

The Village School Voice!

April - May 2013 Village School Parent-School Association News

IMPORTANT DATES

April 1	School In Session
April 9	PSA Meeting
April 10-12	NJ Pass Test 2 nd Grade
April 15-17	NJ Pass Makeup
April 17	PSA Picture Day
April 19	3 rd Grade Show
April 22-26	Earth Week
April 23	Incoming 4 th Grade Student Orientation
May 3	Grade 1 Show
May 7	Incoming 4 th Grade Parent Orientation
May 7	Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
May 9-10	Plant Sale
May 13-16	NJ ASK Grade 3 Testing
May 14	PSA Meeting
May 17	CARNIVAL
May 20-23	NJ ASK Makeup
May 21	Kindergarten Orientation 9:30-10:30 A.M
May 24	Half Day
May 27	No School – Memorial Day
May 31	CARNIVAL RAIN DATE

A Message From The Principal – Mr. Brian Schillaci

It is a wonderful feeling to be writing this Springtime edition of my Village School newsletter article! Although we are cruising towards the final marking period of the school year, there is still a lot going on at Village. Field trips are being finalized, plans are being put in place to get our rain gardens rolling again, and our PSA is preparing another fantastic Carnival. Our 2nd graders will be taking the NJPASS from

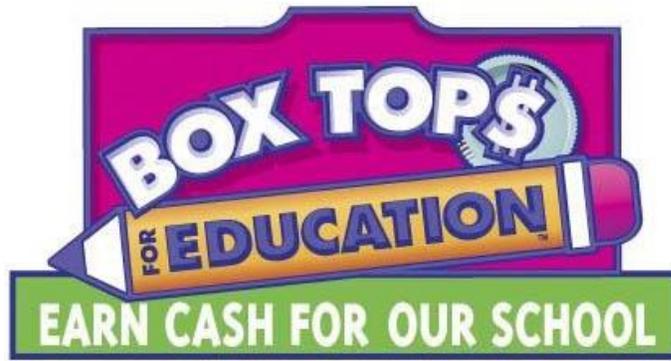
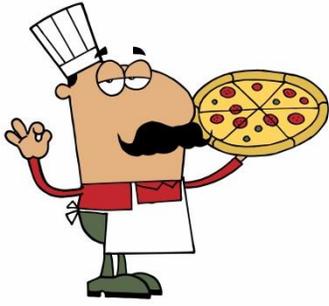
April 10th-12th, giving them their first standardized test experience. Our 3rd graders have the NJASK coming up the week of May 13th. It is important the children are well rested and have a good breakfast, prior to coming to school each day of testing. We are always proud of how well our students perform on these assessments. We are heading into the final few months of the school year, but the learning and fun is far from over!

Bus safety and behavior is extremely important to all schools. We understand the bus is typically a less structured environment for the children. With that said, we all know how dangerous things can be if there are distractions while driving. It is important to continue to reinforce with your children how important it is to follow all bus rules, in order to keep everyone safe. The school bus is an extension of the school. Therefore, we maintain the same expectations for how our students handle themselves when riding the bus. We want all of our children to have a wonderful experience at Village School from the time they are picked up in the morning to the time they are dropped off in the afternoon. To this end, all of our students will be engaged in assemblies during the beginning of April to discuss safety and behavior on the buses. We thank our staff, parents, transportation director, and the Holmdel Police Department for partnering with us in this effort.

Some other exciting things going on at Village School include our grade level shows. Our 2nd graders did an amazing job performing for their peers and families. Our 3rd graders will have that same opportunity to perform for their families April 19th. Our 1st graders will be showing off their talents to families on May 3rd. Our staff and students have been working hard to prepare a wonderful show for all. We will also have several activities taking place during the week of April 22nd for our celebration of Earth Week. The “Go Green Committee” of the PSA is working hand in hand with us to bring the children a number of wonderful experiences in appreciation of our planet.

As always, thank you for your continued support as we work together to benefit the children at Village School. Best wishes for a great start to the Spring season!





What's the latest chatter about the **Box Tops Pizza Pajama Party** contest?

Congrats to the winners!

Great job, **Mrs. Campbell's AM class** for winning the K-AM contest!

Hooray for **Mrs. MacFarlane's class** for finishing in first place for First Grade!

Way to go! **Miss Devaney's PM class** for taking the K-PM race!

Great job, **Mrs. Rausch's class** for winning the Second Grade race!

Kudos to **Mrs. Klinger's class** for triumphing in the Third Grade contest!

A big "Thank you so much!" to everyone for participating and helping to raise money for Village School!

We're still collecting Box Tops for the rest of the year, so if you have more, they're still worth **10¢** a piece for Village School! (although the polar bears won't blame you if you hang on to your Box Tops for next year... as long as they're ones that won't expire in 2013.)



VILLAGE IDOL A MAJOR SUCCESS!!!!

The date, February 22, 2013. The time, 5:00 PM... or 7 P.M. if that's the show you went to see. The place, Village School. The event, VILLAGE IDOL. The staff of village school came together with the PSA in order to raise over \$10,000 for Hurricane Sandy relief. The teachers had practiced for weeks to get their routines just right and it showed. The audience responded with thunderous applause and laughter as each act completed their performance. From Taylor Swift, to Gangnam style, to the Blues Brothers, this show had it all. As if the performances weren't enough, the witty commentary by the panel of judges added to the excitement of the night. As each show ended the front of the stage was swarmed by children dancing and cheering for their teachers. It was an amazing sight to witness. One of the things that might have gone unnoticed though was that while all the action was happening on stage, kindergarten teacher Kara Devaney was seen running around off stage helping to making sure the production ran as smoothly as possible. When asked for her feelings on the night she said, "Village Idol was a tremendous victory for us here at Village School. The teachers, staff and PSA worked so hard to make sure the show was enjoyable for all of our families. We would like to dedicate all of our hard work and success to our neighboring schools devastated by Hurricane Sandy." PSA President Dina D'Ambrosi said of the night, "What made this night so special was how the teachers, staff, and parents all came together for such a great cause".



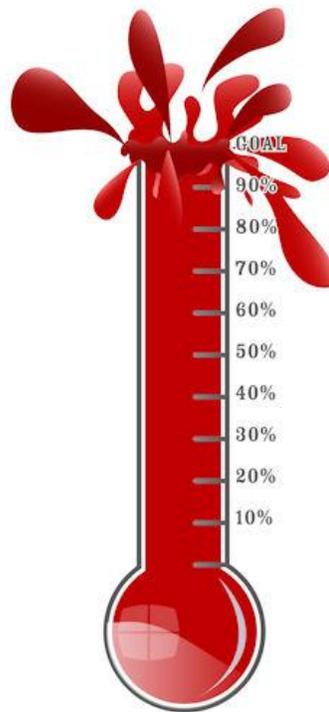
THE RESULTS ARE IN

The PSA has officially closed the 2012-2013 Membership Drive and the results are record breaking.

Family/Parent membership is at an all time high of 76%.

Teacher membership is a perfect 100%.

The PSA would like to thank all our members for your continued support.



Thank You!

BINGO

Thanks to all who came out for our **SOLD OUT** Family Fun Bingo nights! Hope you all had as much fun as we did! See you next year if not **B4!!**



President's Report

It is hard to believe that in a short time we will be enjoying the sunshine daydream days of summer. But, before you start going where the wind blows be sure not to miss the many fun events the PSA and Village School has lined up. Check out this edition of our newsletter to keep updated on dates to mark on your calendar.

April is a very important month for PSA in that we are holding our Executive Board elections at our next PSA meeting on Tuesday, April 9th. Come out to cast your vote. It is with much regret and excitement that I'll have to say goodbye to an amazing group of dedicated Executive Board volunteers while looking forward to working with a new board.

The PSA also has many opportunities for parents who want to get involved. Here are the **Appointed Board Committees** that are in need of a chairperson for the 2013/2014 school year:

- **Historian:**
 - o Scheduling photographers
 - o Coordinating Spring pictures
 - o Sending communications to PSA members about submitting pictures
 - o Maintaining a relationship with the yearbook printing company
 - o Coordinating between printing company and historian team
- **Hospitality:**
 - o Setting up breakfast for the PSA meetings
 - o Assisting setup with school events
- **Publicity:**
 - o Resetting the information on our school sign
 - o Maintaining a relationship with local publications
 - o Submitting articles from Village School and PSA initiatives in local publications
- **After School Activities:**
 - o Negotiating with program providers
 - o Scheduling the programs and space in school for the classes
 - o Coordinating with Main Office
- **Special Events:**
 - o Determining what events should be offered
 - o Scheduling fun family events
 - o Delegating event responsibilities to committee members

If you are interested in any of these volunteer positions, I welcome you to contact me at PSAPresident@live.com.

In the meantime, enjoy the last quarter of this school year!

Best Wishes,

Dina D'Ambrosi
PSA President
Village School



Market Day.



Thanks to all who have ordered!
Next grocery orders are due April
19th for delivery on April 25th.

Place your order at
WWW.MARKETDAY.COM.

Use Village School code: 29708.
New customers use promo code
NEWFIVE for \$5 off your first
order.

Enjoy!!

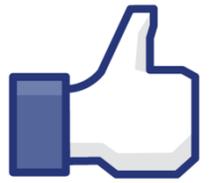
CARNIVAL

Save the Date!!
May 17th the
Carnival is coming
to town!
Presale ticket
packages coming
soon!!





facebook



**Thanks To Your Support The Village School PSA Facebook Page
Now Has Over 200 Followers**

**If You're Not Following Us Click The Below Link So You Can Stay
Up To Date With The Most Current Information**

[VILLAGE SCHOOL PSA FACEBOOK](#)

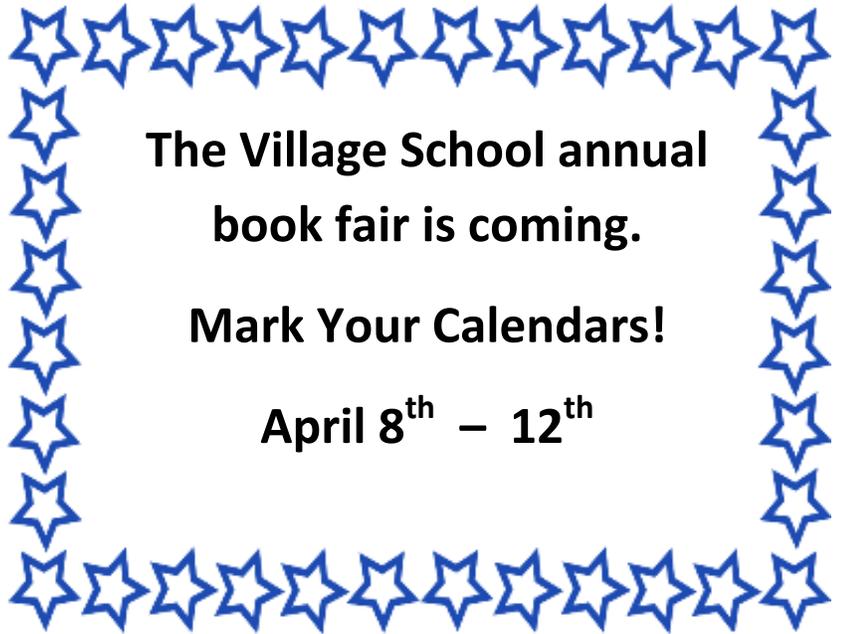


 **Just a
Reminder**

April 18th

May 16th

Thank you to these lovely ladies for helping out with the Kindergarten Registration. Gudron Ronan, Debbie Brew, Darlene Kiss, Denise Kline, Emily Mendini, Amy Cleary, Traci Price, Melanie Besculides, Monica Guarnaccia, Nicole Salzano and a special thank you to Linda Fernand for helping out and providing the coffee, tea and snacks for the families. This was a great way to show the incoming Kindergarten parents that we are a school that works together. Thank you again ladies. – Darlene Kiss



The Village School annual
book fair is coming.

Mark Your Calendars!

April 8th – 12th

THE BOOK FAIR IS COMING!



**BE A READING
HERO!**



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Congratulations to Elizabeth
Urbanski Giller and Sandra Szilasi
the winners of the PSA attendance
raffles at the February and March
PSA meetings respectively.



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ANNUAL PLANT & GIFT SALE



The Village School Annual Plant & Gift Sale is fast approaching.

On May 9th and 10th our children will have the opportunity to buy plants and small gifts for their parents and grandparents. Be on the lookout for more details closer to the sale dates.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR PSA EXECUTIVE BOARD

The PSA Executive Board is made up of parents just like you and me. This section of the newsletter is dedicated to learn more about the people that run the PSA. For this month two people were interviewed, Suzanne Gestrich and Purvi Shah. Below is the result of those interviews.

Good morning. Thank you both so much for taking the time to talk with me today.

Suzanne Gestrich: It's no problem.

Purvi Shah: I've been looking forward to this.

Really. Looking forward to it? That's flattering.

Purvi whispering to Suzanne: I don't think he got that I was being sarcastic.

Suzanne whispering to Purvi: Let's just let it go to give him a little happiness.

So can you both tell me what it is that you do for the PSA.

SG: I am the Recording Secretary. This is my second, and final, year in this position. Next year, another executive board alumna, Lynn Saporito, and I will be heading up two appointed board committees.

PS: I have been the PSA Treasurer for the past two years.

I think I speak for a lot of us when I say thank you for giving two years of your lives to these jobs. That leads me to my next question. Why do you volunteer?

PS: I know the clock is ticking on how long my girls will see me in school and want to run up TO me with arms wide open rather than run FROM me and hide. I want to take advantage of every minute! I also love being involved with such a dedicated group of parents and staff.

SG: There are lots of reasons. First, it's a constructive way to be a part of my son's life. Second, it's a learning opportunity for me. Each time I volunteer, I learn something that either helps me personally or helps me to help someone close to me. Third, I worked full time for 18 years and did not have many opportunities to give back. Now, I not only have the time, but also the skills and experience to actually make an impact.

I always get awesome answers when I ask that question and you two are no exception. With both of you leaving the executive board next year what will you miss most?

SG: I think I will miss the camaraderie of the team. Serving these past two years has been an honor and a pleasure. However, I am not going away. As I said before, next year I will continue to volunteer and lead two committees. And I will have the pleasure of working again with Lynn Saporito.

PS: I absolutely LOVE Village, the staff and the wonderful women I've been privileged to be on the board with, not to mention all the parents I've gotten to meet as I sit at the tables at the PSA events. I'll truly miss being a part of the magic here. But I really look forward to working with everyone through the coming years.

OK we covered the business end of the interview. Now let's get down to some personal info. We'll start simple. How many children do you have?

PS: I have three girls, two in third at Village and one in fourth at Indian Hill. Do husbands count?

SG: Only one, a son in the second grade.

What about pets. Do either of you have any? Before you ask Purvi, you cannot count your husband as a pet.

SG: Right now we only have a fish. Hmm that reminds me... maybe I should check that he/she is still with us... Seriously though, I had a dog for over 10 years (sigh) and expect that someday we will get another...

PS: I tried :-(Three fish later, we are currently petless.

Now that spring is here let's turn our attention to an important subject. Ice cream. What is your favorite flavor?

PS: Mmmm...tough one...Haagen Daaz or Breyers vanilla, but sometimes I live dangerously and go for mint chocolate chip or cookies and cream!

SG: I want to say chocolate but I am a chocolate snob so I think I need to be more specific ... an insanely dark, rich, decadent chocolate (preferably home made) ice cream.

Being as we're thinking about spring now. What are your plans for spring break?

SG: Spiderman on Broadway, Air and Space Museum in DC, and time spent with extended family.

PS: My plans are to NOT break, twist, snap or tear anything while we hit the slopes in Vermont!

Wow those both sound like an amazing week of fun. Being as I have no plans and you are both doing awesome stuff I'm going to hit you with a tough final question. If you could go back in time and give 1 piece of advice to your 20 year old self what would it be?

PS: Baby - 20's got nothin' on 40!!! And P.S. - those grunge overalls are NOT cool!

SG: That was a very long time ago... Maybe don't wait till 40 to have kids...

Those are great bits of advice. Thank you both for taking the time to speak with me and letting everybody at Village School learn more about you. Thank you both for two years of service and I will see you both at the next PSA meeting on April 9th.

Ms. Lynn, My mom wants to know how to get information about the PSA.



That's easy Dennis. All she has to do is go to this website.



But what if something new comes up?



That's no problem. The website is constantly being updated.

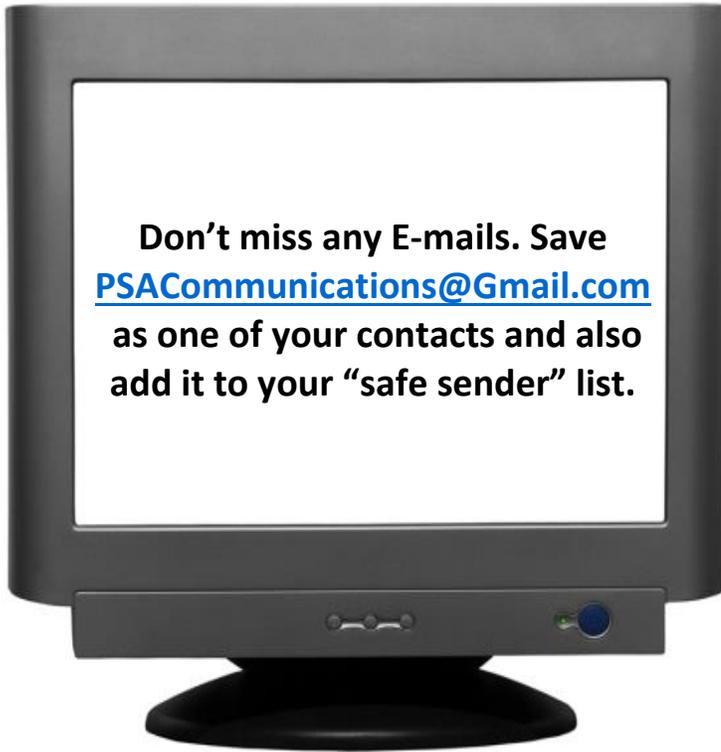


My mom also loves to go on Facebook.



That's great because we also have this Facebook page that your mom can "Like" .





Don't miss any E-mails. Save PSACommunications@Gmail.com as one of your contacts and also add it to your "safe sender" list.



Supply Box orders for the 2013-2014 school year will be E-mailed and posted online in May

Waste Free Wednesdays have been a huge success at Village School. On March 20th the children received a special treat when Leprechaun Sabrina visited and gave the children great tips on helping the environment.





Village School Celebrates the 44th Anniversary of Earth Day

April 22-30, 2013

All week long, a daily "green tip" will be read by a third grader during morning announcements.

Tuesday, April 23rd

Wear **Green** to kick off the Earth celebration activities!

Wednesday, April 24th

Super Waste-free Wednesday Challenge Day



We challenge ALL Village students to bring in as LITTLE garbage as possible! Students who bring lunch are asked to use earth-friendly materials such as: reusable containers, canteens, and cloth napkins.

**Please note that the cafeteria will be open for lunch as usual.*

Thursday, April 25th

"Art Goes **GREEN**" exhibit of Recycled Art projects during lunch



Friday, April 26th Arbor Day

In honor of Arbor Day, we will plant a tree to beautify the Village School grounds and help "**GREEN**" the environment.

A tree has been generously donated by the Monmouth County Shade Tree Commission.

Village School welcomes distinguished guests from the Monmouth County Department of Public Works.



Tuesday, April 30th

Project Impact presents "**The Magic of Energy: Going Green,**" an interactive assembly empowering kids on how to use energy wisely.

Any questions, please contact the Village "Go-Green" Committee at PSAGoGreen@Live.com.