

## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Kathleen A. Sidoti

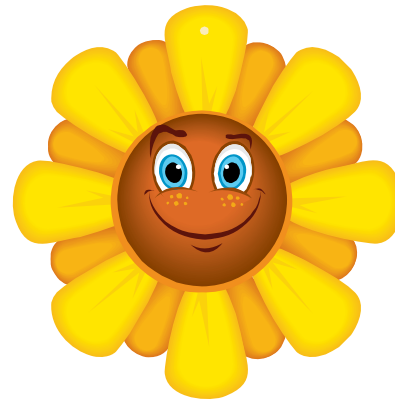
Summer vacation is almost upon us and another school year is coming to an end. I extend my sincere thanks to our staff, parents, students and the Leonardo Community for a terrific job! Teamwork has enabled us to provide many unique enrichment opportunities for everyone to enjoy. We continue to pledge to be peacemakers at all times and to treat others with respect.

The students have demonstrated their abilities in the academic areas as well as their responsibilities with their daily routines. They continue to utilize their talents and are ready to progress to the next level. The students' hard work and serious efforts have given them the tools to meet the challenges they will be presented with in the future.

Our PTA has afforded many experiences for our children. The students have participated in many cultural programs, class trips and enrichment activities that have enhanced their lives both inside and outside the classroom. Without your continued support of our school programs and dedication to your child's educational process, we could not have achieved our objectives. Your contributions of time, financial support, and suggestions for improvement, are always appreciated.

Our teachers continue to reinforce manners, respect, and good citizenship with each other. They continue to set high expectations for the children and have encouraged your sons and daughters to do their very best work.

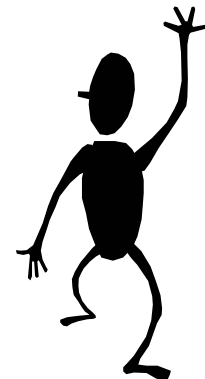
I extend my very best wishes to the fifth graders as they leave Leonardo Grade School



for the next part of their educational journey. I feel confident they will accomplish great things.

Your ideas and suggestions

for increasing our effectiveness and efficiency with the operation of our school are always encouraged. I look forward to working with you next year and wish you a safe, healthy, and happy summer.



## Student Scoops

CONGRATULATIONS to Miss Brannagan's Class! They collected a total of 780 boxtops (\$78.00). They enjoyed a "cool" ice cream party.

School-wide, 5,650 boxtops (\$565.00) were collected. For the year, Leonardo Grade School collected 10,951 boxtops = \$1,095.10

GREAT JOB!

Keep clipping your boxtops! We will have a contest early in the school year next year. We have really done a great job in collecting these to pay for some great activities! Questions regarding boxtops should be directed to Michelle Marconi at 732-872-9213.



## From Our PTA Board

As the school year comes to an end, we would like to thank all of the parent and teacher volunteers who gave their time to help with all of the activities enjoyed by the students. A big THANK YOU to Michele DeFalco and the Gift Auction Committee for putting together a wonderful evening of food and prizes at this year's Gift Auction held at Jacques on April 25th. The Gift Auction made a profit of over \$19,000!! This is our school's biggest fundraiser and even during these hard economic times, thank you to all of the parents, family & friends who stepped up, attended and supported this event.



We would like to say good-bye to the 5<sup>th</sup> graders and wish them all the best as they move onto Bayshore Middle School and begin a new journey in

their lives. We hope that they will take all of the lessons learned here at Leonardo Grade School and reflect and build on them in the future.

For those students and parents returning, we have already begun preparing for student activities for the next school year. At our May PTA meeting, a sign up sheet was available for volunteering and we are sad to say that there was a meager response. At this time very few committees have been formed. If you are interested in volunteering your time next year for an event or fundraiser, there will be an open sign-up for committees until the end of the school year. *Please note that if you chaired or volunteered for a committee this year, it will not be assumed that you are continuing that role.* All interested volunteers should notify a PTA Executive Board member and sign up for their selected committee. Please keep in mind that most, if not all, of the activities enjoyed by the students throughout the school year are provided by the PTA, not the Board of Education. PTA funds are raised solely by fundraisers.

Volunteering is a great way to get involved and meet other parents in the community.

NO VOLUNTEERS = NO ACTIVITIES

*Our PTA meetings are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in the All Purpose Room of the school and child care is provided FREE OF CHARGE. If you are a new parent or have been around awhile and would like to get involved with your child's education, please join us. We look forward to seeing you next year.*

The PTA Executive Board

## All Around the School

### Gift Auction

This year's Gift Auction was held at Jacques on Friday, April 25, 2008. It was a fabulous evening and a great school fundraiser.

Thanks to the great committee who headed the whole thing and of course thanks to the Leonardo Family who supported this terrific fundraiser .

Please remember to keep collecting your can tabs. Please give them to Mrs. K-H who will donate them to her Church. They in turn will donate the tabs to the Ronald McDonald House.



## From the Nurse's Office

### Tick Tips

Tick season is here and several have been visiting the Health Office lately. They are found in fields and woods where they attach themselves to exposed skin of humans and animals. They can cause different illnesses but prevention and early detection are the best defenses.

The simplest way to remove one is to pull it out with a tissue or tweezers to shield fingers from getting infected. Then clean the area with bactine and apply an anti-bacterial cream.

If the tick is very small, call the doctor and save it for testing if necessary. Insect repellent should be sprayed on clothing as well as skin.

Here at school, ticks are saved in zip lock bags and parents decide if they want to keep them. Sometimes we even name them!

Have a sunny and healthy summer.

Mrs. Fugaro, RN

School Nurse

Please remember that we all share many areas of Leonardo Grade School on a daily basis. We all must remember to clean up after ourselves and make sure we practice good hygiene. When using the restrooms, remember to wash your hands and pick up any trash you may drop on the floor. It will really make our whole school a more pleasant place to be.

## Classroom Chit Chat

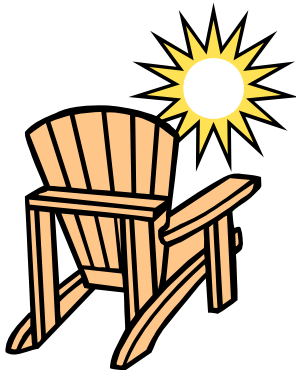
**KAM Miss Thompson KPM**

Where has the year gone? Math Olympics was a great success and so much fun! Shane Moran did a great job bringing in the torch at our opening ceremonies. Nicholas Ainbinder and Morgan McCormack were excellent flag holders carrying in our Netherlands flag and speaking about the torch. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered their time to participate at our Math Olympics. I really appreciate all your help!

May has been a very busy month for us. We started it off with our Mother's Day Celebration. I am so proud of all the Kindergarteners for doing such a wonderful job performing songs and poems. We made our moms flowers, cards, and a very special gift filled with hugs & kisses. Thanks to everyone who was able to attend!

In June, we really enjoyed Fun Day. We are looking forward to our beach trip and our End of the Year Program. In Math, we have been learning so many great things such as understanding addition and subtraction. In

Reading, we are working on Unit 6 "Choices". Keep reading and writing. You're all doing a great job! Enjoy the summer! Hope everyone has a lot of fun and stays safe!



**1A Miss Plunkett 1A**

Wow! It is hard to believe that this school year is almost over already. The past few weeks have been packed with fun filled activities and experiences. The class went on a trip to Jenkinson's Aquarium where the children were able to touch live sea animals and later walk on the beach to find shells. The class did agree that one of the highlights of the trips was eating pizza outside and braving the windy weather.



Another exciting event in 1A was when we came into class after Memorial Day to find that one of the guppies had babies. The children loved interacting with the organisms and making daily observations. The class also had fun on Fun Day and enjoyed their trip to the Leonardo Beach.

Have a wonderful and relaxing summer!! It has been a terrific year. Thank you for helping with various classroom activities throughout the year!!

**1B Mrs. Sheehan 1B**

The end of the school year has arrived. WOW! Where did the time go? Your child has grown so many different ways since September. Academically, emotionally, physically and in maturity are some of those ways, just to name a few. It has really been a wonderful year. A special thank you to all who helped in any way this year. It was greatly appreciated. Good luck to all my wonderful first graders next year as second graders. I will miss all of you. Have a safe and fun summer!

2A

2B

2C

Mrs. Chamra, Mrs. Keitans-Hines  
& Mrs. Youncofski

We've had a very busy May!

We started with the NJ PASS tests! All children were present during the testing week. Thank you for your cooperation!

Mothers' Day gifts were sent home in May. Many thanks to Mrs. Pachomski for taking charge and putting together all of the cookbooks! It was a tremendous amount of work!!!

Our class trips to The Bayshore Waterfront Park, High School North, Monmouth Museum, and Holmdel Park are now over. We learned a lot and had great fun! Many thanks to all of the parents who accompanied us on the trips and helped make them a success!

Happy Father's Day to all of our dads with children in 2A, 2B, and 2C! Don't forget to look for something "special" to come from your child, as your day gets closer...

As the end of school and the "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer" approach, please don't forget to continue reading with/to your children for a few minutes every day.

Weekly trips to the library may prove to be an exciting and fun way to spend a few



quality moments with your child! The library also has a summer reading club that your child could participate in.

Many thanks, from all of us, to all of the many parent

volunteers that came in to help throughout the year. We all appreciate the help that you have been able to give this past year!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade teachers would like to wish everyone a very happy, safe, and fun-filled

summer. We look forward to seeing you in September!

The Second Grade Teachers

3A

Mrs. O'Connor

3A

This year is coming to a close, and we can't believe how fast the year has gone! It seems like yesterday that we just started third grade. We had an excellent year in third grade. The children learned many new concepts this year. We learned how to multiply and divide and also had a great time learning fractions using brownies. In Social Studies, we did a report about life in an Amish Community. We also learned about our State and National Government. Science was fun when we studied rocks and chemicals.



The children worked very hard getting ready and taking the NJ ASK 3 test in March. Mrs. O'Connor was proud of the whole class.

Mrs. O'Connor would like to thank Mrs. Marletta for being her class mother and for Mr. Marletta coming in to cook with us this year. She would also like to thank all the other parents who volunteered this year. Without your support we wouldn't have been able to do all the fun things that we did this year.

The children will be bringing home their collection of Friday letters. What a great way to remember all the things we did this year when you can go back and read all your letters.

Please continue to read and visit the library over the summer. What a great time to sit and relax and enjoy a good book. Have a safe and healthy summer. Mrs. O'Connor looks forward to seeing everyone again in September.

3B

Mrs. Cino

3B

Wow! It's hard to believe the end of school is upon us. I would like to thank all my students for such a wonderful year. They have worked so hard and have progressed nicely. I would also like to thank the parents for all their support to their children all year long.

A special thanks to the parents who have assisted with parties, class trips, and other activities, and to the families who donated books to our class library as well as to all the people who sent in goodies to our class.

Taylor Betkowski, Alyse Fink, and Eric Pynaker will be leaving us and will not be at Leonardo next year. I wish them much success and best wishes. I have enjoyed having them in my class this year.

I wish everyone a relaxing and terrific summer! Dive into a good book or two!

Mrs. Cino

4A

Mrs. Cuddihy

4A

We are in the final twists and turns of our very exciting year riding the roller coaster of education! As we prepare to bid each other farewell for the summer, we can't help but apply the brakes as we still have so many exciting events to finish!

Recently the students of 4A worked with Mrs. Wouters to put on a play about the Underground Railroad. We sang, acted and danced as we followed the Drinking Gourd (a star constellation) on our Road to Freedom. At the end of our performance, we presented the project work we conducted in conjunction with "O Ambassadors." We hope to be able to share our fundraising efforts with all community members of Leonardo Grade School soon! June is a busy month during which we presented our research about Down by the Bay. On Monday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> all fourth grade students joined together at a "press conference" to share the results of our year long projects. Guests were given press packets and they enjoyed a variety of multimedia presentations about the research conducted at the bay, including a new episode of "Your Town, Your Schools" which documented our year long project. You may have noticed some of the students strutting their stuff on the catwalk. As part of the USA Regions Fashion Show and Dessert Reception, students selected a region of the USA and designed an ensemble representing that region. Some outfit creations included snowboarders, celebrities like Elvis and Colonel Sanders, athletes, governors and even Hollywood actresses! Students were expected to write their own commentary, select background music and create a Power Point slide about their topic as a backdrop to their modeling poses. After the show, the students and their families mingled while dining on a variety of regional cuisine!

For our final Writing Workshop celebration, students created the "Get the Scoop" ice cream parlor. At the ice cream parlor, students and families joined together to listen to our latest realistic fiction pieces. After the storytelling, we shared each other's company while enjoying some sweet treats!

Thank you for a terrific year! Have a safe and healthy summer!

4B

Miss Healey

4B

Year in Review: This year the 4<sup>th</sup> graders have completed and learned so much. They went to Poricy Park, built a Lenape Longhouse, identified shells and living things at Sandy Hook, and worked and studied the Leonardo Bay.

The students also read numerous novels like the Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume, Loser, by Jerry Spinelli, various novels written by Roald Dahl, and much more.

In Mathematics, the students have multiplied, divided, worked with decimals and fractions. They have learned

measurement, geometry, elapsed time, probability, and profits. The students have also learned how to balance a checkbook and run our classroom store.

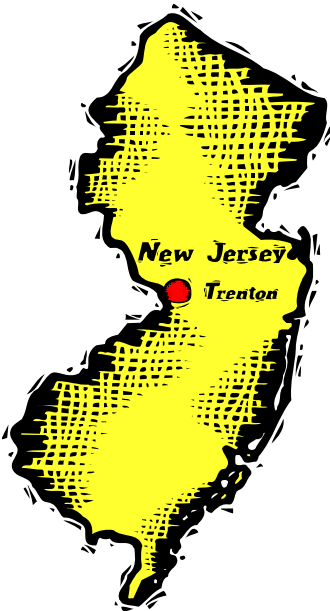
Science had the students working with motion and design, electrical circuits, cells, ecosystems, and living and nonliving things.

In Social Studies, students learned about geography, New Jersey, and the regions of the United States. They learned about physical features, natural resources,

transportation, economy, and the history of each location.

4B was an absolute joy to have this year.

Have a wonderful and healthy summer. Keep reading!!!!



4C

Miss Brannagan

4C

It's hard to believe the end of the school year has arrived. Where did the year go? 4C has gone above and beyond. Their hard work and dedication has shined all throughout the year.

Congratulations to all the 4<sup>th</sup> graders who did an outstanding job preparing and performing in the Talent Show. The show was a success. Math Olympics was also a huge hit. 4C did an outstanding job participating in all the games and demonstrating their math skills.

All the 4<sup>th</sup> graders were thrilled to have completed their "Down by the Bay" project. They worked very hard and enjoyed becoming scientists, visiting the Leonardo Bay and Sandy Hook, researching and developing PowerPoint projects, and most of all participating in the "Down by the Bay" press conference. This press conference gave them the opportunity to share their findings with the community. It was an amazing experience for students, teachers and parents. "Down by the Bay" will be something that the 4th graders will remember for a lifetime.

As the year comes to a close, Miss Brannagan's class is eagerly awaiting Fun Day and all the exciting events yet to come.

Miss Brannagan would like to thank Mrs. Bane and Mrs. Daly for

being her class mothers and for all the parents who volunteered this year. It is greatly appreciated. She would also like to congratulate all her 4th graders for an outstanding job. She will miss you all. Have a safe, healthy and fun summer!



5A

Mrs. Barbour

5A

Fifth graders are ready for Bayshore, but...is Bayshore ready for them? The fifth grade class visited Bayshore Middle School on June 3, 2008. They got a chance to tour the building and see various classes in action.

It is an exciting and nerve wracking time for most students.

Other exciting events for the fifth graders were Fun Day and the dance. We still have the yearbook signing, breakfast and the recognition ceremony. All of these events signal that the school year is coming to a close very quickly. It is hard to believe that the year is just about over. 5A has come a long way since September.

You have worked very hard in all subject areas. I am very proud of all of you. I want you to know that I will miss each and every one of you and wish you the best of luck as you begin a new chapter in your life.

Keep up the good work and always strive to do your best! Remember: Make new friends, BUT keep the old, one is silver and the other gold!

Have a wonderful summer to all students, parents and teachers. Relax and enjoy!

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER! Love, Mrs. Barbour

5B

Mrs.Houcke

5B

OMG! Another cockroach is having babies. We are all surprised about this. Now we are reading 3 different books Touching Spirit Bear, The Boy Who Dared and Holes.

Touching Spirit Bear is a book about a boy who is 15 and not doing the right things in life. His name is Cole Matthews. He starts fights and steals things. Instead of going to prison, he is taken to an island and leaves him alone for a year to get him to change.

The Boy Who Dared is a true story about a German boy named Helmuth who is locked up

in a jail cell but he is only 17. It is during the Holocaust. He is waiting for his execution.

The book Holes is about a boy named Stanley Yelnats. He is cursed all the time because of his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather. He is mistakenly accused of stealing, so he has to go to Camp Green Lake for bad boys. There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. Stanley has to stay there for 18 months. But when he finds a case with money in it, then his family finally has good luck. All of these books are great for kids.

In Science, we are studying land and water. We are using dirt, sand, ice packs, 1 sponge and water of course. We are modeling the water cycle.

In Social Studies, we are learning the Preamble that was written by Governor Morris. The Preamble beginning is: "We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution for the United States of America."

If we can recite the Preamble, we don't have to take our part 2 test!!



The classes are very excited for the end of the school year. We had a 5<sup>th</sup> grade dance and coming up is the 5<sup>th</sup> grade breakfast and yearbook signing. 5th grade is awesome!

*By : Francisco Domalewski*

In Math, we have been learning how to compare ratios, about heart rates, how to find our pulse and comparing two unlike quantities. For example, 32 miles per hour has two unlike quantities, miles and hours. Now we are learning about algebra in math. For example,  $x+14=24$ . What is the value of  $x$ ?

In Reading/Language Arts, we have been mostly reading The Tale of Despereaux and completing vocabulary and questions. Afterwards we did a project about Despereaux. We were assigned groups and were assigned a particular character. Each character had a certain thing that we had to look up on the Internet. For example, the character Meggerly Sow was associated with Medieval food. She would always eat too much.

Right now in Language Arts, we are mostly working on an ABC book for the incoming 5th graders about this classroom and what we do. Some of the kids are doing an ABC book about the 6 years in Leonardo and they are just telling about their years here.

We are looking forward to all the end of the year fun events like the dance, yearbook signing, breakfast and recognition ceremony. Happy Summer!

*By- Sarah Dickerson*

