

# SCAFALL 2008

MUNSEY PARK SCHOOL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## Dear Parents,



Welcome back! It's hard to believe we've started another school year and each year passes more quickly than the last. The 2008-2009 school year brings new students, teachers and friends together with renewed ideas for the year ahead. We are excited to serve as your president and vice president and look forward to working with our Munsey Park family in our exciting new and returning programs and events.

**This year, our 900 students will experience the innovative SmartBoard technology now**

**available in most Munsey Park classrooms.** Thanks to the Tower Foundation and district funds, SmartBoards will enhance our students' educational experience. This cutting edge technology provides students and teachers internet access in their classrooms and the ability to create unique lessons using graphic organizers and images that bring new meaning to interactive education. Thank you to our School Board, the Tower Foundation and our district for creating a distinctive educational environment for our children.

**We are thrilled that over 30 SCA committees are working together to make this an extraordinary year.** Over 200 parent volunteers work with these committees to make our programs successful, including Photo Day, the Book Fair, National Library Week, Health and Safety, the Allergy Team, Nutrition and Wellness, Guess Who's Coming to Read, and many others. We are grateful to our dedicated, diligent volunteers who devote their time and talents for our children. Please log onto the SCA's website for more information and to volunteer at [www.manhassetzca.org](http://www.manhassetzca.org).

**Planet Manhasset has taken Munsey Park to a "greener" place, making amazing strides to make us ecologically aware.** To support this initiative, conserve resources and our environment, we will limit notices sent home by backpack to one per household. Information will be communicated by email. Please check email regularly and sign up for SCA email alerts.

**The District engaged a new food service provider, Whitson's, to offer children healthier, non-processed foods free from hydrogenated oils and high fructose corn syrup.** Fresh fruits and vegetables, natural chicken and wheat breads are now offered. Our goal is to enable children to make healthier eating choices, and we hope everyone tries these delicious new menu items.

**We welcome comments and suggestions.** We are a community and we are here to represent you. Have a wonderful school year!

Christy Wepler

PRESIDENT

Beth Miller

VICE PRESIDENT

## Reminder

Days schools are closed in November

4th Election Day  
11th Veterans Day  
19th Conferences  
27th & 28th  
Thanksgiving



Last year's Tower Foundation Bingo Nights were a big success

# Dear Munsey Park Parents,



**Warmest greetings;** our school year is underway and our Munsey Park children are happily busy - learning and growing!

Open House this year was a great success. Thanks to the collaboration with our Shared Decision Making Team, we changed the format to provide an even more personal approach. Open House for three nights helped us to spread out teacher meetings and enhance our “small school” feeling—even in our school of 900 children.

Our focus is a team approach and we are proud of our many teams in place: Nutrition and Wellness, Safety, Lunch/Recess Volunteers, Shared Decision Making, Allergy Awareness, Transition Team, Teacher and Staff Collaboration, and of course the SCA!

In October, our students were involved in Red Ribbon Week activities to endorse healthy life choices. Overall promotion of well-being and guiding the growth of the “whole child” is important both at Munsey Park and in your homes. Children benefit when they are led to make choices to ensure their physical, emotional, creative, and social health - along with academic success. Along with Red Ribbon Week, many other Munsey Park programs and themes provide these learning opportunities, such as “Character Matters” and “Kindness Counts.” These events encourage students to develop positive friendships, communicate successfully, and care about themselves and others. Our Shared Decision-Making Team is collaborating this year with an award-winning Babylon school to further develop our character education component.

At this time and throughout the year, Munsey Park parents and educators are committed to work together to help our children develop all of their gifts and reach their full potential as successful human beings.

Thank you for all you do to support our school and most importantly, thank you for sending your wonderful children to us each and every day.

Warmest regards,

*Jean C. Kendall, Ed.D.*

PRINCIPAL



## Halloween Spooktacular

On Friday, October 31st, ghosts and goblins haunted the halls of Munsey Park at the Halloween Spooktacular. This event is one of the most anticipated of the year, and provides our 5th and 6th graders with a fun, safe environment to celebrate Halloween. The students enjoyed pizza and sweet treats, played games and won prizes, as our many parent volunteers haunted the Multipurpose Room. Thanks to everyone who contributed their time and made donations to make this our best Halloween party ever! 6th Grade Chairs: Nadia Graziano, Caryn Cirella. 5th Grade Chair: Joan Berger. Volunteer Chair: Sarah Beresheim.



## WORKING TOGETHER

The Grade Level Chairpersons are working hard with the Room Representatives from each class to ensure our children’s experience at Munsey is unforgettable.

This year’s grade level Chairpersons are:

**Kindergarten**  
Laura Petras

**First Grade**  
Tammy Kelly

**Second Grade**  
Mia Hitchcock

**Third Grade**  
Suzanne Mills

**Fourth Grade**  
Janet Marcus

**Fifth Grade**  
Pam Kenlon

**Sixth Grade**  
Lisa Middleton

**Contained Classrooms**  
Barbara Kiggins

We encourage you to communicate any positive experiences or concerns with your Room Representatives, who will then liaise with Grade Level Chairs.

### November

<p><b>7</b> 9:30am SCA Open Executive Board Meeting</p>	<p><b>12</b> 11am SCA Fall Luncheon at North Hills Country Club</p>	<p><b>15</b> Saturday Series presentation of Wicked, Shelter Rock auditorium</p>
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# Planet Manhasset

Planet Manhasset, the eco-friendly SCA committee, expresses its heartfelt thanks to the Manhasset school community for its support which fostered a productive, positive first year. The enthusiasm, guidance and creativity of our group sparked a true “green” consciousness. There are many people we wish to thank for their dedication and support, from our progressive and responsible administration, including Charlie Cardillo and the School Board, to our SCA Executive Board, Sandy Demitroff, Christine Koskopolis and the entire SCA. Our school principals, Dr.

Kendall, Mr. Geczik and Dr. Schlanger, demonstrated unparalleled involvement and accommodation in our initiatives.

Special thanks to the talented Linda Kane for helping design our logo and constantly offering her expertise and to Molly DePietro and her family for their assistance and gener-



**THE PLANET  
MANHASSET TEAM**  
**Lisa Ferraro**  
**Daniela Picone**  
**Terry MacGown**  
**Mimi Donohue**  
**Victoria Parisi**  
**Peggy Markham**

osity in sponsoring our new “Green Gear” tote. Finally, our sincere appreciation to the team of dedicated supporters: Jen Villano, Ellen Duran, Jeanette Reilly and Kathy McIntee for getting this ball rolling and to Christy Weppler and Caroline Kenlon for jumping right into our effort. These individuals, together with the many “behind-the-scenes” volunteers, work diligently to make Planet Manhasset a success.

Our member list is growing strong and we are grateful to work with such wonderful, dedicated people. Here’s to another great “green” year!

## Saturday Series Goes Green



Saturday Series is a parent-run enrichment program for Manhasset school district residents only.

This year, we went paperless and information and registration forms are available at [www.manhassetzca.org](http://www.manhassetzca.org), making registration more efficient. New classes include scrap-booking and science as well as our popular courses: junior chefs, fencing, cake decorating, all sports, model building, taekwando, acrobatics, Manhasset idol, cartooning and many others. We’re also proud of our successful, new pilot program in Adaptive Sports for students with IEP and 504 status.

This year’s play, *Wicked!*, is set for November 15th at Shelter Rock’s auditorium. Admission is free. The lottery for the next play (still undecided) is Friday, December 5th at 6:45 PM in Shelter Rock’s cafeteria. Continuing tradition, all 6th graders automatically can participate, but must sign-up by 7 PM before the lottery.

**The next session begins January 20th. Look for announcements in the SCA Highlights email or contact us at [satseries@aol.com](mailto:satseries@aol.com).**

## SCA FAIR

Plans are underway for the 2009 SCA Fair. Last year, we donated just over \$100,000 for our children and we need your help to make this year’s Fair another success. Volunteering is a great way to help our children, get involved in our school community and meet new friends, all while having fun! We need over 150 volunteers to run the Fair and there are many positions. So, you can be involved as little or as much as you want. **Look for future emails or contact Lisa Chieco ([lachieco@verizon.net](mailto:lachieco@verizon.net)) or Linda Gurino ([lbuoni999@aol.com](mailto:lbuoni999@aol.com)).**



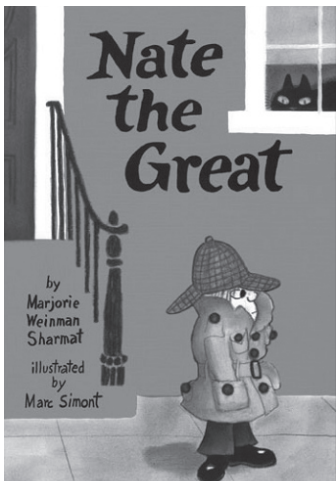
## School Spiritwear

Show your Munsey Park School spirit! Look for order forms featuring shirts, shorts and many new selections online on November 3rd at [www.manhassetzca.org](http://www.manhassetzca.org) or once by backpack express. Spiritwear is perfect for holiday gifts. **Show your school pride and place your order today with Dana Malvey at 365-3057 ([danamalvey@optonline.net](mailto:danamalvey@optonline.net)).**

## 6TH GRADE YEARBOOKS & SWEATSHIRTS

The yearbook committee thanks our 6th grade parents for supporting our yearbook and sweatshirt sales. Sweatshirts were distributed to students who contributed by October 21st, at which time the centerfold yearbook photo was taken. Wear your sweatshirt and show your Munsey Park spirit! **To purchase a sweatshirt or yearbook, please contact Ken Hyde ([kenhyde@mac.com](mailto:kenhyde@mac.com)).**





## SCA Family Theater

Coming soon to the Munsey Park Auditorium, the Family Theater presents...*Nate the Great* (December 6th) and *Alice in Wonderland* (February 7th). Shows start at 2 PM. Season tickets are \$15/person for both performances or \$10/person for a single show. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$10/person, first come, first served. For information contact **Kathie Panzone** ([kathiep@theory.com](mailto:kathiep@theory.com)) or **Corina Gerontis** ([cgmdny@yahoo.com](mailto:cgmdny@yahoo.com)).

## Tower's Bingo Nights!

Back by popular demand, the Tower Foundation's Bingo Nights return this November! Students in grades 3-6 can play bingo, compete for prizes and enjoy refreshments. 3rd and 4th grade bingo is Monday, November 3rd, and 5th and 6th graders play Tuesday, November 18th. The fun begins at 7 PM on both nights in the High School cafeteria and students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian (no siblings please). \$5 buys one bingo card and \$10 buys three cards. **Proceeds fund Tower's programs to benefit Manhasset Public Schools.** Look for the flyer in your student's backpack!

## Support Our Schools & Children... Become an SCA Member Today!



The membership drive is going strong and we thank all families who supported our effort by joining the SCA. The SCA provides meaningful programs and school gifts to enrich the ed-

ucational experience of children in grades K-12. If your family has not joined, please consider doing so by sending your \$25 check payable to the Manhasset SCA to: SCA Membership, P.O. Box 33, Manhasset, NY 11030.

## Got Box Tops?

**Box Tops for Education helps Munsey Park earn cash for supplies and you can make a difference for our school every time you shop!** Over 100 companies support the Box Tops for Education program. Just clip Box Top coupons from products you buy and send them in with your child. Each Box Tops coupon is worth 10¢...and that adds up fast! Barnes & Noble has also teamed up with Box Tops and each time you buy a book online from Barnes&Noble.com, 6% from new books and 3% from all other purchases is donated to our school. This is a great way to help Munsey Park and encourage your child to develop a love of reading. **Visit the Box Tops for Education website at [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com)** to find participating products and stores and a percentage of your purchase automatically will be credited to our school.



### Lunch Anyone?

Thanks to everyone who attended the lunch/recess sign up meeting in early October. Anyone interested in lunch duty through the end of January should contact the following coordinators:

#### Grades: K, 2 & 3

Mary Bellucci, 627-7044  
([mkbellucci@yahoo.com](mailto:mkbellucci@yahoo.com))

#### Grades: 4 & 6

Margie Suga, 365-3246  
([margie1228@msn.com](mailto:margie1228@msn.com))

#### Grades: 1 & 5

Liz Tomaselli, 365-7407  
([salandliz@verizon.net](mailto:salandliz@verizon.net))

#### Allergy Table Coordinator

Estelle Kim, 627-0842  
([estellechoe@optonline.net](mailto:estellechoe@optonline.net))

#### Nutrition & Wellness

Susan Urban, 627-1348  
([urban01@optonline.net](mailto:urban01@optonline.net))



## GUESS WHO'S COMING TO READ



On Friday, January 30, 2009, prominent members of our community and surrounding cities will read stories to our K-3rd graders. Now in its 19th year, this event is more popular than ever among students and teachers! We're always looking for new readers to join. **Please contact Kristin Perfetto at 627-0265 ([kperfetto@yahoo.com](mailto:kperfetto@yahoo.com)) with candidate recommendations.**



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@ [www.manhassetzca.org](http://www.manhassetzca.org)