

**SCOTCH PLAINS-FANWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**SCHOOL ONE PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER**

Vol. XXXXI, No. 7

March 1, 2019

**PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:** School Safety is our number one concern at School One. We continuously take part in safety drills and consistently remind our students of our procedures in the event of an emergency. Everyone has a part in keeping our students safe. Parents can assist by making sure they follow all procedures when entering the building; making an appointment to meet with staff, signing in the main office, and wearing a visitor's pass. Parents can also assist by NOT parking in the staff parking lot so that we can make sure that all vehicles in the lot are those designated to be there. I thank you for your continued support and I welcome any discussions from parents regarding the safety and security of our students.

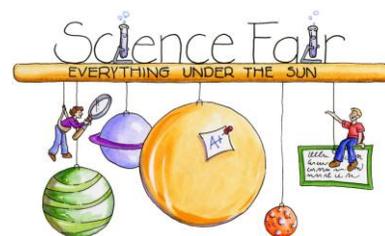
We are approaching an important time in our school year as we focus our efforts on addressing essential skills and concepts that are embedded within our curriculum at each grade level. The pacing in all content areas has increased, and higher expectations have been established in preparation for the upcoming State and District assessments. As we move forward in the upcoming months, your continued encouragement and support is critical.

**IMPORTANT MARCH DATES TO REMEMBER**

- March 4<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to SO PAC,
- March 15<sup>th</sup> – School Spirit Day
- March 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> – Think Purple Week
- March 25<sup>th</sup> – Think Purple Assembly for staff and students
- March 27<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade District Choral Concert
- March 29<sup>th</sup> – SPFHS Band Visit Assembly, 1:30 p.m.

**PTA AUTHOR VISIT:** Author Mike Allegra will be visiting School One on **Friday, March 1** in celebration of Read Across America Day. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 4 will have an opportunity to engage with Mr. Allegra as he shares his favorite books.

**PTA SCIENCE FAIR:** The School One Science Fair will be held on **Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** Participating students in Grades 1 through 4 will present a science experiment to family and friends in this non-judged event. In past years, the Science Fair has had over 100 students participate. We expect to have this same size involvement again this year.



**PTA CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY WEEK:** During the week of March 25<sup>th</sup>, our District is participating in the National PTA Drug and Alcohol Awareness Week. We will join Parent-Teacher Associations across the nation in working towards a drug-free society.

One of the programs we are sponsoring includes the “Think Purple” campaign. The tradition of tying purple ribbons throughout our towns began by the PTA and community members. There are also a variety of activities being sponsored in memory of children who have lost their lives or have been

physically or emotionally injured, either directly or indirectly, due to drugs or alcohol. A series of themes will be set for each day of the week.

The entire student population will again be asked to participate in designing the “I Am Special” dolls. Students are encouraged to work with their families on this project at home to raise awareness towards substance abuse. These “special people” will be linked together in our lobby and throughout our first-floor hallway for everyone to see.

We are looking forward to your support in each of these programs during this important week. I’d like to recognize Mrs. Diann Kohler, of our PTA Chemical Dependency Committee, for her help in making this week so special for our children.

**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION:** The implementation of central kindergarten registration for the 2019/2020 is under way. Please visit our district website at <https://www.spfk12.org> for information regarding registration and required forms.

Please schedule an appointment in March to register by calling 908-889-0100 ext. 3166. Should you know of a neighboring family with a school-age child, please pass this information along to them.

**TELEPHONE MESSAGES FOR STUDENTS:** We have been experiencing a significant increase in the number of phone messages from parents regarding their child’s dismissal from school. If for any reason a student will not be going home according to their regular routine, a **WRITTEN NOTE IS REQUIRED** and should be sent to the classroom teacher in the **morning**. As noted in the Parent/Student Handbook and the September Principal’s Newsletter, parents are requested to make all necessary arrangements for their child’s dismissal from school **BEFORE THEIR CHILD ARRIVES AT SCHOOL FOR THE DAY**. If someone other than the parent (or the family member or friend indicated on the Dismissal Procedures form), will be picking up the child at dismissal time, a written note **needs to be sent** to the child’s teacher. Please understand that classroom instruction will **ONLY** be interrupted to deliver a message that is a **TRUE EMERGENCY**; messages of a social nature are NOT considered an emergency.

We are also concerned about messages arriving at the end of the school day, some as late as 3:05 to 3:10 p.m. This is a time when we cannot assure that the message will be relayed to the child since dismissal procedures are already in progress. We respectfully request that all messages regarding dismissal be received no later than 3 p.m.

**STUDENT ARRIVAL TIME:** Please remember that on inclement weather days, students may **NOT** enter the building prior to **8:20 a.m.** Please plan your child’s arrival at school accordingly, especially on days when the weather is inclement.



**GOING HOME FOR LUNCH?:** If your child normally eats lunch every day at school and you wish to have him or her leave the building on a given day, please send a note to your child’s teacher so proper arrangements can be made. Your note will confirm that you approve of this alternate lunch arrangement. **For your child’s safety, please come to the main office to sign your child out of the building. Upon your return, please escort your child to the school office. Please note: Children who go home for lunch will report to the office at 11:50 a.m. and are to return to school at 12:50 p.m.**

**ATTENTION PARENTS OF PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS:** If you have a child at PMS that picks up a younger sibling at School One, please read the following:

- Park students are to wait for their School One sibling(s) in the front of School One. They should arrive in a timely fashion after dismissal from Park.
- Park students are to wait in a quiet and orderly manner so as not to disrupt the instruction that is taking place at School One.
- Calls will be made to the parents of any Park student that does not comply with this request.

**PRE-K MILK MONEY:** Pre-K milk money for the month of APRIL will be collected **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup>**, in the amount of \$7.35 (21 days x \$ .35). A milk order form will be sent home with your child on Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. Please complete the form and return to school with your payment (either exact change, or a check made payable to SPFHS Cafeteria) in a sealed envelope. Pre-K students participating in the free-milk program **MUST** submit an order form.



**LUNCH/MILK MONEY (GRADES 1-4):** A lunch menu for the month of March may be viewed on our school website (go to the “Shortcut” section in the lower left-hand side of our home page and click on “Lunch Menu”).

For more information on our lunch program, including payment options, again, please go to our school website and click on “Lunch Program” in the “Shortcut” section. You may also call the school office.

If you have any general comments regarding the school lunch program, please e-mail Pomptonian at [comments@pomptonian.com](mailto:comments@pomptonian.com). Please direct any inquires to: Steve Esposito, Food Services Director, (908) 889-7333, or [cafeteria@spfk12.org](mailto:cafeteria@spfk12.org).

Happy Spring!  
Happy St. Patrick's Day!!!

