



# Penguin Press

Paumanok  
Elementary School  
PTA Newsletter  
April 2019

## Upcoming Events

- 4/9 -- **PTA Mtg** at 9:45am in the Chill Zone (No Night Recap)
- 4/10 – **Night of Music for 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders**
- 4/12 – **Plant Sale Preorder Forms Due**
- 4/13 – **Holi Festival of Lights** at 10am – Signal Hill Field
- 4/15 – **BOE Meeting** at 8pm Signal Hill
- 4/15 – **Earth Day Awareness Assembly**
- 4/17 – **Pajama Party/Drive** – wear your pjs and bring in a new pair for sick child
- 4/18-4/26 – **School Closed**
- 5/1-5/3 – **NYS Math Tests**
- 5/7 – **PTA Mtg** at 9:45am in Chill Zone (**Election Meeting**);  
**Night Recap** at 7:30pm
- 5/9-5/10 – **Plant Sale**
- 5/20 – **Spring Concert** at 7:30pm at WH
- 5/21 – **Kindergarten Orientation**
- 5/21 – **School Budget Vote**
- 5/22-5/24 – **NYS Science Tests** (Grade 4)
- 5/27 – **No School**
- 5/28-5/31 – **Staff Appreciation Week**

## A Note from Mrs. Cooper

### READ-ALoud!

Research shows that reading aloud together is a great way to inspire a love of reading with your child that can last for years. In addition, reading aloud helps your child develop language skills and critical thinking abilities. These are skills they will use in school and throughout their lives.

Cultivate the habit of reading aloud by making a commitment to include Read Alouds in your daily family time. The Children's Literacy Initiative offers these tips for parents:

- Read aloud at least 20 minutes each day. This will allow your child to hear 1 million more words a year.
- Extend the book with activities such as cooking and art.
- Read more books by an author or illustrator you like.
- Talk about the book and ask open-ended questions that do not have only right or wrong answers. This will encourage your child's verbal expression, critical thinking, and imagination.
- Have FUN reading aloud!

Cuddle together, laughing, talking, giggling and sharing special times while also developing a lifetime appreciation for reading with your child. Enjoy!

## President's Corner

Dear Paumanok Families,

I must start off with PAUMANOK NIGHT OUT! A fantastic evening thanks to so many of you. The money we raised supports the PTA's many programs, events and givebacks. Paumanok students are so fortunate to have the commitment of all our parents who helped out and attended this event. If you didn't make it this year, watch for it next year so you can join for a night of fun and prizes!

I would like to congratulate the PTA Council for their Founders' Day, which is a Half Hollow Hills School District fundraiser. Many of us attended and had a great time.

Paumanok PTA had an event filled month. We kicked off the month with our Blood Drive where 52 people donated. Our Chairperson Katrina did a great job organizing the drive. Thank you to everyone who came down and donated. We brought back our Eating The Rainbow week with an amazing night where 130 students ate their way through the rainbow and learned about healthy living. Thanks to Jessica Maziekas for sharing her knowledge and enthusiasm. During the Unity Fair we celebrated the Caribbean culture and hosted an incredible table of Caribbean foods. Thank you to Michelle Chin Quee for her inspiration and organizing this event. Spring photo day had the students springing into action, taking club and sibling photos. Thank you to Cristine Kessler and Claudine Caviness for helping our students show off.

This month make sure to buy your flowers for Mothers' Day at the plant sale on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, preorders are due April 12<sup>th</sup>. The makers' space could use some new makers items. Please see our FB page for a list. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents, make sure to reach out to volunteer for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade committee. Volunteering is the best way to make the events for our students a success.

School will be closed for Spring Break beginning April 18<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy the time off!

~ Stephanie Jose

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pajama Party

The Pajama Party is on Wednesday, April 17, 2019. We would like all of the students in Half Hollow to come to school in their pajamas and donate a pair of new pajamas to a sick child. All sizes welcome...child to adult.

This year we will be donating the pajamas to Cohen Children's Medical Center. Last year, with your help, we collected over 1,600 pairs of new pajamas for children battling illnesses! We hope you will help us reach that goal again this year!

Thank you so much for your continued support!

Ashley Kalb Hayley Kalb  
Morgan Mandel Matthew Mandel Marissa Mandel

## Autism Awareness Month

You will notice "Light It Up Blue" and other Autism Awareness advocacy this month. Please consider attending a SEPTA meeting or an autism awareness presentation to keep yourself informed about others' experiences. "Autism Acceptance Month promotes acceptance and celebration of autistic people as family members, friends, classmates, co-workers, and community members making valuable contributions to our world. Autism is a natural variation of the human experience, and we can all create a world which values, includes, and celebrates all kinds of minds."

## What's Happening Around the PTA

District – SEPTA is hosting a Comedy Night on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Holi Festival is on April 13<sup>th</sup> at CH. CPR certification course is being offered through the district. To register go to the HHH council store. Universal Pre-K registration extended to 5/1/19.

Suffolk – 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Conference is May 16<sup>th</sup> at Villa Lombardi's. New Officer Training is June 6<sup>th</sup>. Suffolk by the Sea training is July 13<sup>th</sup>.

NY State – National PTA has been nominated for an Outstanding Organization Award. Public schools week was March 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>. Reflections 2019-2020 Theme will be "Look Within". The Center for Family Engagement rolled out new resources for PTAs.

## PNO Wrap Up

PNO was a huge success. Putting together the amazing night made me proud to be part of the Paumanok Family. Everyone worked together and really helped pull off a spectacular night!

Thank you to Stephanie Jose for all of your support; to my swag bag crew Kathy Morales, Adrianna Stucchio and Noelia Maamouri; to everyone who helped gather donations: Diane Catalano, Carolyn Addison, Latia Hill, Julie Rosslee, Kristyn Hovanek, Cynthia London, Kim Marcus, Lauren Siegel, Maria Stein, Vincenza Crispo, Stephanie Lipsky, Christine Arena, Rebecca Feder, Virgie Torres, Sareh Zivan; to the executive committee for giving up part of the evening to "work"; to Alice (Nicole Baldwin) and the Queen of Hearts (Karen Heitman); to Barbara Tipaldo for helping at the end when my brain was fried; to Mrs. Cooper, Mr. Vitolano, Mrs. Marder and all Paumanok teachers and staff for supporting us for PNO as well as all our events for the students; to Sandi Melissen who talked me into doing this and for all of her support; to Rachel Mishkin for stuffing envelopes; to Latasha Bryan's amazing proof reading skills; to the class parents who organized amazing baskets; to those who helped sell tickets that evening, to everyone who came to wrapping sessions; to everyone at set up that morning. Thank you to all of you!! And of course thank you to all of our amazing sponsors and those who came to PNO!

If you didn't make it this year, hopefully we will see you next year. It really was an amazing night to remember.

Thank you, Aimee Prole

## Thank You Corner

There are so many people who shared their talents this month with our students, I just want to give you a special THANK YOU. April is National Volunteer month, so let's honor the volunteers in our community. Aimee Prole went Mad Hatter with creativity for this year's PNO and gave us a night to remember. Katrina hosted a wonderful blood drive and helped us save some lives. Jessica Maziekas brought the rainbow eating into Paumanok and inspired some life-long healthy habits. Michelle Chin Quee had us vying for some island living with her Caribbean Unity Fair table. Cristine Kessler and Claudine Caviness helped us put our best foot forward with some amazing photographs.