



PTA Executive Board

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Karen Hoffman
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Treasurer

School Schedule

Regular Session -
8:30 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
Single Session -
8:15 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.
Delayed Opening -
9:50 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
Lunch -
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

School Information

Absence Line: 709-6748
Nurse Damm: 709-8030

Lunch Tickets are sold
every Wednesday

Weekly -5 tkts/\$11.00
Bi-Weekly -10 tkts/\$22.00
Monthly-20 tkts/\$44.00

Principal's News

Dear Parents/Guardians:

It is hard to believe that our first month of school has passed! Along with our faculty, I enjoyed meeting and talking with so many of you on the first day of school and at Back-to-School Night. I am sure that you will join me in thanking our teachers for rolling out the welcome mat to share with you many of the interesting endeavors your child(ren) will be engaged in this school year. We all appreciate the events that the PTA has sponsored, including the Gardening Club Planting, Welcome Coffee, the Book Fair Picture Day and the Class Parents-Teacher Tea.

As I mentioned at Back-to-School Night, communicating with parents is a priority for our administration and staff. Please join me on October 20st from 9:00 - 9:45 a.m. for an "Open Agenda Principal's Meeting for Parents." This designated time is for parents to bring forward any ideas or questions they may have. In addition, please ensure that you are signed up to receive E-mails from our school and district by visiting the district's website and following the "Go-Green" directions. Please send me an email at seeley@cranfordschools.org if you experience any problems.

You can expect again this year that our staff will be engaged in differentiated instruction to personalize learning. Our staff is committed to making the learning experience meaningful and challenging to the multiple abilities in each of their classrooms. This month, our fifth graders will each complete a Kaleidoscope Learning Profile through which they will come to understand more about their own personal learning styles. Mr. Steve Barclay, an expert in the field, will be here to explain more about learning styles and study habits to them during an assembly program on October 6th. Fifth grade parents are encouraged to attend

an evening workshop regarding their children's learning styles on October 5th at 7PM in the OAS library.

October has become Cranford's month of Kindness...Friendship, Respect and Justice. We will also engage in Violence Prevention activities as mandated by the state. This time is designed to serve as a spring board for a **year** filled with respect and appreciation for one another and our differences. Our students will participate in a Kindness Assembly with their class. I will also visit their classes to read aloud a story about kindness. During the third week of October, our students and staff will wear buttons that were designed by a student in their grade level that they will replicate. We challenge you to join our efforts as we teach our children about kindness from our words and through our actions. Simply visit www.actsofkindness.org for ideas to get started and/or be creative with your own family activities to "pay it forward." Students are encouraged to write a brief summary of how their family participated and send it to the office to be included in our weekly announcements, PTA newsletter or website.

Once again, I want to remind grade 5 parents to attend a workshop on students' learning styles given by Mr. Steve Barkley, an expert in the field, on Wednesday, October 5th, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at OAS. Parents will learn strategies for helping make study and homework time meaningful and more enjoyable.

I look forward to seeing you at our Halloween Parade, if not sooner. Happy fall!

Fondly,
Dineen Seeley

LAS Classroom Book Drive

As you begin your fall cleaning, please keep our classroom libraries in mind. We are especially interested in non-fiction, historical fiction, science fiction and poetry books that are age-appropriate.



From the PTA President...

Dear Parents,



Upcoming Events

OCTOBER 2011

- ◆ Yankee Candle Sale Begins 10/3
- ◆ Walk to School Day 10/5
- ◆ Haunted House Planning Meeting 10/5
- ◆ Gr. 5 Parents Learning Styles Wksp @ OAS, 7PM 10/5
- ◆ Bike Rodeo 10/7
- ◆ Single Session Day 8:15-12:25 10/10
- ◆ Philly Pretzel Sale 10/10
- ◆ Bike Rodeo Rain Date 10/11
- ◆ Principal's Open Agenda Mtng., 9AM 10/20
- ◆ Ladies Night Out 10/20
- ◆ Pumpkin Painting 10/21
- ◆ Yankee Candle Sale Ends 10/21
- ◆ Family Friendly Haunted House 10/27-10/28
- ◆ Halloween Parade and Assembly 10/31

We have many exciting events coming up in October for our students. We'll kick off the month on October 5th, which is International Walk to School Day. We encourage all students to participate by either walking or riding their bikes to school. This not only promotes physical activity but demonstrates our support for the environment. The PTA will be serving all students a small breakfast type snack and drink outside the 3rd/5th and 4th grade doors as our students arrive to school. The 4th Grade Bike Rodeo is rescheduled for October 7th - think Sun!! Mom's Night Out will be held on Thursday, October 20th at an off-site location. This is always an enjoyable night out! Keep your eyes open for the flyer/e-mail being sent home next week. On October 21st, the PTA will host our annual Pumpkin Painting, which takes place after school in the gym. Flyers will be sent home early next week. Due to limited space and the need to pre-order the pumpkins, we will adhere to the due date for returning forms on or before October 17th! It is also time to begin working on our Family Friendly Haunted House!! This year our Haunted House will take place on Thursday, October 27th and Friday, October 28th from 7-9 pm at Livingston Avenue School. Our Annual Halloween Parade will begin at 1:00 pm on October 31st!

All of our events can use more parent volunteers to help out. Please be on the lookout on the bottom of all forms coming or e-mailed home for the Chairpersons' phone number to contact to help out.

Information was sent home with all students for our Yankee Candle Fundraiser this week. Please take a look and have order forms returned to the school by October 21st. On Monday, October 10th we will hold our first Philly Pretzel Sale at dismissal. Pretzels cost \$1.00 each.

As always, feel free to reach out to any of the Board Members with questions/concerns you may have. We have enjoyed a remarkable start to the school year, thanks in large part to our parents and guardians who have volunteered. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Susan Fichiera
President

**November Newsletter Information
Deadline is October 17th!!**

Send to Maria Baumann
at baumann715@hotmail.com



International Walk-to-School Day

National Walk/Ride to School Day is Wednesday, October 5th. Round up the neighborhood kids and join in a walking group to school! Get some exercise, improve air quality, make signs to carry along the way, and have fun! All of our students that walk to school will be given a juice and muffin when they arrive. If you have special allergy concerns or are interested in volunteering for this fun even, contact **Danielle DeCostello** Decodmarie82@yahoo.com.



Kidstuff & Entertainment Books

Walnut Avenue School is offering KidStuff Books for purchase. A copy of this year's book is available to look through in the LAS Main Office, where you can find additional order forms as well. If you are interested, please fill out the order form and return it to the LAS PTA Box in the Main Office. Please contact Karen Hoffman at 653-1129 with any questions.

Ladies Night Out!

Save the date Ladies! Mom's Night Out is Thursday Oct. 20th from 7-10 p.m. at Aliperti's Restaurant in Clark. The theme is "Bunko Game Night." A fun way to meet, mingle, win moolah and more! BPS, LAS and WAS Ladies . . . Don't miss out on the fun! Advance reservations will be required. A flyer will be sent home soon with details! Questions? Please contact Lauren Whitmore at flynnmnstr@msn.com or Vicki Spurr at spurr@comcast.net or Amy Burns at aburns125@vwrizon.net.

Year Book Photos Wanted

Calling All Photographers!

Production is already underway for 2011-2012 Yearbook, but we need your help filling it with live-action shots of the children during their activities starting with pictures from "The First Day." You can easily upload pictures yourself to the LAS School Annual web site. Just follow these simple steps:

- Go to: <https://images.schoolannualonline.com/login>
- If it does not automatically log you into the site, enter username: 400114026 and password: LAS
- Browse to select the photo(s) you want to upload.
- Enter details about the photo and provide contact information in case the staff needs additional information.
- Click "Save Details."

It's that easy! Submit your photos today! Please contact the yearbook chair, Bettina Young, at bettvy@msn.com if you have any questions.

Basket Raffle *One Winner Takes All!!*

LAS's First Basket Raffle of the year will be hosted by the 5th grade and will have a **Fall Fun Theme**.

We are in need of donations from our 5th graders to make this raffle a huge success!!

Please donate one item you think would be fun for the "Fall." Any fun fall items you are willing to donate are greatly appreciated. Monetary gifts or Gift Cards of any size are also greatly appreciated; please drop off your donation or envelope, marked Basket Raffle, in the PTA box.

All LAS students are then asked to sell six raffle tickets to family and friends at \$1 each. The drawing will be held on **November 12th** with one lucky winner. Good Luck! Contact Maria Baumann, baumann715@hotmail.com or Amy Burns BurnsAmy@orange.k12.nj.us, chairs, with any questions.



BIKE RODEO RESCHEDULED

Due to a scheduling conflict, the Bike Rodeo has been rescheduled for **Friday, October 7th**. Remember your helmet, license and lock. Rain date is Tuesday, October 11th.



Box Tops for Education



New Box Top Contest!!!

Box Tops for Education make it easy to help our school earn extra cash! Yes, cash! You can make a difference every time you go to the grocery store. You can find Box Tops on hundreds of your favorite products. Each coupon is worth \$.10 for our school. Simply clip them and send them to school. To help the children get excited about sending in Box Tops, we will be holding a new contest this year!

Send in 1000 Box Tops and your class will win a Popsicle Party!! Each class has a chance to win separately!

PLUS, when your class reaches 15000 Box Tops, you'll get a Philly Pretzel Party,

AND THAT'S NOT ALL, if your class sends in 2000 Box Tops, you'll get a PIZZA PARTY!

Please refer to the flyer that came home in your child's folder for a full list of Box Top products, details about the program and more about the contest!

Make sure your class is written on the envelope with the Box Tops!!!

Any questions, contact Terri Hecht 908-653-0405 or tphecht@verizon.net, LAS Box Tops for Education Coordinator

PTC Annual Holiday Wreath Sale



The Cranford Parent Teacher Council's Annual Wreath Sale gets underway soon. Selling for \$25 per wreath, 100% of proceeds raised by the PTC provide Cranford High School Seniors showing a greater financial need with College Scholarships. Please support this great effort! A flyer will be distributed shortly with all the details. Orders are due by November 15th and wreath pick-up is scheduled for Tuesday, November 29th.



IT'S NOT TO EARLY TO START SHOPPING . . .

FOR THE HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE!

We are starting to prepare and we are counting on your dedication and generosity to make this fundraiser a huge success! We are asking for 20 to 30 of each item donated --be it store bought or (love!) hand crafted. Don't feel like shopping or crafting? Monetary contributions are greatly needed and appreciated and we will shop for you! Thank you for your help with this fun and festive event!

Questions? Please contact:

Gretchen O'Shea at goshea514@gmail.com OR
 Sheila Scheurer at fitzgnp@hotmail.com OR
 Vicki Spurr at spurr@comcast.net OR
 Maura McGovern at tim.maura.mcgovern@verizon.net (BPS rep.)

Recess Games Wanted

Cleaning out your closets? Donate unwanted indoor and outdoor games for recess fun! Board games, card games, rubber balls, and footballs are examples of items that would get good use during recess.

Pretzel Sale Fund Raiser!!



Mark your calendars! We will have our first Pretzel sale on Monday, October 10th at dismissal. These tasty treats will be available to purchase for just \$1 at the 3rd/5th and 4th grade exits. Volunteers needed! If you are available to help, please contact Jen Hunt at Jennyfur.Hunt@verizon.net

Haunted House Planning Meeting

PARENTS, WE NEED
VOLUNTEERS!

Please come to the Haunted House planning meeting on Tuesday, October 5th at 1:30 pm or 6:30 pm in the LAS gym. There will be a short meeting and a tour of the planned rooms and activities. All ideas are welcomed! If you have any questions or ideas, please contact Aileen Korzeneski at abkorz@verizon.net.

Your help is needed to make this event a success!

SHOP TARGET and earn money for LAS! Designate LAS on your Target card and LAS will receive 1% of your purchases to benefit our students.

OAS 8th Grade Clothing Drive

Date: Saturday,
October, 15, 2011
Time: 8:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Place: Orange Avenue School
Parking Lot

With the changing seasons comes closet cleanout time. Donate your unwanted clothes, household linens and stuffed animals. See the recently distributed flyer for additional details.

PUMPKIN PAINTING!!

LAS' Annual Pumpkin Painting will be held on Friday, October 21 after school in the gym. Flyers will be sent home shortly. Due to limited space and the need to preorder the pumpkins, no forms will be accepted after October 17th!!



Family Friendly Haunted House

LAS will host its 3rd Annual Family Friendly Haunted House Fundraiser on October 27th and 28th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The event is geared for K through 5th graders; all are welcome. Volunteers are needed to help run haunted rooms, usher the hallways, and for setup/cleanup. Donations of decorations and props are also needed. Please help out to make this event a success!! Any help and ideas are welcomed!



YANKEE CANDLE SALE!!

The LAS Annual Yankee Candle Sale runs from October 3rd through the 21st. This is a wonderful fundraiser and a great way to shop for the holidays!! Sales packets have already been sent home. Please remember to make checks payable to LAS-PTA. Thank you in advance for your support and feel free to contact Christine Newport at 653-1990 if you have any questions.

Thank you...

- * Thanks to the PTA Executive Board and all the baker's who brought goodies for our "Welcome Back" tea -- a record number of parents joined us this year and enjoyed the delicious treats.
- * Thank you to Danielle DeCostello, our Garden Committee chairperson, for beautifying our school grounds the week before school started!
- * Our Fall Book Fair was a huge success thanks to our knowledgeable Committee Chairperson, Lorraine Schubert!! Thanks for handling this monumental task for us and coordinating everything from start to finish. Our students had fun purchasing our books!
- * Thanks to Aileen Korzeneski for organizing, setting up and cleaning up our Hospitality Table at Back to School Night. Everything was delicious!!! Thanks also to Vicki Spurr, who treated all who attended B2SN with "homemade" Market Day Cookies that she baked all day in order to give our parents a sample of the quality of the Market Day Food Fundraiser.
- * Our Class Mom Tea went off wonderfully thanks to Tracy Azklar, our Corresponding Secretary, who provided our Year & Class Moms with valuable information for the coming year at LAS.
- * Thanks again to our Executive Board Members who helped out on Class Picture Day and made everything run smoothly!
- * A BIG shout out to Terri Hecht, 4th Grade Bike Rodeo Chairperson, for all the time you spent on the 4th Grade Bike Rodeo. It has not gone unnoticed!!! Thanks for being so organized and communicating so well to all the participants' parents at the last minute regarding the need to cancel this event due to the bad weather!!