

President's Parlor...

with Debbie Replogle

After a long winter, I thought we could have some fun, so I did an H.S.A. word search. Maybe you can have your children look for the words. Each child who turns in a completed word search will receive a treat!! Have fun and think Spring!

H.S.A Activities

N M E N D H A M T O W N S H I P H S A N R O P S C S K S Z U
 X O T E R R I F I C T E A C H E R S U K Z D A T U U Y S E D
 L C I R R A F F L E W P T O Z F F F S J E L R A C P R Z J S
 E K K T C V J V B O O L P T R C Y B Z D A L E E S E S V P F
 X X P P A T O K G U R O R I Z C Q W I V U S N R E R D N K F
 N E R D L I H C L U F R E D N O W C I N P P T T G S A X E B
 G Y N O E H C N U L P O T E L B A T C I A Z N H G T D M E U
 V N P Y F M X E D G S N M Z H T S H H R C U E C T A H C Q L
 P N I P A T O O R C H R Y H I E E S W H L Z T N A F B E G S
 O C J S A D O C H P Q K C O F O R T K O A N W U S F E H N D
 M M G I I H E O L V P K N Y N A F X V F O Y O L D G F U Z C
 K U K F X A O M L E I A R S L I S T R A L A R U T L U C D K
 X H S K R L R O A C W R R O G D A W D J F X K H H S O H V F
 A H K I G I I D A G E J H E C Q R G P X E I S U Y Z M Z L Z
 A S D I C Q E C N B S C H D H S T I S I V R O H T U A O T H
 W W F I M I I N W U S K E T R C L O L L I P O P S N Q B M Q
 T T T U Q V A A D Q F E C N A D A W B O O K F A I R O T C B
 S J L U W O R N H S E L I M S G A E A M I C S A W B K S Z L
 F N F V X T D M S D Y L V U L Y M M T O I H G M T H X C L Q
 X J Z M S P Y O Z I I Z D Y L Y U T D C A F G D S P W I K E

Contents

President's Parlor	1
Upcoming Events	2
Grade Level News	2
Other Committee Reports	3-5
H.S.A Board Members	6



ART
 AUTHORVISITS
 BOOKFAIR
 CULTURALARTS
 DADS
 DANCE
 DEDICATION
 FRIENDS
 FUN
 FUNDRAISING
 GAMEDAY
 GIFTWRAP
 HAPPY
 HSA
 HUGS
 LOLLIPOPS

LUNCHEONS
 LUNCHTREATS
 MOMS
 MUSICIANS
 PARENTNETWORK
 RAFFLE
 SCHOLARSHIPS
 SCHOOLGIFTS
 SMILES
 STRAWBERRYFESTIVAL
 SUPERSTAFF
 TABLETOPLUNCHEON
 TEACHERAPPRECIATION
 TERRIFICTEACHERS
 VOLUNTEERS
 WELCOME
 WONDERFULCHILDREN

Elementary Notes...

from Joan Bundschuh

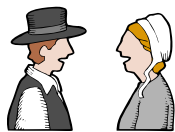
As April approaches we all start to think "Spring" and our 4th graders also start to think "Colonial". On April 28th, the 4th grade class will participate in a Colonial Crafts Day. This highly anticipated day provides the children with a unique learning experience. Through traditional crafts and activities, children will be brought back in time to the colonial days. All children, teachers and parent volunteers get in the spirit by wearing clothing similar to those worn in colonial times. It's never too early to start planning those outfits. The internet and books will give you terrific ideas. We are looking for someone who is interested in being a second photographer for the day. Please contact Joan Bundschuh 973-543-8599 or one of our wonderful committee chairs, Irene Johnson and Jess Beckerman, with questions or if you are interested in taking photos that day.

AFTERCARE is an independently run before and after school program located in the MTES. If you are interested in more information, please call Andrea Castiglione at 973-543-9190.

Reminder: The Teachers Appreciation Committee will be meeting again on April 20th from 10:00-12:00 at Joan Bundschuh's house. All members please plan to attend.

Colonial Crafts Day, April 28th

What are we going to wear?



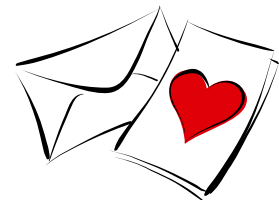
If anyone has costumes that they wouldn't mind sharing with this year's fourth graders or their parents please contact Mei Mei Newsome, 973/543-1105.

Middle School Memo...

from Beth Shea

Spring has finally sprung and hopefully we have seen the last of the pretty white stuff for this season.

Valentine's Day lunch treats were delicious along with the candy hearts provided by Donna Sarno and the 8th grade room parents. Thank you for making the day festive and fun. The final lunch treat of the school year will be served on April 21st by Barbara Lynch and the 6th grade room parents.



Thank you to both the 7th and 8th grade room parents for providing the refreshments at the middle school for the awards assembly. After two weather related postponements, it was great to see it happen. Looking forward to spring sports, warm days and spring break.

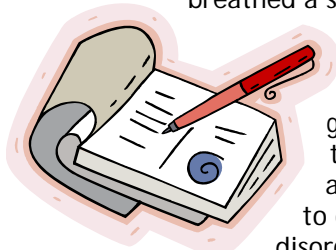
- ◆ ES Band at the Rockaway Mall..... Wednesday, March 29
 - ◆ Middle School Play, Cinderella Jr.March 30 - April 1
 - ◆ H.S.A Meeting.....Wednesday, April 5, 9:15a.m.
Brookside Community Church (Frost Hall)
 - ◆ Early Dismissal.....Friday, April 7
 - ◆ Spring Recess.....April 10-14
 - ◆ Third Marking Period ends.....April 18
 - ◆ Science Immersion Day.....Friday, May 26
 - ◆ Early Dismissal(Staff Development).....Friday, May 26
 - ◆ School Closed, Memorial Day.....Monday, May 29
- BE SURE TO ALWAYS CHECK THE SCHOOLS' WEBSITE FOR UPCOMING EVENTS!**

*In the Know...***Parent Network**

Patty Mullens & Lynne Sprague

On Thursday, March 9th, interested parents came out to hear Mrs. Christine Johnson, our Superintendent, discuss "Differentiated Learning" in our schools. It was a very informative session, which focused on her philosophy and approach on how to successfully teach all children in the classroom while recognizing the unique needs and learning styles of each child. Thank you to Mrs. Johnson for having made herself available to discuss this important topic.

On Wednesday, March 15th, parents breathed a sigh of relief to hear



Mrs. Ann Herrmann and Mrs. Tara Horutz, 5th and 6th grade Study Skills teachers, offer tips and techniques on how to organize a very disorganized child.

"Organizational Skills for Your Child & You," was well received by all who attended. Together, they offered invaluable tips on how to get our children ready for and to school on time, how to provide a positive environment

for homework and assignments, and much, much more! Thank you to Mrs. Herrmann and Mrs. Horutz for having taken time out of their busy teaching schedules to provide much appreciated support to parents.

Plan to come out to an upcoming "Principal Chat"! On Wednesday, April 19th, Mrs. Elaine Lombardi, principal, will be available to parents for an informal chat regarding topics of interest and happenings at the elementary school. Questions can be sent to her in advance. Also be sure to come out and hear from Dr. Patrick Ciccone, our new middle school principal. He will also be making himself available for an informal chat with parents in April. Please send your questions to him in advance as well. Additional information for both sessions will follow shortly.



Be sure to check out the Parent Network schedule on the school web site for additional details and upcoming events. Anyone interested in becoming involved with Parent Network, please contact either Patty Mullens or Lynne Sprague.

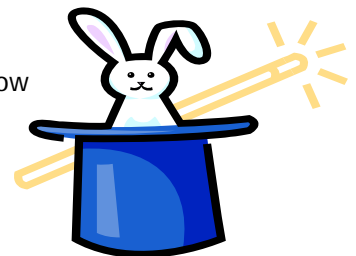
Cultural Arts - Elementary School

Brenda Grant

There will be an Elementary School Cultural Arts Committee Meeting at my house at 7 Buddy Lane, Mendham (just off Cold Hill Road) near the reservoir. It will be held on Monday, March 27th from 10 am until 12 noon. If you are on the committee or would like to check it out please come by. If you have a question or can't make it let me know via e-mail brendaelainegrant@msn.com or 973-543-0418. We will be discussing the line-up for next year and the remainder of this year.

There is also a Cultural Arts Showcase on Wednesday, May 17th at the Shakespeare Theatre at Drew University in Madison, NJ. This is the same day we have Yarina- an Ecuadorian Dance Troop at the elementary school. We will be organizing some of our committee members to attend.

Our next event is on Thursday, April 27th at 9 am and 11 am. It is The Magic of Science which is a fun show that demonstrates scientific principles in a magic show format. It will be for the entire elementary school.



Computer Clue for the Month

from Donna CasaGrande

Music on Your PC

Organizing music on your computer

Buying and downloading music online has never been easier with popular sites like WalMart.com. However, when you download songs from internet sites, they sometimes end up all over your hard drive. Search for all your songs and place them in the *MY Music* folder (found in My Documents) for easy listening.



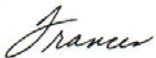
- In Windows, go to Start > Search. Or, hit F3.
- In the Search field, enter *.mp3, *.avi or *.wmv — three common music file extensions.
- When the files appear in your search results, drag the files into the My Music folder or, drag them right into Windows Media Player, where you can add them to your media library.



What is an MP3?

MP3 is a compressed digital audio file that is widely recognized as the most popular format for storing music on the web.

- This music format is the easiest type of music file to transfer to other electronic devices.
- MP3s are about one tenth of the size of uncompressed audio files, such as songs that are on a music CD. However, there isn't much difference in the sound quality even though the files are reduced.
- You can play MP3s on Windows Media Player and other programs that support this format.

	
<small>Post Office Box 36, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-0036 • 405/942-0228 • Larry Jones, President</small>	
<p>December 22, 2005</p>	
<p>Mendham Township Home & School Association Debbie Replogle West Main St Brookside, NJ 07926</p>	
<p>Dear Friends:</p>	
<p>Thank you so much for your donation to our hands-on mission project, Kid's Stuff U.S.A. The shoe box gifts filled with desperately-needed items convey a message of hope to children in America who have so little. Your participation represents the true spirit of helping others.</p>	
<p>Our task is enormous! Child hunger and poverty affects 12 million American children and kills nearly 10,000 of them every year. Your partnership with Feed The Children is a blessing! Many of these disadvantaged children are now comforted and, equally important, have discovered that someone cares.</p>	
<p>I trust you've been blessed by your involvement and pray for your continued support of the Kid's Stuff U.S.A. project. Please know your care and concern has made a difference!</p>	
<p>For the children,</p>	
	
<p>Frances Jones Co-Founder</p>	
<p>FJ:ksbl</p>	

Thanks to you, the families of
Mendham Township

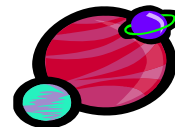
We wanted to share this note with the parents and children of our schools. It is from the organization Feed the Children. The letter was sent in appreciation of the generous donations of school supplies that were made by our families.

Cultural Arts - Middle School

Paul Pazniokas and Jeffrey Rich, co-chairs



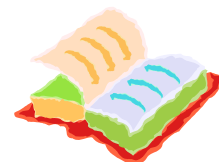
During the month of February, your 6th graders became planets and asteroids, spinning their way around a solar system in the multi-purpose room. The occasion was a visit by dancer-choreographer - and science teacher - Christine Bodwitch. Working under the direction of Mrs. Esposito and Mrs. Longo of the Science department, she helped design a unique science program that enabled the students to see how complex our solar system is. Ms. Bodwitch, who has been artist-in-residence at the Liberty Science Center, has long been fascinated with the relationship of physics and dance. When young dancers take to the floor there are lots of opportunities to experience momentum, centrifugal force and - unfortunately, sometimes - gravity. Mrs. Esposito and Mrs. Longo assigned "roles" to the students ahead of time so that they could research the unique properties of their assigned planet or other celestial body. Some of the planets race around the sun, while others travel a slow, cold and lonely journey that takes dozens of years. Dancing, revolving and rotating to music, each student really got into his or her planetary role and gained a deep appreciation for how many kinds of motion are taking place in our solar system.



Also during February, other students had a chance to take their turn at the pottery wheel with visiting artist, Kate Poland. Cultural Arts member Allyson Bush organized this delightful opportunity for the kids to get their hands nice and dirty - all in the interest of creating forms on the pottery wheel.

The 8th graders continued their work on the Mosaic Project under the helpful direction of cultural arts member Carrie Yanowitz and Mrs. Emr of the middle school faculty. After the students complete the work, it will be placed in a prominent location in the middle school - the first such "legacy art work" ever done in our school. Years from now, there will be many such legacy works of art in the hallways. Each 8th grade class will leave behind an artistic hint of who they were - something for their sons and daughters to see, when those young ones enter middle school.

On March 10th, Mrs. Horutz of the Language Arts department organized yet another first for our school: a "Poetry Night". The Brookside Community Center was transformed into a charming café (courtesy of the HSA), with a jazz orchestra (courtesy of Mr. Branch and his young musicians), refreshments (courtesy of the Waterdog Café in Mendham) and lots of poetry, courtesy of our 7th grade authors. Once word gets out about how much fun it was, we know this will become an annual event. Congratulations to Mrs. Horutz for this imaginative program!



Finally, many thanks to the parents who supported the Table Top Luncheon on March 17th. The proceeds from the event provide the funding to make these programs possible for all our children.

Appreciation & Applause



The Table Top Luncheon has just wrapped up and a huge applause goes to the many parents that helped to contribute to its success. No matter if you solicited businesses for donations, decorated one of the many beautiful tables, donated an auction item yourself, distributed flyers advertising the event, cleverly compiled and arranged the many raffle items or simply attended the event, you helped to contribute towards the continued success of our children's cultural arts programs. Thank you.

*Please look to next month's newsletter for a detailed accounting of the event.

