



www.demaresthsa.org

May 2017

RECESS VOLUNTEERS...PLANNING AHEAD!

As this school year nears its end, the Recess Activity Program committee is starting to think ahead to 2017–2018, and we'd love your help! If you can spare an hour during lunchtime once a week or however your schedule allows, please consider sharing your skills and interests with Demarest students by running a class or a club. We started a few lunchtime programs this year and are open to hear your ideas for others. We also continue to accept donations of gently used Legos, grade-school-age toys and crafts, recess balls and supplies, etc. (please drop off at Ms. Todaro's office). Email Laurie at lauriekessler@hotmail.com with questions or offers to help.

YARD SALE

The Demarest Yard Sale is quickly approaching! Please consider volunteering at the event, to be held Saturday, May 6, from 9 am to 5 pm outside the school (rain date May 20). View available times (volunteers needed from 7:30 am to 6:30 pm) and sign up at this link: <http://signup.com/go/fgNSRmb> or contact Laura at **973-356-9507** or lmchsa@yahoo.com.

We are also still accepting donations of gently used goods. Spread the word—the more we have to sell, the more money we can raise for our school.

When to Donate: Through Friday, May 5

Times for Donations: When it is convenient for you!

Where to Drop Off: 75 Pilch Street, Bloomfield. If no one is home, please leave items close to fence in back end of driveway or inside enclosed front porch.

What We Can Accept: Gently used items of most sorts that are suitable for resale. If you have a larger item(s) or questionable item(s) not listed below, please contact Laura at the above before dropping off. We will also gratefully accept paper/plastic shopping and grocery bags and small to medium sized cardboard boxes (new or used).

What We Cannot Accept: Mattresses, any porous furniture (e.g., sofas), car seats, cribs, fax machines, telephones, old computer items/parts, halogen lamps, large appliances, non-working household items (e.g., blender that does not work when plugged in), building products, magazines, broken or chipped glasses and plates, torn or stained clothing, or worn or stained furniture.

What We Are Looking to Borrow: Folding tables and/or tarps. Please contact Laura at (973) 356-9507 or lmchsa@yahoo.com to coordinate any borrowing of the listed items. The items borrowed will be tracked and returned in the conditioned borrowed.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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SPRING CLOTHING DRIVE

Our Spring clothing drive will be held Saturday, June 3, from 8 am to 5 pm in the teachers' parking lot (in case of rain, the drop-off location will be 75 Pilch Street). **Items accepted:** Men, women, and children's clothing, shoes, hats, belts, ties, handbags, coats, jackets, bed linens, bath linens and stuffed animals. Please bring items bagged or boxed.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Please continue to collect and submit Box Tops until June 9th. The contest may be over, but Box Tops DO expire, so please submit what you have before the end of the school year. Don't forget to register your Price Plus card with www.shoprifeformyschool.com so that your Box Tops automatically apply to our school. You can also browse the Box Tops website (www.boxtops4education.com/earn/participating-products) to find products and coupons. Many thanks for your participation...your efforts make a difference and are always appreciated!

It's time to show some
School Spirit!
Every **Friday**, wear your favorite **Demarest** gear!

PROGRAMS

Our last program of the school year, *The Magic of Science*, will be held on June 5.

PLANT SALE

Demarest's annual plant sale will be held on Friday, May 12. Please send in cash or a check (made out to Demarest HSA) with your child, as s/he will shop during the school day. This is a great opportunity to shop for Mother's Day. We will also have some Father's Day items for sale!

SEPAC MEETING

The next SEPAC meeting is May 17 at Forest Glen School at 7 pm.

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May 2017

Dear Parents,

Happy May! Believe it or not, the current school year is nearing an end, and we are already planning for the 2017–18 year! As we move forward, there are a few things to keep in mind.

We have been registering new students for kindergarten. If you have a child who will be 5 by October 1 or know of a neighbor with a child who meets this criterion, please make sure he or she is registered for kindergarten ASAP. We have already planned a parent orientation night, school visit, and screening and want to ensure that everyone who is eligible is included.

You should have already received a copy of the board-approved calendar for the 2017–18 school year. Please be mindful of school breaks when you are planning your vacations. Our school has worked very hard to improve our students' attendance rates. As our NJ School Performance Report indicates, the number of chronically absent students has declined, and our attendance has improved consistently over the past three years.

As we near the end of the school year, many special activities have been planned. Our students anticipate the upcoming trips with great excitement. However, please know that the behavioral and academic expectations we have for our students remain in place until the last day of school. Students who do not display appropriate behaviors may have limited participation in these year-end special events.

Finally, the last week in April marked the end of our after-school support program. As a Title 1 school, we were provided extra funding to support students who struggled. Next year, we will be looking to extend this program and develop innovative programs that will include parents. A special thank you to all our staff who participated in this program and the families whose children attended.

Mother's Day is always special to me. Not only because of my own 4 children, but because of the 522 students who I consider part of my family. Here's hoping that all moms get a chance to relax and enjoy the day!

Sincerely,

Mary Todaro