

JUNE 2009

Have a terrific summer!
Congrats
to all
our 6th graders!



Dear Parents,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as the SCA President for Shelter Rock over the past two years. It has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my life. I couldn't have done it without the help of all of the parents, Mr. Geczik, Mrs. Williams and the entire staff and administration at Shelter Rock. The experience has enriched my life and has been an opportunity that I will always hold close to my heart.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Simone Klein and Ruth Geismar for all of their hard work in making our Staff Appreciation Luncheon a beautiful event. Thank you to all of our parent volunteers who played an intricate role in showing our appreciation and gratitude to the staff at Shelter Rock and all they do for our children as well as the parents.

Our 5th and 6th grade Field Day BBQ at Shelter Rock could not have happened without the coordination and planning of Diane Curd and Lauren Baranello. They were the pioneers with an event that will now become a tradition!! Thank you for everything you did to make the day so much fun for everyone who was involved! It was a great day!

Thank you to our Publicity Chairs, Androula Xenophontos and Lisa Currie who captured all the wonderful moments at Shelter Rock throughout the year. They were at every event and never missed a beat! All of our coverage in the Manhasset Press and a lot of the coverage in the Newsletters could not have been possible without their efforts. Thank you, Androula and Lisa for a year of memories!!

I'd also like to thank our 6th grade Yearbook Chairs, Rebecca Scaramucci and Dawn McCormick for all of their efforts this past year in creating a memory book that the students and families will cherish for years to come.

Another thank you goes to our Splish Splash Chairs, Diane Curd and Beth DeMatteis who have been working hard to ensure that all of our 6th graders have a fun trip to Splish Splash! This is a great day for all of our Graduates—certainly one that they will remember for years to come.

Our 6th Grade Promotional Party Chairs, Ruth Geismar and Jill Mesos, have been planning a memorable night for all of the students for the day of their Promotion. Thank you for all that you are doing to make the evening of their Promotion so special for all of the students!

Ann Marie Fruhauf has been working hard to make sure that all of the 6th grade students have a memorable DVD of the Promotional Ceremony. Thank you for your hard work in helping to capture the 6th grade Promotion and all of your efforts to make a precious keepsake, Ann Marie!

I'd like to express my gratitude to our talented News-

letter Chair, Jackie Pracher, who has taken our Newsletter to another level by going electronic. Her incredible talents are evident with her fantastic graphics and eye catching layouts. Thank you for all you have done to show the parents all of the exciting events that have taken place at Shelter Rock!

A big thank you goes to our Executive Committee, Renee Press, Anita Teshar and Jodi Fera, for all of their tireless efforts over the past two years. I couldn't have done it without them.

Thank you to all of our Grade Level Chairs, Committee Chairs, Parent Representatives as well as the many volunteers who worked tirelessly to carry out the mission of the SCA at Shelter Rock. All of your time and efforts have made everything that the SCA has done for the students, staff and school possible.

This letter wouldn't be complete without thanking Fran Shackel for all of her support and willingness to help all of the SCA Committees over the past two years. She was always willing to do whatever it took to make our events a success at Shelter Rock. Thank you, Fran!

A very special and heartfelt thank you goes to my Vice President, Lauren Baranello who was always willing to jump in and help whenever we needed it. She has worked very hard over the past two years to ensure that everything we did ran smoothly. Her dedication to the Shelter Rock SCA has done has been endless. Her incredible support of all of the Grade Level Chairs, Committee Chairs, parent volunteers, parents, staff and administration throughout her term has been evident in everything she has accomplished. Thank you, Lauren for all of your hard work, support and friendship that has made the past two years a pleasure and one that I will always remember.

I want to take this opportunity to welcome our incoming President, Mary Jane Reilly and her Vice President, Sari Kulka. I wish them all the best as I know both will serve you with an unyielding commitment.

With fond memories and much gratitude,

Jennifer Villano

SCA President Shelter Rock, 2007-2009



STAFF APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

We would like to extend our most sincere thanks and gratitude to all the wonderful parents who contributed to the Staff Appreciation Luncheon.

Whether you donated your time, a dessert, a raffle prize or gave us money to shop...please know that it was greatly appreciated. The Staff Appreciation Luncheon is only made possible through your donations and you were very generous.

Hopefully, you had a chance to stop by

and see all the happy, smiling faces as everyone enjoyed this beautiful day together. We had festive balloons and flowers everywhere, and the most incredible desserts possible. The food was delicious and the raffle prizes were declared the best ever!

Thank you to all who participated and, of course our biggest thank you goes to our Shelter Rock Family who so deserved this day!

Simone Klein and Ruth Geismar
Co-Chairs

THE TOWER FOUNDATION

The Tower Foundation of Manhas-set Held It's 14th annual fundraiser with an evening at Atlantic City at Plandome Country Club

All that was missing was the sea breeze off of the Atlantic City boardwalk. With a casino and all the delicious boardwalk snacks you could think of, the Tower Foundation had a full house, raising enough to purchase more SMARTBoards.



DIVERSITY DAY

SEPTA Helps Kids Take a Walk in Other's Shoes

Shelter Rock celebrated Diversity Day on Wed, Apr 29 with all students enjoying a fun look at the unique and rich differences in our town and in our world. Different cultures, traditions, life styles and even differences between individuals ruled the school as elementary students connected with each other.

"We are so happy to be a part of connecting our students to their classmates and to other children's experiences in the world," Ann Marie Moschitta, Co-Vice President of Manhasset Special Education PTA (SEPTA) stated.

Manhasset SEPTA promoted awareness and sensitivity about various learning and developmental disabilities with their Take a Walk in Their Shoes presentations to the fourth graders of Shelter Rock.

The presentation was a light-hearted, fun way for children to understand and appreciate the challenges of the special needs community. Children got to experience various disabilities with hands-on activities that had teachers and students alike

in awe of learning and developmental differences people experience.

As the children tried the various activities, they experienced a heightened awareness of how other students may feel and how to be sensitive to other's differences. As the list of celebrities, artists, inventors, and famous achievers with disabilities was discussed, children realized the great possibilities in everyone including themselves.

"Community awareness and sensitivity of people with special needs is a key component to unlocking every child's potential," Mrs. Moschitta noted. "Manhasset SEPTA feels that teachers, school staff, parents and classmates all are a vital part of providing every child with excellence in education and quality of life."

Thanks to all the fourth graders and their teachers for participating in the presentation!



Fourth graders learn to 'see things differently' with a visual disability exercise.



Having fun and learning about how challenging everyday tasks like buttoning shirts and tying shoes can be to people with special needs.

THANK YOU FROM MANHASSET SEPTA

Entire 'Shelter Rock Family' Made SEPTA's 2008-09 year a Huge Success

As the Manhasset Special Education PTA (SEPTA) finishes its second year, we would like to thank everyone at Shelter Rock for all their support that made 2008-09 a huge success! The entire Shelter Rock Family—from the administration, to the students and parents, the SCA presidents to the Saturday Series team—everyone provided such support, Manhasset SEPTA would just like to say thank you to one and all. We are so grateful for the opportunity and guidance that has allowed SEPTA's second year to be so successful.

The pilot of the "Skill-N-Drills Bootcamp" adaptive sports program offered in the SCA's Saturday Series' fall 08 and winter 09 sessions was very well received, with both classes filled to capacity. And the snacks table/bake sale during the Saturday Series' winter 09 Theater production of "Camp Rock" allowed us to raise additional funds to help subsidize the adaptive sports program. (Thank you to everyone who supported the bake sale with your purchases and donations!) We are proud to say that "Bootcamp" will be back next year, and we hope it will receive another great response from parents and children alike!

School Principal, Robert Gezcik, Assistant Principal, Paulette Williams, SCA's school president Jen Villano and Saturday Series Chairperson Karen Corcoran—we greatly appreci-

ate all your support and the opportunity to enrich all children's lives. Furthermore, Manhasset SEPTA would also like to thank Sandy Demitroff and everyone at the SCA for all its support this year. We are grateful for the chance to partner and learn from Manhasset's finest and largest parent group! We look forward to working with the SCA's new presidents in 2009-10.

SEPTA is happy to serve the Manhasset special education community and special needs families, this past year and in the years ahead. Have a safe and fun summer!



Amanda Kelly was the lucky winner of the "Easter Basket" raffle during SEPTA's Theater Snack/Bake Sale.

HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE UPDATE, JUNE 2009

Even though school is almost out and we are gearing up for summer, H1N1 (swine flu) and other flu like illness continue to be a concern. Shelter Rock has taken an active response to minimize the spread of the virus.

Teachers are routinely sending children who may appear ill to the nurse. If a child has a flu-like illness, parents are asked to keep their children home for 7 days to prevent reinfection.

Children should not be sent back to school before then without a note from their doctor.

A child's absence must be called in to the attendance office. Call 267-7450 and wait for the prompt for the Attendance Office. You can call that number 24 hours/day. Please list your child's symptoms and why they are staying home.

Proper hygiene has been reviewed with the children, i.e. how to cough into their arms instead of their hands and frequent hand washing. Please remind them of these practices.

Surveillance forms have been sent to the Health Department regarding infection at the school and many of these protocols come straight from the state.

The staff in the Health Office may wear masks when treating a child with flu-like symptoms. They are just taking precautions.

The school is washed down regularly with a product called PURE GREEN 24 Disinfectant.

REMINDER:

- Physical and Dental Exams are needed for K, 2, 4, and any new entrants. A certificate that this was done is needed in the Health Office.
- Exams are good for one year.
- Emergency Bus Contact forms will be updated for Fall 2009. You can list a neighbor that the bus driver is authorized to release your child to in the event you can't be there.

FIELD DAY UPDATE:

Grades 5 and 6 had a BBQ which was successful. Discussion took place about having refreshments for grades 1-4 next year. If it comes from the SCA all grades can then be given the same exact thing.

FITNESS DAY, MAY 2009: The children really enjoyed the different activities from Tai Chi to circuit training along with some nutrition education too. We may try to have this day occur further apart from Field Day next year as the events were just one week apart. Coach Ackermann is planning to start a Running Club for Fall 2009. More information to follow.

RECESS: This year, we have tried to make recess a more active, social experience for our children. We started a pilot program, Movement No Movies, in the 1st and 2nd grades. In order to assess the success of this, the 1st and 2nd graders were surveyed about indoor recess to get their feedback. Overall, both grades listed their favorite indoor activities as Gym with 1st graders equally listing the Game Room. Though some children were used to the movies, we have found ways to get them moving despite our space restrictions. The game closet was reorganized so that games are complete and easy to locate. In addition, children gave requests for games they would like to have. It is the hope that next year's 3rd grade will be able to continue to have the same activities available to them during indoor recess as they did this past year. Parent volunteers have become an important part of this change. Please consider volunteering your time to help out with recess. Parents are free to lend a hand, lead activities or even just make it easier for a shy child to join a group. Space is very tight but, if we can get parent volunteers, we can have the back of the cafeteria for arts and crafts for 3rd and 4th graders. We need SCA involvement for this to happen!

Also, by our children's request, we have a list of games that are wanted for the game room. If you are interested in helping out with either of these efforts, please email zaribg@hotmail.com, derasse@optonline.net or see Mrs. Williams. Your help would be greatly appreciated!



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

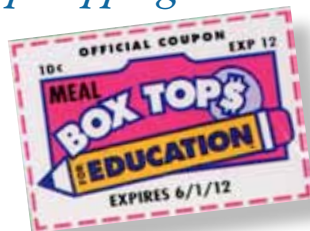
WE BEAT LAST YEAR'S RECORD

This year's box tops drive was our most successful year since we started participating in the program! We collected a total of 11,500 for the year which tops the 2007/2008 total by over 3,000 box

tops. The **3rd grade came in first place** and are the winners of the ice pop party. The **2nd grade came in second place** and **1st**

grade came in third place. The Shelter Rock SCA will receive approximately \$1,150 for the 2008/2009 school year, which will go directly to its programs at the school. Many thanks to all you students and parents for remembering to snip off the pink "Box Top for Education" label. *Keep clipping them over the Summer so we can get a good head start for our next school year.*

Keep up the Great Work,
Reena Gilja and Ellen Albrechtsen
Box Top for Education Co-chairs



THANKS FROM P.A.S.E.

As the school year draws to a close, Manhasset PASE would like to thank all of the Shelter Rock teachers and staff that participated in the PASE sponsored Faculty Conference on 'Sensory Strategies for the Classroom' in January. We had an exciting winter with the launching of our website, www.manhassetpase.org, and our first Camp & Summer Services Fair for special education students. In addition, Manhasset PASE was grateful to the administration for the opportunity to sponsor the Elija Foundation for the 3rd grade presentations on Autism for Diversity Day this past April.

SATURDAY SERIES

The backpack flyers are back! We'll be sending them out via the backpack express in September. Look for our exciting new classes!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Theater Lottery:

Thurs. Sept. 17th, 6:45 pm
Shelter Rock Cafeteria

Final In-Person Registration:

Thurs. Sept. 24th, 6:45-8:00 pm
Shelter Rock Cafeteria

Classes:

Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, Nov. 7, 14, 21



FIELD DAY: WHAT A BLAST!

Despite rain delays, Coach Vinnie reports that Field Day was another huge success. The winners for Field Day this year were:

1st and 2nd Grade:

Blue 360/Orange 290

3rd and 4th Grade:

Blue 320/Orange 320

5th Grade Ms. Bulter's Class

6th Grade Mr. Collyer's Class

Field Day Totals

Blue 680

Orange 610



B-Que. Lunch was a big success, and we are looking to continue this tradition. They also cooled off with Italian ices. After lunch, we split up them up into 4 kickball teams, where the 5th boys challenged the 6th boys and the 5th girls challenged the 6th girls. Field day for grades 5/6 went the whole day.

If you'd like to know what else is going on in Phys Ed or see other pictures from Field

Day or any other activities, please go the web page:
<http://www.manhasset.k12.ny.us/webpages/vlobianco/>



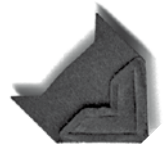
The games that students in Grades 1-4 played were; Never Out Kickball, 4 Base Kickball, Super Hooper, Triple Crown Kickball, Basketball Foul Shooting, Crab Soccer and Beach Ball Volleyball.

Students in Grades 5-6 competed in a 40 yard Dash, Potato Sack Race, Mini Mile and a Pin Relay. This year, the 5th and 6th graders had either a hamburger, cheese burger or a hot dog at our First Annual Bar-





SCRAPBOOK



Mrs. O'Brien's 3rd grade end-of-year party



The Cub Scouts worked really hard, and together as a team, to beautify Shelter Rock's grounds.



Student Council



*Miss. O'Connell 1st grade class
on field trip to Queens Botanical Gardens,
Flushing NY on May 6th 2009*



5th graders at the Science Fair





SCRAPBOOK



*The 4th grade
Spring Choral
Concert*



*In May, Mrs. Kasper's
3rd graders did a
presentation to their
parents, reporting on
all that they learned
about Mexico with a
powerpoint presentation
and a Mexican Fiesta!*



SCRAPBOOK: 6TH GRADE WINTER CONCERT



Orchestra members with Mr. Quinn



SCRAPBOOK: 6TH GRADE



Camusett State Park

