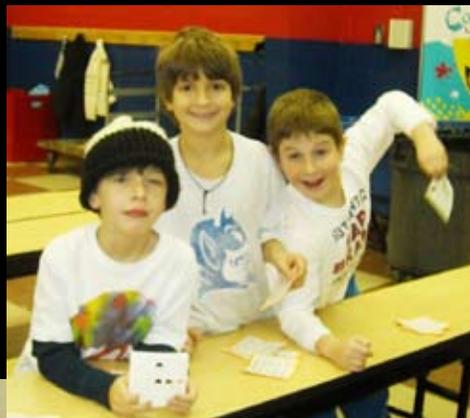


DALY NEWS

AN HSA PUBLICATION FOR JOHN J. DALY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MARCH, 2010



**Daly BINGO
Night
January 29, 2010**



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A Letter from the Principal...

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am using this "Letter to Parents" to inform you of my retirement from the Port Washington School District and specifically as the principal of Daly Elementary School. It was not an easy decision and the result is bittersweet.

I have spent 42 years in a career that is my passion. I started as a sixth grade teacher in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Three years later I moved to Brooklyn, New York and began a family. This led to a move to Rockville Centre, New

York, where I co-founded a pre-school program. Seventeen years later, I left the pre-school and began teaching kindergarten and later fourth grade at Guggenheim Elementary School. Becoming an assistant principal, serving both Guggenheim and Sousa, paved the way to becoming the principal at Daly.

I have loved every part of my career path but, I can truly say, I saved the best for last. Daly has been a second home for me. In my personal life I have experienced a terrible loss, but the support and love I have received from the staff, students and parents of Daly have been truly life saving and healing for me. I can not thank each group enough for guiding me through a grievous time.

Thank you for making Daly Elementary School a true partnership between home and school. The Daly HSA is definitely the most supportive group of parents I have ever known in any school system. Many programs and experiences have been made possible through your generous support. I am proud to be part of an organization that truly understands that student achievement is made possible by a successful home/school team.

Daly will always remain special to me. It is a special place and I know it will always be a special place for students, parents and staff.

—Elaine Ajello



A Note from the HSA Co-Presidents...

Dear Daly Families,

Spring is fast approaching and we are certain that after this long, snowy winter, everyone will be excited to shed their coats, put away their boots, and get outside! Despite the snow days and cold weather, the Daly Family kept busy with many events designed to beat the winter doldrums. **The Winter Concert** on January 14 gave all the student musicians at Daly, in the 4th and 5th grades, the opportunity to showcase their talents. A special thank you to Dr. Addeo, Mrs. Field and Mr. Pringle for leading the way!



Bingo Night, held on Friday, January 29 was, as always, a fun-filled family event with students winning prizes and parents learning there is more than one way to fill a bingo card. Thank you to Ann Marie Bullaro and Katie Weinstein, and all their dedi-

BINGO				
7	25	44	57	62
15	22	40	50	70
11	30	FREE SPACE	46	74
2	28	37	55	68
10	27	39	59	75

cated volunteers, for making this yearly tradition seem fresh and new! Along the lines of fun and games, **Game Day**, held every Wednesday during lunch, was another way our children enjoyed their winter recess time. Thanks go to Felice Schwartz and Marketta Watson for organizing the games and recruiting volunteers, who gave up their lunch hours to play board games with our children. **The Valentine's Day Boutique**, held on February 9, was also a great success. Thanks to Anna Raziano and Debbie Oxenhorn for putting their hearts into this annual fundraising event!

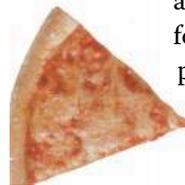
They say March comes in like a lion and nothing could be farther

from the truth if you witnessed the **Harlem Wizards** on Friday, March 5! Held in conjunction with Manorhaven Elementary School, the Port Dribblers team was made up of many local Port faculty and community members, including Daly's own William Atkinson, Tina Caporaso, Mr. H, Coach Cain, Nick Stavrinos and Daly parents Sam Fox, Scott Livingston, Barry Millhaven, Jack Vissicchio, Mark Spier and Lisa Vella. It was a really fun evening and brought many families from our community together for an evening of school spirit and camaraderie.



This night would not have happened without the tireless efforts of Diane Livingston and Donna Meth and a huge thank you goes out to both of them for all their hard work and dedication.

March 13th brought out the inner chef in many Daly parents and children as they participated in the **Daly Pizza Workshop**. Everyone had a great time making pizza and a calzone that they could later bake at home. Thank you to Stefanie Hiller for making this delicious event happen. **The Daly Talent Show**, held on Friday, March 19th was another great event that brought everyone together to celebrate all our children's unique and individual talents. A big thank you goes to the dedicated team of Daly paraprofessionals for organizing this event and donating the proceeds to Habitat for Humanity Haitian Relief and the Daly Playground Fund.



As we think about getting back

outside and physically active, we should highlight the efforts of our Nutrition Committee, led by Ann Marie Bullaro and Danielle Lieblein. They are instrumental in representing Daly's interests at the District level and educating our children during **Nutrition Week**, which took place the week of March 15th. Another event that will get everyone moving is a **Ride Your Bike to School Day**, planned for, the last day of school, June 25. This effort, led by Green Committee Chairs, Mindy Germain and Marketta Watson and spearheaded by Adam Bleifeld, is sure to be a unique event for Daly - stay tuned for more details. And of course, **ACES**, All Children Exercising Simultaneously, will get everyone moving on May 5. **The Playground Committee**, led by Jane Stevens, has also been hard at work this winter for plans to fully redesign the lower playground and improve the existing playground equipment so that our children will have a variety of outdoor space for play.

Another rite of spring is Spring Cleaning and we invite you to clean out your closets and donate your gently used clothing to the District's Fifth Annual Spring and Summer **Clothing Drive**, being held at Manorhaven Pool on Saturday March 27. Volunteers are needed this week to help unpack, sort and layout clothing. Please contact Outreach Chairs Andrea Boico (andrea-babyboy@yahoo.com) and Kimberly Siciliano (kimberly.siciliano@yahoo.com), if you can donate your time as well as your clothing. This is an event that really



benefits our less fortunate community members and we hope you will find a way to get involved.

Specials Week this year (April 19-23), will be dedicated to Daly's theme of Going Global with a host of activities planned by kindergarten mom, Sheryl Spring. Please contact her at



Sheryl@springroc.com if you are able to volunteer your time for Specials Week/Night. Specials Night coincides with Earth Day, being held on Thursday, April 22 so to celebrate Mother Earth; we will be holding our **Plant Sale** that day. **The Daly Social**, another perennial spring event is being held at the Port Washington Yacht Club, on Friday, April 30. A change of venue and a Friday night event will hopefully bring everyone out!! There are so many other great events happening before the end of the school



year and we look forward to seeing you at any and all of the following: **Staff Appreciation Lunch** (May 13), **Compact Green Expo** (May 13), **Visitor's Day** (May 14), **Beginners Concert** (June 3), **Spring Concert** (June 10), **Field Day** (June 11), **Long Island Ducks** (June 13), **Carnival** (June 17) and **Compact Pow Wow** (June 18).

As many of you are aware, we are in the thick of the **School Budget Season**. The Administration, guided by the directives of the Board of Education, is working hard to present a budget that minimizes cuts and preserves programs. The Board of Education meetings, held every other Tuesday (see PortNet for specific dates and locations) are a good place to hear what is happening in the District. Daly will be dedicating its May 11th HSA meeting to a Budget Presentation with Mary Callahan, Assistant Superintendent, as our guest speaker. We strongly encourage everyone to get involved,

be informed and get out and vote.

A word of caution, it was recently communicated to us that a few parents have been unwilling to follow our crossing guard, Sandy Garafolo's direction and have even become verbally abusive. Sandy is outside Daly during all the seasons and works tirelessly to keep vehicular and foot traffic moving efficiently and, above all, safely. Unfortunately, this is not the first time Sandy has been put in this position. We ask that you please **remain respectful** to Sandy. She truly has everyone's, -- especially the children's -- safety at heart!!

On a last note, we would like to wish Mrs. Ajello the **best of luck** on her retirement at the end of the school year. We will all miss her terribly. We wish to thank her for her tireless efforts on behalf of Daly which have allowed all of our children to flourish and grow. Happy Spring!
Beth Lipset and Denise DePalma
Daly HSA Co-Presidents

PORT GOES GREEN Science Fair Expo to be held May 13, 2010

The Compact Committee of Daly Elementary School has teamed up with Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington to host a first of its kind educational and community pride event, PORT GOES GREEN Science Fair Expo. This event, which will be held on Thursday evening, May 13, 2010, from 6:00p.m.-7:30p.m., in the Daly Gymnasium, will highlight the outstanding efforts of many individuals, organizations and local groups who have undertaken a host of projects that have made, or will make, Port

Washington a healthier, greener and better place to live. This program is being designed to educate Daly students and families, as well as all members of the Port Washington Community, who are welcome to attend, about the many important initiatives that have taken seed in this town, by residents of this town, to save and improve our environment. In addition to the educational value of this program, we hope that students, families and residents will be inspired to get involved in these local efforts, or come forward with their own ideas on how they

can make their world greener. The format of the event will be like a "science fair," except that each of the exhibitors will be community members or local organizations that have accomplished or are working on significant "green" efforts to better our town. We hope to have exhibitors highlighting many important local projects including, without limitation, Mill Pond Restoration, Bay Walk, the Clean Green Zone, the Dodge House Farm, and more. Stay tuned for more information, or contact Lisa Epstein at lbmathome@aol.com.

Port Washington Clothing Drive

Daly will once again participate in the district wide clothing drive. This drive is a rewarding effort which helps to provide Port Washington residents in need with clothing for their families. Daly parents, we are asking for your help! Please get started on your spring cleaning! **Daly has been asked to collect gently used clothing from March 22 through March 25th.** You will find a labeled box located in the school lobby.

In order for this event to be a success, each school in the district has volunteered their support by not only donating clothing, but making themselves available to organize, sort, display and distribute collected clothing. We have been assigned **Friday, March 26 from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.** Please, please, please consider coming to Manorhaven pool to take part in this rewarding experience.. The district is asking for ten to fifteen volunteers during each time slot to make the distribution an organized and warm experience for all! If you can spare an hour or two to help our community we ask that you kindly contact Kim Siciliano or Andrea Boico so that we can be assured that Daly comes through for our community! (If you would like to help out, but are unavailable on March 26, you can also volunteer to collect the clothing from Daly and deliver it to Manorhaven any morning

throughout the drive between the hours of 9:00 – 11:00 am) Thanks again! Anything you can do to help will be greatly appreciated!



CROSSING GUARD NEWS

Dear Daly Families,

I feel the need to once again explain the procedures for pick up and drop off. I would like to ask the parents to please follow the rules, so morning drop-offs can go smoother and easier for everyone.

I ask that you pull all the way up past the playground, this allows more cars to drop-off at one time and the buses will not be blocked in. Blocking the cross walk and the driveways are dangerous to your children as well as others, so please do not do so. All parents must please stay in their vehicles and let your children out on their own.

If your child needs help, if you need to talk to them, or if you must write a note for or to them please do so ahead of time, or park in a legal space. When one vehicle stops too soon or takes too long it upsets the flow of traffic. Please try to remember that you are not the only parent dropping off your child. It is not considerate to others when you sit in your car blocking traffic so you can watch your child go into the building. If you feel the need to make sure your child enters safely, legally park your car, and walk or watch them enter; then you may take as long as you wish.

Pick up is simple, do not leave your car while in car line, don't block the bus ramps, keep moving up to allow others to get in line, do not pick up anyone in the middle of the street, if the line is full keep circling till a space opens up.

These rules are there to protect YOUR children. Everyone must follow them. I do not enforce them on certain people and not others. If it seems like I only correct you then it is because you are not following the rules while everyone around you is. There is a reason for everything I do, so please trust that I know my job. I have been doing so for twenty years. Once again please remember that I am here to protect YOU and YOUR children.

— Sandy



Video Conference Connects Students across the U.S.

Reading may be fundamental, but sometimes it takes a high tech, interactive experience to impress upon some of Port Washington's budding readers the great excitement of reading.

Recently around the Port Washington School District, eleven elementary classes participated in Read Around the Planet, a celebration of NEA's Read Across America. Using video conferencing equipment, digital cameras and SMART Boards made possible through grants by the Port Washington Education Foundation, grade school students had hour long sessions with other students in the same grade across the country.

At Daly School, PEP Teacher, Dr. Virigilio lead the project that involved a video conference between Mrs. McLaughlin's third grade class and a fourth grade class in Houston and a video conference between Mrs. Milazzo's second grade class and a second grade class in North Dakota.

Mrs. McLaughlin's class, working in small groups, prepared three different "Readers' Theater" short plays, with each student taking a different role. On the Houston side, the students sang a "song" and showed the New Yorkers how they do a "line dance"! Students had a chance to ask questions and learn more about the

city of Houston. This was Daly's first experience with video-conferencing and it was a great success!

Each of the students in Mrs. Milazzo's class prepared a short description of a Caldecott Award winning book. On the North Dakota side, the students prepared a poem about Dental Health Month and had planned to do a skit. However, there were technical difficulties on their part and the Port Washington students were unable to view much of the conference. However, the students took advantage of the audio connection to ask each other questions and the Daly students learned more about this small K-4 school in North Dakota including finding out that their coldest day this winter was 40 degrees below zero. Lots of indoor recess days!

Mrs. Milazzo had this to say about the experience for her students, "One of the great things about video conferencing is that it allows the children to ask questions and find out more about things we've studied. In second grade we study rural, urban and suburban communities. The students wanted to know what kind of jobs their parents had in North Dakota (and vice versa).



This led to a follow-up discussion on how jobs vary according to the type of community. We discuss the differences in communities, but these conferences also help children see for themselves the commonalities that we all share. The children also really enjoyed talking about their favorite authors, and were almost shocked that they shared some favorite authors."

It was a very exciting event for both of the participating Daly classes. Dr. Virigilio expressed gratitude toward the Port Washington Education Foundation who provided the funding for the equipment. She said, "The constant encouragement and support of this educational foundation has been invaluable. It has afforded me the opportunity to provide exciting enrichment opportunities for Daly's students."

Math Olympiads Tournament



Matthew, Shogo, Anna, Amanda, Emma

The top five scorers from each elementary building participated in the Nassau County Math Olympiads Tournament held recently at SUNY Old Westbury. Scores were based on results of 5 Math Olympiads contests given throughout the school year. PEP teachers chaperoned their students and proctored other teams from across Nassau County. Representing Daly School were fifth graders Matthew Kam, Shogo Shimahara, Anna Watson, Amanda Wong, and Emma Furst.



Amanda, Matthew, Emma, Shogo, Dr. V., and Anna

Eat right! Be Bright! Eating Smart at Daly!

March kicks off with National Nutrition Month! It was an exciting time at Daly with 3 different flavorful sample days. The students got to try warm bean and barley soup, fresh celery boats with lemon hummus, penne pasta salad with diced tomato, garlic and fresh basil. It is great to see how enthusiastic they are when trying new foods. The feedback they provide is valuable items.

This year the nutrition committee decided to implement teaching through the Smart board. Special thanks must go to Sabrina Massone, our math resource teacher, for helping us create and implement Smart board programs. Our students got to participate with the interactive program learning about the food pyramid and reading the food label. Special attention was given to explanation as to why having a completed meal was vital to their health and mental well being during the school day. As stated in the past, many students who are purchasing their lunches are not consuming the complete meal. Please encourage your child to eat the entree, fruit, vegetable, grain, and dairy.

Tip of the Month: Look before you lunch....Scan before you snack... and get in the habit of checking out food labels before you start scarfing it up!

Important information comes from food labels. Please check out this web site for valuable information, [www://pbskids.org/itsmylife/body/foodsmarts](http://pbskids.org/itsmylife/body/foodsmarts).

Be Bright...Eat Right!!!!
Ann Marie Bullaro and
Danielle Lieblein

5th Grade PEP Trip to Wall Street

Fifth grade PEP core group students from all five elementary schools visited the financial district in NYC, as part of their curriculum studies of Economics and the Stock Market. Students toured the financial district and spent time at the American Financial Museum on Wall Street. It was a fabulous experience for these students, chaperones, and teachers!





Having fun at the Wizards vs. Port game: Maria Bullaro (second grade), Danielle Hiller (entering K in Fall), and Madeline Hiller (second grade)

Hands Helping Haiti

During the month of March Daly families have been busy helping the people in Port-au-Prince and the surrounding areas. We have been accepting donations of spare change (container located in the main office) and other assorted items such as medical supplies, antibiotic cream, gauze, etc. They are also in need of all fruit and vegetable seeds (beans, corn, lettuce, squash, eggplant, melon, cantaloupe etc.). It is not too late to help out! There are a few days left to send in your donations! Look for the box in the lobby labeled "Hands Helping Haiti."

Lost & Found

Parents: Please label all sweatshirts, jackets and lunch boxes. Those are the 3 most common items in the Lost and Found located by Mr. H's desk.

John J. Daly Library Birthday Book Collection

Commemorate your child's birthday.

Teach the importance of giving.

Give the joy of reading to our Daly Students.

Thank you to the following students for donating books to the Birthday Book Collection at the Daly Library in the past few months:

Vincenzo DeSimone
Jack Lieblein
Annabella Lee
Terrell McLean
Sally Hirschwerk
Jonah Hirschwerk
Bailey Lipset
Julia Hames
Solomon Li
Jocelyn Lee
David Li
Emma Furst

For more information or to donate a book, please email Randi Schor at rschor@optonline.net.



A Good Deed

by Kayla McElroy & Debbie Gersh

Ms. Andors' class made 200 Gods Eyes for Habitat For Humanity! We sold them in the cafeteria and raised 100 dollars. The money went to Habitat For Humanity in Haiti. We found out that the Haitians needed a lot of help from the earthquake. We hope you help Haiti too!



Please submit materials for the next issue of the Daly News by June 9th to: rachelle@rachellekrieger.com