

Albany Avenews

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE ALBANY AVENUE PTA
VOL. 18, ISSUE 1

NEWSLETTER

PTA in Action



Smooth Start Chairperson Glenda Reinecker helping kindergarten students during lunch.

Upcoming Events

- Tuesday, Sept. 6:
1st Day of School
(welcome back!)
- Monday Sept. 12:
Fall Fundraiser begins Tuesday,
Sept. 13:
Open House & PTA meeting
- Monday & Tuesday, Sept. 26 & 27:
School Pictures
- Wednesday, Sept. 28:
Fall Fundraiser ends

The Fall Fundraiser helps support our Arts In Education Programs which brings in shows and hands on activities for the entire school. If you have any questions please contact Beth at 795-2408.

Open House/1st PTA Meeting on Sept. 13

Welcome back! We hope you all had a great summer! The Albany Avenue PTA has some exciting events planned for the upcoming school year, and we hope that you will be a part of them!

We urge you to attend our first PTA meeting of the year, which will be held on Tuesday, September 13, at 7:40 after Albany Avenue's two open house sessions (K-2 takes place from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m., 3-5 from 7:05 to 7:35 p.m.). At our meeting, we'll have information on all of our committees (listed on page 3 of this newsletter) that you can join, including sign-up sheets, and our committee chairs will be there to answer all your questions. This is a wonderful way to stay involved in your child's school experience and even make some new friends. Any time you can donate to the PTA is appreciated by us and, more importantly, by your child.

Members of the PTA Executive Committee will be there to greet you. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

PTA membership forms will also be available. Membership is only \$8 per person, and your support is an important part of the fundraising of many of the programs and events that the PTA brings to Albany Avenue. In order to participate in any PTA activities, including being a class parent, you must be a member of the PTA.

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SEPTEMBER 2011

From the desk of
Mr. Valentine,
Principal



Dear Albany Avenue Families,

Welcome back to school. I hope that everyone had a relaxing and fun-filled summer. Our custodial and secretarial staff has been working feverishly to make sure everything is ready for the new school year. Many of our teachers have been in school for the past two weeks getting their classrooms together for the opening and are very excited to begin.

September often is met with trepidation by many students. Your children will be meeting many new people this year, including their teachers and classmates. They also realize that entering a new grade brings many new challenges and experiences. As parents we can not change their feelings, whether they are nervous or excited, but we can help them along their journey with a few simple tasks. Talk to your child about school. Try to ask open-ended questions. It is important for them to express themselves without simple yes or no answers. Instead of asking, "What did you do in school today?" try creating a dialogue such as, "What questions did you ask in school today?" This can give valuable insight on what was taught and how they learned. Become active in the school. I realize that we all have extremely busy lives but education is the most important gift you can give your child. If they know school is important to their family, it will be important to them. Make sure they have a quiet place to complete their homework. Homework is an important extension of the school day. Please check over your child's homework daily and provide assistance when needed. Finally, help them prepare for upcoming exams. It is not simple enough to say, "Go study for your test." Take the time to quiz them. If time is an issue, have an older sibling work with them. Children often enjoy working with older siblings with regards to schoolwork.



Together let's make it a wonderful year.

Sincerely,
Joseph Valentine
Principal

SEPTEMBER IS LICE AWARENESS MONTH

Head Lice Season is Here!

For more info on Causes, Treatment, and Prevention please visit kidshealth.org!!!

From the desk of
Mrs. LoRusso,
Assistant Principal



Dear Albany Avenue Families,

Welcome Back to another great year! Welcome to all our new Kindergarten families, as well as our familiar families from years past. It was so energizing to see all the kids rush in with their smiling faces and excitement after the summer vacation. We really do miss seeing them and look forward to seeing how much they have all grown!

We are looking forward to seeing all of the parents, as well, next week at Open House on Tuesday, September 13. Remember to stop in to the PTA meeting after your classroom visit in Heritage Hall because there is so much information to share with you. We will be having our school pictures coming up on September 26.

We have Bus Safety Drills already lined up for this Friday. It is going to be a busy year for everyone. Please feel free to speak to us with any concerns or just to say hello. We're looking forward to a productive year.

See you at Open House!

Sincerely,
Victoria LoRusso
Assistant Principal

Farmingdale Stadium Blankets

\$45 contact Katy Grzinic 516-797-9448

Order forms are available on the PTA website or in the main office.

Design features "Farmingdale Dalers" type along with paw print. The blanket is done in green with black and white accents. Measures 60"x80".



ALBANY AVENUE NEWS

Join Our PTA Committees!

Blood Drive

What we do: Help with the District Blood Drive, which takes place in January.

Help needed: October to January

Contact: blood.drive@albanyavenuepta.org

Box Tops for Education

What we do: Collect, count and mail in box tops handed in by students and families to raise money for our school.

Help needed: All year

Contact: box.tops@albanyavenuepta.org

COPE

What we do: Attend district meetings and report information back to the PTA.

Help needed: All year (every six weeks)

Contact: cope@albanyavenuepta.org

Family Fun

What we do: Organize family events, such as Family Fun Night and Family Game Show Night.

Help needed: All year

Contact: family.fun@albanyavenuepta.org

Fifth Grade

What we do: Organize events and activities for our graduating class, including ordering T-shirts, preparing the yearbook & the 5th Grade Breakfast and Celebration.

Help needed: All year

Contact: fifth.grade@albanyavenuepta.org

Helping Hands

What we do: Help the kindergarten teachers in the mornings and afternoons.

Help needed: Sept.-Jan., Feb.-June

Contact: helping.hands@albanyavenuepta.org

Hospitality

What we do: Arrange refreshments for PTA meetings

Help needed: All year

Committee chair: Anna Yung

Contact: hospitality@albanyavenuepta.org

Jenkins

What we do: Celebrating those who have given outstanding contributions to the PTA and/or the welfare of our children in our school or community.

Help needed: January to May

Contact: jenkins@albanyavenuepta.org

Jumprope for Heart

What we do: Help with this 4th/5th grader activity that in May to raise money for American Heart Association.

Help needed: May

Contact: jumprope.for.hearts@albanyavenuepta.org

Kindergarten Registration

What we do: Help parents of incoming kindergartners register their children and screen children for amblyopia.

Help needed: March

Contact: kindergarten.registration@albanyavenuepta.org

PARP

What we do: Help with PARP, our month-long reading program that encourages children to read.

Help needed: October to March

Contact: parp@albanyavenuepta.org

Project Self-Esteem

What we do: Present lessons on self-esteem issues to children in their classrooms.

Help needed: October to January

Contact: self.esteem@albanyavenuepta.org

PTA Dinners

What we do: Help plan restaurant options for PTA dinners and special events.

Help needed: October to December, April to June

Contact: dinners@albanyavenuepta.org

Reflections

What we do: Help with "Reflections," a national program that promotes creativity using a common theme.

Help needed: October to February

Contact: reflections@albanyavenuepta.org

Scholarships

What we do: With regard to high school seniors and scholarship awards, the committee meets to determine any fundraising events, scholarship amounts, interview schedules and process, awards ceremony, etc.

Help needed: February to June

Contact: scholarships@albanyavenuepta.org

School Kits

What we do: Collect the money/forms for and distribute school kits for new school year.

Help needed: April, June

Contact: school.kits@albanyavenuepta.org

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PTA Committees!

Continued from previous page

School Pictures

What we do: Help the students on the day they take their school portraits.

Help needed: September

Contact: school.pictures@albanyavenuepta.org

School Store

What we do: Help "man" The Corner Stop, our school store.

Help needed: All year

Contact: school.store@albanyavenuepta.org

SEPTA

What we do: Attend monthly SEPTA (Special Education PTA) meetings and report back to the PTA.

Help needed: All year

Contact: septa@albanyavenuepta.org

Smooth Start

What we do: Help kindergartners with arrival, dismissal and during lunch periods.

Help needed: September

Contact: smooth.start@albanyavenuepta.org

Student Appreciation

What we do: Organize a variety of special events throughout the year for our students.

Help needed: All year

Contact: student.appreciation@albanyavenuepta.org

Welcome Back! The CORNER STOP our very own Albany Avenue Elementary School Store will be opening at the end of September. Our operating hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9 am to 9:15 am. We carry a variety of cool school supplies including, fun erasers, pens, smencils, folders, glue sticks and



Smooth Start

A very special Thank You to everyone who volunteered their time to make Smooth Start such a success. Because of you, our

incoming kindergartners were given a special welcome that helped ease the transition to their "new" school. Your time and effort helped to make the first couple of weeks of school a wonderful experience for the children, and I know that the teachers greatly appreciated the assistance they received in their classrooms. Thank you again, and I look forward to seeing you throughout the year.

—Glenda Rienecker
Smooth Start Chair

Visit our Website

Be sure to check out Albany Avenue PTA's website, albanyavenuepta.org, which features all kinds of helpful information regarding the PTA:

You can stay up-to-date on the latest happenings, find information on upcoming events and view our monthly newsletters.



2011-12 Executive Committee

President

1st Vice President, Legislation

2nd Vice President, Ways and Means

3rd Vice President, Cultural Arts

Treasurer

Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary

Membership Director

Classroom Representative

Public Relations/Historian

Council Delegates

Delegate Alternate

Lisa Pugliese

Angela Arpaio

Beth Capucciati

Sharon Piraino

Karen Kane

Deborah Scanlan

Diana Morana

Barbara Hayden

Piera Keating

Dina Seaman

Stacey Bailey

Jill Lewis-Flood

Kristin Longo

ALBANY AVENEWS

is a monthly publication of the Albany Avenue PTA that is available for download at our website: albanyavenuepta.org.

Editors:

Dina Seaman, Michele Drozdowski

Contact us:

Drop us a note in the PTA mailbox in the main office, or send an email to:

newsletter@albanyavenuepta.org.

We'd love to hear from you!