

# Celebrate the Children

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

### THE SECRET IGLOO, REVEALED

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- The Secret Igloo
- Giving Hope Network Gala
- Around Campus
- Upcoming Events

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The Secret Igloo is no longer a secret and we hope you had a chance to stop by to see it this past weekend. Jenny Purner, the mastermind behind this project, designed this fundraising event for Celebrate the Children because she worked for our summer camp program this past summer, and loved what we were doing in the school.



Located in Rockaway, NJ, the igloo was built using empty cartons as molds to create ice bricks, 450 to be exact, approximate 2,000 pounds! The ice bricks were each tinted different colors to give the ice a colorful stained-glass effect. At dusk and during the evening, a BRIGHT light was placed inside to scream color to the night sky!



Jenny, along with many good friends and family worked tirelessly at the site greeting guests, accepting donations, organizing and managing entertainment such as fire hoops/dancers, DJ music, and taking photos.



A world of thanks to the amazing and very thoughtful, Jenny Purner, for organizing, designing and bringing The Secret Igloo to life. This was a remarkable event and an extraordinary gift for Celebrate the Children. On behalf of all the students, staff and families, thank you and your team, from the bottom of our hearts!



## GIVING HOPE NETWORK'S 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GALA



Members from Celebrate the Children attended the Giving Hope Network's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala at The Pleasantdale Chateau this weekend. Our very own, Monica Osgood and student, Alec M shared their thoughts and appreciation on The Giving Hope Network's Hear Me Now Project and how it has positively impacted our school.

The Hear Me Now project is an effort to assist people with ASD (autism spectrum disorders), especially young children. Hear Me Now fosters collaboration among organizations (e.g., schools), as well as businesses and parents/individuals who share our goals. By working with schools, they seek synergistic developments of best practices so that students with ASD can eventually find jobs that utilize their individual skills.



At the present time, they are intensely focused on emerging evidence that iPad use greatly enhances communication skills and learning ability—hence quality of life—of people with ASD. The Giving Hope Network has generously donated 40 iPads to Celebrate the Children for use within their classrooms.



Giving Hope Network (GHN) is a trusted and ever-growing network committed to transforming lives. We partner with other 501(c) 3 approved organizations to drive cross-organizational collaboration, innovation and issue resolution to develop shared solutions for large, complex societal challenges. The Giving Hope Network is committed to transforming the lives of those with ASD, to enable them to fulfill their highest potential, including eventual employment as adults.



## A PEEK INTO THE PROGRAM PHYSICAL EDUCATION WITH WENDY BEFFERT

In anticipation of the CTC Sea Turtle's big game against the Phoenix center next week, the focus in Physical Education has been on basketball. Both primary and secondary students are having a blast working on dribbling, partner chest and bounce passing, shooting, rebounding and pivoting to change direction. Older primary and secondary students are beginning to work on offensive and defensive techniques and game strategies through various games and game like drills.

Dribbling and passing the ball while keeping it in control require a tremendous level of motor planning or, as Dr. Wachs puts it in his book, *Thinking Goes To School*, having a good **Mental Map Of The Body**. The eye-hand coordination, sudden change of direction and moving in multiple directions required for basketball all help to increase **Coordination Of Body's Axes and Body Balance**, two more vital General Movement Thinking Skills deemed as precursors to success in art, math, science, geography and industrial arts by Dr. Wachs. Additionally, Dr. Wachs notes that these skills have positive effects on vision, skeletal development and behavior.

We're all looking forward to the CTC Bowl on January 31 and will be doing some non-contact football skills next week in preparation for the punt, pass, kick contest!



## A PEEK INTO THE PROGRAM STUDENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Welcome to Denville and Happy 2014 from Student and Family Support Services! The students and staff are happily settling into our new state of the art building! The transition has gone remarkably smooth and we want to thank all the parents for their collaboration and support in this process.

Some important information we want to pass along:

- All case management remains the same.
- Our department is present in all the wings of the school.

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Please keep an eye out in the weekly newsletter for upcoming SFSS announcements and events. Looking forward to working with you in the New Year and in the new space.

**CELEBRATE THE CHILDREN  
ANNUAL BENEFIT**

*Celebrating 10 Years*

**Annual Benefit  
March 14, 2014  
Meadow Wood Manor  
Randolph, New Jersey**

It was born out of a vision and passion for children with alternative learning styles with 4 students in a small center. Now, we celebrate 10 years of excellence and passion with almost 120 students from over 70 school districts. Join us as we remember our journey and celebrate the past, present and future of Celebrate the Children at our annual benefit! Visit our website TODAY for more information, sponsorship opportunities or to reserve your tickets!

**WHY ARE WE USING SOCIAL MEDIA AND WHY SHOULD YOU FOLLOW US?**

Autism is the fastest-growing serious developmental disability in the United States and now affects 1 in 50 children. More children will be diagnosed with autism this year than AIDS, Diabetes and Cancer combined.

We are at an important time in the field of special needs intervention as many people are beginning to recognize the need for approaches that look at the overall development of a child and target areas such as abstract thinking, problem solving, independence, self-esteem, emotions, language, and social interactions in a natural and supportive setting. At this time, the demand for this type of intervention is much greater than what clinicians and educators are able to supply. Therefore, it is crucial that we share the amazing programs we have to offer and the "how to" with others.

To fulfill our mission, we need your help and ask you to participate with us in the development of work, in the sharing and building of materials, and in the structure and growth of our organizations: Celebrate the Children and Profectum. Like us on Facebook, Pinterest and Twitter and spread awareness of progressive programs that support families and help individuals reach their highest potential and find success in society.

Please share our pages and posts with your family and friends! ☺



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

January 27<sup>th</sup>  
Parent Social Group  
Tabor Road Tavern  
6:30pm

February 17<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>  
Winter Break

February 3<sup>rd</sup>  
After School Program Begins

March 14<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Benefit  
Celebrating 10 Years!

*Celebrate the Children*  
A School for Children with Alternative Learning Styles

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