

# Celebrate the Children

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

### INTRODUCING... THE SOUR PUSS PICKLE COMPANY

In Amy's class we developed a small business as a way to functionally practice life skills. We developed the idea, company name, logo, product, and recipe and then actually made the product. The students decided to create the Sour Puss Pickle Company. We have sold one large batch of pickles and plan on making more batches after Valentine's Day.

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Sour Puss Pickle Co.
- Around Campus
- Upcoming Events

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Our company has branched out to make chocolate pickles to sell as "Picklegrams" for Valentine's Day! You can send your friend, secret admirer or teacher and "Picklegram" as a way of saying Happy Valentine's Day! Each pickle will also come with a student written poem. Pickles will be delivered on Friday, February 13th. Please see the attached flyer for more details!!!

From the creators of SOUR PUSS Pickles comes...

# PICKLEGRAMS!

Erase that **SOUR PUSS** by sending a **PICKLE SHAPED CHOCOLATE** to someone **SPECIAL**.

Choose from **SEVERAL** cleverly crafted **POEMS**. Send to a teacher, student, friend, companion or **SECRET FLAME!**

Order online at [sourpusspickles.weebly.com](http://sourpusspickles.weebly.com) or fill out an attached order form and return to Amy's class or the front desk

Orders due: 6 FEBRUARY | Payment by: 10 FEBRUARY | Delivered: 13 FEBRUARY

**SOUR PUSS PICKLES CO.** was developed as a way to functionally practice life skills in the classroom. Profit's go towards a classroom trip. ALL ideas are thought out by the students.

## A PEEK INTO THE CLASSROOM KELLY'S CLASS



Kelly's high school chemistry class has recently completed individual research projects on the Periodic Table of Elements. Weekly lab experiences focus on the interrelationship of the elements on this table. In their projects, students were asked to include the history of the periodic table, contributions of Dmitri Mendeleev, the significance of groups and periods on the table, as well as what information is given on the table. Students also discussed the characteristics of metals, metalloids and non-metals and the groups of actinides, lanthanides and noble gases. Students were required to cite their research sources, include a title page, and present the project to their classmates. All projects have been displayed in the hallway on the second floor of the high school wing of the school.

Kelly's high school biology class has been studying change over time with specific focus on the periods of the geologic time scale. Students are determining which organisms lived in each of the periods. Students participated in a fossil excavation and uncovered the bones of a velociraptor. In addition, they studied the characteristics of the velociraptor, compared it to other dinosaurs, and engaged in discussion on the concepts extinct species, endangered species, and mass extinction.

## A PEEK INTO THE RELATED SERVICES PROGRAM

The Related Service Department supervised a cook-off in Deb's Related Service Group. The students collaboratively chose to bake a dessert for the contest. They also worked together to choose the judges who were: Dr Mike Knox, Sue Lechner, Cathy Helmlinger and Daniela Pelusa.

The students initially split into 2 groups and each group was responsible to choose a recipe, make a shopping list and prepare the dessert. Along the way, many activities were included to address various therapy goals from speech, OT and PT. The competition was quite exciting. The students had a pre-determined time frame that they had to stick to and had to work as a team to accomplish their goals.

Although one team was putting on the finishing touches as the judges walked in, both teams were able to complete the recipe and present the judges with a delicious treat. In the end, it was a close competition but the Oreo cookie won with 52 points and Chocolate Chip fought a good battle earning 50 points.



## A PEAK INTO THE PROGRAM TRANSITION PROGRAM

The Hampton Inn in Denville gives our students valuable work experience by teaching them a variety of job skills related to the hotel industry. On December 18th, 2014, several of our student interns had the opportunity to join the Hampton Inn employees as they celebrated the holiday season. Along with having a chance to mingle with coworkers, they were also introduced to the new hotel owners. Each student was awarded a certificate indicating their hard work and they also received special recognition. The Hampton Inn has truly embraced the philosophy of the CTC transition internship program and they strive to accommodate individual student needs through their guidance and encouragement.



## ANNUAL BENEFIT



It's almost time for Celebrate the Children's Annual Benefit and you won't want to miss this year's event! On Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, Celebrate the Children will host an evening of fine foods, dinner, live music, dancing, silent auction, and a Run for the Roses Derby Event! Don't forget your hats! Derby attire is encouraged and prizes will be awarded for the best one! Currently, we are seeking donations for tricky tray items, silent auction items and general monetary gifts. All donations, large or small, are truly appreciated. Various levels of sponsorships are available including "Own/Name a Horse" and "Sponsor a Race" during our horse race event. Please see our website for more details or speak with one of our coordinators for more information. Formal invitations to follow. We hope to see you there!

## RDI PARENT TRAINING

RDI and DIR have the same goal of addressing developmental goals and objectives for students. RDI was designed as a parent based intervention. RDI has hundreds of very specific, systematic, developmental goals that fit nicely within DIR's developmental levels.

The main difference you will likely see and feel initially, is that RDI begins with a more structured, parent or guide led approach. Our goal in RDI is to create opportunities for the child to become regulated through co-regulating with a parent or guide.

Once the child is able to actively and competently engage in the back and forth set up by the parent or guide, more responsibility is transferred to the child to maintain that coordinated activity. Aside from the initial way an RDI activity is set up, it is often difficult to discriminate between RDI and DIR once an activity is in motion.

For more information on RDI, visit [www.rdiconnect.com](http://www.rdiconnect.com)

**Contact Laura Hynes to register  
Or for more information**

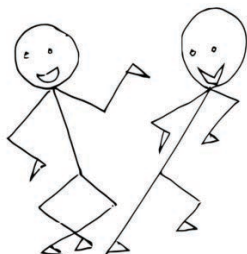
**[LHynes@celebratethechildren.org](mailto:LHynes@celebratethechildren.org)  
973-989-4033 ext 424**



**Wednesdays 12:00-1:30  
January 14<sup>th</sup>- February 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Fridays 11:30-1:00  
January 16<sup>th</sup>-February 6<sup>th</sup>**

## TEEN NIGHT OFFERED THROUGH MOUNT OLIVE PEAK



A night out for Middle School and High School teens in grades 6-12. Dance your feet off and enjoy some fun games. It's a perfect time to socialize with peers, have a snack, and most of all, have fun!

Dates: Saturdays **1/31, 2/21, 3/21**

Time: 7-9 pm

Cost: \$5 per teen

Location: Mt. Olive Senior Center

For more information or to register, please email [kellya@peakgroup.org](mailto:kellya@peakgroup.org)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Now-February 4<sup>th</sup>  
RDI Parent Trainings  
12:00-1:30

Now-February 6<sup>th</sup>  
RDI Parent Trainings  
11:30-1:00

January 28<sup>th</sup>  
Prep Club  
CTC Denville  
6:00pm

January 31<sup>st</sup>  
Teen Night  
Mount Olive Senior Center  
7:00pm

January 31<sup>st</sup>  
Autism Friendly Hockey Game  
Prudential Center  
Tickets Required

February 11<sup>th</sup>  
Coffee with Dr. Mike  
Reservations Required  
9:30am

February 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>  
Winter Recess  
School Closed

March 5<sup>th</sup>  
Speaker Series  
SCARC Guardianship Services  
7:00pm

**March 27<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Benefit  
SAVE THE DATE!**

April 1<sup>st</sup>  
Coffee with Dr. Mike  
Reservations Required  
9:30am

June 11<sup>th</sup>  
Speaker Series  
Transportation  
7:00pm



# Celebrate the Children

A School for Children with Alternative Learning Styles

Phone: 973.989.4033  
[www.celebratethechildren.org](http://www.celebratethechildren.org)