

Nixon Elementary School Newsletter

April 2011

Volume 1, Issue 8

Letter from the PTA President



OK everyone, our biggest fundraiser THE TRICKY TRAY is right around the corner! Make sure you do your part with a donation of a basket or purchasing your tickets or putting in the time to help with this event. We need 100% participation! We can't do it without your support so please take the time to get involved in some way. The event is Friday, April 29th. We have some spectacular prizes this year and a fantastic comedian!

Great thanks goes out to Dee Merring in her final year as Family Fun Night Chair. Dee and her committee did an outstanding job with the Talent Show. We have some very talented kids at Nixon and some very hard working parents. Kudos to everyone.

We have many events coming up in the spring including the SkyDome assembly, Book Fair, Tricky Tray, the Cup Stacking Competition, Mother's Day Plant Sale, Staff Appreciation and Field Day, just to name a few.

Also, the Nixon PTA is in need of a few new officers this coming school year. Officers are vital to the success of the PTA and we always need new ideas and new faces. If you want to get involved and make a difference in the very short elementary years of your child's education then here is your chance. Please send a letter of interest to Stuart Marcus. You can just reply to this newsletter and he will get it.

Have a sunshine-filled Spring Break and we hope to see you at the Tricky Tray on April 29th. Our next PTA meeting is Tuesday, April 12th at 6:30pm during conferences. We will be featuring Kindergarten and preschool at the meeting.

Audra Sarafin -PTA President

Contents

President's Letter	1
Book Fair	1
Reflections	2
April Assemblies	2
Book Swap	2
Market Day News	2
What's New at Nixon	3
Upcoming Events	3



Book Fair

The Book Fair is coming to Nixon on April 11 – 15. The theme this year is Carnival if anyone has any great ideas or would like to volunteer to please contact Deidre Sparano at deidresparano@hotmail.com.

Reflections & District-Wide Recognition



State results are in! Congratulation to 1st grader, Jaclyn Grady. She won the State Award of Merit for her Musical Composition entry in the PTA Reflection Program.

I would like to thank all the parents and teachers that encouraged their students to participate in this year's program. A huge congratulation to all the students that participated.

Next year's theme is "Diversity Means...".

On Tuesday, April 5, 2011, Nixon's Reflection participants and their family are invited to attend our district-wide recognition ceremony in the auditorium of the Eisenhower Middle School. A screening of many of the **Reflections** performance entries will begin at 6:30 p.m., and the recognition ceremony will begin at 7:00 p.m. At that time, all 481 district participants will be recognized and will receive a certificate. Students whose entries were Morris County PTA winners will be awarded medals.

To make this occasion more festive, we are asking that all attendees bring a snack to share if at all possible (drinks or finger foods; for example, a bottle of soda, bag of chips, plate of cookies). Once the auditorium ceremony is over, all attendees are invited to the cafeteria for snacks.



April Assemblies

THE SKYDOME is coming again to Nixon School on Tuesday, April 5th for an all-day assembly. Each of our grades will go on a 45-minute journey through the universe. The navigator will guide the students through the solar system and the stars of the Northern Hemisphere. Also coming in April is **RIZZO'S REPTILES** on Monday, April 18th. This assembly is an educational and interactive reptile show that features a crocodile. The first show will be at 1:00pm for K-2 and 2:00pm for 3-4. Come join us for some fun in April.

Book Swap – April 7th

Reminder that the Book Swap is on April 7th. It is held during 1st-4th grade lunches. Kindergarten book swap is held during their class. AM is 11:15am and PM is 1:40pm.

Market Day News

The Market Day program offers great food at great prices, and it is also a fundraiser for Nixon School. **Orders must be received by Saturday, April 9th at 11:00pm. Pick-up is Friday, April 15th from 6:45 – 7:45 in the Nixon cafeteria.**



Upcoming Events

- ◆ Every Friday is School Spirit Day. Students should wear their Nixon apparel
- ◆ Apr 1 – End of marking period
- ◆ Apr 5 – Sky Dome
- ◆ Apr 5 - PTA Reflections Recognition Program
- ◆ Apr 7 – Book Swap
- ◆ Apr 7 - Meet the BOE Candidates Night at L/R Auditorium
- ◆ April 8 - Cup Stacking District Competition
- ◆ Apr 12 – PTA Meeting 6:30pm
- ◆ Apr 12 - 15 – 4 ½ Hour Days – Conferences & Book Fair
- ◆ Apr 13 – Fire Safety Unit
- ◆ Apr 15 – Market Day Pickup 6:45pm
- ◆ April 18 - Rizzo's Reptiles Assembly
- ◆ Apr 19 – 22 – Spring Break. School Closed
- ◆ April 27 - BOE Elections
- ◆ Apr 27 – Parents As Math Partners (2:30pm – 3:00pm)
- ◆ April 28 - 4th Grade Instrumental Music Demonstration
- ◆ Apr 29 – Tricky Tray

What's New at Nixon



My name is Carole Melillo. My teaching career started in 1976 in Livingston, NJ. I taught Health and Physical Education to grades 7, 8 & 9. While there I also was the Field Hockey Coach and Gymnastics Club Supervisor.

I left Livingston in 1983 to stay home and raise my two daughters Michele and Melissa. In 1992, I returned to teaching part-time at Jefferson School, half way through the year, I became the Physical Education teacher here at Nixon School. This is my 27th year of teaching. I enjoy coming to Nixon School every day.

While my girls were in school here in Roxbury, I was involved in many activities. I served as both secretary and Vice President for the Jefferson School PTA. I was class mother several times and a Girl Scout Leader in town for 6 years. I coached Lassie League softball too. Later on when the girls were at RHS, I served a two year term as Secretary and VP for the RHS Softball Parent Association. I also served as President twice for the RHS Field Hockey Parent Association.

My husband and I are now empty nesters. Our oldest daughter, Michele is married to Tim, a former Nixon Student himself and lives close by. She is a Director of Physical Therapy with Sportcare Velocity in Parsippany. Melissa is a Marketing Assistant with Li and Fung Global in Midtown Manhattan, NY.

In my spare time I enjoy being with my husband and family at the beach. We bike ride, kayak, read and enjoy being together. There is nothing that makes me happier than being with them.

Here at Nixon Speed Cup Stacking is in its 4th year. As part of the curriculum Mr. Redmond from Franklin School brought the idea to the district Elementary Physical Education teachers and it took off from there. We are gradually building up our supply of cups so each student in a class will have a set to practice with.

Our inter-school competition is to highlight those students who excel at speed stacking. Cup Stacking is a test of speed, agility and eye-hand coordination.

This year those students will show off their skills on Friday Morning, April 8 at 10:00 am at Nixon School. Jefferson, Franklin, and Kennedy students will travel to Nixon School for the event. Any parent, from Nixon School, that is interested in helping out on that day, please contact the Nixon School PTA.

Speed Stacking is not for everyone. It is a challenge to stack sets of 12 cups in various formations without fumbling (or dropping them.) And then down-stack the cups while in front of an audience all in record time! It is both exciting and nerve-racking!

Come see our extremely talented speed stackers go up against kids from all over town! GO NIXON!