

PS9 - News at 9

WEEK OF DECEMBER 10, 2018

Asylum Seekers Toothbrush Drive at PS9

More than 6,000 asylum seekers from Central America are gathered at the U.S.-Mexico border in Tijuana and other locations. More are arriving all the time. Many of them are families with children seeking to escape political and economic violence.

Some of our elected officials in Washington have been scapegoating these refugees, who have every right under international law to seek asylum and a better future for their children. They may have to wait many months or longer to have their cases heard with no guarantee that they can enter the U.S.

The families stuck at the border are living in desperate conditions. Many supplies are needed, and fortunately, people in the Southwest and elsewhere are organizing regular trips to bring donations to those in need. Recently one of our PS9 parents participated in a solidarity car caravan from Los Angeles to Tijuana delivering aid donated by the community. When he returned home, his 4th grade student asked, "How can the kids at my school help?"

WE ARE SETTING UP A TOOTHBRUSH DRIVE from now through December 21. This is an urgently needed item that is often overlooked. It's also easy to ship across country.

Bring a new children's or adult toothbrush (not battery operated please) and put it in the donation box in PS9's main office. This is a small, inexpensive but very important way of showing our love and solidarity in the spirit of diversity that is our PS9 family.

We will ship the collected toothbrushes to aid organizers in Los Angeles who will take the aid and distribute it directly to families in need on behalf of the PS9 family.

Thanks to grade 4 student Dru for caring enough to ask her dad how she and her fellow students could help. Thanks to her dad Gregory for caring so passionately and following up!

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Backpacks & Binoculars Afterschool Adventures Coming to PS9!

We are happy to announce that PS9 will host a 4th school-based afterschool program beginning Wednesday, January 2, 2019! Please see the attached program information and sample schedule. Look for the B&B staff as they flyer at arrival and dismissal times in the upcoming weeks. Their program has not yet been confirmed for Pre-K students; stay tuned as they await approval.

Book Fair for Spanish Books!

Book Fair: Feria Del Libro

This holiday season, find the best Spanish books for children at PS 9!
Estas fiestas, ¡encuentra los mejores libros infantiles en PS 9!

December 17th, 18th and 19th

Diciembre 17, 18 y 19

From 8:30 am to 12 pm

In the lobby of PS 9 during the Winter Holiday Festival.

Shop in advance at www.chauluna.com and pick up your books at the fair.

En el lobby de PS 9 durante el Festival Navideño.

Compre antes en chauluna.com y recoja los libros en la feria.

www.chauluna.com

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Cast Party

The cast members of PS9's Nutcracker Ballet are invited to a Thank You pajama party on Friday, December 21, 2018, 12:00-2:30 p.m. in our school's Gymnasium. This is a Red Carpet affair! Contact Charmaine Derrell-Jacob at Cderrell@schools.nyc.gov, or 718.638.3260 X10190 with questions.

Coat Drive

Our annual coat drive will be held in conjunction with New York Cares. We will collect new or gently used, CLEAN COATS ONLY (we do not have the capacity to collect other winter items that NY Cares does not collect), until Friday, December 14. The collection box will be located in the school's main lobby.

Games 4 Gear (G4G) & LIU Basketball 2018-19

To view Games 4 Gear game schedule visit:

<http://www.ps9brooklyn.org/news/2018/11/liu-basketball-games-4-gear-program/>

Please note: All games, with the exception of Friday December 21, 12:00noon, will be played at the Steinberg Wellness Center located at 161 Ashland Place, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201. December 21 will be played at Barclay's center.

Contact Charmaine Derrell-Jacob, our Parent Coordinator at 718.638.3260 X1090 or cderrell@schools.nyc.gov to get free game tickets!

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Gift of Giving Community Service Events

Select students and parents will participate in the Gift of Giving annual holiday event. Gifts will be wrapped on Thursday, December 13 in our school library. Other students will attend the holiday party at Dyker Beach Golf Course on Tuesday, December 18, where they will assist with activities at the celebration. During this event children from different areas and backgrounds come together and celebrate the joy that comes from giving. Thank you to all those who donated toys this year! We have an amazing number of gifts that will be shared with NYC children in need this holiday season.

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Holiday Tree Fundraiser

If you are planning on purchasing a fresh Holiday Tree, do it with the PS 9 PTO and raise money for the school.

Ordering deadline for Saturday 12/15 pickup is Thursday, 12/13 at 5pm

Buying a holiday tree? Buy it from Hurds Family Farm supporting our PTO. There are two options to choose from. Visit their farm and cut your own (conveniently located outside of New Paltz in Modena, NY) ANY SIZE/TYPE is just \$65 or allow them to choose and cut your tree for pick up at their stand at the Grand Army Plaza farmers market ANY SIZE/TYPE is just \$75.

Simply fill out this Purchasing Form detailing how you want to get your tree and pay with check/cash or via Pay Pal. All check/cash payments can be dropped off at the PTO drop box or in the PTO mailbox in the main office.

Pay to cut down your tree at the farm here for \$65.

Pay to pick up your tree at GAP here for \$75.

Pick up dates for Grand Army Plaza: Saturday December 15. (order by 12/13)

*Orders for Saturday delivery will be accepted UP TO 5pm the Thursday before. Orders MUST BE picked up on selected date.

Contact Jessica Flores (ophelia1020@gmail.com) for more information.

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Kindergarten Application: Apply by Monday January 14!

Each pre-k student at PS9 must have an application completed in order to get a seat in PS9's, or any other, Kindergarten program!

If you live in New York City and your child was born in 2014, apply to kindergarten by January 14, 2019.

Submit your child's application one of three ways:

1. Online with MySchools(Open external link), <https://www.myschools.nyc/en/>

2. In person at a Family Welcome Center

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enrollment-help/family-welcome-centers>

3. By phone at 718-935-2009

Learn more on our Kindergarten page: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enroll-grade-by-grade/kindergarten>

Kindergarten Directories were delivered to all pre-k classrooms in October. You may also view the directory online at:

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

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Middle School Application: Deadline this Friday!

The 2019 middle school application has been extended to Friday, December 14. We still have over 40 families at PS9 who have not started an application yet. We are now calling families directly.

Need help? Contact our Guidance Counselor, Ms. Shaw-Taylor at KShaw@schools.nyc.gov, or 718.638.3260 X 2022, or cderrel@schools.nyc.gov.

In your child's personalized online application, you will be able to see and explore every middle school program that they are eligible to apply for and, if they get an offer, to attend. From these options, you can add up to 12 middle school programs to your child's application. Add the programs that interest you and your child the most and rank them in your true order of preference in the application.

- Consider adding the programs where your child has an admissions priority or guarantee, such as their zoned school(s) or continuing school. You do not have to place any of these programs as your first choice to keep your priority.
- Make an appointment to talk to your child's school counselor. Discuss your child's middle school application choices and how you plan to rank them.

You will be able to apply in English, Spanish, Chinese, Bengali, Russian, Arabic, Urdu, Haitian Creole, Korean, or French. Read more at:

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enroll-grade-by-grade/middle-school>

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The Nutcracker Ballet Presentation

P.S. 9 Nutcracker Ballet is Friday December 14, 2018 at John Jay H.S. Campus on 7th Ave in Park Slope.

- Students arrive at John Jay dressed in attire: 5:30pm.
- Showtime 7:00pm; doors open at 6:30pm.
- Admission \$5.00 at the door (no ticket pre-sale)

PACC Afterschool Program Update

Good news! PACC has returned to their normal schedule of program activities, but please note they will not yet be able to accommodate Pre-K students, as there is a second level of approval for Pre-K. Updates will be provided in the coming weeks.

That said, "Homework Time" has been restored and the coordination of the 10-Week Winter session of Specialized Workshops has begun, with classes scheduled to begin the week of January 14th. An online registration and class listing will be published by the end of this week.

We want to again express our gratitude for the understanding and the supportive outreach and offers of assistance from many families during the interruption of programming.

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School Lunch for Free – Help PS9 Get Funding!

Please stop at our School Lunch Form station tomorrow to complete your form online!

VERY IMPORTANT! We need to get enough funding for our school meals! EACH family MUST complete a form today! Paper forms are available in our school's main office. Apply online at: <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Home/PickDistrict>

Student Performances for December

The Nutcracker Ballet: Friday, December 14 @ 7:00p.m. (John Jay HS Campus –237 7th Ave, Park Slope Brooklyn)

Pre-Kindergarten: Monday, December 17 @ 10:00a.m. (Winter Holiday Festival)

Kindergarten: Monday, December 17 @ 8:45 a.m. (Winter Holiday Festival)

Grade 1: Tuesday, December 18 @ 9:00 a.m. (Winter Holiday Festival)

Grade 2: Monday, December 17 @ 11:00 a.m. (Winter Holiday Festival)

Grade 3: Tuesday, December 18 @ 10:45 a.m. (Winter Holiday Festival)

Grade 4: Wednesday, December 19 @ 9:00 a.m. (Winter Holiday Festival)

Grade 5: Wednesday, December 19 @ 10:45 a.m. (Winter Holiday Festival)

Violin Caroling: Thursday, December 20

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Toy Drive

There's still time to donate a new unwrapped toy for NYC school children living in low-income circumstances.

Please consider contributing a new unwrapped toy or two by Friday, December 14.

The collection box is located in the PS 9 lobby.

Ugly Sweater and Pajama Day

Wear your “ugly sweater” or your comfy pajamas and join us for a fun and comfortable day at PS9 on Friday, December 21. Check with class teachers or class parents for information about fun happenings that day.

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In Our Community

Annual Holiday Fair & Kid's Christmas Party

On Saturday, December 15th

2:00pm – 7:00pm

Vendors on Site with handcrafted gifts for sale

Duryea Presbyterian Church

362 Sterling Place @ Underhill Avenue

(Undercroft)

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Contacts:

Mrs. Sandra D'Avilar: SDavila@schools.nyc.gov

Mrs. Emma Velazquez: EPelaezvelazquez@schools.nyc.gov

Mrs. Sylvia Wallace-Anderson SWallace4@schools.nyc.gov

Charmaine Derrell-Jacob: 718.638.3260X1090 /347.563.5324/E-mail:

CDerrell@schools.nyc.gov

Carol Sheldrake Hernandez: 718.638.3260X1302/ Email:

CSheldrakeherna@schools.nyc.gov

PTO: 718.638.3260 X1340 Email: ptops9@gmail.com

Links:

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

Community Education Council for District 13: <http://cec13.org/>

Community School District 13: 718.634.3284

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

NYCDOE: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/home>

NYCDOE Enrollment Division Contact: 718.935.2009 or ES_enrollment@schools.nyc.gov

NYC Government: Call 311 or website: <http://www.nyc.gov>

NYC Office of Emergency Management:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/home/home.shtml>

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

PS 9 Website: www.ps9brooklyn.org

Prospect Heights Patch <http://prospectheights.patch.com/>

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