

## “News at 9”: PS9’s School & Community News - 1.30.2012

### In School

#### ARIS Parent Link

[ARIS Parent Link](#) is a secure location, where you can easily find information regarding a student’s attendance, periodic assessments and New York State test results, including Regents exams. ARIS Parent Link is also a great resource to help you identify what types of learning activities you can do at home with your child to improve his or her achievement. For instructions on how to log in or questions about ARIS contact Charmaine Derrell-Jacob, our Parent Coordinator in room 112. We cannot provide student information by phone or email. Please log onto [www.ARISParentLink.org](http://www.ARISParentLink.org) to get started!

#### Art Calendar for 2012

Get a copy of our beautiful PS9 Calendar for 2012, full of our children's original artwork. You may pick up a copy from Charmaine Jacob, room 112 for the reasonable cost of \$15!

#### Benefit House Concert – Saturday February 11!

We are confirmed with featured artist/PS9 parent Pyeng Threadgill <http://www.pyeng.com>, who will perform after the Jen Chapin Trio <http://www.jenchapin.com> at the next PS9 Benefit House Concert on Saturday, February 11, 2012, 6 – 9 pm. This concert will have a Valentine theme! World-class music of love, dinner, drinks, dessert and child care. Tickets are on sale now at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/216550> Visit, Jen, Stephan and their Trio at <http://www.jenchapin.com>

#### Black History Month Programs

Please note that dates for this month’s assembly program have been changed. Dates and times for grade presentations may be confirmed by viewing February’s calendar on our website at <http://www.ps9brooklyn.org/news/2012/02/october-2011-school-activity-calendar-draft/>

#### Class Parent Meeting

Join us on Friday, February 3 at 8:45am in room 134 (Staff Lounge) for a quick catch-up on class, grade and school happenings.

#### Dual Language Admissions for 2012-2013

Our Dual Language admissions process has begun. Applications and admissions information have been uploaded onto our school’s website. Applications for both Spanish and English students (in English and Español) are now available in our main office. Our first open house will be held on Friday, February 17, at 9:30am. On Friday, March 9, at 9:30am we will host our final open house. The deadline to submit applications is Friday, March 9 at 3:00pm. Visit our website at <http://www.ps9brooklyn.org/about-ps-9/dual-language/> for information.

#### In this issue:

- ARIS Parent Link
- Art Calendar for 2012
- Benefit House Concert – Saturday 2/11
- Black History Month Programs
- Class Parent Meeting
- Dual Language Admissions for 2012-2013
- Enrichment Showcase
- February Activity Calendar
- Games for Gear
- Gifted & Talented Testing: Make-up Day
- Kindergarten Intake for PS9 Students
- Kindergarten Admissions for September 2012
- Parent Center: Basic Computer Skills for Adults
- Pre-Kindergarten Admissions for September 2012
- Promotion in Doubt Letters
- Quality Review: Reflections
- Real Men Read Planning Meetings
- Registration
- Saturday Academy Begins
- Visiting School: Valid NYS ID Needed!
- In Our Community
- Contacts & Links

## Enrichment Showcase

We are happy to announce that our winter enrichment cycle is coming to an end. Our school-wide showcase event is scheduled for the week of February 13. Please make sure to stop by and

## February Activity Calendar

[Click here to view a copy>>>](#) Please note that several schedule changes have been made to this month's calendar.

## Games for Gear

***Tickets for the February 4, Double-header (2:00&4:30 pm) game is now available in room 112!***

To win cash for your school, all you have to do is contact your school's parent coordinator Charmaine Derrell-Jacob, to receive vouchers to attend any of 12 free games over 9 dates.

Other dates include:

February 4    2:00 pm Women's squad vs. Central Connecticut St.  
                  4:30 pm Men's squad vs. Central Connecticut St.  
February 12    2:00 pm Women's Squad vs. St. Francis, Brooklyn  
                  4:30 pm Men's squad vs. St. Francis, Brooklyn

## Gifted & Talented Testing: Make-up Day

G&T testing appointments were distributed yesterday for all students who missed last month's regular appointment. **This is the final opportunity for students in Kindergarten, grade 1 and grade 2 to be tested at PS9.** If your child was registered for G&T testing and did not receive an appointment letter, PLEASE contact Charmaine Derrell-Jacob at 347.563.5324 or [cderrell@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:cderrell@schools.nyc.gov).

Pre-K students will be tested at designated locations citywide on specific weekends. Appointment letters are being mailed this week from the office of G&T enrollment, directly to students' homes.

## Kindergarten Intake for PS9 Students

If your child is currently enrolled in our Pre-K program at PS9, you will receive a pink-colored Intake Application form. This form is due to Mr. Williams or Ms. Coyle in our main office by Friday, March 2, 3:00pm. You do NOT have to bring any of the required documentation that is listed on page 2 of the form, UNLESS any of your (or your child's) personal information has changed since registering for school.

## Kindergarten Admissions for September 2012

Intake applications are available in our main office. The kindergarten admissions process is school-based, but there is a standard timeline for all schools and there are citywide guidelines for eligibility and admissions priorities. ***ALL PS9 families MUST submit an application for kindergarten admission, even if they are applying to PS9 as their zoned school.*** Important dates in the kindergarten admissions process for the 2012–2013 school year can be found at:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Elementary/CalendarandEvents/default.htm>

- **January 9 – March 2, 2012:** Kindergarten admissions period.
  - **March 19 – March 23, 2012:** Assignment notification period.
-

- **March 26 – April 20, 2012:** Pre-registration period.

#### Admissions Priorities

- Zoned schools will give priority to students who live in that zone, as they have in the past. Schools will make assignments according to the following priorities, listed from highest to lowest:
- Zoned students with a sibling who will be in grades 1-5 at the school in 2012-2013;
- All other zoned students;
- Students residing in the school's district but outside the school's zone, with a sibling who will be in grades 1-5 at the school in 2012-2013;
- Students residing outside of the school's district with a sibling who will be in grades 1-5 at the school in 2012-2013;
- All other students residing in the school's district but outside the school's zone;
- All other students.

### **Parent Center: Basic Computer Skills Class for Adults**

Want to learn how to use a PC to help your child at school?

Come to the new PS9 Parent Center to learn how to set up an email account, navigate the Internet, access the PS9 website, visit the Department of Education website etc., and use the new PS9 Parent Center PCs on an ongoing basis.

6.00pm – Wednesday February 1st, 2011

3.00pm – Thursday February 2nd, 2011

9.00am - Tuesday February 7th, 2011

Location: PS9 Parent Center (1st Floor, Room 132). Flier attached.

\*\* The PS9 Parent Center is OPEN and has PCs available for all parents and family members of PS9 students to use for school-related purposes. If you wish to use one of the PCs, please sign in and ask for a key at the main office\*\*

### **Pre-Kindergarten Admissions for 2012-2013**

Public School Universal Pre-Kindergarten Programs: If you are interested in sending your child to a public school pre-kindergarten program, you must submit an application through the centralized admissions process in order to gain admission for September 2012. The 2012-13 pre-kindergarten admissions process begins on March 5. Pre-k directories and applications will be available in early March. <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/PreK/default.htm>

### **“Promotion in Doubt” Letters**

Parents of students in Kindergarten through grade 5 who have been identified as being in jeopardy of meeting the mid-year benchmarks for promotion to the next grade in the fall of 2012 will receive “Promotion in Doubt” letters the week of January 30. These letters will be mailed home and also backpacked with students. Parents should contact their child's teacher to make an appointment if they wish to discuss specific results for their child. For information on the Chancellor's promotion policy, visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/RulesPolicies/default.htm>

### **Quality Review: Reflections**

Our Quality Review process was powerful and insightful and helped us to reaffirm our sense of urgency as a school community. Ms. D'Avilar will elaborate about our results at upcoming parent and school leadership team meetings. Stay tuned.

### **“Real Men Read” Planning Meetings**

Calling all men! You are invited to the first set of planning meetings for our annual June event. Join Mr. Williams, Mr. Lynch, Ms Durham and Ms Shaw-Taylor as we map out this year's plans and schedule. Meeting schedules are Friday, February 3 at 8:30am and Wednesday, February 8 at 5:45pm in room 124.

### **Registration**

Registration for zoned students is ongoing daily from 9am to 12pm. Information about what to bring can be [downloaded here>>](#)

### **Saturday Academy Begins**

Saturday Success Academy will begin on Saturday, February 4, 2012 from 9-11am for ALL students in grades 3, 4 and 5. These sessions will be geared towards ELA and Math assistance in preparation for April 2012 NYS exams. Information and permission slips will be sent home with students today.

### **Visiting School: Valid NYS Photo Identification Card Needed!**

All parents, caregivers, family members and visitors to our school who enter the campus using the main doors on Underhill Avenue, must present a valid New York State Photo ID Card to the School Safety Agent and sign the log book. This regulation also applies to persons dropping off and picking up in the early childhood classrooms; adults wishing to visit other parts of the school during those times MUST also exit the building and use the main entrance to sign in before visiting other areas. Thank you for your cooperation and ensuring that our school community is safeguarded!

## **In Our Community**

### **FREE Exercise/Stretching/Relaxation classes in downtown Brooklyn for individuals with high blood pressure!**

In fact, this federally financed study at Long Island University will PAY YOU to attend classes! Come join us and increase your health and decrease your blood pressure.

WHAT: If you complete the 2x week classes for three months you will receive \$120. Classes are 55 minutes long and are not aerobic (you are unlikely to sweat or breath hard). The classes will make you stretch and relax and move your body. They are designed to decrease stress and lower blood pressure.

WHERE: Classes will be held at Long Island University (Flatbush and Dekalb)

---

WHEN: start March 6th and end May 31st. All classes are at 6PM. You will be randomly assigned to come on EITHER Monday and Wednesday...OR...Tuesday and Thursday. If you know that you cannot come at 6PM on all four days then you cannot participate in the study (although you will only come on TWO days per week once we assign you to a class you have to be AVAILABLE at the beginning to come FOUR days per week so we can assign you to either group)

PHONE: 917 409 6847  
EMAIL: [movingtowardhealthstudy@gmail.com](mailto:movingtowardhealthstudy@gmail.com)  
WEBSITE: [www.movingtowardhealth.info](http://www.movingtowardhealth.info)

### Get Your Tax Refund

It's Tax Time. Go Get Your Refund!

You have several free or low-cost tax filing options from which to choose:

Annual income \$57,000 or less

Annual income \$50,000 or less (with children) or \$18,000 or less (no children)

Visit a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site where a certified volunteer will prepare your taxes for free.

Annual income \$41,000 or less (with children) or \$31,000 or less (no children)

Turn in the City's [coupon](#) at a participating H&R Block where a tax professional will prepare your taxes for \$29.

The City's partners have agreed not to offer [Refund Anticipation Loans](#) (RALs) or other loans.  
Refund Fast Facts

With the [Earned Income Tax Credit \(EITC\)](#), you could be eligible for up to \$7,600.

With the [New York City Child Care Tax Credit](#), working families with children 3 years old and younger could be eligible for up to \$1,733.

Special Tax Time Savings Opportunity

At select VITA sites, you could be eligible to open a [SaveUSA account](#) when you file your taxes. Save at least \$200 of your refund for a year and earn 50¢ for every \$1 you save. Save \$1,000 for the maximum \$500 match.

### NYS Senator Adams: Office Relocation

Senator Adams' office has relocated to 1669 Bedford Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor (corner of Montgomery St) Brooklyn, NY 11225. Phone 718.284.4700. Regular office hours will resume on Monday, February 6, 2012. If you require assistance prior to February 6, please call their Albany office at 518.455.2431.

### Pratt Area Community Council <http://pacc.publishpath.com/events>

Free Personal Financial Course sponsored by M&T Bank. Sessions begin on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 (6:30pm-8:30pm). You're Invited to Register for PACC's FREE Financial Course

Course Highlights:

- \* Managing your money
- \* Budgeting and banking
- \* Credit history and using credit wisely
- \* Basics of borrowing & preventing ID theft
- \* Homeownership and managing your mortgage
- \* Investment Night will cover stocks, bonds, money market/retirement accounts and will be instructed by Hughroy Daley

Sandra D'Avilar, *Principal*  
Deborah Smith, *Assistant Principal*

80 Underhill Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11238  
Tel: (718) 638-3260  
Fax: (718) 622-2961  
[www.ps9brooklyn.org](http://www.ps9brooklyn.org)



Teunis G. Bergen School

PACC's Community Room, 226 Lefferts PLACE, at the corner of Franklin Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York, 11216  
Limited Space - Registration is required  
Please RSVP by Phone: 718-783-3549 ext.15 or by email: [charrisse\\_smith@prattarea.org](mailto:charrisse_smith@prattarea.org)

### **Public School Registration**

Public Elementary School: How to Apply. Presented by the [Center for New York City Affairs](#) and [Insideschools.org](http://Insideschools.org). Join Clara Hemphill, the staff of Insideschools, and other experts with answers to your questions about:

- what to look for in an elementary school
- how and when to register
- gifted and talented programs
- special education | English as a second language | charter schools

Admission is free but you must reserve a seat. Please email [centernyc@newschool.edu](mailto:centernyc@newschool.edu).

This event is co-sponsored by The New York City Council. Invited guest: City Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn.

Tuesday, February 7, 2012; 6 pm to 8 pm; Theresa Lang Community & Student Center  
55 West 13th St. (between 5th & 6th avenues), 2nd floor

### **Contacts:**

Charmaine Derrell-Jacob: 718.638.3260X1121 / 34.563.5324 / E-mail: [cderrell@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:cderrell@schools.nyc.gov)  
PTO: [ptops9@gmail.com](mailto:ptops9@gmail.com)

### **Links:**

Fan the PS 9 PTO on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/PS-9-PTA-Brooklyn-NY/152557378100856>

Notify NYC: <https://a858-nycnotify.nyc.gov/notifynyc/>

NYCDOE Parents & Families Web Page: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ParentsFamilies/default.htm>

NYCDOE School Year Calendar 2011-2012:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/Calendar/Additional+Information+11-12.htm>

NYC.Gov: [http://www.nyc.gov/portal/site/nycgov/?front\\_door=true](http://www.nyc.gov/portal/site/nycgov/?front_door=true)

PS 9 Family Yahoo! Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ps9family>

PS 9 Website: [www.ps9brooklyn.org](http://www.ps9brooklyn.org)

Prospect Heights Patch: <http://link.patch.com/view/4xnq.db/b231b394>PTO blog:

<http://ps9pta.blogspot.com>

School Meals Breakfast & Lunch Menus: <http://www.opt-osfns.org/osfns/default.aspx>

School Activity Calendar: [Click here for January's Calendar >>](#)