

President's Parlor...

with Debbie Replogle



Spring is finally here. I hope you all enjoyed Spring Break and had a chance to relax with family and friends.

Contents

President's Parlor	1	It was great to see SO many moms, Mrs. Johnson, our Superintendent, our principals Mrs. Lombardi and Dr. Ciccone at our Table Top Luncheon. I hope you all had a
Upcoming Events	1	
Grade Level News	2	
Other Committee Reports	3-5	
H.S.A Board Members	6	

wonderful time, viewed the beautifully decorated tables, won some great items, and enjoyed the delicious lunch. This year's luncheon raised \$14,000.



To have such a successful event such as this takes many months of hard work, time and dedication by our wonderful volunteers. The event was such a success and a wonderful time to visit with friends and enjoy the day. This fundraiser directly funds our Cultural Arts program at both schools, so the

added benefit of the lovely day, is that next year the



children will once again be enjoying the many great programs that are scheduled throughout the year.

Our many thanks to Tracy Lowry for doing such a wonderful job in chairing the Table Top Luncheon!!! We also need to thank all the terrific volunteers who helped make the event possible - Lynette Baker, Jess Beckerman, Andrea Brillaud, Lisa Braumann, Sue Browse, Joan Bundschuh, Laura Burtha, Ann Marie Casale, Loretta Davie, Nancy DePaolantonio, Liz Freeman, Carol Heller, Georgia Koumantzelis, Susan McKeon, Laura Medenbach, Mei Mei Newsome, Michele Paulson, Sharron Minard, Deb Randolph, Pam Richmond, Sharon Ruvane, Patricia Smith, Mimi Western and Faith Zimmer.

Thank you also to all who attended the luncheon, decorated tables, bought raffle tickets, and purchased items. Everyone helped make our lovely event such a huge success.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ H.S.A Meeting.....Wednesday, May 3, 9:15a.m.
Brookside Community Church (Frost Hall)
- ◆ Elementary Choir Concert(K, 2nd and 4th).....Friday, May 12, 9:30a.m.
- ◆ Elementary Choir Concert(1st and 3rd).....Friday, May 12, 11:00a.m.
- ◆ Science Immersion Day.....Friday, May 26
- ◆ Early Dismissal(Staff Development).....Friday, May 26
- ◆ School Closed, Memorial Day.....Monday, May 29
- ◆ Strawberry Festival.....Saturday, June 3
Township Elementary School
- ◆ H.S.A. Volunteer Brunch.....Wednesday, June 7
Brookside Community Club
- ◆ Elementary Band & Strings Concert..... Wednesday, June 7, 7:30p.m.

Elementary Notes...

from Joan Bundschuh

April has come and gone so quickly but not before it brought some showers, a much needed Spring Break and Colonial Craft Day for the 4th Graders. I would like to thank Irene Johnson and Jess Beckerman for all of the effort that went into planning Colonial Craft Day this year. A special thank you to all of the parent volunteers who helped make this the best Colonial Craft Day ever.



Teacher and Staff Appreciation week is celebrated nationally May 8th - May 12th. Many of us are very excited about showing our Teachers and Staff how much they are appreciated for "Making Each Child Count". We are hoping that this excitement is contagious and all parents and children take the time to express their appreciation to our Teachers and Staff during this week.

Reminder: If you have not returned your Teachers and Staff Appreciation Luncheon volunteer form, it is not too late. Please call our Luncheon Coordinators to determine where your help is needed.

Reminder:

Elementary School Appreciation Luncheon- Tuesday, May 9th
Contact Michelle Bender at 973-543-4732 to volunteer

Middle School Memo...

from Beth Shea

I hope everyone had a wonderful spring break. It's so nice to see trees blooming and grass turning green. The children enjoyed their last lunch treats for the year. They were served by Barbara Lynch and the 6th grade room parents on April 21st.

We are starting to plan for staff and teacher appreciation week. It will take place the week of May 8th. The Middle School chairperson is, once again, Diana Downs. Of course, many volunteers are needed so look for a sign-up flyer to come home.

Reminder:

Middle School Appreciation Luncheon-Monday, May 8th
Contact Diana Downs at 973-543-1887 to volunteer

The Shakespeare Festival is set for the 8th graders and their parents on May 19th. Traditionally the 7th grade parents are responsible for helping out. Look for another flyer in backpacks soon to sign-up and volunteer.



A special thank you to the Colonial Craft Day Committee

Jess Beckerman, Irene Johnson, Tracy Lowry, Beth Shea, Dana Emerson, Pam Richmond, Lorraine Marconi, Alyson Bush, Georgia Koumentelis, Sue Mc Ginley, Jane Ikeda, Pat Thiess, Aileen Adelhelm, Karen Beck, Cheryl Finklestein and Elaine Sawka

The Photographers.....

Heather Lovecchio, Anne Durney and Rebecca Stern

& the many wonderful parent volunteers who helped make the day a huge success.

Parent Network

Patty Mullens & Lynne Sprague
On Wednesday, April 19th, Mrs. Elaine Lombardi provided parents with an informative "open" forum on elementary school initiatives. We appreciate Mrs. Lombardi for making herself available to address parents' questions and for providing such helpful insight into our children's education.

The school year is quickly coming to an end and soon you will be hearing about grade level curriculum and transitional meetings. Additional information 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 at 543-7082 or Lynne Sprague at 543-0396.

Book Fair

On behalf of my fellow co-chairs, I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make the annual MTES book fair a huge success once again. I hope everyone who volunteered found it fun and rewarding and please know that we couldn't do it without you.



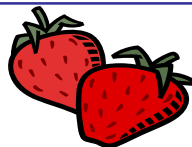
I am happy to say that this year was very successful. We raised \$3,000 for the library to spend on author visits for next year in addition to \$2,400 worth of books they can pick out from the vendor.

Many thanks once again.

Lynda Condie,

Susan Andrzejewski, Michele James and Mimi Western.

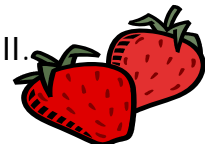
Strawberry Festival – Saturday, June 3



The annual Strawberry Festival promises to be another day of family fun, featuring games and prizes for all ages, crafts, face, hair, and nail painting, tattoos, basket raffle, bake sale, strawberry shortcake, tarot card reading, and of course the return of our ever popular cake decorating contest! The committee is already very busy putting this great event together. Many more hands will be needed in order to make this day another happy memory for the children. Please give a few hours of your time if at all possible. Request fliers will be coming home soon in backpacks.

I am grateful for an awesome team and look forward to a fun day for all.

Tracy Lowry
SF Chair 2006



Cultural Arts - Elementary School

Brenda Grant

The Elementary School Cultural Arts Committee will be hosting Marvelous Marvin--The Magic of Science on Thursday April 27, 2006 at 9 am and 11 am. The entire school will see Marvelous Marvin demonstrate basic scientific concepts through the art of magic. We are looking forward to this exciting show! The Committee is already planning next school year's line up with reviewing possible performers. If you have any suggestions or requests please let us know. We will be firming up the schedule soon. Also there is a "showcase" of performers on May 16 and 17 from 9 until 2 in Madison, NJ--if you are interested in helping the committee review potential performers please call Brenda Grant so that she can put your name on the list of attendees.

Brenda's phone is 973-543-0418 or her e-mail is brendaelainegrant@msn.com.



We are starting to prepare for "The Bodacious Book Show" which will be held on Thursday, June 15, at 9 am. This is for Kindergarten and First Graders only! This is a fun game in which children will be asked questions about popular and classic children's books. We have all of the books in our elementary school library. Some of the following books will be included in the Show:

Babar	Strega Nona	The Velveteen Rabbit
Madeline	Clifford	The Jungle Book
Black Beauty	Stuart Little	The Very Hungry Caterpillar
Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes	Curious George	The Little Engine that Could
Brown Bear, Brown Bear	Tales of Peter Rabbit	Where the Sidewalk Ends
Mr. Mr. Popper's Penguins	Green Eggs and Ham	Winnie the Pooh
The Cat in the Hat	The Ugly Duckling	Where the Wild Things Are
	Horton Hatches an Egg	

So, if you have a Kindergartener or First Grader check out one of these books soon and be ready for "The Bodacious Book Show".

I also want to take this opportunity to thank Erika Cleveland Marks who has helped out a great deal this year. She will be moving this summer and we will miss her. Thanks also to our other committee members: Laura Ford, Victoria Pinilla, Helene O'Neill, Patricia Smith, Aileen Adelhelm, Lisa Braumann, Allyson Bush, Abby Chernin, Terrill Doyle, Heather Lovecchio, Victoria Leone, Kim Maki, Susan McGinley, Karen Hawkins, Amelia Messina, Laura McCormick, Catherine Nussbaum, Michele Paulson and Karen Schaberg. Please note that if you cannot or do not wish to be on the committee please just send an e-mail to Brenda. This is important as we are trying to determine who wishes to be an active member over the next year.

Did you realize.....

Debbie Replogle, H.S.A. president, will end her term in June? This will conclude eight years of enthusiastic dedication to our schools and our children that Debbie has devoted. If you see Deb around town, congratulate and thank her. Because of her, our schools have benefited greatly.



Computer Clue for the Month

from Donna CasaGrande

Spring is the time for cleaning and organizing. One area you shouldn't forget is your computer. Here are three simple steps that will help you to organize your computer files for easy access.

1) Have a filing system for your documents.

My Documents is like a big filing cabinet. Create new folders inside where you can sort and store your documents. For example, create a folder called "Taxes" to keep any forms or documents that you needed for filing. Inside the "Taxes" folder you can have a folder for each tax year.

2) Discard old files.

While you are sorting your documents into new folders, discard any files that you no longer need.

Note: You can right click on a document and select Properties to find out a files size, the date that it was created and when it was last used.

3) Back up your files.

It is always a good idea to backup your data on a regular basis. Two easy ways to do this are to burn a CD or store your files on a flash drive.

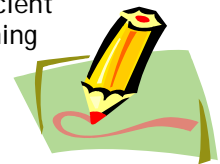
Cultural Arts - Middle School

Paul Pazniokas and Jeffrey Rich, co-chairs

The Cultural Arts Committee is happy to welcome Leslie Long aboard as Co-Chairperson for the 2006-07 school year. By joining us now, Leslie will be able to smoothly transition onto our team, and help orchestrate the programs for next fall. As many of you may recall, we could not begin our programs until November of the current school year since the gym construction was not completed. We intend to get an earlier start to the next school year, and Leslie will play a key role. Her background as Senior Brand Manager for Reckitt and Coleman gives Leslie some valuable strategic planning skills, and her three children (Michael, age five, Christine, age eight and Allie, age ten) will keep her in and around our schools for years to come. Please thank Leslie for taking on the challenges of our busy committee in the year ahead.

While Leslie has stepped up to the co-chair role, we are always looking for more volunteers to get involved with our programs, so join our committee! Let Paul or Jeff know if you're interested, and how we can reach you.

We are looking forward to a wonderful variety of programs this spring. Children's book author Ben Mikaelson will visit, thanks to Pat Perlett's efforts, and do creative writing workshops with our fifth and sixth grade classes. The New Jersey Shakespeare Company will bring their acting troop in to present The Myths of Ancient Greece to our sixth graders. Thanks to Mrs. Reilly for orchestrating this program. Also, assuming the re-installation of our school's kiln is successful, our kids will get to enjoy another in our Visiting Artist series when potter Kate Poland returns for a ceramics workshop. Ms. Hare has gone above and beyond to re-organize our art class, and have the kiln and pottery wheel put back into working order, thanks to a grant from the HSA.



The first Legacy Art project continues to progress, thanks to the outstanding efforts of Carrie Yanowitz and her committee. The 8th grade mosaic is about halfway completed and, to put it mildly, looks fantastic. We're looking forward to an "unveiling" of the finished product later this spring.

We'd also like to thank everybody for making the Table Top Luncheon a resounding and tasty success. The only way we can afford to bring programs to our school is through HSA fundraising, and the March 17 luncheon is the biggest part of that effort. So thanks for giving our committee the resources to do our job!

Easy Steps to Help Our Schools



Collect Box Tops and return them to the office at either school so we can earn money towards programs for the kids. Find products that have "Box Tops" online at www.boxtops4education.com

Collect these labels, too, and bring them into the offices and we once again "earn free stuff" for our schools. It isn't just Campbell's soup labels. There are many products featuring Labels for Education. Check them out at www.labelsforeducation.com



Numbers You Need to Know

- ◆ Mendham Township Elementary 973/543-7107
School Hours: 8:55a.m. – 3:35p.m.
- ◆ Mendham Township Middle School 973/543-2505
School Hours: 8:10a.m. – 2:50p.m.

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.

◆ 2005-2006 H.S.A Board Members

- Debbie Replogle
President
973/543-9154
replogle@patmedia.net
- Joan Bundschuh
Elementary Vice-President
973/543-8599
Joanbund@aol.com
- Beth Shea
Middle School Vice-President
973/543-3266
sheaboys@msn.com
- Loretta Davie
Treasurer
973/543-6241
Lorettadavie@verizon.net
- Kimberly Maki
Recording Secretary
973/543-0744
kmakihome@patmedia.net
- Mei Mei Newsome
Corresponding Secretary
973/543-1105
mnewsome@patmedia.net

Hello Money!

The H.S.A has started collecting used cell phones - any make, any model. Each cell phone will bring the school anywhere from 50 cents to 5 dollars - depending on the year and model. It is an easy fundraiser for us, and you can get rid of all of your old, unwanted cell phones. There are drop off boxes located in the lobbies of both schools as well as in the Brookside Post Office and the Mendham Township Library.

