

# Nixon Elementary School Newsletter

December 2010

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## Letter From The PTA President



With the year coming to an end and the holidays quickly approaching, I would like to thank everyone for all the wonderful things you have done for the PTA this year. A special thank you goes out to the Nixon families who donating food items to the holiday food drive. This allowed Nixon School to help social services fill their pantry and be able to provide Thanksgiving meals for those less fortunate Roxbury families. Thank you Barbara Hartos for organizing our holiday food drive. Look for December's Giving Tree in the lobby at Nixon, which donates gifts to the underprivileged children in our community.

We are all looking forward to our Holiday Gift Making Event on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. It is a special morning for the children as they go from table to table creating seven holiday gifts for their families and friends. Also coming up after the winter break is the New Year's Dance on Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, so mark your calendars. Just a reminder our Tricky Tray, Dinner and Comedy show will be held on Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. This is our only major fundraiser which proceeds directly benefit Nixon's students. This is a great time to start collecting items for your family basket or even think about combining with another family. We will be asking our Nixon families to please support our Tricky Tray by donating a themed basket or item that has a \$35 value.

Our PTA has generously donated \$2400 to the school for a new smart board for the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. We have also provided the computer class 35 headsets, book pouches for every student in Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade, magnetic letters and dry erase boards for every student in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and book baskets for the Kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms through our teacher's grant program. This would not be possible without our Tricky Tray, so please support it.

Last month's PTA meeting featured the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. They presented as a group and gave us a descriptive overview of what they have been doing. They did a wonderful job so thank you to all our students, teachers and parents who participated. We will not have a PTA meeting in December. Our next PTA meeting will be Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and we will feature the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

Enjoy the holidays,

Audra Sarafin, Nixon PTA President

## New Year's Dance

The New Year's Dance will be on Friday, January 7, 2011. If you have any left-over decorations or party favors that you'd like to donate, please contact Dee Merring.

## 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 Wednesday, December 8th at 11:00pm. Pick-up is Tuesday, December 14th from 6:45 – 7:45 in the Nixon cafeteria.**

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Happy Hanukkah



## Attention 4th Graders



We need your baby pictures for the yearbook. Please send in your picture to Deidre Sparano/PTA yearbook or email your picture to Donna Mangano at [mmdm520@hotmail.com](mailto:mmdm520@hotmail.com).

The 4th grade class to get in all of their pictures on or before December 17th will get a free ice cream coupon from the cafeteria.

We will start selling Yearbooks the end of January. Don't forget to send your pictures in. Just email your pictures to [mmdm520@hotmail.com](mailto:mmdm520@hotmail.com) or send a disk to Deidre Sparano / PTA yearbook.



## Who's New At Nixon



Hello! I am Janet Hawthorne the new Media Specialist at Nixon School. My husband Warren and I have lived in Succasunna since 1978. We have two children, Lauren, 29 who lives in Dumfries, Virginia and Greg, 26, who lives in Queens, NY. Both went through the Roxbury Township school system.

After graduating from William Paterson University in 1974 I began my career as the Librarian at the Florence M. Burd School in Andover Township, New Jersey. I continued in that position until 1981 when my daughter was born and I became a stay-at-home Mom for 9 years.

I resumed my career in 1990 when I was hired by Mr. John Moschella to be the librarian at Franklin School in Succasunna. This year I'm dividing my time between Franklin and Nixon so I get to share my love of books and reading with twice as many children! The newly "spruced up" Nixon Media Center is a warm, welcoming, and open space. It's the perfect place for students to lose themselves in a good book!

Thank you to everyone for making me feel part of the Nixon family. I look forward to working with staff, parents, and students.

## Reflections "Together We Can"

Thank you to all our Nixon parents and teachers for encouraging their students to participate in the Reflection program. HUGE congratulations to all of the Nixon's students for submitting such wonderful forms of art in the Reflection program. Nixon had 30 entries advance to the county level of judging in the following categories: 5 Literature, 1 Music Composition, 8 Photography and 16 visual art entries. This year Nixon had it first Musical composition entry submitted by a 1st grade student. Thank you Patty Padakis, Dina Rollo, Kristen Grady and Kellie Ann Keyes for their help judging the entries. Reflection entries will be on display at the Ledgewood Mall the month of March starting on March 8th. Good luck to those students who had their entries advance.

## Enrichment Ahead in January

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade will be participating in a two week in-class workshop where they will be creating, writing and producing newspapers. **Making Headlines** will guide the students through the project which will run from January 25<sup>th</sup> through February 5<sup>th</sup>. On Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 10am, Box of Light Theatre will be at Nixon School with their chemistry assembly, **Burple, Fizz, Kaboom**. Afternoon kindergarteners are welcome to join us with their parents.

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ Every Friday is School Spirit Day. Students should wear their Nixon apparel
- ◆ Dec 4 – Holiday Gift Making
- ◆ Dec 14 – Market Day Pickup 6:45pm
- ◆ Dec 15 – Celebrate the Holidays Assembly
- ◆ Dec 16 – Book Swap
- ◆ Dec 17 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Play
- ◆ Dec 17 – 4<sup>th</sup> grade baby photos due
- ◆ Dec 23 – Holiday Concert (10:00am)
- ◆ Dec 23 - 4 ½ Hour Day
- ◆ Dec 24 – 31 – School Closed