

Celebrate the Children

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Special Visitor!
- Around Campus
- Upcoming Events

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pajama Drive
2

A Peek Into the Classroom &
Program
2-3

BASF Grant Recipient
4

10 Year Anniversary Benefit
4

Info. & Upcoming Events
5

CELEBRATE THE VISITORS!



Anie Knipping spent Friday afternoon at Celebrate the Children meeting and speaking to some of our students, staff and parents. She provided fantastic insight into what it is like to be autistic and spoke of some of her experiences. Anie talked to CTC about how she combats the feeling of being OVERLOADED. "What I have told friends about my autism and combating my sensory overload is I take my brain offline -a nothing day. And I mean strictly nothing- even if I start to feel better I still do nothing. Then usually, the next day, I'm back online." Everyone very much enjoyed her visit and a few mentioned, "they could have listened to her talk for hours".

We hope to invite Anie back soon, but until then, if you weren't able to grab a copy of her book, ***Eccentricity- A Journey through a Mind***, you can purchase it on amazon.com or read it online at her website,

<http://www.theseventhstarprojects.com/eccentricity.html>

"When you're autistic you're walking around with an extremely fragile piece of equipment that is your sensory system and you have to learn to adapt and recalibrate."
-Anie Knipping

PAJAMA DRIVE

It's time for the annual Scholastic Reading Club Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive benefitting the Pajama Program, a nonprofit organization that provides new pajamas and books to children in need—especially those living in group homes, shelters, foster care, and orphanages.

Since 2009, caring classrooms across the country have risen to the challenge and donated nearly 250,000 pairs of new pajamas. The Scholastic Reading Club has more than matched those numbers with nearly 600,000 new books donated to Pajama Program.

Our school wants to be a part of this drive so that we can help make a better bedtime for these children. Together we can help the Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive reach even more kids with pjs and books.

If you and your child are able to participate, please have your child bring in a new pair of pajamas to school by **December 12th**.

Here are some simple guidelines for the pajamas:

- Pajamas must be brand-new.
- Pajamas in all sizes are needed—from newborn to adult.
- Pajamas must be in complete sets or nightgowns.
- Pajamas in children's sizes must be manufactured as pajamas—this ensures that they are flame-retardant and safe.



If you have any further questions regarding this program please contact Lauren Babcock at lbabcock@celebratethechildren.org.

Thank you for helping us share the gift of a good night's sleep and a sweet bedtime story.

PS: You can find out more about the drive and the program at: scholastic.com/pjdrive

A PEEK INTO THE PROGRAM FACILITATED COMMUNICATION



Exciting things are happening in the FC Department this year! We have started off with a great parent group in October. We had a large group attend and were able to talk about things like, getting started, skepticism and making practice fun. It was nice to see veteran families as well as new families all supporting each other in this journey. We are looking forward to another parent group in December.



We also had a wonderful Introductory Training in November. We had families, staff and professionals from other schools participate. It was nice to see such enthusiasm and excitement around presuming competence!!



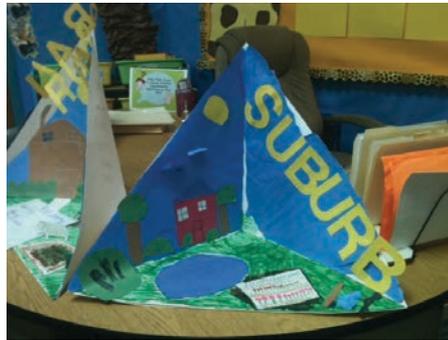
Most recently, we had our first opportunity to connect with a little girl, Lucy, in Wales. She is typing to communicate, however, she is the only one in her school who is communicating this way. Actually, she is the only one in her area that types to communicate. She has a desire to connect with other students who communicate the way she does as she has never seen another person who can type. She was excited to participate in a SKYPE call with our lovely, Marina last week. Both girls were nervous but happy to meet each other. This was a first for both of them. Marina invited Lucy to visit our school and also said she would like to visit Lucy in Wales some day. It was nice to see a friendship blossom over the miles and I think they are both excited to SKYPE again!!!



A PEEK INTO THE CLASSROOM LAURA'S CLASS

For the past two months in Science, Laura's class has been looking at the process in which a plant grows and how living things function. We started a lima bean experiment and have been observing and charting its growth. We have also done a celery experiment with food coloring to understand the process of how plants use their roots to "drink" up water like a straw. The students were pleased with the results, considering our green celery turned blue and red!

In Social Studies, we have been learning about different communities such as Urban, Suburban, and Rural. We have taken many trips in our very own community and have discussed the communities we live in. Moving forward with this concept, each student will research a community and create their very own diorama of what that community looks like!



*"The
mind is
not a
vessel to
be filled,
but a fire
to be
kindled."*

- Plutarch

A PEEK INTO THE CLASSROOM JOE'S CLASS

This week Joe's Social Studies classes are making posters for a fundraising project to collect donations to help victims in the Philippines devastated by typhoon Haiyan. The posters will be displayed throughout the school, and donations will be collected in the following weeks to come.



SCIENCE EDUCATION GRANT BASF



Woo Hoo! We have been chosen as a recipient of a 2013 BASF Science Education Grant of \$5,000. A very, very special thank you to our fabulous Teacher, Kelly Reilly, for applying and impressing the company with her proposal for a Full Biology Lab, and our efforts to foster students' interest in the sciences.

The BASF Science Education Grants, each totaling \$5,000, will enhance the schools' science education programs to help students (K - 12) gain a greater understanding and appreciation of the role that science plays in their every day lives and encourage them to view science as a long-term field of study and possible career path.

"As the world's largest chemical company, BASF is committed to fostering science literacy," said Robin Rotenberg, Vice President and Chief Communications Officer at BASF Corporation. "Today's students will be the thinkers, innovators and leaders of the future; therefore, we need to stimulate their interest in science early on. With these grants, we are helping students experience science in fun and creative new ways; engaging their imaginations and hopefully inspiring a new generation of scientists, physicists, engineers and mathematicians."

Each year, BASF invites local schools to submit proposals summarizing their specific science education needs and how a BASF grant would help them meet those needs. The proposals are reviewed by an internal award review committee comprised of BASF scientists and business leaders. The programs selected this year cover all student age groups from kindergarten through high school.

*"Education
is all a
matter of
building
bridges."*

*- Ralph
Ellison*

Annual Benefit
March 14, 2013
Randolph, New
Jersey

*Formal Invitation to
Follow*

CELEBRATE THE CHILDREN CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

Save the Date

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!

BLOG

This year, Celebrate the Children is introducing a BLOG! Contributions to the blog will be made by Celebrate the Children's highly talented, interdisciplinary team, as well as some of our wonderful families. Posts will include personal stories, experiences or advice as it relates to our students and children with similar gifts. If you would like to contribute to our blog, please email jhammond@celebratethechildren.org, we'd love to share your story! Please visit our website to read our entries!



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

November 20th
Coffee with Dr. Mike
9:00am
Administration Building

November 20th
Thanksgiving Feast
11:00am
Wharton Campus

November 20th
PTO Meeting
1:00pm

November 22nd
SFSS Parent Training
Transition Planning
Dover Campus
9:15am

November 22nd
Small Group Parent Series
Dover Campus
11:00am

November 27th
Early Dismissal
1:00pm

November 28th & 29th
School Closed
Happy Thanksgiving

March 14th
Annual Benefit
Celebrating 10 Years!

Celebrate the Children
A School for Children with Alternative Learning Styles

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