

Hello Families!

This was a busy week! We hope you enjoyed the Parenting Workshop, the Kindergarten Art Show, PTA Potluck Dinner, and the K and 1 Family Fridays!

Important School News and Housekeeping Items/Reminders

- As you know, cold and flu season is here! There are many viruses going around. We have just installed 2 standing automatic **Purell dispensers** outside the cafeteria so students can sanitize their hands before/after lunch. We hope this helps contain some of the germs.
- **School Pictures** were delivered this week. Reminder to parents who ordered large format photos – they are in the **main office ready for pickup**. Note to families that may not have ordered photos by the deadline: you may still order photos, but they will not ship until January. Just go to www.coolforschoolphoto.com/peckslip
- On Tuesday morning, Rebecca and Nikki hosted a Parent Workshop called ***Navigating the IEP Process***. The workshop covered many things including: the first steps if you and/or the teacher feel something is wrong, who the helpers are, how the process works, what the help looks like, what an evaluation is, and parts of an IEP including ICT and related services. If you were unable to attend the session, or just want a copy of the presentation, it is attached here, and can also be found on our website under “News” on the home page.
- **Calling all photographers!** We want to create a Peck Slip Virtual Tour for our website. Photographer parents interested in volunteering their services for this important project should contact me. Thank you!
- **Donation for Science Room-** Ashley needs a "3-way lamp" and 9 or 10 3-way light bulbs to go with it for an in-class demonstration for 4 different classes. If anyone has a lamp with a 3-way fixture she can borrow, or, has a lamp/bulbs to donate, she would be grateful! Just email Ashley at alapierre@schools.nyc.gov. Thank you in advance!
- **Teacher email address update** - In the first version of the Family Handbook, Melanie’s and Lindsey’s emails had typos in them. Please see updated Staff Directory attached. A corrected version is also available on our website under the “For Families” tab and then “Staff Directory.”

PTA News

- **Help us to Bridge the Gap!** If you haven’t already participated in this wonderful fundraiser, please take a look at the attached documents and see what your **tax deductible** donation can mean for the school. Also, many companies do corporate matching for this type of direct giving to a charity. With a simple e-mail to your human resources department you can **DOUBLE** your gift through corporate matching programs. Find out if your company matches here! <https://doublethedonation.com/giving-tuesday/>. Click here to donate online: http://peckslip.3dcartstores.com/BRIDGE-THE-GAP-2016-17-DONATION_p_12.html. **Questions** about the drive? Please contact Megan Malvern at Meganmalvern@gmail.com.

- **Peck Slip's Annual Toy Drive** to benefit PS.209 was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who donated toys for the families of PS.209, and to Cari Gelber for organizing the effort! We were able to donate 8 carloads of toys!
- **Amazing Amazon Deals!** Remember to use the Amazon Peck Slip link when you are shopping for your last minute holiday gifts! https://www.amazon.com/?&_encoding=UTF8&tag=peckslip-20&linkCode=ur2&linkId=17ca3645e42cf17554bf2e8dec7c141e&camp=1789&creative=9325

Upcoming Community Events:

- **Save the Date!** Clara Hemphill, co-author *New York City's Best Public PreK and Elementary Schools: A Parents' Guide* will be hosting an event at The New School on January 11th from 9:30am-11:30am to help guide parents through the pre-kindergarten and kindergarten application process. The event is free, or \$30 if you would like a copy of their new book. Either way, you need to register for the event here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pre-k-kindergarten-admissions-tickets-30045944228>. A 1-hour presentation will be followed by Q & A. Children are welcome.

This week's excerpt from the Family Handbook:

Early Pick Up

- Unless there is an emergency students are expected to attend school until dismissal.
- Because early pick up is so disruptive, we ask that you refrain from doing so unless it is absolutely necessary. Every minute of the day counts, and we must minimize disruptions.
- If you must pick your child up early, please sign in and come to the office. We will call your child's classroom, and s/he will meet you in the office. You must sign your child out.
- **Students who need to leave school early must be picked up by 2:20 PM.** Otherwise you will need to wait until regular dismissal at 2:40 PM. We will not call classrooms during this time with dismissal information. Thank you for your cooperation!!

Important Upcoming Dates:

w/o 12/19		
Monday, 12/19	Auction Committee Meeting	8:30am in the Library
Wednesday, 12/21	Maggie's Math Club for Math Haters	8:30am in Room 226. Signup here: http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0445adaf22aaff2-maggies1
Thursday, 12/22	Family Visit - PK	8:20am-8:50am in your child's classroom

Thursday, 12/22	Family Visit – 4th Grade – new time and place!	9:00am-10:00 in the cafeteria.
Friday, 12/23	Family Friday - 2nd Grade	8:45am in your child's classroom
w/o 12/26		
Monday 12/26 – Monday, 1/2	School Closed	Winter Recess
Tuesday, 1/3	Back to School	First day back after Winter break.