



# Cougar News

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Columbus School Community,

Congratulations on another successful school year! During 2016-17 we had plenty of great experiences! We held our first ever Geography Bee and our first induction of elementary students into the National Elementary Honor Society. It was also great to see your excitement during our Pie-A-Teacher and Tape-A-Teacher to the Wall events as we celebrated the first 100 days of school.

I want to give a huge thank you to our team of teachers, and support staff who have all worked tirelessly everyday to make Columbus a great place to learn! We wouldn't be Columbus without you and this work couldn't be done without you!

As we bring a close to another school year, I wish everyone a spectacular summer and I look forward to seeing you next fall!

Educationally yours,

Stephen V. Peters, Principal

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### IMPORTANT DATES:

#### ATTENTION PARENTS -

**NEW PRE-K & K REGISTRATION APPOINTMENTS NOW AVAILABLE! CLICK BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**[\\*\\*2017-2018 PK & K Registration\\*\\*](#)**

- ◆ HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE SUMMER!

# COLUMBUS' SCHOOL COLLEGE & CAREER WEEK

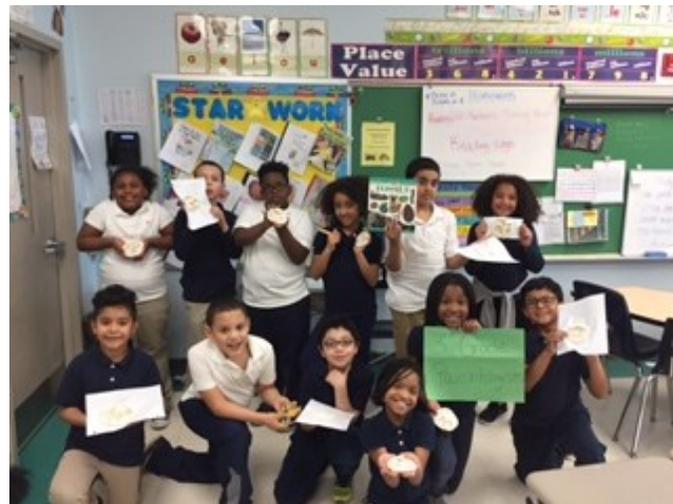
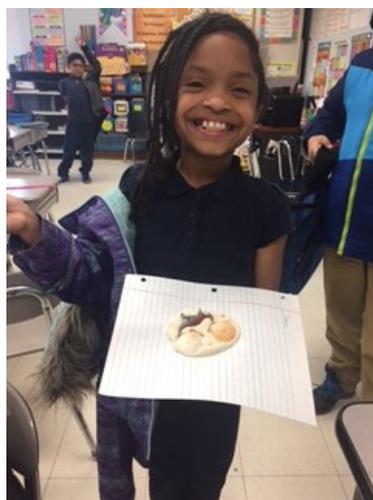


Columbus School Celebrated College and Career Week which included a Career Fair on May 24th. The fourth and fifth grade students were able to visit the fair and meet professionals from various different careers, including a biologist, a pharmacist, police officers, firemen, a veterinary technician and a professor from Middlesex County College. The students came prepared with interview questions, which allowed them the opportunity to learn about those careers and help them plan for their own future career and goals. Throughout the week in their classrooms, students learned about planning for their future goals, college, and possible career options they would like to explore. Each class also participated in an activity where they envisioned their high school graduation day. Our students were so excited to picture themselves as the graduating Class of 2024 - 2029!



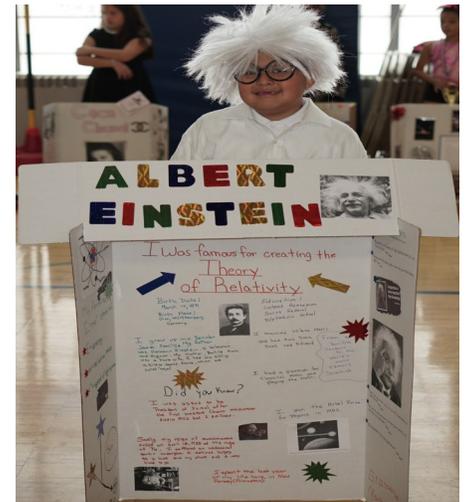
## PALEONTOLOGISTS FOR THE DAY!

Mrs. Bubbico and Ms. Chavers' third graders became paleontologists for the day! The students first researched their job and responsibilities of a paleontologist. Next, as a class they explored the different types of fossils such as fossil molds and fossil prints. Then it was time for each student to create their own fossil. We used flower, water and salt to create the mold. To represent the fossil, each paleontologist chose between a variety of plastic dinosaurs and sea shells to use for the imprint. The following day, each paleontologist removed the "fossil" and examined their print or mold that they created!



# 4th Grade Living Wax Museum

On May 4th, 2017, all fourth graders made history come to life during our Living Wax Museum presentation. The living wax museum is a collection of visual displays where students, dressed as famous individuals, stand at attention, while visitors walk around and tour exhibits illustrating the life of the person represented. When a visitor wanted to learn more information about the wax figure, they would press a "button" and the students came to life, speaking to their guests in character as the figure they chose to represent. Students were responsible for researching their chosen figure as well as creating a tri-fold poster display, memorizing a speech, and creating a costume that was representative of their figure. Wax figures present included notable historical figures such as Eleanor Roosevelt, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, as well as, contemporary figures such as Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson and Olympic Gymnast Laurie Hernandez. The fourth grade teachers are so proud of their students and all their hard work making history come alive!



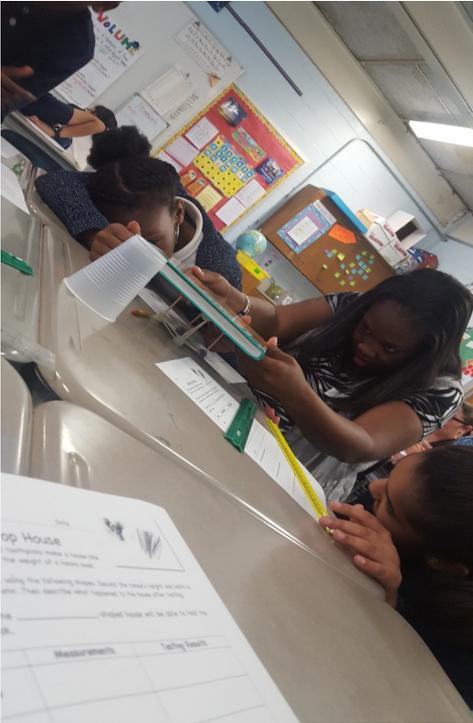
## 2ND GRADE SPRING FESTIVAL



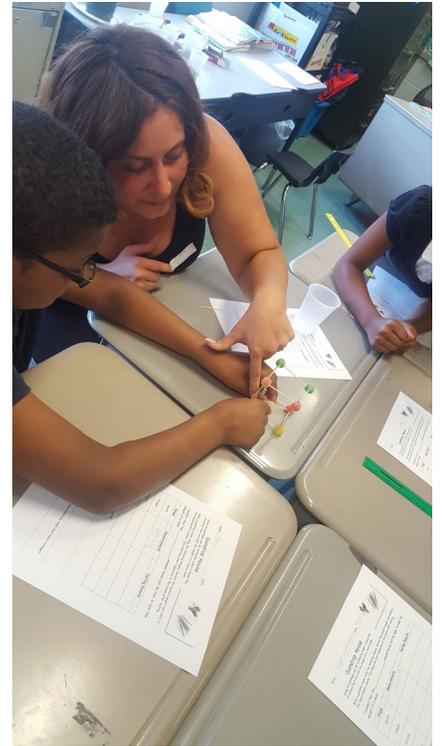
On May 31st, 2017, the Second Grade classes held their very first Spring Festival of Learning! Parents, family members, and friends were invited to spend some time with the second graders and their teachers and take a look at the exciting, technology integrated, Social Studies projects that the students had been working so hard on. Each student chose a state, in the United States, that they were interested in learning more about. During class time, on their Chromebooks, students researched facts about their state and created a Google Slide presentation, complete with different themes, images, and slide transitions! At home, students worked hard with the assistance of their families to create a T-shirt that represented their state. The T-shirts were so creative! During the Spring Festival of Learning, students wore their T-shirt and displayed their presentation on their Chromebook. Parents, family members, and friends were able to move about the gym and hear the students talk about their state and show their presentation. They also sang three patriotic songs throughout the night. We are so proud of their hard work!



## 5TH GRADE PARENT MINGLE



On May 17th, the 5th grade classes held a "Parent Mingle." They invited parents into the classrooms to join the students in a fun STEM activity. Each parent worked with a group of 2-3 students to construct a 3-D structure using 10 gumdrops and 20 toothpicks strong enough to hold the weight of their math textbook. They were given 30 minutes to complete the challenge. It was great seeing the parents interact with the kids and having some fun competition! After about 20 mins of following guidelines on the handout given, Ms. Kaur and Ms. McDonald went around and gave parents more hints into what structure would work best and then allowed the parents to guide the students to the final pieces. All our students enjoyed their time with their parents!



## 3RD GRADE MULTICULTURAL FAIR

The 3rd grade classes hosted a Multicultural Fair which included a wide variety of foods from all over the world. Students served and explained their dish to parents, teachers, administrators and their peers. All guests were given a Multicultural cookbook which included the recipes that each student shared. It was a huge success thanks to all who participated!



# KINDERGARTEN FAMILY NIGHT



Kindergarten families were invited to join their children in participating in Language Arts and Science activities, Math games, blocks, puzzles, writing, and painting. Families had an amazing time conversing with the students about the different things they are learning in school. Children were able to self-select a station and take charge while their parents assisted them. It was a great learning experience for all!



# 1ST GRADE PUBLISHING PARTY

On May 26, 2017, the First Grade classes hosted a Publishing Party for their families to attend. The students worked hard on creating a written piece on the topic given to them: Mrs. Cousin's class wrote about "All About Us", Ms.Gruber's class wrote about "My Life in First Grade" and Mrs. Masterson's and Miss Fanning's classes both wrote about "If I Won the Lottery". Once the students worked through the writing process, a final draft was complete and they illustrated that writing piece for their book. The pages were sent to the publishing company and the result was a hardcover book that each of the students authored. The families attended the Publishing Party where they had the opportunity to hear each student read their writing in the book. All classes and their families then came together in the cafeteria to enjoy refreshments.



# COLUMBUS SCHOOL FUNDRAISES FOR CARTERET CONQUERS CANCER

Throughout the month of May, students in Columbus School participated in a variety of fundraising activities to raise money for the annual Carteret Conquers Cancer 5K Walk which took place on May 20th, 2017. Students generously purchased bracelets and made posters to raise awareness for the event. We also participated in a penny war which helped raise over \$1,300 for the fight against cancer! We would like to give a very special thanks to the members of the National Elementary Honors Society, who made posters, sold bracelets, counted LOTS of pennies, and participated in the walk.



## FUN BUS VISITS COLUMBUS!

The Kindergarten Classes along with Mrs. Davis and Ms. Costa had a fantastic day jumping and doing obstacle courses on THE FUN BUS! The music was playing, games were being played and some gymnastics were being performed. All the kids came off the bus exhausted from all the fun they had and couldn't stop talking about the experience!



# ANNUAL LIP SYNC SHOW

The Annual Lip Sync Show celebrated the DECADES with songs from every genre. We heard songs from John Lennon, Michael Jackson to Beyoncé. The kids had an awesome time performing and all did an outstanding job. We would like to congratulate all who participated and especially the Junior Show and Senior Show Winners.



## PTO NEWS

The Columbus School Parent Teacher Organization is dedicated to facilitating the active and informed involvement of all parents/families to achieve the educational success and well-being of children.

On June 19th, at the 5th Grade moving up ceremony, our newly elected officers were installed. We want to take this time to congratulate the new officers of the Columbus School PTO for the 2017 -18 school year:

Mrs. Taqualla Lowman - President

Mrs. Kimberly Castor– Vice President

Mrs. Courtney Best - 2nd Vice President

Jessica Franchino - Treasurer

Mrs. Frankie Bell - Secretary

We really appreciate all those who participated in the voting process. And we especially want to thank those who ran for office. Not only does it take a lot of courage, but it also communicates your commitment to partner with us to provide great opportunities for students.

Please make every effort to attend our next general meeting for the upcoming school year and become members of the PTO. Let's join together, to provide students with diverse, innovative and enriching learning opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom!