



Demarest doings



Dates to Remember

November 3:

Silver Graphics fundraiser ends

November 6:

HSA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

November 6-13:

Read-a-Thon

November 7:

School closed: Election Day
6th Grade Bake Sale

November 8:

Ben Franklin Assembly
Barnes & Noble Fundraiser

November 9 & 10:

School closed: NJEA

November 16-22:

Early dismissal (12:30 p.m.):
Parent-Teacher Conferences

November 17:

Kids' Tricky Tray, 6 p.m.

November 23-24:

School closed: Thanksgiving
Break

November 2017

Recess Activity Committee - Winter Games and Activities

Winter is coming - and with it, indoor recess on inclement weather days. We need your help to make indoor recess as much fun as possible for the kids. We're looking for donations of gently used Legos, games, toys, crafts, etc. Please note that games and puzzles must be complete (no missing pieces) and can be completed in a single recess (e.g., no 500-piece puzzles, please!) Donations can be dropped off at the office. (Please label as "recess donation.") We also need parent volunteers who are willing to share their time and skills to lead recess clubs or activities. You can volunteer one time or on a regular basis throughout the winter. We're open to any and all suggestions. Past activities and ideas have included a Lego club, knitting club, yoga club, calligraphy or cursive writing club. What skill can you share with Demarest students? Please contact Laurie at lauriekessler@hotmail.com to volunteer or if you have questions.

Read-a-Thon

The Read-a-Thon is a fun way to get kids reading and to support our school library. Forms will go home November 1. Pledges can range from 1¢ per minute to however much the sponsor wants to donate. Collecting pledges is optional; our primary goal is to encourage students to read and feel good about supporting their school library. All participants are eligible to win prizes, with or without collecting pledges. Between November 6-12, students will fill in their reading log with the number of minutes read. Pledges and forms are due by November 17. Get ready, get set, **READ!**



Calling all Box Tops!!

We need Box Tops from all grades and all classes. October submissions were great, but we would love to see as many students participating as possible. Please submit your Box Tops to your child's teacher in an envelope labeled with your child's name, grade, and class. We look forward to recognizing everybody's efforts.

Presidents' Corner

Is it already November? It's hard to believe how many amazing events we've already had in just two months. It is because of YOU that we kicked off this school year with successful events and fundraisers for our kids and the school, such as the Fun Run, Rita's, Clothing Drive, Pumpkin Patch, and Fall Social. It is truly amazing to see all of the kids enjoy these events. Thank you again for your continued support not just to the children but also to the school and the HSA. We greatly appreciate all of the volunteer efforts provided by Demarest families.

Happy November!

RaQia Bouchard and Tracy Pityinger
HSA Co-Presidents



Principal's Message

Dear Parents,

I am happy to announce that the month of October was a great month, especially when I look at the data for school attendance. Our attendance rate for the month surpassed last October's as we came in at 97.24%! I was excited to share this with our Superintendent in my weekly updates; however, there is still work to be done.

I remain concerned about the number of students arriving late/tardy each day. This is despite the fact that they are not counted as late if the weather is bad or if I notice that traffic is backed up along Broughton Avenue. Certainly, there may be a day or two when everything goes wrong, someone can't find their homework, the car keys are missing, or the alarm didn't do its job. However, there is a line of as many as 50 children each day waiting for late passes. When a child arrives late, he or she misses the morning work and, often, plays catch-up for the remainder of the day. Allowing your child to be late consistently may also be sending the message that school is not important. Feel free to reach out to me if I can assist in any way.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for November. Your child's teacher should share information about your child's strengths and areas in which your child may need support. Be sure to ask how your child has adjusted socially to the class and ask how you can best support him or her at home. If for any reason you cannot keep the time you selected for the conference, please contact the teacher or office as soon as possible.

As we prepare for the upcoming celebration of Thanksgiving, please know how thankful I am each day to have the opportunity to work with you and your children. Best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,
Mary Todaro

November Program

A program on Benjamin Franklin will be presented to students on Wednesday, November 8.

6th Grade Yearbook

We are currently accepting digital or printed baby pictures of 6th graders for the yearbook. Printed photos should be submitted in an envelope labeled with the student's name and homeroom teacher. Prints will be returned after we've scanned them for the yearbook. Digital pictures can be emailed to yearbookpictures2018@gmail.com. Thank you.

Kids' Tricky Tray



Demarest's first annual Kids' Tricky Tray is coming up on Friday, November 17. Doors open at 6 p.m., and we'll start calling numbers at 7:30. Tickets are \$25 per child and \$5 per adult. Children's tickets include all prize tickets, 2 slices of pizza, and bottle of water. Adult's tickets include 2 slices of pizza and bottle of water. No additional prize tickets will be sold. Each child who does not win a raffle prize will get a consolation prize, so everyone goes home a winner! Adult 50/50 tickets and additional refreshments will also be sold. Please return the form that came home with the students; cash, check, and PayPal accepted for payment. Email kidstrickytray@demaresthsa.org with questions or for more info.

Book Fair

An informational meeting for the March 2018 Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the cafeteria on Monday, November 6 at 6:30 p.m. Meeting topics will include the book fair theme, details about how the fair runs, and the volunteer jobs available. If you have any questions about our book fair, please attend our informational session. Light refreshments will be served.

2nd & 3rd Grade Basketball Clinic

Our 2nd and 3rd grade basketball clinic will start in January and run through March for 10 weeks. Exact dates to be announced. The clinic will be on Mondays 5-6 p.m. for 2nd grade and 6-7 p.m. for 3rd grade. Registration packets with more info will be distributed in November. **2nd GRADE COACH WANTED!** If you enjoy basketball and can volunteer your time on Monday evenings, please contact Amy at amydeputato@gmail.com.



Thank you!

Pumpkin Patch

Our second annual Pumpkin Patch was a success, and we had beautiful weather for it! Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered to set up and help the students pick out the perfect pumpkins.

Fall Social

Thank you to all of the fall social volunteers and families who attended. The night of fun would've been impossible without you.

Halloween Class Parents

A huge thank you to all of the Halloween class parents! You did an awesome job, and the children enjoyed all of the treats and fun activities. We appreciate all of your help in making the celebrations at Demarest a huge success! We hope you had a fun-filled Halloween.

Spirit Wear

Thanks for ordering Spirit Wear! Show your school spirit by wearing Demarest gear or black/gold colors every Friday.

Fundraising Updates

Thank you to all who ordered **KidStuff books!** The local editions have been delivered, and out-of-area editions should be in and distributed soon. We will have a few local books on hand until the end of November. If you missed the main sale and would like to purchase one, please email fundraising@demaresthsa.org. Each book is \$25.

Annual Fall Catalog Sale order forms have gone out. Cookie Mix order forms have been distributed. If your child submitted artwork for the Silver Graphics fundraiser, you should have received a personalized order form. Paper order forms for both sales are due November 8. Silver Graphics on-line orders run through November 13. Orders are expected to arrive by mid-December. Please note that holiday delivery is not guaranteed for late Silver Graphics order forms.

We are trying several new fundraisers and events this year, some of which were suggested by members in recent years. Please feel free to reach out to us with feedback on our fundraisers or with any ideas you may have for the 2018–19 school year. E-mail us any time at fundraising@demaresthsa.org.

Mini-Fundraisers

Thank you to all who came out and supported our **Rita's fundraising night**, and a special thanks to Mrs. Todaro for being our Celebrity Scooper.

Our next mini-fundraiser will be a shop-to-donate event at **Barnes & Noble** in Clifton Commons on November 8. Shopping vouchers will be honored all day in store on November 8. Use Bookfair ID 12210191 to place orders at www.bn.com/bookfairs between November 8-13. Barnes & Noble will donate a portion of the proceeds from these in-store and online sales to our school. We will also have a special event at Barnes & Noble on the evening of November 8 from 6:30-8:30 p.m., including a Mystery Guest Reader at 6:30 p.m. (near the stage in the children's section) and a 4th-6th-grade talent show starting at 7 p.m.

Please join us for a fun-filled evening and pick up some books to help your child reach his or her **Read-a-Thon** goals over the four-day weekend!

Ways to connect with Demarest Home & School Association:

Our website: <http://demaresthsa.org/>

Email us: email@demaresthsa.org

Like us on : <https://www.facebook.com/demaresthsa/>

Or, better yet, attend a meeting! The Demarest HSA meets at 7:00 p.m. on the first Monday of the month in the Demarest cafeteria.