

JUNE 28, 2016

Getting Ready For 2016-2017



June has been a very busy month at P.S./I.S. 111. We had stepping-up ceremonies for Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, and Grade 5. We also had a graduation ceremony for our 8th grade students. It was a bitter-sweet day to graduate this exceptional group of students. When they leave the school on June 28th for the final time, we will become an elementary school once again, and will be known simply as P.S. 111 (Adolph S. Ochs). If you see any of

our 8th grade students on your walk to or from school, then please stop to wish them the best as they embark on their journey....

We also had a father's day event for our 5th grade boys and their fathers or mentors. John Strachan, from the NYC DOE guidance division, was kind to join us. He brought a tie for each boy, and we practiced tying them. It's an important skill for every young man to practice, and I think the boys (and adults) had a great time with this. We would like to also thank the NYPD for sending volunteers to assist, and Ryan-Chelsea

Clinic for sending along kits of materials for the boys to use.

June 15th was our field day for grades 1, 2, 3, and 4. The other grades all had a senior trip, or some activity to celebrate the end of one year and preparing for a new one! Both 5th grade and 8th grade visited Governor's Island, and had a great time. Kindergarten had a field day in Central Park—and came back exhausted!!

Now we prepare for the next school year. Several of us will be here this summer getting ready, and I am confident that it will be a great year!

PERFECT ATTENDANCE!!!!

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS HAD PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR—WITH NO LATENESS. WAY TO GO :)

- ◆ Gabriella C. (5th grade)
- ◆ Andrew E. (4th grade)
- ◆ Daniel E. (5th grade)
- ◆ Faheem K. (8th grade)
- ◆ Yovely R. (4th grade)
- ◆ Mariana R. (4th grade)
- ◆ Siddharth S. (3rd grade)
- ◆ Waenawin W. (Kind.)

Photos, Photos, Photos

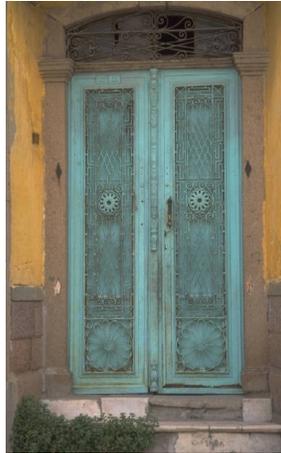
We would like to thank Trevor Richardson for taking some amazing pictures of the school. Along with Ivette Rolon's super support and website operation, I am sure these pictures will go a long way to helping the larger community see the beauty in our school.



Please share any photos that you have taken! We can post them to our website :)

We are looking for pictures from the talent show, stepping-up ceremonies, and graduation. If you have any then please send one or two good pictures to us at the school. Thanks!

Literacy and Math Curricula for 2016-2017



THE DOORS TO KNOWLEDGE

WE HAD 93.1 PERCENT ATTENDANCE FOR THE YEAR; WE MET OUR GOAL. NEXT YEAR—LET’S MAKE A **BIG** EFFORT TO IMPROVE ATTENDANCE DURING THE LAST TWO WEEKS OF SCHOOL, AND CLOSE WITH 94%!

We will adopt the Teachers Col-

Assessments

One of the questions we are often asked is: why do you give tests with information that the students will not know?

I get it—it can be confusing. This year, and continuing next year, we conducted four benchmark assessments each in reading, writing, and mathematics. We assess the students on the information they will be expected to know in June. There

are two main reasons that we do this.

lege Reading and Writing curriculum beginning in September. There will be a much higher demand on your children to produce larger quantities of writing, as well as to produce better writing. Your child’s teacher will send home more information on this in September, and will also discuss it with you at the first parent/curriculum night.

We will continue to focus on “Socratic Seminar” for next year. We want to see students engaging in independent conversations without the need for an adult to call on a speaker. Some of our classes were extremely successful

this year, and we want to see all students become proficient in this skill.

There will be a big push to extend this discussion skill to math. We will engage our students in “Number Talks” at least three times per week. We have a high expectation that students are able to mentally solve math problems, explain their thinking, and evaluate the explanations of their classmates. Number Talks is a 10-15 minute discussion in which all three of these things occur. Your teachers will provide more information about this.

individual students, the class, and the grade across the year. In June, we will look for areas in which the grade did well so we can repeat this for the following year. We also look for areas where the students didn’t do as well as we wanted, so that we can improve the instruction for the following year.

Highlighting Our Office Staff

We would like to acknowledge the hard work that our office staff has put into this year! We are so appreciative of all they do!!

Wanda —pupil accounting secretary; events organizer

Conchita —Payroll secretary

Maria —Family Worker; attendance; events organizer

Yessenia —School aide; pupil accounting assistant ; events organizer

Carmen—school aide; copies

Ray —school aide; “heavy lifting”

Ivette —school aide and parent volunteer; website master!

Awilda —school aide and library help

Although he is not technically office staff, we would also like to thank **Jose** for all of the work he does to assist with registering families during our busy times!



Comings and Goings

The entire school community would like to thank our outgoing PTA members for their support this year. Being involved in a transition year is always a little bit challenging, but this group of dedicated parents rose to the challenge! Thank you :)

We congratulate our new PTA members for 2016-2017. They are:

Co-Presidents: Maria Ortiz and Trevor Richardson

Co-Vice Presidents: Carmen Neal and Judith Farmer

Co-Treasurers: Tristan Loanzon and Lyssett Martinez

Co-Secretaries: Jason Davis and Nicole

Hunt

We would like to say a sad goodbye to three wonderful teachers: John Cannetti, Manny Anastasiou, and Agnieszka Reszke. As our middle school closes, these awesome teachers will leave us to work in other middle schools. Their departure is a sad day, and a loss for our school. We wish them the best of luck, and hope to see them all again soon!

Conchita Torres will also be leaving us. We wish her well as she moves on to another position in the NYC DOE.

Ivette Rolon will also depart the school. She has been a long-time member of the P.S. 111 family. I'm confident that we will still see her around!

We will be welcoming a new teacher in our Gifted and Talented program. We'll be sure to announce this as soon as a hiring decision is made.

Finally, we will have a new group of PK and K families joining us in September. If you know any of them, please make sure they are on the look-out for an invitation for the "new family meet and greet" that will take place in August.

Events Calendar for 2016-2017

Please be sure to visit our school website at www.ps111adolphsochs.org to see the list of events we have planned for September through June.

As with this year, Family Fridays will occur on the 3rd Friday of each month.

In addition to those Fridays, the entire school will participate in weekly Friday assemblies. We want to develop the skill of being a good audience member, while building community, and discussing important weekly information with the students. Each assembly will be run by one grade a week. During the

week that your child's grade is in-charge, you will be invited to join us. We're looking forward to seeing where this takes us!

Read, Read, Read

Your child's teacher will have provided you with his/her current reading level. Teachers have also created, and sent, lists of recommended books for the different levels of reading ability.

If you would like additional information on which books are appropriate for your child, then you can go to your public library to ask for assistance. As a reminder, the reading levels correspond to grade levels as follows:

Kindergarten: A, B, C, D, E
 1st grade: E, F, G, H, I, J, K
 2nd grade: K, L, M, N
 3rd grade: N, O, P, Q
 4th grade: Q, R, S, T
 5th grade: T, U, V, W
 6th grade: W, X, Y,
 7th grade: Y, Z
 8th grade: adult literature level

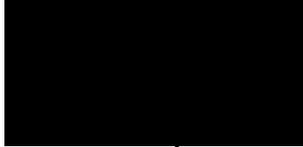


READING JUST 20
 MINUTES EACH DAY
 EXPOSES A CHILD TO
 1.8 MILLION WORDS
 PER YEAR! CHILDREN
 SHOULD READ **AT
 LEAST** 30 MINUTES
 EVERY DAY DURING
 SUMMER VACATION.
 THIS MEANS READING
 A MINIMUM OF ONE
 BOOK PER WEEK IN
 GRADES 3, 4, 5, AND
 8. CHILDREN
 READING AT LEVELS A
 THROUGH J SHOULD
 READ MULTIPLE
 BOOKS PER WEEK.

NYCDOE

P.S. 111
440 West 53rd Street
New York, NY 10019
212-582-7420
212-245-7236

Have a **GREAT** summer vacation. Remember: the first day of school is Thursday, September 8th. It will be a half-day for Kindergarten and a partial day for Pre-Kindergarten. All other students will have a full day of school.



WWW.PS111ADOLPHSOCHS.ORG

Volunteering

Summer Volunteering

If you are available this summer...we are looking for some parent volunteers to help us organize our supply closet, paint the cabinets and lockers in the staff lounge, and help Ivette organize the library and some materials for donations. We will be in the school Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

September Volunteering

We will be looking for classroom, cafeteria, and school yard (recess) parent volunteers. If you are interested, then please see Zaida or a PTA member. The PTA will be reaching out to families in September about this.

Your child's teacher will also keep you informed of any opportunities to volunteer for trips, parties, and other special events throughout the school year.

As always, we thank you for your support, and look forward to it continuing during the 2016-2017 year.

