

I am proud to share with you that Ms. Colosimo was nominated and inducted into the David Brearley High School Hall of Fame. Honorees have distinguished themselves in their chosen field, as well as in their community and through humanitarian activities. We all know that Ms. Colosimo shines in each of these categories and is the ideal candidate for this distinguished award.

Congratulations Ms. Colosimo!

If dropping off in the front of the school or in the staff parking lot, please be reminded of the following:

Kiss-n-Go Lane

- Pull up as far into the lane as you safely can
- Students may **only** exit car on passenger side
- Parents must stay in car
- Students must be prepared to exit the car before you get to the school (books, instruments and backpacks must be ready to go and not in the trunk)
- Drivers must be ready to move on as soon as students leave the car
- Please do not pass waiting cars and cut to the front of the Kiss-n-Go lane
- Please carefully re-enter traffic and use a turn signal

This is a very special school, where staff, students, and parents join together to maximize student achievement and to promote learning enrichment. Whether you are new to the community or an established member, you play an important role in the vitality of our school! Kudos to all that worked to make Diversity Day a success and we are proud that Diversity Day was covered by the local news. We truly appreciate everyone's support and flexibility last Friday. A special thank you goes to the OAS Enrichment Team (Ms. Brown, Ms. Shupp and Ms. Shriner) for working so closely with administration to make this day so memorable. The eighth grade team has been supportive and doing lessons in the classroom to support this theme. A truly special thank you also goes out to the presenters who spent the day sharing their experiences with our eighth grade students. Here is the link to the story:

http://www.nj.com/cranford/index.ssf/2012/01/oas_students_get_a_cultural_da.html

The Book of the Month for February is entitled *Hooway for Wodney Wat*. Please see the letter to parents sent on February 1, 2012.

This school is undoubtedly a special place. As I shared last year at this time, wherever I go, I always seem to run into someone who either attended Orange Avenue School or knows someone whose neighbor went to Orange Avenue School and so on. It is always great fun to listen to these alumni reminisce about their days at OAS, but what I find most remarkable is that inevitably, they all seem to describe Orange Avenue School in the same way -- as having some sort of magic. I do agree that Orange Avenue School does have an extraordinary mystical charm that seems to get deep inside our collective bones, and, from what I've gathered, may even dazzle us for generations to come.

We are coming upon the 50th anniversary of the doors opening to Orange Avenue School. We welcome community members to share stories with us or make suggestions for how to celebrate this milestone in Cranford history. Well, along with this magic, we also have great people. All of us in this community are the ones who carry out the vision, values, and ideals that we believe to be important for a community to thrive.