also were treated to a wonderful parent-cooked lunch, enjoyed a great skit put on by 5th graders, and so much more! Jeanne Stifelman and her entire staff appreciation committee did an amazing job showing how much we love our CG staff!

Congratulations too to the newest Board of Education members, Jeanne Stifelman, Tammy Mackay and Maria Martorana. Our best wishes are with them as they work on behalf of our children. My heartfelt thanks go to all of you who got out and voted YES for the school budget, which passed by a 2-to-1 margin. I feel lucky to be part of a community that places a priority on our children's education.

The Board of Education has also announced that they will appoint Mr. Owen M. Snyder as the Randolph Township Superintendent of Schools. The BOE will vote on the final contract this month.

Happy spring!

Buy a Brick; Help Build an Outdoor Classroom

The CG PTA is sponsoring an effort to build a brick patio in the tree-lined grove in front of the school. This will create a wonderful outdoor classroom and learning environment for our students. We plan to have the patio laid this summer and ready for students at the start of the 2009-2010 school year.

Families may purchase engraved bricks for \$50 a brick. You may complete an order form or place an order online at www.bricksrus.com/order/centergrovepta. Orders are due by Friday, May 29.

The CG PTA will use all of the funds raised toward the purchase of additional technology and needed equipment, such as finishing the SMART Board project, installing FM systems in the classrooms, and more.

What a great chance to leave a permanent mark on Center Grove for your family!

Randolph Has a New Superintendent

The Board of Education will appoint Mr. Owen M. Snyder, presently the Assistant Superintendent of Administration, Supervision and Curriculum in Paramus, as the Randolph Township Superintendent of Schools.

"Mr. Snyder is a man of intellect, warmth and passion for education," Board President Mr. Gregory Mark said. "His experience demonstrates that he will fit in at Randolph quite nicely. We are delighted to work with him."

Mr. Snyder has worked in the Paramus School District, a Pre-K-12 district with eight schools, 425 staff members and more than 4,500 students, since 2001. He holds a master's degree in educational administration from Kean University and a bachelor's degree in political science from Trinity College.

"I am thrilled to be part of the Randolph school community," Mr. Snyder said. "I'm happy to settle in before the school year ends and look forward to getting to know as many students, staff and community members before summer hits."

Mr. Snyder replaces Interim Superintendent Dr. James M. Sheerin, who has served the district since last July. A copy of Mr. Snyder's contract is on file at the central office and is posted on the Randolph Township Schools website (www.rtnj.org) for public review prior to the Board vote.

On the Fundraising Front...

Send in Your BOXTOP\$

Please send in your Boxtop\$. They earn valuable income for our school and help fund activities. Collection bins are in each classroom, as well as at the front desk.

If you have any questions, please contact Maureen Stockfisch at 973-989-5332 or at Mcfisch5@aol.com.

Pick up Your Market Day Orders

If you placed a Market Day order, **pickup is on Wednesday, May 20**, from 3pm to 4pm in the cafeteria.

If you have any questions, please contact Chris Downtain at 973-328-6602 or at cdowntain@optonline.net.

Shop for Your School!

Gift cards are easy, convenient and a NO COST fundraiser for our school! Here's how to order:

- Go to www.shopwithscrip.com.
- Register to create a family account.
- Use enrollment code 6F3ALLF51554L for CG.
- Choose your gift cards, and place your order.
- Send in your check to CG PTA in an envelope marked "Gift Card Order" with a copy of your order.

Orders are due by Monday, May 18. Pickup is on Friday, May 22, from 2pm to 3pm at the front desk.

If you have any questions, please e-mail Coleen Barbieri at cbarbieri113@yahoo.com.

Send in Your Acme Receipts

Please send in your blue Acme receipts. They earn valuable income for our school. Every classroom has a collection bin.

If you have any questions, please call Beverly Mooney at 973-328-8009 or Chantelle Grant at 973-361-9763.

Thank You! Thank You!

Kudos from Jeanne Stifelman to the following people for making this year's Staff Appreciation Week special for the staff of Center Grove:

- Thank you to Terri LaPenna and Debbi Godt for organizing the fabulous luncheon and to all the parents who cooked, sent in food, or helped out for the luncheon.
- Thank you to Jamie Dunn for rolling the napkins and utensils, and arranging for the lunches from Forte.
- Thank you to Susan Forstenhausler for organizing and setting up the Girls Scout cookies in the staff lounge every day.
- Thank you to Carol Braun for helping with the writing contest.
- Thank you to Karen Funk for sprucing up the staff restrooms.
- Thank you to Laurie Constantinides for bringing in the new microwave and organizing the school supply collection.
- Thank you to Stacy Gellert and Allyson Louro for organizing the bus driver breakfast.
- Thank you to Debbie Poetsch for pampering the staff with hand treatments and helping with the school supply collection.
- Thank you to Lauren and Larry Mueller for designing and implementing our theme and signs.
- Thank you to Heather Sheehan, Laurie Constantinides, Stacy Gellert, Claire Keller and Laurie Dziedzic for helping with the 5th grade skit. A special thank you to Amanda Keller and Jessica Stamelman from RHS who volunteered their time to help with the skit.
- Thank you to all the 5th graders who spent so much time practicing for the skit and making signs to hang up throughout the school.
- Thank you to all the Center Grove parents and students who sent in school supplies, wrote thank you notes, or expressed their gratitude to a CG staffer during Staff Appreciation Week.
- Thank you to Bagel Bistro/BB Grill for donating the bagels and cream cheese for the bus driver breakfast.
- Thank you to Burrini's and Forte for generously donating lunches to the CG Staff!

As Mr. C (aka Timothy Archer) would say...Center Grove Rocks!!!

Student Achievements



Congratulations to the May *Thumbs Up* winners:

- Madison Detore
- Cali Louro
- Isabella Stoepel
- Nick Rizzolo
- Shannon Edwards

The *Thumbs Up* lunch will be on May 19 in Mrs. Iosso's office.

April's classroom winners are Miss Konikowski's 4th grade class and Mrs. Gentile's 1st grade class.

Counselor's Corner

By Ms. Alycia Zemlanicky,
Elementary School Counselor

Monthly Theme: Teamwork/Fairness

Teamwork means to cooperate and work with others to accomplish a task. CG students showed teamwork in many ways during the month of May, from working together as one musical ensemble during the spring concert, to playing on teams at field day, to even creating cards and posters for teachers during Staff Appreciation Week.

We all need to work together to make any event the best it can be. In addition, playing fair is a fast way to gain friends and build teamwork. Fairness and teamwork teaches us how to be generous, how to get along with others, and how to honor their needs and wants. Fairness promotes the skill of negotiation and helps make the world a better place.

In the words of Helen Keller, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

Does Your Child Want to Play a String Instrument?



On Monday, May 18, the RHS Arietta Chamber Ensemble will perform a string instrument demonstration and recruitment concert for the entire 3rd grade. The purpose of this performance is to familiarize students with the string family instruments and to offer them an opportunity to sign on for lessons on the violin, viola, cello or bass.

The district string program (elementary through high school) begins in the 4th grade. Each 3rd grader will receive a packet to take home with all the necessary rental information. If your child is interested, please complete and return the rental packet by Friday, May 29.

Parents are also invited and encouraged to attend the demonstration. It is an informative and enjoyable way to learn about the string instruments and how your child can become part of this program. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Ruzanna Akopjan at 973-361-7835, ext. 219 or at rakopjan@rtnj.org.

NEXT ISSUE: Friday, May 29. Please e-mail your submissions to Karen Pierro at mkpiero@optonline.net. Articles MUST be received by 10pm on the Tuesday prior to Friday's distribution. In an effort to conserve paper, we reserve the right to edit all information.
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