



"Anchored in Excellence"

Our Voyage Anchored In Excellence

Sweet Sixteen by Ms. Russo

As I start my 16th Year as Principal of P.S. 160 I am excited to continue our work together to provide the best education for your children. New York State and New York City acknowledged our work in June by naming our community a *Recognition School* for our student achievement. I am so proud of the work we have done together and I am eager to continue this work with you to assure your children have a firm foundation as we prepare them for higher levels of education. It is very important for the school and the families of the students to work together and we welcome our school families as real partners in this work. You will have many opportunities to visit the school and participate in your child's classroom. Your children are so happy when you visit their class so I hope you will make every effort to attend. We encourage you to attend our Parent/Family Workshops and PTA meetings where you will receive important information

about our school and upcoming events. Teachers are available to meet with families to discuss students on Tuesday afternoon from 2:30 pm until 3:40 pm. Please make an appointment with your child's teacher if you have anything you would like to discuss. Our Parent Coordinator, Mary Chu, is available to answer any questions or concerns. We hope you will feel welcomed and valued at our school.

Our curriculum is based on rigorous standards and students are encouraged to set goals and work hard to achieve those goals. We also encourage students to notice the beauty around them and to be kind to each other. Your child's social-emotional health is very important to their learning and we strive to create a safe and nurturing environment. We encourage you to visit our

Parent Lending Library, which contains books in many languages. You may borrow the books and read to and with your child at home. Children love when someone reads to them and it is another way to build their social emotional well-being.

Every staff member in our school is a Champion for Children. Our mission is to give your child the best possible education. We look forward to sharing this voyage with you this school year!



All Are Welcome at PS 160 by Hallie Smith

'All Are Welcome' by Alexandra Penfold illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman takes us through a first day of school where families of all backgrounds, religions and race are welcomed to the school with open arms. As I read through the book, it felt to me like the illustrations in the book embodied what a true NYC public school looks like. Roughly 60 percent of the students at our school speak a language other than English at home so it is not uncommon to hear 2 languages spoken by a child here at P.S. 160. It's also not uncommon for our whole

school to decorate for winter holidays, learn how to Spanish dance, join multicultural clubs or celebrate the start of the Lunar New Year with a Lion Dance. My students made so many connections with this book and were eager to share their family traditions after reading the page about celebrations surrounding food and festivities. Students feel valued when they can make connections and also enlighten others about their own family traditions. The celebration of mixed cultures and community are the things I admire about the

book and also about our school, P.S. 160.



New York City Department of Education
PS 160K
The William T. Sampson School

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Important Dates to Remember:

- ☺ Oct. 9– Yom Kippur No School
- ☺ Oct. 14– Columbus Day No School
- ☺ Oct. 22- PTA Meeting 8:25am & Public Safety
- ☺ Oct. 24—SLT at 2:30
- ☺ Nov. 5 Election Day No students in attendance
- ☺ Nov. 11– Veterans Day No School
- ☺ Nov. 14 Parent-Teacher Conferences- Early dismissal for students 11:30am
- ☺ Nov. 20 PTA Meeting 8:25am
- ☺ Nov. 24– SLT at 2:30
- ☺ Nov. 28-29- Thanksgiving– No School
- ☺ Dec. 11- Report Cards
- ☺ Dec. 18 PTA Meeting 8:25am
- ☺ Dec. 19 SLT Meeting 2:30pm
- ☺ Dec. 23-Jan. 1 Winter Recess– No School
- ☺ Jan. 2– School Resumes

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General Response Protocols

The General Response Protocol (GRP) has been designed to provide all schools with the direction they will take when an emergency incident occurs. At its core is the use of common language to identify the initial measures all school communities will take until first responders arrive. In every incident, school administrators will need to assess the unique circumstances that will affect how the GRP is implemented. Each protocol has specific staff and student actions that are unique to each response.

Lockdown (Soft/Hard) –Soft lockdown implies that there is no identified imminent danger to the sweep teams. Administrative Team, Building Response Team, Nurse, Custodian and School Safety Agents will mobilize at the designated command post for further direction. **Hard Lockdown** implies that imminent danger is

known and NO ONE will engage in any building sweep activity. All individuals, including School Safety Agents will take appropriate lockdown action and await the arrival of first responders **“Attention: We are now in soft/ hard lockdown. Take proper action”** (Repeated twice over the PA system) This school year we will have 8 evacuation drills , 4 soft lockdown drills and 3 bus drills.

Evacuate – The fire alarm system is the initial alert for staff and students to initiate an evacuation. However, there may be times when the PA system and specific directions will serve as the alert initiating an evacuation. Announcements will begin with “Attention” and be followed with specific directions. (Repeated twice over the PA system).

Shelter-In – “Attention. This is a shelter-in-

Secure the exit doors.” (Repeated twice over the PA system).



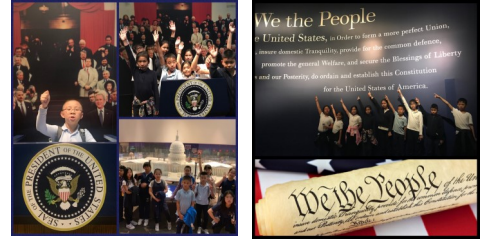
Lockdown



Evacuate



Shelter-In



The 5th Grade Visits Constitution Hall By Ms. Karabas & Mr. DeRosa

On September 17th, the entire 5th grade went to celebrate Constitution Day at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. Students learned about the U.S Constitution through touring the museum, experiencing a multimedia digital interactive video entitled, We the People and signed their names on a giant Constitution alongside Washington, Franklin, and Madison. Students also learned that everyone in the country, including children, are a part of the census that occurs every 10 years! The census determines the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives and is also used to distribute billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities. Here are some facts the fifth grade learned while at

the Constitution Center:

- The United States Constitution is composed of seven articles and 27 amendments.
- Only two signers of the Constitution became president; James Madison and George Washington.
- The first 10 amendments are known as the Bill of Rights.

After visiting Constitution Hall in Philadelphia fifth grade students were thrilled to share what they learned with the school. In an assembly for the 3rd and 4th graders, they showed what they have learned and showed their gratitude for how the Constitution changed our country. On October 8th George

Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton and Betsy Ross told students at P.S. 160 the story of their contributions to history and how the Constitution came to be. The 5th Grade ensemble recited the Preamble of the Constitution and sang patriotic songs in celebration of the United States Constitution.



GrowNYC by Ms. Altobello

PS 160 is now participating in Organics Collection in our cafeterias! The goal is to collect the organic material from school cafeterias and kitchens, in order to reduce the waste NYC sends to costly landfills. The Outreach Coordinator from Grow NYC, Jackie Jutonen, met with the members of our staff to help roll out this new program! The administration, sustainability coordinator, the custodial staff, the school aides as well as the kitchen staff were informed about the importance and the process of organics collection. We are thrilled to educate the students

about sorting their waste and the significance in doing so. PS 160 is being part of the solution and taking the pledge to reduce, reuse and recycle! We are all committed to living a greener lifestyle!



Go Gold by Ms. Grosseto

At P.S. 160, we strive to be the best we can be, giving back to our community whenever possible. Throughout the year, we often fundraise for many charities. Fundraising is important because it enables us to give back to those in need. It shows our students the importance of helping those who need it the most. One particular cause we recently collected money for was childhood cancer. Our P.S. 160 staff and students campaigned throughout the month of September to spread awareness and raise money to support children fighting cancer.

As some of you many know, the color gold or a gold ribbon symbolizes all cancers that occur during childhood. Typically, awareness ribbons symbolize only one specific disease, however the gold childhood cancer ribbon stands for dozens of diseases. Why the color gold you may ask? Well gold is a precious metal. Children are our most precious treasure. The

Celebrating the Power of the Individual by Nicole Cino

The 2019- 2020 school year at P.S 160 has commenced. The students are eager, perhaps a bit nervous, but ready to take on new challenges that will push their limits to become better more confident individuals every day. Teachers in the English as a New Language Department are geared up and prepared with their work cut out for them. There are about 1200 students attending P.S 160 and 700 of those students are English Language Learners. The teachers in the ENL department are assigned to certain classrooms to help create a more inclusive environment through language support at each students' developmental level. Our team works carefully and diligently creating small group instruc-

Welcoming New Staff

This year we welcomed both the Class of 2025, as well as five new teachers! Some of these teachers are rejoining our staff, while others are joining us for the very first time. Fifth grade students from Class 5-406x took the time to interview these teachers about their experiences on the first day, and why they chose to become teachers at P.S.160. When Jackie Lin and Ethen Weng asked Ms. Ren about her experience on the first day, she explained "I was nervous and excited for the first day. I am looking forward to the community within my classroom as well as in 160" Ms. Terranova, interviewed by Sandra Wang and Phelia Chen, shared how excited she was to meet her fifth-

International Childhood Cancer Day website explains that gold goes through a process by fire, to become stronger and tougher. Kids with childhood cancer similarly undergo such an experience.

On Friday, September 20, 2019, staff and students wore gold to represent all those fighting childhood cancer. We took the day to honor those battling cancer as well as those who lost their lives from it. Our collections emphasized the importance of supporting kids' cancer research that is helping improve and save lives daily. Zi Ye Zhang, a student from class 5-305x explains that she donated because she wanted to help children with cancer. "It made me feel happy to help kids. Every little donation counts and it felt great to donate to such a good cause, knowing we can make a difference in someone's life, especially someone who may be close to my age."

tion for a more tailored learning experience. The teachers take all areas of the individual child into consideration when creating groups and planning instruction.

As we know, each child has their own unique way of processing, learning, and understanding. The ENL department thrives on diversity and the specific needs of each child. We welcome all languages, allowing students to use their home language to foster a more comfortable and accepting classroom. The teachers work to create personalized instruction that emphasizes the importance of accessible language and communication. We often choose books that reflect the child's culture as

well as familiarizing the students to new cultures and traditions around the world. To quote one of my favorite authors, Jacqueline Woodson, who wrote the book *The Day You Begin*, "There will be times when you walk into a room and no one there is quite like you." Here at P.S 160 we celebrate that, we accept that, we teach that.

grade students and work with a co-teacher. Ms. Barone, returning to the staff, explained a similar feeling to Alice Chen and Avril Cao- "My first day was exciting! I was happy to be back and work with a supportive co-teacher". While the first day of school can be hectic, new teachers shared recommendations on how to overcome the first day jitters. Daniela Carino and Sophia Dong asked first year teacher Ms. T. Russo what her recommendations would be for a new teacher on the first day. She said "Try your best and don't be afraid to take advice from colleagues. Always hope for the best, but plan for any problems!"

In addition to our collections, our students also hung gold ribbons on the fences surrounding our school. You can see these ribbons along the fences on Fort Hamilton and 52nd Street blowing in the wind, reminding us of the importance of the color gold. These gold ribbons symbolize just how precious children are and the resiliency of childhood cancer heroes. After hanging the gold ribbons, Viktor Calus from class 5-305x says, "I had fun hanging the Go Gold ribbons, anyone who passes our school, knows we support! After learning about what the ribbons symbolize, I think it is important to donate to this cause because it helps people who are in need of money and it helps save them from cancer."



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Ms. Tai, who rejoined our staff this year, said "I've learned a lot from my colleagues about how to help students learn and become independent thinkers." What Ms. Tai missed most about P.S 160 was "seeing the happy faces of students and the support of the community among teachers and staff."

These new teachers, as well as our returning staff are all looking forward to a fun and enriching 2019-2020 school year!



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PS 160K
The William T. Sampson School**

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Follow us on social media!



PS 160 Brooklyn



@PS160k



@PS160k

**Official School Hours:
8:10am- 2:30pm M-F
Students should be here by 8:00am**

Our Mission Statement

All children at PS 160 will grow and learn with the help of our families, teachers and school community. Together we will work hard to achieve rigorous standards, celebrate each individual and create a caring environment which lays the foundation for college and career readiness.

****Saturday Parent ESL Classes** 8:30-12:30**

Don't forget to set up an appointment to meet with your child's teacher on Tuesday afternoons and stay updated about our Tuesday afternoon parent workshops!

This newsletter is also on our website which can be translated into numerous languages through Google Translate.



October is...

Breast Cancer Awareness Month



**Relay for Life
by Kim Draxdorf**

In our efforts to raise awareness and support for The American Cancer Society, our school once again achieved 1st place at the Annual Relay for Life of Brooklyn. We have been involved in this cause for over a decade and hope to instill in our students the importance of giving back to our community. At PS 160 we continually strive to find ways to reach our goal and reinforce this important message.

As we begin a new school year we are excited to kick off our fundraising efforts. We have many new activities, events and opportunities through which our PS 160 community can join us to support our fundraising and health awareness efforts. We look forward to your continued support in this effort.



**Denim and Pink Day
by Ms. Iacona**

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month! On Tuesday, October 8, doctors from Maimonides Medical Center conducted a workshop for parents and staff to raise awareness about the importance of annual breast exams. On October 16 all teachers and staff will participate in the annual Denim and Pink Day at P.S. 160. This fundraiser helps support the American Cancer Society, which brings us together to save more lives from breast cancer through research. This event began in 1996 with a simple concept, if each of us takes a small step to help eliminate breast cancer, collectively, those steps will take us far in achieving our goal. Companies, schools, and other organizations nationwide have participated in raising funds and awareness to support American Cancer Society (ACS) programs and services. Additionally, the ACS provides information to help women understand how they might be able to reduce their risk of breast cancer. Since this event began, participants have raised more than \$98 million to make sure those facing the disease know we stand with them in the fight.

Today the color pink, especially pink ribbons, is a strong symbol of breast cancer awareness and the fight to find a cure

against the disease. It is used all around the globe, bringing emphasis to the cause across countries, cultures, and languages.

When you consider the emotional and mental affect that pink has it is understandable why it was chosen to be the color of breast cancer awareness. Studies have found that pink is thought to be life affirming, calming, playful, quieting, stress relieving, and health giving. Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a cause that is close to our hearts here at P.S. 160.

NO MORE CLIPPING.



SCAN YOUR RECEIPT

Box Tops is changing to fit today's families. The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.