



The Barnard PTA Newsletter

Dear Parents,

This year at Barnard school I am implementing a new program focused around reading called “**B-FRAP**” –**Barnard Families Read Aloud Program**. Parents are invited to come in on the day that their child goes to library and/or any Monday through Thursday to read a book to a class of children in the Barnard Library. So far over 80 parents have committed to being a part of this program. The joy that children feel when their parent is an active participant in their education is indescribable and forever memorable for your child.

Here are some of our objectives.

Objectives for Children



- Increase interest in and affection for books
- Increase vocabulary
- Increase attention span
- Increase background knowledge
- Expose children to greater expressive communication

Objectives for Families



- Increase parent/adult time engaged with their children around books
- Increase positive verbal interactions with children – talking-as-family centered activity
- Reading will become part of everyday family routines
- Introduce families to the fun and entertainment in books

Thank you for supporting and participating in this program!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lambert, Principal

Support the PTA!

Join the PTA, sign up for events and make a donation (via PayPal or credit card), on our new web site: www.barnardpta.org. For membership information, please contact: Liz Smith (liz531@aol.com or 917/553-7327) OR Jennie McFarland (jennie.mcfarland@verizon.net or 914/576-8258).

FALL 2011/ WINTER 2012 ISSUE

Editor: Lara Markenson

Upcoming Events & Dates to Remember:

November 7: PTA Meeting, 9 a.m. in the library

November 8: Election Day Bake Sale in the lobby

November 14-18: Book Fair @ Gym

November 15-16: Photo Day

November 29: PTA Speaker, Lydia Soifer, Director of The Soifer Center, a multi-disciplinary child development center

December 5: PTA Meeting, 7:30 pm in the library

December 16: Staff Holiday Breakfast, 9 am in the Teacher’s Lounge

January 9, PTA Meeting, 7:30pm in the library

January 13: Sports Night, 6:30 pm in the gym

You can sign up with the School District to get Home Access, via the internet, for important classroom/curriculum information. Call 914/567-4300 to make an appointment to sign up, if you are interested.

THANK YOU BARNARD MOM

Erika Cohen:



With the non-bussed student population on the rise at Barnard, parents are feeling the congestion when walking to and from their cars each day. There is concern about safety as parents walk their children to and from school along Barnard Road. One mom is taking action to try and improve this situation! Erika Cohen has met with the City Of New Rochelle Traffic Engineer and will be discussing this with the Assistant Superintendent of Safety for New Rochelle. THANK YOU Erika for keeping our kids safety a top priority! Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks/months, as Erika learns more...

NEWS FROM THE PTA

FROM THE TREASURER:

We are proud to say, thanks to the help of Barnard families, that the PTA currently has a very healthy bank account! In the next year or two, we would like to start thinking about how we can spend some of the money we have raised on a special project here at Barnard. As some of you may know, about 3 years ago, the PTA used some of its funds to build the new playground in the back of the school. We'd love to find a new project to get behind and would welcome discussion about this at our upcoming PTA meetings! Please join us!

In addition, it's important to know that the PTA proudly supports the \$20/child that goes towards class trips regardless of whether the child is a PTA Member or not and offers an after school program to 1st and 2nd graders. The PTA also helps support Nutrition Week, Cultural Events, Amy's Greenhouse, Speakers, Author Week, Field Day and many other great activities at Barnard.

While we do have funds in our account, we are always looking for ways to help fundraise so that we can continue to support our great school. Fundraisers

include: the Fall Fundraiser, Target & Stop & Shop Programs, Book Fair and other events. We are always looking for new ideas of ways to raise money.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact Shanna Leuchter at shannaleuchter@hotmail.com.



FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON:

Our Barnard PTA is working hard to register our members for this school year. Within the first month and a half of school we've registered 260 members. Included in our membership registration roster, we currently have 28 staff members. We are continually working to increase our membership to reach our goal of 320 members for this school year. All members have received their new PTA cards.

We are proud to have 28 PTA memberships so far that are being donated at no cost to families who may not otherwise be able to participate in PTA membership. Please contact Principal Lambert if you would like to take advantage of the available free PTA memberships.

While we are encouraged by the excellent start in PTA membership, we still need more members! We hope to achieve 100% participation this year. The PTA assists in funding field trips, family activities and other enhancements in our children's educational experience. A significant perk to your membership is the discount you receive on any PTA sponsored event or After School Activity.

Membership forms are available in the Barnard office or through our PTA Membership Chair, Mara Roberge (mararoberge@hotmail.com/954-560-6439).

**PTA Every child. One voice.
Add your voice! Support the PTA!**

More From the PTA....

- ◆ Missed a PTA meeting? No problem - just go to our website www.barnardpta.org to see our meeting minutes. Secretary Sara Cremins takes our minutes and posts them on our website each month.
- ◆ Election Day Bake Sale! Please help support Barnard School and the Community and bake or donate for this PTA sponsored event. Last year we made \$800 and many poll workers and neighbors were very happy with all our tasty treats. Plan to bring your baked items on Monday, Nov. 7th or on the 8th (Election Day). We will be there from 6am - 3pm. Volunteers (with kids!) welcome!!
- ◆ PTA Meeting - NEW this month! A daytime PTA meeting — 9am in Library on Monday, Nov. 7th — will have coffee & refreshments and a short meeting and welcome from Mrs. Lambert.
- ◆ On November 29th, the PTA meeting will feature a speaker, Lydia Soifer, the Director of the Soifer Center, at 7:30 pm in the school auditorium. She will be talking about language development followed by Q&A. Visit: <http://www.soifercenter.com/overview/who-we-are/director-and-founder.html> to learn more about the speaker. JOIN US!

BARNARD SCHOOL EVENTS 2011-2012

DATE	DAY	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
2011				
November 1	Tues	Afterschool Program Begins (Grade 1-2)	3:15-4:15pm	
November 7	Mon	PTA Meeting/Social/Coffee	9am	Library
November 8	Tues	Election Day Bake Sale-Schools Closed	6am-3pm	Lobby
November 14-18	Mon-Thur	Book Fair	All day	Gymnasium
November 15-16	Tue-Wed	Photo Days		
November 29	Tues	PTA Speaker: Lydia Soifer	7:30pm	Auditorium
December 5	Mon	PTA Meeting	7:30pm	Library
December 16	Fri	Staff Holiday Breakfast	9am	Teacher's Lounge
2012				
January 9	Mon	PTA Meeting	7:30pm	Library
January 13	Fri	Sports Night	6:30pm	Gymnasium
February 6	Mon	PTA Meeting	7:30pm	Library
February 10	Fri	Valentine's Day Bingo	6:30pm	Auditorium
March 5	Mon	PTA Meeting	7:30pm	Library
March 12-16	Mon-Fri	Nutrition Week		
March 14	Wed	Staff Appreciation Lunch: Half Day School	12pm	Gymnasium
March 15	Thur	PTA Guest Speaker	7:30pm	Auditorium
April 2	Mon	PTA Meeting	7:30pm	Library
April 21	Sat	International Dinner	6:30pm	Gymnasium
May 5	Sat	Mother's Day Plant Sale	12noon	Amy's Greenhouse
May 7	Mon	PTA Meeting	7:30pm	Library
May 21-25	Mon-Fri	School Spirit Week		
May 23	Wed	Pre-K Field Day		Field
May 24	Thurs	Grades K-2 Field Day		Field
June 4	Mon	PTA Meeting	7:30pm	Library
June 9	Sat	Carnival	12-4pm	School Yard
June 15	Fri	Grade 2 Stepping Up Day	11:30am	Auditorium/Gym
June 22	Fri	Last day of School		