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# THE SCHOLARLY NEWS

TALENTED AND GIFTED SCHOOL FOR YOUNG SCHOLARS PTA NEWSLETTER : : DECEMBER 2016

## THANK YOU!!

We did it! Thank you to all the donors listed below for their support of iPledge! Because of their generosity, we have surpassed our \$90,000 goal and iPledge has raised over **\$117,000 and 3300 volunteer hours!!!**

**And congratulations to the winners:**

### **Class K-112**

(Most funds raised; wins 1 dress down, ice cream or pizza party, & surprise gift)

### **Class 572**

(Most time donated; wins 1 dress down, ice cream or pizza party, & surprise gift)

### **Class K-113**

(Most participation; wins 1 dress down, ice cream or pizza party, & surprise gift)

### **Greg Wilde**

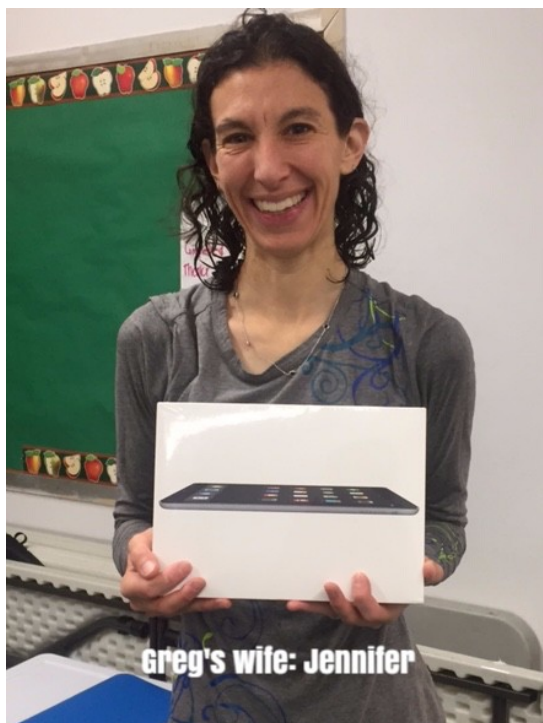
(parent iPad winner)

## PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

Happy Fall,

It has been both an interesting and productive first 3 months of the school year, from the new 5<sup>th</sup> grade procedures to parents concerns of many school staff changes. During this chaotic time, TAG families have learned getting things done takes time. This is why the PTA Executive Board partnered with TAG's administration to host a town hall meeting to address parents concerns. At this meeting every issue wasn't resolved, but the big takeaway was to foster better communication between the school's administration and TAG families.

Everyone in TAG is a member of the PTA family, and its strength and effectiveness depends entirely on what each parent at TAG can commit to in terms of time, ideas,



resources and finances. The town hall and the ipledge initiative illustrated the success of the PTA family. Parents from every grade level attended the town hall and the November ipledge drive raised over \$117,000.00. We, the Co-Presidents of the PTA, are elated that you understand we are stronger together. Together, we are making enormous strides towards ensuring that our existing programs will be sustainable for years to come. Together we can build a school that meets our lofty standards, challenges our students to achieve as much as they can and sets them up to be great citizens who ultimately will make a meaningful contributions to society.

Warm wishes,

Trina Edmundson &  
Anand Raghunath  
TAG Co-PTA Presidents

Click to enlarge



## Fundraising Announcements

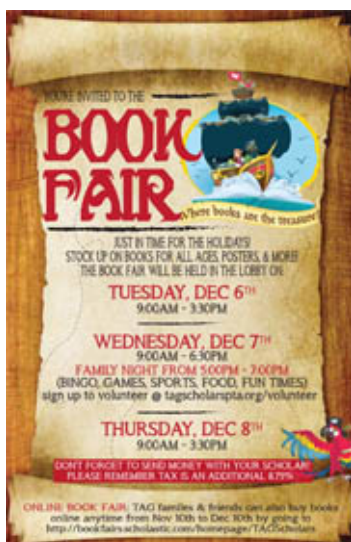
**COME TO THE BOOK FAIR!**

## HOLIDAY GRAMS ARE

**COMING!**

TAG families & friends are invited to the Book Fair! It will be held in the lobby on **Tuesday 12/06 & Thursday 12/08 from 9am-3:30pm and Wednesday 12/07 from 9am-7pm.** Each class will have a scheduled time to visit (you will be alerted when closer to date) so don't forget to send money with your scholar (& include extra for tax.).

On Thursday 12/07, the fundraising & membership committees will host **Family Night from 5am-7pm.** It will be an evening of bingo, games, sports, food, & fun times for the entire family! To volunteer to help out, sign up at [tagscholarspta.org/volunteer](http://tagscholarspta.org/volunteer).



## FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Each Month, the Fundraising committee will give a snapshot of what they have raised so far. October & November programs/events have brought in a total of \$127,739. This includes funds raised from iPledge, the Sweet Harvest Bake Sale, Movie Night, TAGwear, BoxTops, & Fairway cards. Thank you to all the TAG families who have participated!



Send sweet wishes throughout TAG with a Holiday Gram! Flyers with the details will be sent home in backpacks the week of 12/05. All payments and completed labels will be due by 12/15.

## DAVE & BUSTER'S POWER CARDS

Order the best stocking stuffer ever- Dave & Buster Power Cards! Sell \$10 & \$20 power cards to your family, friends, neighbors & co-workers (and order some for yourself!). The cards never expire, are refillable, and can be used at any Dave & Buster's worldwide! The \$2 activation fee has been waived. The membership committee will be organizing a **school-wide meet up at a local Dave & Buster's** so get your cards before that! Forms will be sent home at the end of November.



## ENRICHMENT

Enrichment got off to a great start this year with PTA-organized after-school **debate, piano, chess, theater, and Mandarin classes** filled to capacity. In-curriculum chess started for 1st grade in

October, and will commence at the beginning of December for Kindergarten. Scholars in all grades are regularly participating in weekend chess and debate tournaments, earning many trophies for the TAG teams.



All 5th and 6th grade classes have **poets in the classroom**. Selected TAG poets will also present their compositions next Spring at Aaron Davis Hall, at the City College of New York.



Congratulations to the TAG chess team for a great performance at the Spence All Girls Chess Tournament. Sophie Renault, Claire Huang, and Alexandra Castro won 1st place in the Third Grade Team section. Candy Huang (4th grade) and Gwendolyn Simon (5th grade) took home 4th place in the Reserve Team section. And Amelie Phung (4th grade) claimed 2nd place in the Premier Section.

Mark Your Calendars...**The Greater New York Scholastic Chess Tournament** is February 4th and 5th at the New York Marriott in Brooklyn. The PTA is sponsoring a team to attend the tournament, and while the priority slots will go towards members of after-school chess, everyone interested should please feel free to inquire via [enrichment@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:enrichment@tagscholarspta.org). We will provide updates in December. Remember, there are plenty of weekend chess tournaments to prepare for this citywide event!

The winter session of after school Chess starts on

January 6th. Please register at [www.nychesskids.com](http://www.nychesskids.com).

Save the Date...**Field Day** will be held out on Randall's Island on the following dates:

**Grades K-2, Tuesday, May 16th**

**Grades 7-8, Thursday, May 18th**

**Grades 3-6, Monday, May 22nd**

Please go to the PTA website

<http://www.tagscholarspta.org> to volunteer to help!

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## Cooking Night

The membership committee hosted a cooking night event at the Young Chefs Academy in Forest Hills, Queens. K-1st graders and 2nd-5th graders made pizza from scratch and enjoyed some ice cream. Each kid received a voucher for a class in the Academy.



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## Upcoming Events

- December 3rd: A movie date to watch Moana.
- December 7th 5pm to 7pm: The annual Family Night in the cafeteria.
- December 18th: A food pantry drive. Kids will have the opportunity to donate food to New York Common Pantry on E 109th st.

Please join us for these events. And if you want to volunteer contact us at [membership@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:membership@tagscholarspta.org).



## PTA CALENDAR December - January

Sat, Dec 3, 2016	<b>Debate Tournament</b>
Tue, Dec 6, 8:15am – 9:15am	<b>Grants Committee Meeting</b>
Tue, Dec 6, 8:30am – 3:30pm	<b>Scholastic Book Fair</b>
Tue, Dec 6, 6pm – 7pm	<b>General PTA Meeting</b>
Wed, Dec 7, 8:30am – 3:30pm	<b>Scholastic Book Fair</b>
Wed, Dec 7, 5pm – 7pm	<b>Family Night/Book Fair</b>
Thu, Dec 8, 8:15am – 9:15am	<b>Fundraising meeting</b>
Thu, Dec 8, 8:30am – 3:30pm	<b>Scholastic Book Fair</b>
Thu, Dec 8, 5:45pm – 6:45pm	<b>Fundraising meeting</b>
Fri, Dec 9, 8:15am – 9:15am	<b>Membership Committee Meeting</b>
Mon, Dec 12, 8:15am – 9:15am	<b>Communications Committee Meeting</b>
Wed, Dec 14, 9am – 10am	<b>TAG School Tour K-8 families</b>
Thu, Dec 15, 6pm – 7pm	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b>
Fri, Dec 16, 8:15am – 9:15am	<b>Enrichment Committee Meeting</b>
Wed, Dec 14, 9am – 10am	<b>TAG School Tour K-8 families</b>
Tue, Dec 27, 2016 - Mon, Jan 2, 2017	<b>Winter Recess: NO SCHOOL</b>
Tue, Jan 3, 2017, 8:15am – 9:15am	<b>Grants Committee Meeting</b>
Tue, Jan 3, 2017, 6pm – 7pm	<b>General PTA Meeting</b>
Thu, Jan 12, 2017, 8:15am – 9:15am	<b>Fundraising meeting</b>
Saturday, Jan 14, 2017	<b>Debate Tournament</b>
Monday, Jan 16, 2017	<b>Martin Luther King Day: NO SCHOOL</b>

**More info:** <http://www.tagscholarspta.org/event-calendar.html>

## Contact the TAG PTA Executive Board

We have **NEW** Board Members for 2016-2017 (in bold). Please welcome them and help us do even more for our TAG kids! Please don't hesitate to reach out to anyone on the board with your questions, ideas, and concerns.

### Co-Presidents

Trina Edmundson  
Anand Raghunath

[president@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:president@tagscholarspta.org)

### Co-Vice Presidents

Norma Corv  
Sara Coates

[vicepresident@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:vicepresident@tagscholarspta.org)

<b>Co-Secretaries</b>	Laura Lampert Rasheedah Harris	<a href="mailto:secretary@tagscholarspta.org">secretary@tagscholarspta.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Rebecca Yoftahie John Johnson	<a href="mailto:treasurer@tagscholarspta.org">treasurer@tagscholarspta.org</a>
<b>Audit Committee</b>	<b>Jenny Lam</b>	<a href="mailto:audit@tagscholarspta.org">audit@tagscholarspta.org</a>
<b>Budget Chair</b>	Eric Crump	<a href="mailto:budget@tagscholarspta.org">budget@tagscholarspta.org</a>
<b>Communications Co-Chairs</b>	Nina Reiniger Emmanuelle Kachenoura	<a href="mailto:communications@tagscholarspta.org">communications@tagscholarspta.org</a>
<b>Enrichment Programs Co-Chairs</b>	Kathy Powell-Manning Jennifer Fiore	<a href="mailto:enrichment@tagscholarspta.org">enrichment@tagscholarspta.org</a>
<b>Fundraising Co-Chairs</b>	Pamela Simon Catherine Levine	<a href="mailto:fundraising@tagscholarspta.org">fundraising@tagscholarspta.org</a>
<b>Membership Co-Chairs</b>	Kasha Cacy Iaria Mogno	<a href="mailto:membership@tagscholarspta.org">membership@tagscholarspta.org</a>

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**Have feedback or an event/ article you'd like included in the monthly newsletter? Email it to:**  
[communications@tagscholarspta.org](mailto:communications@tagscholarspta.org)

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