



PS 295 Thursday News Bulletin



Linda Mazza, Principal
Lisa Pagano, Assistant Principal

October 5, 2017
Volume 9, Issue 4

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

- October 9 – Columbus Day
- November 7 – Election Day
- November 23-24 – Thanksgiving Recess
- December 25-January 1 – Winter Recess
- January 15 – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- February 16-23 – Midwinter Recess

IMPORTANT DATES

- October 6 – Lice Check
- October 11 – Pre-K trip to Prospect Park Farmer's Market
- October 12 – 1st & 2nd grade trip to Aviator Sports & Recreation
- October 17 – EC Meeting 8:30AM
- October 18 – Picture Day
- October 20 – Field Day
- October 24 – PTA Meeting 8:30AM
- October 24 – SLT Meeting 4PM
- October 28 – Dance-a-Thon
- November 2 – 5th grade trip to Kumble Theater
- November 14 – Open House 9AM
- November 15-17 – Book Fair
- November 16 – Parent-Teacher Conferences
- November 17 – Cupcake Friday
- November 21 – EC Meeting 8:30AM
- November 27 – Picture Day Retakes
- November 28 – SLT Meeting 4PM
- November 28 – PTA Meeting 6PM
- December 1 – 3rd grade trip to New Victory Theater

LICE CHECK – OCTOBER 6th

Licenders will be here tomorrow, Friday, October 6th for the first round of lice checks. Affected students will be sent home. In order to minimize absences, please take preventative measures now and check your child's hair for nits and lice. Please look for payment envelopes in your child's backpack and thank you for your contributions to help keep our students lice free.

PICTURE DAY, OCTOBER 18th

Stomping Ground Photo will be here Wednesday, October 18th for Picture Day! Remember, this is a fundraiser — a percentage of sales from orders will go to the school. Please make every effort to have your child attend school on Picture Day. Our background color will be dark grey – visual will be posted on Facebook. Questions? Email Maria at fusilero.maria@gmail.com.



FIRST CUPCAKE FRIDAY RAISES \$476!

The Cupcake Friday Queens would like to welcome everyone back from our summer vacations. We're so excited to return to filling all of your bellies with delicious cupcakes! The 2017-18 school year is going to be amazing! We have returning Queens, Ryan and Shana, and we're super excited to introduce our newest Queen, Alison!

Friday, September 29th was our first sale of the year and we came out strong! We made \$476! The Queens are so proud and we want to send a huge thank you to our bakers, volunteers and of course, our buyers and eaters!

We're bringing back the sprinkle-meter this year and this baby will explode if we break \$500 each sale. So come on

PS 295 — let's show everyone what we can really do when we set our minds to it! Let's bake, buy and eat our way through more than 500 cupcakes. We believe in you! The next Cupcake Friday will be held at the rocking Halloween Dance, celebrating Día de los Muertos on October 28th. Bring your game face! With much love, your Queens.

PS 295 MUSICAL INSTRUMENT DRIVE

Do you have any musical instruments at home that are collecting dust in a closet? If so, consider donating them to PS 295. Please limit your donations to the following instruments: percussion (hand drums, triangles, woodblocks, etc), woodwind and brass instruments (trumpets, trombones, clarinets, saxophones, flutes), recorders, and portable keyboards. You can leave instrument donations with Stacey in the main office. Contact Mr. Laster if you have questions at alaster@ps295.org.

ART AND DRAMA ON INSTAGRAM

Did you know that Ms. Shen and Ms. Cat regularly post to their Instagram pages? Subscribe, like and enjoy at <https://www.instagram.com/ps295drama/> and <https://www.instagram.com/ps295visualarts/>. We do need to verify each request when you subscribe, so please make sure to let them know who you are and who is your kid, as well as check for messages asking for this information.



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HALLOWEEN DANCE — Celebrating Día de los Muertos, OCT. 28th, 5-7:30 pm

The Halloween Dance is like no other party our kids have been to before and one of our biggest fundraisers. It will be a Día de los Muertos celebration with great music and yummy food + treats (no tricks!)

Each child at PS 295 has a group of adults who love and care about their education—grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, family friends, etc. Please consider asking your extended family to help support our school. (See FB/email post below.) We'd be thrilled if every student could raise \$20. We understand that some families can raise more, others less—please just do what you can. Here's how:

- Donation Forms will be distributed closer to the event date. Use it to collect donations from family and friends then bring to the dance on October 28th. Make sure to check in! There is a prize for the class with the highest attendance.
- Can't make it to the dance? Turn in your donations any time before October 28. Just submit in an envelope with your child's name/grade/teacher and label "2017 Halloween Dance." Give it to your teacher or drop it in the PTA mailbox in the main office.
- Donate Online: Go to www.ps295.org and click on our "Pay dues or make a donation" button. It's red! Follow the instructions and make sure to write in your child's name, class and "Halloween Dance 2017" in the section, "Designate your donation to a specific program or fund."
- Volunteering is also a fun way to enjoy the party while your kids boogie.
You can sign up here: <https://goo.gl/dC8i2E> or search for the event by Esther's email at Signupgenius.com.
For any other questions, contact event chairs: Esther Sikorski (megeuan@gmail.com) and Ryan Goldberg (ryanmigoldberg@gmail.com).

Share our event on Facebook or via email! Just copy and paste into your post/email:

Every year our fabulous school, PS 295, has a Halloween Dance. Our kids have a blast and we all raise money through donations for the PTA. It's super easy to donate online at our website (www.ps295.org) — click on the big red, "Pay dues or make a donation" button and follow the instructions. Be sure to designate your donation to [your child's name, class] and "Halloween Dance 2017"! Donations to PS 295 are made through NY Charities. Donating online also gives you a receipt that you can use for a tax deduction since the PS 295 PTA is a 501(c)3 charity.

COZY 2ND GRADE — DONOR'S CHOOSE FOR SEAT SACKS & CARPET

Ms. Higgins and Ms. DiSpirito need help finding storage in their second-grade classroom. With so many students in one space, they have quickly run out of room. Each student having a seat sack will give them a personal storage space and help them be more organized and prepared for each lesson. They would also love to have a carpet to make their meeting space more comfortable and more inviting. Students are currently sitting on the floor. Both the seat sacks and the carpet will help our students be more successful as a learner each day. If you can help, please go to DonorsChoose.org and search for "Cozy 2nd Grade" to make a donation.

FIELD DAY, OCTOBER 20TH

Field Day has always been a community building activity. Watch and cheer on your children as grades K-5 participate in the games Friday, October 20th. All classes will travel by bus to the Picnic House in Prospect Park (PPW at 3rd St. near Litchfield Villa) for a day of fun-filled activities. Student T-shirts will be distributed the morning of, and sneakers should also be worn for safety reasons. All children need to have a signed permission slip. Please check your child's school bag for this form in the coming weeks. Parents are encouraged to *meet* us at the park.



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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

PLAN OUR SILENT AUCTION!

Our favorite parent-only event is being revamped this year to reach a wider demographic. The Silent Art Auction is becoming a Silent Auction and could include amazing art, as well as sought after gift certificates, memberships and other fabulous items donated by the community. The Executive Committee is currently looking for two event leads to help run the event along with securing event space and donations, and manage an online auction site. Date of event is still to be determined, but last year it was held in the spring.

This event has always been a fun time to get together with old friends and make new ones, while getting sweet deals for an even sweeter cause. For those of you lovely parents looking to help make this year's auction another success, contact Emilio at email VPEvents@ps295.org.

BE A CLASS PARENT!

PS295 is in need of Class Parents for the 2017-2018 school year. You will get to enjoy time with your child's class while working closely with the teacher and PTA. We like to have Two Class Parents per classroom so that the work can be shared, and recommend that at least one parent is able to translate communications.

Class Parents:

- Help the teachers & the PTA share important updates about school and classroom activities (i.e. field trips, parties, snacks/supplies, news, events, etc.)
- Create and distribute a class directory
- Attend 1-2 meetings
- Provide feedback to the PTA
- Provide translations, whenever possible

If you are interested, please email Rebecca at VPparentengagement@ps295.org.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Please consider joining the Library Committee at PS 295. The school library at PS 295 is entirely parent-run. It is a really rewarding volunteer experience because you really get to know the children and teachers of the school. Library will run on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays every other week. We would love to have some more volunteers to work the hours that children visit the library. The children always visit with their teachers, but the parent volunteers manage all of the computer check-outs and assist the children in finding books. If you would like to be involved, please email Katrina at kmotch@gmail.com.

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.