

COMMUNITY PARK NEWS

The Heart of the Community

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Vol. 7 No. 6
November 22, 2017

Upcoming Events and Dates to Remember

Nov. 22	1 PM Dismissal - Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 23 & 24	SCHOOLS CLOSED - Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 4	1 PM Dismissal - Staff Development
Dec. 6 - 9	CP PTO Bookfair (See below for details!)



What's Happening at CP:

Kindergarten students were using rhythms they learned in Mrs. Chorba's music class to write their own "turkey songs."



CP Kindergarten students had their "Thanksgiving Feast" yesterday. Everyone contributed items and classes had a great time feasting and talking about all of the things they have to be thankful for.



The Garden State On Your Plate produce tasting series made its second visit to CP. Students were treated to a tasting of a variety of raw carrots and a delicious carrot soup, seasoned with lime and cumin salt. Chef Brad Ortega from Princeton University Dining Services led the event, talking with students about cooking with carrots and showing them several colors of carrots and explaining how they can be used to make a colorful, tasty meal. The Garden State On Your Plate series emphasizes NJ produce items, the different ways they can be prepared and how flavor can be altered. A big thank you to Fran McManus, Founder of the Princeton School Gardens Cooperative, Inc., and all the parent volunteers.

Taking Care of Business:

- Please remember to check the Lost & Found for your child's "missing" coats, sweatshirts, mittens, hats, lunch bags, water bottles, etc.
- As the weather gets more winter-like, please be sure that your child is dressed warmly - **we will go outside for recess despite cold temperatures!**
- Third grade students have now joined the fourth and fifth grade students in our gym in the mornings between 8:00 and 8:25.
- Our school day begins at 8:25. Students should arrive at school by 8:25 and join their classes in either the APR (grades pre-k through 2) or the gym (grades 3-5) where we pledge allegiance together as a school and then move to classrooms with the teachers. If your child arrives after 8:35, a parent must accompany him/her to the main office to sign in. Students who arrive after 8:35 are considered tardy.
- Lice Alert: Please be aware that we do encounter periodic outbreaks of lice. As we do not know which classes will be affected, preventative measures are advised! Send your child to school with gel or oil in his/her hair. Tie back, braid, or put long hair in a bun. Pigtales are not recommended. Check your child's hair for lice. Over the holiday, wash your child's coat, hat(s) and backpack. Please refer to the bright pink flyer that went home in backpacks for additional information.

COMMUNITY PARK TREX RECYCLING CHALLENGE!

Community Park has entered an exciting contest to see how much plastic film we can recycle. We are competing against schools all across the country from November 15th, 2017 through April 15th, 2018. What is plastic film? An easy way to think of plastic film is that it is any plastic that has some stretchiness to it. Examples of plastic film are: grocery bags, bread bags, case overwrap, dry cleaning bags, newspaper sleeves, ice bags, ziplock and other resealable bags, produce bags, bubble wrap, and salt bags. All materials must be clean, dry, and free of food residue. If you know of a business that regularly disposes of plastic film, ask them for some so that we can amp up our weigh-in of plastic film.

Each week, starting November 15th, drop your plastic film off at CP and place them in the designated boxes. We will keep you updated of our progress! We are in competition to win an amazing prize from the company Trex that makes products out of 90+% recycled plastic film. For more info read: <https://www.trex.com/recycling/recycling-programs/>

Clean out your cupboards and bring in your plastic film!!

Sponsored by the Community Park Sustainability Committee

Parker Bear Book Fair Information - Dates, Volunteer Opportunities, Waffle Party!!

The Parker Bear Book Fair is fast approaching! The Book Fair will be held **Wednesday, December 6 through Friday, December 8 from 8:00 am – 3:30 pm and Saturday, December 9th from 9:00 am – 11:00 am**. Be sure not to miss Saturday morning, as it is the first annual world famous **Parker Bear Book Fair Waffle Party!** There will be delicious waffles provided by Nina's waffles! There will be story telling by beloved CP teachers! There will be a hot chocolate bar in support of the 5th grade class! Cost of attendance for the Waffle Party is \$5.

We are excited to announce that all proceeds from the book fair will go to support the Parker Bear Fund, a CP PTO fund that exists to help provide enrichment opportunities to CP families experiencing financial difficulties. This year the PTO is working hard to establish the Parker Bear Fund and we are thrilled that the book fair can play a part in that.

Please note that during the week, your child will walk through the Parker Bear Book Fair with their class to preview the books and compile a wish list for your convenience. The wish list will be sent home with your child with instructions on how to return payment. Additionally, you can visit the Parker Bear Book Fair any time it is open to purchase books with your child, most especially during the Waffle Party! There will also be a Teacher's Wish List available at the Book Fair, should you wish to donate a book to a classroom, a specials class, or the library

As always, we can't do this without the help of our wonderful CP community. We so appreciate your help!

If you have any questions, please contact Tara Sikma at tarasikma@gmail.com or Meghan Hedin at meghan.hedin@gmail.com