

THE VILLAGE  
SCHOOL  
VOICE

JUNE 2014



June	
5 <sup>th</sup>	Kindergarten School Store Teachers Appreciation Luncheon
6 <sup>th</sup>	Half Day Field Day
10 <sup>th</sup>	PSA Breakfast
11 <sup>th</sup>	Kindergarten Orientation Barnes and Noble Day
13 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Social
18 <sup>th</sup>	Waste Free Wednesday
19 <sup>th</sup>	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL



# Mr. Brian Schillaci

With just four weeks to go we are closing in on the end of another amazing journey. We have achieved so much together throughout the course of the 2013-14 school year. The whole Village community has worked hard to help our children enjoy success. We should all be very proud of the wonderful school we have supported as a team!

When we look back over the course of the year, we often look for those great success stories. This year those success stories came out of our school community joining together for our school district and for so many others in great need. "Battle of the Faculties" was an unbelievable display of the district coming together to support all of our Holmdel students. And, in case you forgot, Village School is housing the trophy. ☺ Our PSA put together many family events that brought the school community together, and in turn, gave back so much to our children at Village School. Additionally, there were many outreach opportunities for those in great need from our "Giving Tree" to our "Second Grade Breakfast" to an amazing collaborative effort for "Village Idol". Thank you to everyone who had a hand in turning these experiences into some of our greatest successes as a school community.

With summer just around the corner it is important for everyone to relax and enjoy. But, with that said, the 2014-15 school year will be here sooner than you know it. Parents often ask what they can do to help their children continue the growth and success they have experienced during the school year. Reading is key for all children. Take the time to make reading part of a day at the beach or a piece of your family vacation. A child's love of reading will go a long way in helping them develop into life-long learners. Reading is addressed in every area of our curriculum, so working on various strategies with your child will benefit them as they move forward. Writing is also a major focus in all curriculum areas. Encouraging your children to express themselves through writing is a wonderful way to keep them fresh over the summer months. Keeping a journal, or writing letters/e-mails to a friend or family member, is a nice way to enhance their skills. Additionally, continued practice with math skills will make for a much smoother transition in September. We ask our students to use problem solving skills, in order to be strong mathematical thinkers. I encourage you to work with your children to gain a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts, which will help them prepare for the challenges ahead. Finally, the most important thing you can do as parents is simply be involved with your children. Whatever your kids are into this summer, make that a priority for yourselves as well. There is nothing more important than family spending time together. Laugh, relax, and enjoy!

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all who make Village School so special. Thank you to an amazing staff for their dedication to teaching our students. Thank you to the parents for all their support in working with us to do what is right for our kids. And, most importantly, thank you to the children for always putting their best foot forward in striving for success. Best wishes to our entire Village School family for a wonderful summer vacation!



# From The Assistant Principal - Mrs. Jessica Vierschilling

## Mrs. Vierschilling's Top Ten Ways to Exercise Your Brain While Having Fun This Summer!

We all know how important it is to keep children engaged in stimulating activities to avoid the "summer slide" that can occur when children's skills regress as a result of the long summer months. Keeping skills current, however, can be a lot of fun! Here is a list of some enjoyable activities you can consider doing with your child:

1. Peruse the pages of a wonderful book of recipes. Select a favorite to make, exploring the different measurement tools you'll need. For a challenge, see if your child can halve or double the recipe!
2. Keep a journal all summer long! Depending on the age, this can be in words or pictures. Every so often, invite your child to share an entry. Find elements of their writing to genuinely compliment!
3. Take out a map of New Jersey and have your child select a completely random town that you've never heard of to visit! Explore what it has to offer and figure out how you'll get there (heading north, south, east, west?).
4. If you have the occasion to celebrate at a special event, encourage your child to "cover it" newspaper style. Perhaps they can incorporate what they've learned in technology lessons to lay it out on the computer. They can have a lot of fun including additional newspaper features like advertisements, cartoons, or a crossword puzzle too!
5. Go on a nature walk to see how many different forms of wildlife you can discover. Predict what you think you'll see the most of, then create a tally chart to get an accurate count of what you really find!
6. Make a new friend and teach him or her what it means to be a bucket filler!
7. Set a realistic and specific physical fitness goal for yourself. Maybe you want to learn how to swim, ride a bike, improve in a sport, or hike longer than you ever had before!?!
8. Do an internet search (parent-supervised!) for "kitchen science experiments". You'll find a lot of interesting experiments that you can do using materials you likely already have in your home. Amaze your friends and family with your understanding of what happened and WHY!!!
9. While on the road, play this fun "license plate" game: look at the letters on a license plate, for example TRK; make a word that includes those letters, in that order. In this example you could come up with truck, or trunk, or even turnpike! Another great game is a memory game like "I packed in my trunk". Each person names something in ABC order, building on. So, person #1 might say, "I packed in my trunk an apple." Person #2 might say, "I packed in my trunk an apple and a banana." Continue all the way to Z if you can!
10. We know we will miss you this summer! If you are missing school, think about sending a letter in the mail or by e-mail! Mr. Schillaci and I will be here all summer long!

These are just a few of the many wonderful ways to make learning fun. I'm sure you have your own and I'd love to hear about them! If you think of a great way to engage your children this summer, please share with me, and perhaps next year I can post a top ten list of tried and true ideas generated by all of you!

Have a wonderful summer and enjoy every moment with your beautiful children!





# **THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT** *by* **DINA D'AMBROSI**

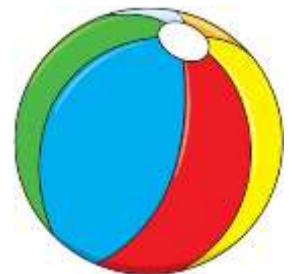
It's been a great year with too many memorable events to list in a newsletter. Thank you to everyone who volunteered. Your time, energy and commitment have contributed to making Village School a very special place for our children. Without your help, the PSA and school would have never achieved all the events and programs that were offered this year.

Thank you also to all those dedicated PSA Appointed Board members who tirelessly facilitated the Family Fun Nights, Go Green initiatives, Barnes & Noble Day, School Store, Plant Sale, Box Tops, Bingo Nights, yearbook, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade social, bus safety, hospitality, assemblies, after school activities, Holiday Shoppe, Sprit Wear and all the other activities around the school. Your leadership makes these programs successful and memorable to all.

The Village School staff has been unbelievable in supporting the PSA throughout the year. Whether it was showing up at our events after school hours, setting up and cleaning for events or scheduling our meetings, classes or anything else, you were always reliable and helpful. It has been such a pleasure for the PSA to help out in community outreach programs including the Second Grade Breakfast, Giving Tree and Village Idol. Our camaraderie has made Village School a community that shares mutual goals for the benefit of our children. For these reason, a heartfelt thank you goes out to all of you.

I would like to thank the PSA Executive board for their dedication throughout the year. Their time and effort has helped make Village School a great place for our kids to learn and grow. Thank you Lori and Debbie for an amazing Ladies Night Out and all the additional fundraisers you took on (too many to even list). Thank you also for ensuring that our events were fun while also raising money for Village School. Thank you Vin, for juggling a full-time job while writing fantastic articles, sending out weekly e-blasts and all the other projects you helped with in making the PSA such a successful this year. Michelle Sottile, thank you for your meticulous recordkeeping the memberships; I appreciate your dedication while juggling the difficult task of being a mother of a toddler at the same time. I will also miss your gracious hospitality for all those meetings we had at your house, complete with a delicious spread. Michelle Prager, thank you for taking on so many additional activities in facilitating Original Art Works, Chess Camp, Art Camp, the School Store and School Supply boxes, I will miss you very much. Tammi, thank you for coming on as Treasurer and helping us keep the books organized and the reports easy to understand. Your flexibility made our jobs so much easier. Thank you all for a very successful year.

I wish you all a very fun and restful summer break and always remember, "Enjoy life, this is not a dress rehearsal."



SAVE  
THE DATE

# Village School Barnes & Noble Bookfair

Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>  
Barnes & Noble Holmdel



On Wednesday, June 11th, Barnes & Noble Bookstore at Holmdel Commons will host a book fair to benefit the Village School. Barnes & Noble will donate a portion of all in-store sales from 9am until 10pm. The offer will also extend to online sales on that day. (In-store customers should mention Village School at the register and online customers should use the [voucher](#) code 11361185). This is a great opportunity to buy books for summer reading and help us raise funds for our school!

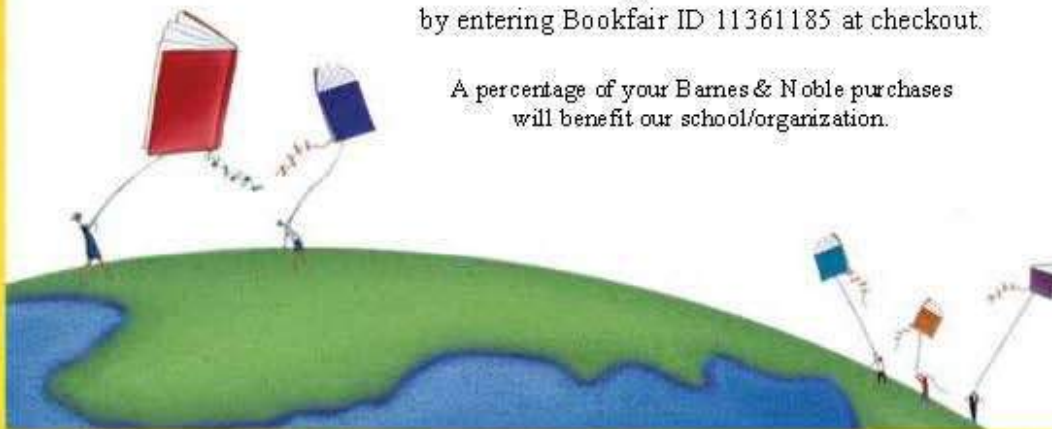
## Come and support your school, as well as,

- Visit the table of Village school approved summer reading books
- Go on a fun scavenger hunt through Barnes and Noble
- Stop by the café and have a snack
- Join us to hear the following staff read:
  - 5:00 *Principal Schillaci*
  - 5:10 *Vice Principal Vierschilling*
  - 5:20 *Mrs. Varga*
  - 5:30 *Ms. Bontales and Mrs. Kerner*
  - 5:40 *Mrs. Rausch*
  - 5:50 *Mrs. Barbara*

## Can't attend our bookfair at Barnes & Noble?

Visit [bn.com/bookfairs](http://bn.com/bookfairs) to support us online from 06/11/13 to 06/16/13  
by entering Bookfair ID 11361185 at checkout.

A percentage of your Barnes & Noble purchases  
will benefit our school/organization.







Please keep collecting **Box Tops**  
for Village School **All Summer Long!**



		<p>Each (non-expired) Box Top is worth <b>10¢</b> for Village School! Keep collecting over summer break!</p>			

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: PreK-am PreK-pm K-am K-pm 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup>  
(circle one)

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

any questions? email PSABoxTops1@gmail.com

this fundraiser is not endorsed by the Holmdel Township Board of Education





School Store for kindergarteners  
ONLY will take place on Thursday,  
June 5th.

We will have many great items ranging in price from 10¢ - \$3.00. If your child wishes to purchase anything from the Village School Store, please note that it is cash only.

Also, in our efforts to "go green", it would be appreciated if you send a plastic bag in with your child. They will use this bag to bring home their purchases.

If you have any questions please contact

Jennifer Campillay at

Psastore1@gmail.com

Thank you!



**Keep Up To Date With the PSA  
All Summer By Visiting the  
PSA'S WEBSITE**

**Before the New School Year  
Begins You'll Be Able To  
Download:**

**The Back To School Packet  
The Kindergarten Survival Guide  
The 2014-2015 PSA Calendar**

**Also, Don't Forget To "Like"  
Our**

**FACEBOOK PAGE**

**To Make Sure You Don't Miss Any  
Important News**



# Thank YOU!

On behalf of the PSA Historian Committee, we'd like to thank everyone for their help in producing the 2013-2014 Village School Yearbook. An enormous effort goes into this project and whether you helped by answering a question, submitting photographs of your kids or took time to come and photograph an event at school, we couldn't have done it without you. Best wishes for a happy and safe summer. Remember to take pictures of the First Day of School in September!

We'd like to make special mention of the following volunteers:

Dina D'Ambrosi  
Karen Salerno  
Laura Lavell  
Mona Shamma  
Vicki DiBlasi  
Sandi McGreevy  
Laura Shay  
Lynn Saporito  
Eileen Pellegrino  
Erika Roth

Lisa Ippolito  
Maria Campillay  
Denise Kline  
Danielle Impreveduto  
Jen Reddy  
Carolyn Ruolo  
Kathleen Pellicone  
Vasila Loucopoulos  
Gina Miele  
Vanessa Granata

Katie Evans  
April Camarda  
Jean Berardi  
Lisa Niceforo  
Toyin Adeyeri  
Michelle Barker  
Colleen Corbett  
Tonya Romano  
Alison Dailey  
Regan Teti-Marscher

We truly appreciate all you have done!

PSA Historian Committee





**ON JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup> THE PSA WILL BE  
HOLDING A TEACHERS APPRECIATION  
LUNCHEON**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION OF FOOD OR  
DRINKS WE COULD USE SODA, WATER, ICED COFFEE,  
VITAMIN WATER, COOKIES, BROWNIES, BLONDIES,  
MINI CANNOLIS, CUPCAKES, ETC.**



**Market Day.**



**Don't forget to place your Market Day order!**

**We will not be delivering again until September.**

**This month we are looking for record sales to end the year. We are giving away MopTop Backpack Clips to the 2 classes with the most orders....so fill up your freezer with summer treats for all! Some great ideas for summer are the apps and desserts! Last minute invite to a BBQ or maybe you're hosting? There are many choices here to keep in the freezer to grab and go! Check them out at [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com) and use Village School Code #29708 when placing your order.**

**Guides are coming home soon and paper orders are due 6/5, Online orders 6/6 for Delivery 6/12. Pick up is between 3 & 4 in the New Gym. Thank you all for your continuing support of this great fundraiser!**





It is with deep regret that I am leaving Village School at the end of this school year. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who worked so hard on behalf of our children.

Working on many different events and activities over the past seven years has brought joy to many children and allowed me to connect with other parents forming new friendships. I'm going to miss the many wonderful people with whom I have worked. I wish the new board members, students, faculty and parents continued success in the coming years.

Sincerely,  
Michelle Prager



The 4 years I have spent at Village School will forever be remembered as very good years. When my daughter started here in Kindergarten I had no idea of the positive impact it would have on my life. Never to be a person on the sideline, I started volunteering wherever the need arose. It could have been awkward because most of the volunteers are women and having a guy around might have made them feel uncomfortable. That was definitely not the case. I was welcomed into the fold without a moment of hesitation. As Sarah got older and Adam became a kindergartener my involvement became greater.

I will gladly admit that I not only love the feeling of helping out and being a person that people can count on, but I also love it when I turn a corner in the school and my eyes meet Sarah's or Adam's and he/she runs up to me to give me a big hug yelling "Daddy!".

At the end of the 2012/2013 school year when Lynn asked me to take over as the VP of Communications for the executive board I was hesitant. It took a little prodding but I am very glad she did it. This has been an amazing year and I have made friends that will not only last a lifetime but will also make my 800 mile move to Georgia that much harder.

Like every family we had some ups and downs but the ups far exceed any downs. At the end of the day I would not trade one minute of time with these amazing women.

Dina, Deb, Lori, Michele, Michele, and Tammi, I will always remember this year with great fondness and I wish it could have lasted forever. But alas, all good things must come to an end and it is with great sadness that I must leave. Before I go though, I want you to know that I love each and every one of you and will miss the great times we enjoyed together.

Love

Vin



Wow...I can't believe it's really time to say goodbye. 5 years ago I was sitting at Mikey's football practice and was approached to "do" Holiday Shoppe. I agreed right away...without realizing "doing" Holiday Shoppe was really running Holiday Shoppe. I was a nervous wreck but jumped in with both feet along side Vicki DiBlasi. It was crazy, but so much fun. In my previous life (before kids...) I was a teacher, and really missed being a part of a school family, and this was the perfect opportunity to try and become part of that family I missed so much. Who would have thought that that meeting in the stands of the High School football field would bring me here today.

When I was approached to become part of the executive board two years ago...I learned my lesson, and actually took my time and really thought about it. I got that nervous feeling again, especially since I didn't know two of the people who would be doing it for the 1<sup>st</sup> time with me...Dina and Debbie. All I knew was that Debbie was the one who ran BINGO...After a few ups and downs, I jumped in again with both feet...but this time with a new partner. And once again, it was crazy, but the fun part...well words can't describe just how fun it was.

There is no way I could have asked for a better partner in crime...it's amazing how much we just sync. And being able to work under Dina, just makes it so much easier. The trust she has given us, makes it feel like the sky is the limit. She allows us to try whatever we want, and when we succeed, she is a great cheerleader, and when we fail, she is always there to tell us it wasn't as bad as we thought!! And the bond that has been created with Vicki, Darlene, Lynn, Susanne, Purvi, Vin, Michelle, Michelle, and Tammi over the past two years is something I will hold close to me for ever.

But the best part of all...was I did become part of that school family. And it's a feeling that I hold so close to me. As I sit here and write this (and yes, I do have tears streaming down my face...) I can not even begin to describe how wonderful the PSA family here at Village School is. When you work with a group of people who feel so passionately about working to help better our school and our children, while also giving back to the teachers and staff, you can't help but be really proud of them, and lucky to be a part of it. And when you get to work so closely with Mr. Schillaci and Mrs. Vierschilling, Mrs. Barbara and Ms. Devaney, as well as the other teachers, you get that inside look at how amazing the staff is here and how much they love doing what they do, and again you get a special sense of pride in being a small part of that.

So it's time to end this now, but I want to thank everyone here that has made the past 6 years, such an important part of my life. I'm moving on to Indian Hill next year with the best partner and friend a person can have. So please stay tuned for all the craziness and fun Deb and I have planned for years to come! I am going to miss this place more than anyone can imagine!!! Have a great summer...and see you next year!!!

Lori Umbrino



I ♥  
80<sub>s</sub>



I can't believe 2 years has gone by and my "contract" is up as VP Fundraising. Of course I have so much to say (shocker), but I'll try to keep it brief. My oldest son is in 8th grade and I've always been involved in all the schools however never intended to hold an Executive Board position at any of them....this year I held 2; Village and Satz.

My good friend and neighbor Dina D'Ambrosi who was new to Village at the time she considered Presidency asked me to help her and take on Fundraising after we had worked on some other fundraisers together. I said, "Are you nuts? I am NOT doing that!" Well, here we are 3 years after she asked and it has been some of the best years of my life. Thanks in large part to Dina. She has trusted me and let Lori and I run with any ideas that we have had; she has been supportive to all and open to new suggestions and has turned this parent group around and been an amazing leader for all of us. She impresses me daily with her patience and her ability to make all feel important and welcome. Dina is our secret weapon and although may be behind the scenes sometimes, she makes it all happen.

What I tried to say in our last PSA Meeting and could barely get through it was ..... I came into this position with lots of ideas but no clue how I would implement them all. I didn't know this person, Lori Umbrino who was supposed to be my Fundraising partner although I did know others on the Board and that is why I said YES. We could not have had a better team, both years...we all have the same goals; to support our children, our staff, our school. We wanted to listen to the families and make the changes that we can. We wanted to give our kids the best and with all of your generous support, we've given a lot! That team includes Brian Schillaci, Jessica Vierschilling, Kara Devaney and Christina Barbara who I'm sure have questioned some of our ideas but have trusted us and supported us in all we do, which has been so important to the success of this PSA.

In Fundraising, specifically, my goal was to create events that the kids would love, that they would remember and the families would feel the same. If mom and dad aren't happy, they aren't coming back and we want everyone to have fun all while raising funds for our school at the same time. It's not an easy task and you learn from your mistakes but as long as we are enjoying the process, it's all worth it. I am so proud to be from this district where our PSA has received so many compliments, notes of appreciation, generous supporters and volunteers saying they want to help us. It's all worth the countless hours of work when someone lets us know how much they appreciate all we do. Dina always says, "When you're not having fun anymore, it's time to go." Fortunately, we are all still having fun, which is why we do all we do. I encourage you all to give it a try sometime, the rewards are unending.

Even though I'll be leaving the Executive Board, I will still be here at the school for one more year and I will still be handling Market Day and Bingo so you're not rid of my loud mouth yet! I said when I started this position in my Newsletter interview with Vin, (our extraordinary VP Communications who is amazing in ALL he does as well as becoming one of my best & closest friends), that I love the quote, "There are two important things you can give your children, roots and wings". This time in your children's lives is the "roots" part, make it memorable as the time passes too quickly. To me, the best gift I can give someone is a memory. I've worked hard to give you all some great memories and I can't thank you enough for your support throughout it all.

I'm moving on now with Lori, who has become my right hand and best friend and there is no one I'd rather continue this fundraising ride with...so we will continue at Indian Hill next year as VPs Fundraising and make some new memories.

Thanks so much to Dina, Lori, Vin, Michelle S, Michelle P, Tammi, Lynn, Purvi, Darlene, Vicki, and Sue G for making the last 2 years make me want to continue this ride.....love you all!

Debbie Brew



**HAVE  
A  
GREAT  
SUMMER**

