



PS 295 Thursday News Bulletin



Linda Mazza, Principal
Lisa Pagano, Assistant Principal

January 31, 2019
Volume 10, Issue 19

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

- February 5 – Lunar New Year
- February 18-22 – Mid-Winter Recess
- April 19-26 – Spring Recess

IMPORTANT DATES

- January 30-31 – School Play 7PM
- January 31 – 1-2/111 & 2nd grade trip to New Victory
- February 4 – Open House 9AM
- February 6 – Bagel Bits 8:10AM
- February 12 – EC meeting 8:30AM
- February 12 – SLT meeting 4PM
- February 13 – Pre-K non-attendance day
- February 14 – 3rd grade assembly 8:30AM
- February 15 – Cupcake Friday
- February 26 – PTA meeting 8:30AM
- February 28 – Open House 9AM
- March 3 – Brooklyn Boogie Brunch
- March 4 – Pre-K B103 trip to Tiny Scientist
- March 5 – Pre-K B104 trip to Tiny Scientist
- March 5 – Armory Day K-2
- March 6 – 2nd grade assembly 8:30AM
- March 7 – 3rd grade trip to Pacificana Restaurant
- March 8 – Family Fun Friday 6PM
- March 12 – EC meeting 8:30AM
- March 14 – Parent-Teacher Conferences **11:40 Dismissal**
- March 18-22 – Spirit Week
- March 19 – SLT meeting 4PM
- March 22 – Cupcake Friday

REMINDERS

No School Tuesday, February 5 for Lunar New Year
Return Wednesday, February 6 for Bagel Bits!

SHOUT OUT to the Family Fun Friday crew, WITS, Ms. Van Doren, Mr. Wohlleb and Ms. Carfora for hosting a fun evening last week! Thanks to our lunch recess volunteers so our kids could have recess outside this month: Gretchen Hildebran, Jacqueline Cornett, Susan McCullough, Nomi Altabef, Yuna Weiss, Amanda Rouse, August Motzer, Annette Merced, Laura Redman and Rebecca Stein. We are fully staffed for recess the rest of the season! Congrats and thanks to our January 50/50 Raffle winner, Tina Habib, who donated her half to the PTA.

GIVE 20/20 OPPORTUNITIES IN FEBRUARY

- Attend a 20-minute volunteer training
- Shelve 20 books in the library
- Bake 24 cupcakes — Win a prize at the next CCF February 15!
- Give 20+ standing ovations for the cast and crew of The Jungle Book
- Help us get to \$20,000 in sponsorships for our events. You can help fundraise!
- Buy your advance ticket to Brooklyn Boogie Brunch (\$20 adults, half price for kids) – full line up below.

Have you met the 20/20 Challenge? This is a wonderful community because of the families that are part of it and we hope that you take up the challenge to continue supporting the PTA — 20 hours per year or \$20 per month. You can also go to www.bit.ly/GiveToPTA to give online.

THE JUNGLE BOOK—FINAL PERFORMANCE TONIGHT! JANUARY 31

A fresh, new re-telling of classic tale The Jungle Book! It's sure to excite and inspire the audience. Tickets can be purchased at the ticket tables in the main lobby starting at 6:30pm. Doors to the auditorium open at 6:45pm. Tickets are \$5 per adult and \$2 per child. See you at the show!

AFTER SCHOOL BAND



Mr. Laster

Rehearsals of the PS 295 Band will begin on Tuesday, February 12th. These rehearsals include flutes, clarinets, saxophones, trumpet, trombones, and percussion. The band will rehearse every Tuesday from 2:45 until 3:45 until June 18th. A reminder will be sent home soon, along with a tear-off sheet to let me know if your child has permission to walk home alone after rehearsal. Please note that your child will continue to have group instrumental lessons at lunch.



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BBB TICKETS ONLINE TOMORROW—FEBRUARY 1



Brooklyn's favorite benefit concert, Brooklyn Boogie Brunch, returns **March 3rd, from 12pm - 4pm** at Littlefield in Gowanus, 635 Sackett St. Now in its sixth year, the afternoon family concert will feature live music from an always eclectic and stellar line up, including rockers/dub reggae outfit Top Shotta Band featuring Screechy Dan; Chris Lightcap's Superette with Nels Cline; Rock band Growler; singer/songwriter Neha; The Legendary teen funk/rock/ska band Control the Sound; DJ Cherish the Luv; and Capt'n Kirk Douglas of The Roots with special guests; hosted by Mike Woods of TalkBox Podcast. We have a fun day planned with activities for the entire family and delicious brunch offerings by local favorites: The Chocolate Room, Auria's Malaysian Kitchen, Brothers Bagels, and more! Cash bar.

Advance Tickets - \$20 adults (13 +); \$15 kids (2-12); \$65 pack of four (2 adult + 2 kid tickets).

Buy online at Eventbrite - <https://brooklynboogiebrunch2019.eventbrite.com>

At the door: \$28 adults/ \$22 kids, no family pack, no fees.

Kids under 2 are free. No stroller parking.

YOU CAN HELP US FUNDRAISE!

Our school budget that covers everything from lice check to our dance program requires \$150,000 in addition to what is provided by the Department of Education. Our events help bridge that gap to ensure our kids get outstanding programming. For example last year our Spring Arts Auction and Touch a Truck contributed \$50,000 toward the school budget. You can make a fast and easy contribution to these events in a few simple ways:

- Ask your favorite local business to donate to our auction. You can simply send them here to do so: bit.ly/ps295auction_donationform
- Be a Touch a Truck sponsorship ambassador — help us share sponsorship programming with your favorite local business

Fundraising not your bag? No problem! Contact Ellen (ellengrayce@yahoo.com) for Spring Auction and/or Maria (mariatenaglia@hotmail.com) for Touch a Truck to share your local business contacts and we'll do the rest. To learn more about these events go to: www.ps295.org/spring-auction/ and <https://ps295touchatruck.weebly.com/>

BRING THE CUPCAKE MAGIC BACK! PRIZE FOR FEBRUARY CCF

A cold, January wind sweeps through the courtyard of PS 295 and another Cupcake Friday comes to a premature end. The Queens frantically look around, but there are no cupcakes, there are no sweets. Sadly, this is not a dream. January marked our third consecutive Cupcake Friday with, what has now been diagnosed as, Chronic Low Cupcake Turn Out or CLCTO. We made \$288 at today's sale and many kids left with nothing but tear soaked dollar bills crushed up in their little hands.

We know some of you are already bringing the yummy goodness consistently. You sweet-souls know who you are, and we are so grateful for you. However, we need more families to bring treats to our sales. The more families bringing sweets, the more smiles on our children's faces! The Queens will use any means necessary to bring the magic back! You want an updated playlist? We got music! You want bubbles? We got bubbles! Furthermore: if you label your donation of sweets for our February Valentines-themed Cupcake Friday on February 15th, you could be the ****winner**** of the the Biggest-Most-Valentine-y-Most-Creative-Sweets-Donation Contest or BMVMCSDC and get a super amazing gift from your Queens truly!

Come on PS 295! Let's end the needless suffering. Bring Sweets. Bring Them Now and Bring LOTS of Them. Cupcake Kisses, Your Queens



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NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

Election season is approaching so we're looking for a few parents to help recruit for the PTA Executive Committee and School Leadership Team. The nominating committee should consist of 3-5 volunteers, none of whom sit on the executive board or plan to run for office. You'll correspond with potential candidates, verify eligibility and when it's time for the election, prepare ballots and be on hand to count them if needed. Plus, you get to work with Sergio and help the PTA put together teams for next year! Interested parents should email Maria Fusilero at fusilero.maria@gmail.com. We'd like to form this committee by March.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

From helping with recess, to helping in a classroom or on a trip or at an event, volunteers do a lot of important work in our school and are crucial to making 295 the wonderful place it is! It's important as a volunteer that you understand your role and have knowledge about important guidelines to follow — this will allow you to have a positive and rewarding experience. We are looking to train all adult volunteers who come into the school or go on field trips. We will be offering regular trainings that will last no more than 20-30 minutes. Please sign up here for a training: <https://bit.ly/2GNMONy>. Please email Ellen with any questions: ellengrayce@yahoo.com

NEW AMAZON WISHLISTS ADDED

Have you checked out our teachers Amazon Wishlists yet? Many of our grade classrooms have lists posted along with some of our Clusters; lists for Drama (<http://a.co/i5EghGV>) and Library/Yoga/Seeds of Kindness (<https://amzn.to/2R1aJZJ>) have just been added. Even Sergio has one for Recess! (<http://a.co/6i9G93f>). Next time you place an order on Amazon, please consider adding one of these needed items to your cart. The wishlists can be found next to the teachers' names on the school website: <http://www.ps295.org/staff>

JANUARY BOOK OF THE MONTH

The book of the month for January is *Red, A Crayon's Story* by Michael Hall. In this story a blue crayon is incorrectly labeled red. As a result, despite all the blue crayon's efforts, it fails to color red over and over again. This story's universal theme will resonate with anyone who has felt misunderstood, different, and like they don't fit in. Through this seemingly simple story, Michael Hall teaches us that we soar when we move beyond labels and outward appearances to embrace our true and often complex identities.

CLASSROOM ROUND UP

AUTHOR VISIT: SELENA ALKO FEBRUARY 7

Children's book author Selina Alko, author of *B is for Brooklyn* and *Why Am I Me?* returns to 295 Thursday, February 7, to read to **K-1st grade**. She has written or illustrated—often with her husband, artist Sean Qualls—children's books with themes about race (*The Case for Loving*), diversity (*Why Am I Me?*), and books about urban life in Brooklyn and New York City (*My Taxi Ride*, *My Subway Ride*).

WITS COOKING LABS

This month, students in grades **K-5** participated in cooking labs run by Chef Laurielle from Wellness in the Schools (WITS). They learned about the importance of eating beans and made white bean dip with cucumber "chips". Many kids found something new to eat and asked for the dip to be served for lunch. Here's the recipe!

Ingredients: 2 cups cooked & drained white beans (like cannellini); 1 clove garlic, minced; sea salt to taste; 1/4 cup olive oil; zest of 1 lemon, grated; and 2 teaspoons fresh rosemary, minced.

Directions:

1. place the beans in medium-sized bowl. Mash the beans with the back of a spoon until smooth or place beans in a bowl and pulse with an immersion blender.
2. add garlic
3. slowly add olive oil until combined
4. add lemon zest and rosemary
5. season with sea salt.
6. enjoy with vegetables!

