



# The Oak Leaflet

A Publication of the Oak Street School PTO



## UPCOMING DATES

Friday, 11/18 – Report cards available on Home Access Center

Wednesday, 11/23 – 1:00 dismissal

Thursday, 11/24 & Friday, 11/25 – SCHOOL CLOSED, Thanksgiving break

Monday, 11/28 – BOE Meeting

Wednesday, 11/30 – Picture Retakes

Friday, 12/2 – School store open, grades 1-5

## BOOK DRIVE

Please send in your slightly used, well loved children's books. All types of books are welcome (board books, picture books, chapter books, magazines, books on tape etc.) and should be appropriate for grades kindergarten through 5th grade. There will also be a drop off box in the front foyer of Oak Street School. The book drive will continue through November 30th.

All donations will be given to children in the Newark Public School System. If you have any questions please contact Sarah Herrera at [sarah\\_herrera@yahoo.com](mailto:sarah_herrera@yahoo.com). Thank you!

## HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Volunteers are needed!! December 14-16 are the days that the children will be coming through the boutique with their classes. It's a great day to help the children choose gifts for their families. Email Heather Lusardi [HeatherL1@optonline.net](mailto:HeatherL1@optonline.net) to sign up.

## NEWSPAPERS, NEWSPAPERS

Did you know that the Franklin Township Animal Shelter uses 15 sheets of newspaper to line each cat cage and there are 100 cages?? Do the math...that's 1500 sheets of newspaper or more a day!! In an effort to provide the Shelter with the newspaper it needs for clean and comfy living conditions for our feline friends, Ms. Rayner, in conjunction with members of the Student Council, will be collecting your recyclable newspapers and unfolding them so that they are ready for use at the Shelter. How can you help? Just send in your newspapers to Oak Street School! The cats and kittens thank you for your support!!

## **BAKERS/RECEIVERS/PACKAGERS/DISTRIBUTOR NEEDED!!**

We are still in need of 21 bakers for this year's Holiday Recognition project. The recipe is simple (and yummy!) and is created using a cake mix. We ask each volunteer to bake two bundt cakes, which must be delivered to Oak Street on Monday, December 12 before school starts. We also need nine more volunteers to receive and package the cakes on the morning of December 12, from 8:45-10:45 AM. We need one volunteer to distribute cakes to the crossing guards on the Oak Street side of the school at between 2:45 and 3:15 pm. Without your help, this wonderful opportunity to say "Thank You" to our teachers and staff will not continue! Interested? Please email your name and whether you'd like to bake and/or receive/package/distribute to Nancy Collins at [n\\_collins@msn.com](mailto:n_collins@msn.com). Thank you in advance from co-chairs Jennifer Bozzo and Nancy Collins!

## **COLONIAL DAY HELP**

4th Grade Colonial Day still needs Volunteers for Friday, April 20th - the Museum committee, Toys & Games, Crafts, Lunch and Apothecary rooms are looking for volunteers. This is a great day to get involved and spend time with our children!! Contact Heather Lusardi at [HeatherL1@optonline.net](mailto:HeatherL1@optonline.net) to sign up.

## **FUN WITH QUEEN NUR!**

African singer/storyteller Queen Nur joined grades K-2 last Wednesday for her presentation of "Sweet Potato Pie and Such". For over an hour, her interactive songs and storytelling were thoroughly enjoyed by all (including the teachers who got to act out some farm animal parts in one of the stories!). Messages for the children, shining clearly through the stories, were about showing kindness to others, being grateful, and how to be a good storyteller. The children were also introduced to musical instruments from many different countries. If anyone would like more information, please feel free to contact either Eileen Rodriguez ([reileenmiami@aol.com](mailto:reileenmiami@aol.com)) or Ronni Tennariello ([vtennari@its.jnj.com](mailto:vtennari@its.jnj.com)) , co-VPs of Cultural Arts.

## **BOXTOPS!**

Keep sending in those BoxTops! Just 4 more weeks until our Fall contest ends on December 9th. Current class leaders are Miss Malone (2) - 1116, Mrs. Taccarino (1st) - 1075 and Mrs. Russo (1st) - 610! Send your BoxTops in to school with your child in a baggie or envelope clearly marked with the teacher's name. There is plenty of time for your class to take the lead! Remember, every pink BoxTops coupon you send in earns our PTO 10 cents!!

## **REMINDER -- SALLY FOSTER GIFT WRAP IS AVAILABLE ONLINE**

If you miss Sally Foster gift wrap, remember you can order online and go green this holiday season. It's so easy; simply visit [www.SallyFoster.com](http://www.SallyFoster.com) and go shopping for over 200 items -- great wrapping paper, gourmet food, candles, and other gifts. At checkout, enter Oak Street School's identification number, 874113 (or use the look-up feature), and Oak Street will earn 40% of every purchase. All items are shipped directly to your home for a low flat rate of \$3.95. As an added bonus, shipping is free for all orders over \$50.00. Thanks for your support!

## **4TH AND 5TH GRADERS AND PARENTS**

The PTO Battle of the Books sign up information is in this week's Friday Folder! This year the PTO is bringing you the same wonderful team-oriented reading program with two small changes. The number of books each team will be responsible for reading is being increased from eight to ten which means each team member will be asked to read four books. To give the students ample time to read the extra book we are starting the program one month earlier in December. The Battles will still be held the first week of April. Please read the Friday Folder memo carefully and return your completed participation contracts by December 2nd. All questions can be directed to Jen Staples at [staplesfive@hotmail.com](mailto:staplesfive@hotmail.com).

## **3rd GRADERS ENJOY HISTORY AND SCIENCE CE PROGRAMS**

Last week the 3rd graders participated in tours of the Brick Academy and met the amazing inventor, Thomas Edison, for their Curriculum Enhancement programs. Patrick Garner, who has been coming to Oak Street for years, delivered an informal, fun-filled lecture about Mr. Edison's life and inventions.

The 3rd graders also visited the Brick Academy and learned what it was like to go school in Basking Ridge in the early 1900s. Next, they toured downtown Basking Ridge to learn about interesting historical buildings and locations. Ask your 3rd grader what Atelier was during the Civil War. The Brick Academy visit and walking tour of Basking Ridge expand upon the social studies curriculum on the history of Bernards Township, while Thomas Edison's performance adds to the science curriculum's unit on inventions.

## **Destination Imagination**

Did you miss the Destination Imagination meeting? Don't worry, you can contact Peter Winter at [win@wintron.com](mailto:win@wintron.com). See this week's Friday Folder for the flyer for more information.