

Columbus School

December-February
Volume 1, Issue 2



Cougar News

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Columbus School Community,

As spring is swiftly approaching we have been working smart and hard to make this year memorable for our students. Since the publication of our fall newsletter we have hosted our first ever National Elementary Honor Society Induction Ceremony, hosted our first National Geography Bee and partnered with the Happy Feet Foundation to ensure children in the Dominican Republic would have access to shoes that fit and protect them from needless injury.

Whether it be teaching students to write code, during our December hour of code initiative held during the school day, or our special evening events like Paint Night, the Honor Roll Awards Ceremonies and the upcoming Kindergarten show, our team here at Columbus school works diligently with students to make Columbus a vibrant place to learn and grow. And, our parent community makes it all worthwhile through continued partnership.

Here's to another successful quarter! Let's keep it going with Cougar Pride!

Educationally your,

Stephen V. Peters, Principal

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IMPORTANT DATES:

- ♦ MARCH 23RD: PTO MEETING
- ♦ MARCH 27TH: PARCC TESTING BEGINS
- ♦ MARCH 31ST: TRICKY TRAY
- ♦ APRIL 13TH: ABBREVIATED SESSION
- ♦ APRIL 14TH-21ST: SPRING RECESS- NO SCHOOL
- ♦ MAY 1ST-5TH: MOTHER'S DAY/FATHER'S DAY SALE
- ♦ MAY 12TH- LIP SYNC SHOW
- ♦ MAY 22ND-26TH- BOOK FAIR
- ♦ MAY 29TH: MEMORIAL DAY- NO SCHOOL

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHY BEE

The GeoBee contest is designed to inspire students to be curious about the world. On Friday, January 27, 2017, Columbus School held The Preliminary National Geographic School Bee. Students in grades 4 and 5 competed in this worthwhile and relevant competition. At the end of the preliminary competition, ten finalists went on to compete in our Geographic Bee School finals on January 31st, 2017! Congratulations to Columbus School's 4th and 5th grade National Geographic Bee winners! Finishing in first place was Jotleen Nijjar, in second place Wilmarie Lopez and in third place Daniel Villanueva.



WINTER WONDERLAND PAINT NIGHT

Columbus School self-contained classes held a Winter Wonderland Paint Night. Both students and parents were invited to paint a canvas that was then put together to create one large painting. Parents and students also were able to enjoy pizza and refreshments.



COLUMBUS SCHOOL NEHS

Columbus School established its first National Elementary Honor Society Chapter this year. We celebrated with an Induction Ceremony on January 12, 2017 to honor students who excel academically and model exceptional responsibility. The NEHS focuses on four pillars: scholarship, responsibility, service, and leadership. The students have been involved in several service projects. The new members are Anaya Diaz, Mason Diaz, Gabrielle Herrera (President), Jaskirat Khakh, Wilmarie Lopez (Vice President), Humaira Malik, Jordan Muniz, Magdalena Negrón, Jotleen Nijjar, Diego Nunez Rojas, Sebastian Raducha, Steve Sierra, Ashley Singh, and Ranveer Singh.



HOUR OF CODE IN MR. RUBILLA'S CLASS

The Columbus School 2nd through 5th grade classes participated in the hour of code during the month of December. The students are learning that everything they see on the computer happens through a series of commands or code. They are getting the chance to write their own code using the lessons on code.org. The farther they get in the lessons the more complex the code writing gets. Watch out world, here comes the Columbus School Coders!



SEUSSOLOGY



On February 22, 2017 Columbus School students in grades K-2 were treated to a special presentation called Seussology. This was the kick off event for Read Across America. The Cat in the Hat was the special host. Students got to test their Dr. Seuss trivia during a Dr. Seuss game show. They also had fun dancing along with the Cat in the Hat. Last but not least, students were introduced to a real rabbit as the crowd rhymed along with the host. A great time was had by all!



WORLD HABITATS— THIRD GRADE CLASSES

Our classes have been working hard researching the different habitats that live around the world. The students worked together to compile information, such as, characteristics, weather, animals and plant life for all 5 biomes (deserts, tundras, oceans, rainforests and grasslands). Individually each student created a World Habitats mobile. These are displayed in the hallway, so feel free to stop by and check them out!



STUDENT COUNCIL HOLIDAY PAJAMA DRIVE

The Student Council sponsored their annual Holiday Pajama Drive. With the assistance from students, parents, and staff our school was able to donate 100 pairs of pajamas to children in need. Pajamas were donated to children in the Carteret community as well as local shelters.



POLICE APPRECIATION LED BY STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council made cards, candy grams, and goody bags for the Carteret Police Department as a token of appreciation for keeping our community safe. Members of the police department were presented with home made treats to be shared with the entire police department at police headquarters.





NEW JERSEY ART EDUCATORS WINTER STUDENT ART SHOW

Two of our third grade students, Mehekpreet Kaur and Natalia Rodriguez had artwork selected for display at the New Jersey Art Educators Winter Student Art Show. This show took place at the NJPAC and opened with a reception for students and their families. Both girls are hard working artists who always show their creativity in art class. The NJ Art Educators puts together displays of student artwork throughout the year.

ELEMENTARY HONOR BAND

Gabriella Herrera and Jotleen Nijjar have been accepted into the Elementary Honor Band, which is comprised of students in grades 4, 5, and 6 from all over central NJ. Band directors nominate some of their students to play in the bands so that the best students from each town have an opportunity to play with others of comparable skill level. There are three different bands, and Gabby and Jotleen have both been placed in the top band. This is a great honor for them and speaks a lot not only about their musical ability, but also their work ethic, perseverance, and dedication. Congratulations Gabby and Jotleen!





PTO NEWS

TRICKY TRAY FUNDRAISER

The Columbus School PTO will host a fundraising event to benefit
the Columbus School children

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2017

Doors open at 6:00 PM. Drawing begins at 7:00 pm

1 Carteret Avenue

Carteret, NJ 07008

Admission: \$25 which includes one sheet of tier 1 tickets, dessert, tea/coffee. Feel free to bring your own refreshments. This event is open to anyone over the age of 21 plus it is handicapped accessible. No children will be permitted into the event.

Information: 732-541-8960 ext. 2002 Michele Irving

****NEXT PTO MEETING WILL BE ON MARCH 23rd, 2017****