



The Barnard PTA Newsletter



A Note from the PTA Presidents

We hope everyone had a nice vacation! If you weren't somewhere warm, then we hope you were able to polish up on your snowball-throwing and snowman-making skills! We sure got our share of cold weather!

But never fear, even though it's still cold outside, it's heating up inside Barnard. After-school activities have begun for our second semester and the children are really enjoying a variety of great classes; many with an emphasis on the exciting Chinese culture!

And speaking of exciting...be prepared for a very *different* Gym Night on March 19th. All we can say is: grab a partner and get your dancing shoes ready! Watch for a flyer, so you can join the Gym Night fun.



Finally... please know that some PTA parents will be graduating from Barnard along with their children. That means there will be committee openings! Now is a great time to think about getting involved in the PTA for next year! Our next PTA meeting is on **Tuesday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Barnard Library. Everyone -- parents and teachers -- are welcome! We will start to nominate and/or volunteer for open positions. This is a perfect time to come to a PTA meeting FOR YOUR FIRST TIME. See if there is a position you have time for! Many positions do not require a lot of time!

Thank you....and have a fun month! Any questions? Contact us anytime.

Melody Baez (melody03@gmail.com)
Alysa Vasapollis (thevasapollis@aol.com)

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Barnard Early Childhood Center
129 Barnard Road
New Rochelle, NY 10801
Phone: 914-576-4386
Newsletter Editor: Robin Rock
Email: rrock63@verizon.net

Upcoming Events & Dates to Remember

- Staff Appreciation Luncheon**
Wed., March 10 @ 11:30 a.m.
- Gym Night II**
Fri., March 19 @ 6:30 p.m.
- Next PTA Meeting**
Tue., April 6 @ 7:00 p.m.

Congratulations to Mrs. Flesdrager's class for collecting the most Box Tops this round!

Remember to keep collecting...there will be another collection before the end of the year!



NUTRITION WEEK (a/k/a **No Junk Food Week**) is March 15th – 19th.

There are a lot of fun and informative activities that will take place at Barnard for the students. We will have 2 *Hands 2 Learn* come to give each class a demonstration on the importance of children eating vegetables in their diets. There will be an opportunity to taste the food they will be learning about. We are also happy to welcome back Robex who will supply the children with a delicious fruit smoothie sample as they generously did last year. To encourage and reinforce healthy eating habits we will have small samples of healthy food coming to the classroom during the children's usual snack time. Please note the healthy snacks will only be a sampling and not take the place of a snack from home. We will end the week with a healthy bake sale, all proceeds (and leftovers) will go to the Hope Community Kitchen in New Rochelle.



On Friday, January 15, over seventy (70) children bounded into the gym for the Barnard PTA's first **Gym Night** of the school year. Mike Norelli, a professional child fitness expert, and eight (8) PTA dads divided the enthusiastic children into teams and spread them out across the gym for relay races. Each dad was assigned a team. The children proceeded to run, jump, crawl and bound back and forth across the floor. There were lots of high fives and gusto. Boys outnumbered girls at least two to one, but the girls were speedy and deft.

During the short break for healthy snacks, the sweaty children were able to purchase water, fruit, popcorn and granola bars from friendly volunteer PTA moms. The snack bar was quite busy. Then the children headed back into the gym for more fun. The scooter race was a highlight of the night. It was great!

During the event, Millie Radonjic, Amy's Greenhouse chairperson, showed a video presentation in the library to interested parents. The video was recently featured at a Board of Education meeting and shows the evolution of the greenhouse, describes its mission, and features the many projects that take place in the greenhouse. Thanks Millie!

Thank you to Janet Frey, our Gym Night chairperson, for coordinating these wonderful events for Barnard families. A special thanks also to our volunteer moms and dads who made the night a true (and healthy) success!

The Barnard PTA sponsored a friendly Pot Luck Dessert Party on Wednesday, January 27. The event was attended by a wonderful group of Barnard parents and children who enjoyed quite a variety of cakes, cookies and pies. One of the first guests later won the delicious double chocolate cake door prize. Parents were able to informally mix and mingle and learn about the PTA. Thank you to Ms. Lambert, Dr. Pisani and Ms. Rashbaum for attending. Also, thank you to Liz Smith and Karen Hessel who created lovely felt holly corsages for class moms and attendees. It was nice to meet so many parents! We hope to see you at future PTA events and meetings. Leftover desserts were donated to Hope Community Kitchen and they were absolutely thrilled to receive them. Thank you Piko Lowenstein for delivering the goodies to the pantry!

The **Appleseed Arcade** is coming to the Hugh Doyle Senior Center on Sunday, March 14th from 2-4 p.m.

This is a fun event for young kids. They can enjoy a party atmosphere while sharing an afternoon with some seniors in their own community. This is not a nursing home but a center where seniors come together to socialize. There will be many different old-fashioned games such as table bowling, ring toss, bingo and much more. There will also be a make your own apple head station (similar to Mr. Potato Head but with real ingredients).

A flyer will be coming home soon and pre-registration is required so sign-up and enjoy a fun free event.