



PS 295 Thursday News Bulletin



Linda Mazza, Principal
Lisa Pagano, Assistant Principal

May 11, 2017
Volume 8, Issue 29

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

- May 29th – Memorial Day
- June 8th – Anniversary Day
- June 12th – Clerical Day
- June 26th – Eid al-Fitr

IMPORTANT DATES

- May 11 – 3-104 Drama Sharing 8:30AM
- May 11 – Author visit in library
- May 13 – Touch-a-Truck
- May 15 – Parent Workshop 8:30AM
- May 15 – 3-103 trip to Alpine Theater
- May 15 – 3-104 trip to Alpine Theater
- May 16 – EC meeting 8:30AM
- May 16 – Science Fair 5:00PM
- May 17 – Science Fair for school
- May 18 – 3-105 trip to Walter Bruno Theater
- May 19 – Field Day
- May 23 – SLT meeting 4:00PM
- May 23 – PTA meeting 6:00PM
- May 24 – Dance Share PreK-2
- May 25 – Dance Share 3-5
- May 26 – Cupcake Friday
- May 30-June 1 – Science Performance Test
- May 31 – Afterschool Band performance 3:45PM
- June 1 – 5th grade trip to Chelsea Piers
- June 1 – CASA afterschool performance
- June 5 – Science Test (written)
- June 7 – Bagel Bits
- June 9 – Spring Arts Festival 5:00PM
- June 15 – Kindergarten Orientation 8:45AM

PARENT WORKSHOP MAY 15

Join us for a Parent Workshop on Monday, May 15th at 8:30 in our School library. The meeting will be facilitated by Susan Weseen, our Seeds of Kindness teacher and Jacqueline Daniel-Scherz, a parent who is trained as a life coach. At this workshop, Ms. Weseen will be sharing some of the things your children have been learning in Seeds of Kindness, and suggesting ways you can practice mindfulness at home, including resources that support this work. The benefits for both children and adults are enormous: calmer, less reactive minds, increased ability to focus and problem solve, increased empathy and kindness, to name a few. Come learn more! Jacqueline will be sharing some of the exciting techniques, she has been using within the framework of Seeds of Kindness. Jacqueline has been teaching active listening skills and thoughtful questioning with the aim of having more mindful and empathetic conversations. Our children will benefit from these skills and techniques, both at school and in their community. We'd love to share this exciting material with the parents and hope you can join us!

SCIENCE FAIR – MAY 16th

PS 295 is hosting its Science Fair on Tuesday June 16th at 5:00 PM. Our students are anxious to share their experiments and discoveries. The Science Fair will be held in the gym from 5:00 to 6:00. The projects will remain on display for the next day so that classes will get a chance to visit the projects.

TOUCH-A-TRUCK —THIS SATURDAY, MAY 13! RAIN OR SHINE

We still need lots of help to make it happen, especially with selling tickets onsite and making trucks! Sign up here: <https://goo.gl/70qJTb> or email Maria at fusilero.maria@gmail.com.

- VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION – if you are volunteering for Touch-a-Truck, please come to an orientation meeting tomorrow, May 12th at 8:30 am after drop off. Location of the meeting will be at Giocare Playspot, 655 6th Ave at 18th St, just across from Slope Playground.
- MAKE A TRUCK – MATERIALS NEEDED
Last year, we ran out of materials for our art activity at the event! Please drop off in the main lobby — you'll see a growing stash near the PTA cabinets. Label yours "For Touch-a-Truck" so it doesn't get thrown out. You can also bring directly to the event.
- \$5 WRISTBANDS – FINAL SALE TOMORROW, May 12th in the courtyard, weather permitting. Wristbands required for adults and kids. Infants worn or carried by a parent are free. They are \$10 at the door.
- TAT SOCIAL MEDIA - use liberally to promote our event!
Instagram: @ps295pta
Twitter: @PS295Brooklyn
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1310640932338429/>
Hashtag: #PS295TAT



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FIELD DAY – MAY 19TH

Field Day has always been a community building activity. This year we will be having Field Day on Friday May 19th. Field Day will include grades K – 5. All classes will travel by bus to the park and prepare for a day of fun-filled activities. The location is Prospect Park near the Picnic House. The Picnic House entrance is on Prospect Park West at 3rd Street near the Litchfield Villa. Buses with the students and staff will be leaving our school at 9:30 a.m.

We are expecting a day of fun-full activities. Parents are encouraged to meet us at the Park. Watch and cheer on your children as they participate in the games. Student t-shirts will be distributed on the morning of Field Day. Sneaker should also be worn for safety reasons. All children need to have a signed permission slip. Permission slips have gone home already. Please check your child's school bag. **PLEASE BE SURE THAT YOUR CHILD'S SLIP IS RETURNED TO THE TEACHER BY MONDAY MAY 15th.**

DANCE SHARES

We look forward to seeing you all at our Dance Share this year. Our informance Dance Shares will give you an inside look at classroom techniques and an overview of the Language of Dance. These Dance Shares are all about the creativity of your children, their vision and their experience as a choreographer.

Our students have been working with Erica Essner, who is the Artistic Director of Erica Essner Performance Co-Op and a Teaching Artist for Arts Connection and Center for the Arts Education.

In order to reduce audience size, we have chosen to have two Dance Shares. Although all students will be attending both performances, we are asking that parents only attend that day on which their child's class is performing.

- Grades Pre-K-2 will perform on Wednesday May 24th from 9:00-10:30 am in the courtyard
- Grades 3-5 will perform on Thursday May 25th from 9:00-10:30 am in the courtyard.
- Students will be performing by individual class and will go in grade order

Clothing: **All students have been asked to wear white t-shirts and black leggings or pants, no shorts and sneakers.** Grades Pre-K -2 should bring their t-shirts in by Friday May 12th so students will have time to decorate them before the share.

SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL — JUNE 9

A beautiful showcase of student art, curated by our very own Ms. Shen, will be presented Friday, June 9 from 5-8pm. Come see your child's art! This free event will also have music, food, open mic, henna, art projects, sewing, games and our annual Toy Raffle with Super Soakers!

- **We need volunteers.** We need people for all shifts in the food area, toy raffle, art projects and games in the courtyard. The shifts are one hour each: 5-6 pm; 6-7 pm; 7-8 pm; set up at 4pm; clean up at 8pm.
 - 3pm - finishing touches for art gallery. Ms. Shen and anyone else who would like to help
 - 4-5pm - set up for food, games, art projects, dj, face painting, henna, sewing
 - 5-8pm - event
 - 8-9 - cleanup
- Carolyn Stirling has graciously offered to handle all things food related, but she will need parents to work the food area during the event. As of now we are thinking of doing a bbq — hotdogs and veggie dogs. I'm asking for any family that is able to bring a side dish to share.
- We need someone to DJ or manage an iPod playlist, and/or supervise the open mic area (including set up with a speaker system we have in-house.)

Thank you for helping out! — Jess (Annabelle, 4th & Juliette, 1st) jessica.mabli@gmail.com



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YOUR CREATIVE SKILLS NEEDED FOR 5TH GRADE PROJECT

Ms. Weseen and Jacqueline Daniel-Scherz (mom to Seth, Sammy and Ethlyn) have been working with 5th graders on being “Upstanders.” What is an upstander? What is a bystander? How can they be a positive influence on the community and the world around them? Students are very excited about this project and can’t wait to share poems and drawings they have created. They now need help creating a poster and a video that will be shown at their last assembly. If you have graphic design or video production skills, please contact Ms. Weseen (sweseen@schools.nyc.gov) or Jacqui (Jdaniel.Scherz@gmail.com). Thank you!

NO BAGEL BITS IN MAY

The next Bagel Bits will be on June 7.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

We have scheduled our upcoming Kindergarten Orientation for Thursday June 15th at 8:45 am for families of future Kindergartners who have been accepted and registered for the upcoming 17-18 school year.

FIDGET SPINNERS

In recent weeks, many students have been bringing fidget spinners to school and taking them out during the school day. Although they were created to help students to focus better, they have proven to be more of a distraction to the students playing with them, as well as the rest of their classmates. From this point forward, fidget spinners will no longer be permitted in school. If a student does bring one in, we’ve asked that classroom teachers take it and store it in a safe place until the end of the day. If it happens another time, we’ve asked classroom teachers to hold on to it until a parent can pick it up. Thank you for your understanding.

LIBRARY OPEN AFTER SCHOOL

The library is open after school Tuesday afternoons from 2:40-4:00 pm. Fourth- and fifth-graders are welcome without an adult if they have a signed permission slip on file. They can sign up on Fridays to reserve a spot (limited to up to 25 students). Students from earlier grades are welcome to visit the library at this time with an adult.

DONATE TO PS 295

Whether you give \$5, \$50 or \$500, every amount counts and helps us get to this goal. Remember, your donation is 100% tax deductible.

- **Online:** make a one-time donation or set up a monthly payment with your credit card at www.ps295.org/donate/.
- **Check:** Place cash or check payable to PS295 PTA in an envelope and drop off in the main office.
- **Employee Match:** Find out if your company matches charitable donations.

SHOP FOR PS 295

Shutterfly or Tiny Prints—13% of your purchase goes to the school. Use this link:

<http://ps295.shutterflystorefront.com/>

Amazon— Click through the Amazon ad in the lower right corner of our home page at www.ps295.org, or shop on <http://smile.amazon.com> and select PS 295 as your charitable organization.

Box Tops—clip and save, then drop off in the PTA mailbox in the main office.

Fairway—3% of your purchase with your keychain card. Need one? Email Gina at gcaroddo@gmail.com.