



North Park Horizons

Seeking 21st Century Equity and Excellence



PTA Happenings

By Denise Davino

Good News! The NPE PTA website has been updated! You can access our website through North Park’s Website, scroll down to the PTA Section on the left and viola there we are! We also have a new email address for your use ptaatnpe@yahoo.com. Please use this address for any questions or concerns you have. This address is checked daily so you should receive an email back quickly.

ATTENTION ALL GREAT BAKERS –The PTA is holding it’s annual Election Day Bake Sale on Tuesday, November 8th from 9:00-3:00. There is no school, but you can help out by donating a batch of cookies, muffins, brownies, or a cake, pie, etc. Please drop off all baked goods (starting at 8:00 a.m.) in the lobby on the morning of the sale.

Please join us for the next North Park Elementary PTA Meeting on Tuesday, November 15th at 7:00pm in the library. Margaret Robelee, North Park’s own, who was recently named, New York State’s Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year will be speaking. Refreshments will be served.

From the Principal



This month our Healthy Highways program is taking us down Pride Path. The focus is on encouraging children to take pride in their work and to be proud of their accomplishments. We also talked about the “Pride of North Park”, meaning our whole community of students, staff and parents working together!

On a safety note, we have started keeping the doors to the building locked, even after school hours. As the evening custodians are working in halls and classrooms far removed from the lobby, they cannot guarantee the safety and security of the building and grounds. Groups using the building know that they must have someone at the door to let members in at their appointed times. They have also been instructed not to let anyone in that is not associated with their group. Therefore, **forgotten homework, books, etc. will have to wait until the next day.** I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but safety must always come first.

Our seventh annual Winter Workshops will take place on Dec. 23rd. This is a day when all students participate in a variety of workshop activities. If you are interested in offering a workshop such as a craft, cultural, physical or other activity, please contact me right away. I will also be looking for volunteer helpers when we get closer to the date!

Happening This Month!

NOVEMBER

- 11/4 END OF 1ST QTR
- 11/8 NO SCHOOL—TEACHER TRAINING DAY
PTA BAKE SALE
- 11/9 BUDGET INPUT GROUP MEETING 6:00 P.M. (DO)
- 11/10 B.O.E. 7:00PM HPE
- 11/11 NO SCHOOL
VETERANS DAY
- 11/15 PTA (ALL ELEMENTARY) 7:00 PM
- 11/21 K-5 EARLY RELEASE

K-5 PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE

K-5 PARENT/TEACHER EVENING CONFERENCE 7:00 P.M.
- 11/22 K-12 EARLY RELEASE

K-12 PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE
- 11/23 NO SCHOOL
THANKSGIVING RECESS
- 11/24 NO SCHOOL
THANKSGIVING RECESS
- 11/25 NO SCHOOL
THANKSGIVING RECESS

The North Park Pledge

I pledge to have the courage to do the right thing, to care about myself, my friends, my family, and my school, to show respect by using kind words and actions, and to take responsibility for my own behavior and learning. I promise to make one healthy choice every day to keep my engine strong. I pledge to do this even when no one is watching.

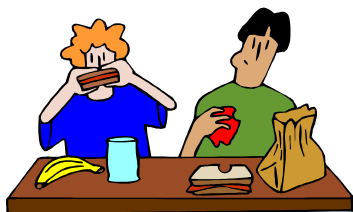
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hydeparkschools.org/npe

November 2011

School Meal Prices for the 2011-2012 School Year

Elementary Breakfast	\$1.25
Reduced Breakfast	\$0.25
Adult Breakfast	\$2.16
Elementary Lunch	\$2.50
Reduced Lunch	\$0.25



Absence Notes

Please don't forget to send in your child's absence note when they return to school after an illness.

- Be specific about what symptoms your child had during his illness.
- Your child's full name and classroom teacher's name.

Dismissal Notes

Please include in your dismissal notes:

- Child's full name, printed
- Name of teacher
- Sign and date (print name under signature)
- Time of pick-up
- Bus route number to new destination

BOOK NOOK

BY SARAH FELDMAN



We have been having lots of fun learning during library and technology lessons in October, and here are some highlights. Kindergarten students have been laughing at the antics of a little boy in the books, *That's Good, That's Bad* and *That's Good, That's Bad in the Grand Canyon* by Margery Cuyler. In these humorous books, children are challenged to turn disastrous situations into good ones and visa versa through a series of zany events. During our discussions, students used their imaginations to create new situations that can be turned around, in the humorous spirit of Cuyler's books.

First grade has been reading several unusual alphabet books including *The Z was Zapped* by Chris Van Allsburg. In this book, the letters of the alphabet put on a theatrical performance where alliteration is a central component. The students created new scenarios for the letters using the pattern of alliteration.

Second grade has been reading books by Leo Lionni including *Pezzetino* and *Alexander and the Wind-Up Mouse*. In our discussions, the students have been offering ideas about the possible "messages" that the author conveys in his stories. They have also been analyzing the Lionni's style of il-

lustration to see if there is a connection between the pictures and the messages in the books.

During library time, third grade has been comparing trickster stories from different countries, and in technology time the students have been learning about internet safety.

Students in fourth grade have been learning how to find information using key words for both print and online almanacs. They have also been exploring a great literary tool, the *Tumble Books* online site. Ask your child to tell you which book she or he chose to read during technology time. In anticipation of Halloween, we are reading two legends set in New York state that were made famous by Washington Irving: *Rip Van Winkle* and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.

The fifth graders have been busy doing research about the Walkway Over the Hudson and this research helped students to create original questions about the bridge. We all wondered how the fire on the bridge began in 1974 and many students offered their own ideas for what happened. The students' research led to inquiries about bridges, which has led to further research. The students were given a challenge: *How many bridges are there across the Hudson River?* You might like to discuss this question with your child and send in your answers, which I will share in next month's newsletter.

Reading Room

By: **Katie Niezgada**

Reading Aloud to Your Children

Did you know that children can understand books up to two years above their reading level? Most people think that once a child can read on their own, we should stop reading aloud to them. However, you will find that children of all ages (even those in middle school) enjoy being read aloud to and will benefit from it in many ways.

Reading aloud to your child is also a great way to expose him or her to new vocabulary and more complex sentence structure. (If you think about it, children first need to hear words before they can be expected to read them). It can also be a catalyst for wonderful conversations that will improve your child's comprehension.

While we often read aloud to the children at school, there is nothing like the benefit of a one-on-one conversation you can have with your child after finishing a great story. You can discuss what you liked and didn't like, as well as connections you might be able to make to other stories or your own lives.

For more information on supporting your child's reading development, please go to www.readingrouckets.org.

Let's Get Fit

By Margaret Robelee

The North Park PE program provides many opportunities for fun, fitness, knowledge, problem solving, cooperation, sport skill practice and more! During this

school year we will have opportunities to participate in Cooperative Education, Traverse Rock Wall Climbing, Soccer, Gymnastics, Speedstacking, Dance, Bowling, Yoga, Nutrition Education, Basketball, Jump Rope for Heart, and many more games and activities! Students in grades K-2 attend PE three times during a six day cycle, while students in grades 3-5 attend PE twice during a six day cycle. Schedules are available on the North Park PE website.

Fitness calendars are distributed each month to all students. Students are listed as "Fitness Fanatics" if they complete the calendar and return it to school. "Fitness Fanatics" also earn a mile for their class for each completed calendar! Last month, we had a record number of Fitness Calendars completed! Families are invited to participate as well! Keep up the good work!

Please help your child come prepared for PE class by reminding them to wear sneakers and comfortable clothing for maximum participation. Please feel free to contact me by e-mail or phone if you have any questions. Thank you so much for your support!

Good Counsel

By Marla Sherman

DISAPPOINTMENTS

All kids face disappointments in their lives. You can help your children learn to deal with these disappointments. Here are some ideas: You can help your child understand what can and can't be changed. You can't change the fact that it rains on the day of your picnic. You can help your child make a positive choice when the unexpected happens. Children have choices to make—we can recognize and encourage positive

choices. You can help your child learn from mistakes. "Next time, you can prepare for the assignment more." You can have the rule: You can feel disappointed, but you can't sulk. Kids can control their actions, even when they feel let down. You can help your child figure out his own solution instead of trying to fix the problem for them. Those are some ideas in which you can help your child to deal with disappointments. Loosely adapted from "Building Resilience in Children," by McLain.

Lunch & Recess

Breakfast costs \$1.25 per meal.

Lunches cost \$2.50 per meal.

Grade	Recess	Lunch
1/2	10:50	11:15
5	11:10	11:35
K/1*	11:40	12:05
*Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Gray		
3	12:05	12:30
K/1*	12:25	12:50
*Mrs. Boryk, Mrs. Farrere, Mrs Semancik		
4	12:45	1:10

If you are packing your child's lunch, please include a napkin, fork and spoon as needed!



DON'T WAIT PARTICIPATE---JOIN THE NPE PTA TODAY!!

North Park PTA Membership Form



\$6 for an individual or \$10 for two family member

Name(s): _____, _____

Contact #'s: _____

e-mail addresses: _____

Student name(s), Teacher(s), Grade(s):

Here are the programs the PTA proudly brings to our students and families:

Arts in Education Parent Socials Reflections Program

Brotherhood Pageant New Parent Folders Science Fair

Book Fair Newsletter Staff Appreciation

School Pictures Movie Night Student Directory

Family Fun Night Parents as Reading Partners (PARP)

Fundraisers Popcorn Day Web Page

Halloween Party Pre-School Yearbook

Holiday Fair PTA Membership

If you have any questions about any of our events, please contact Lisa Phillips, membership Chair/Secretary at Imp104@aol.com or 229-8658. Or any of our officers, President- Michele Ligouri, Vice President-Suzi Faber, Treasurer- Wendi Huff.

THANK YOU FOR BECOMING A MEMBER!!! WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the NPE Library, come join us.