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TAG PTA Newsletter - Feb 2015

1 message

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To: Pamela <pamsim777@gmail.com>

Tue, Feb 17, 2015 at 11:01 AM

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DONATE BOOKS!

Share the gift of reading by **donating to the Book Drive for Metropolitan Pediatrics**! Have a stack of children's books you've been meaning to donate? Bring them to TAG! The PTA Community Outreach team is organizing a book drive to benefit Metropolitan Hospital Pediatrics department. Please bring very gently used children's books of all subjects to Ms. Bruno's office **by March 12th**.

DON'T MISS THE BALL!

The **March 7th Masquerade Ball** will be a day of music, games, and great food for all TAG families and friends (playdate, anyone?). Tickets include a fabulous mask, unlimited games, prizes, and entry to 2 different raffles.

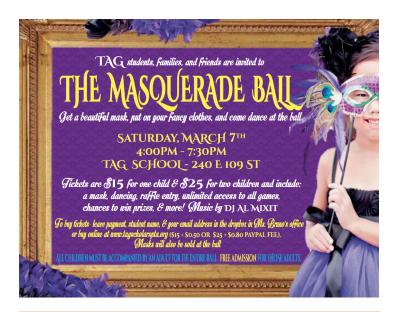
Click on the flyer to buy your tickets today!

THERE'S STILL TIME TO BUY TICKETS

The deadline to buy tickets for the Ice Skate with TAG trip has been extended until **Thursday, Feb 19th!**

Buy them HERE.





YOUR DONATIONS MADE A DIFFERENCE!

On behalf of Ms. Bruno, thank you to the many parents who made donations to the food drive! With their help, TAG donated over **500 POUNDS** to families in need.



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PTA PRESIDENT

Dear TAG Families,

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, Feb 23rd: Last day to hand in Dave & Buster Power Card forms

Thursday, Feb 26th: Exec Bd Mtg @ 6pm (in library)

Saturday, Feb 28th:

TAG Ice Skating Trip

@ 1:30pm
(Aviator Sports Center in
Brooklyn)

Tuesday, Mar 3rd: PTA Mtg @ 6pm (in cafeteria)

Saturday, Mar 7th:

Masquerade Ball @
4pm
(in cafeteria)

Friday, Mar 13th: Fundraising Mtg @ 8am & 6pm (in library)



Working with the grants committee, TAG PTA secured an \$11,500 grant from Blackrock Gives (thanks also to Blackrock Employee & TAG

Undaunted by the ice and slush and snow outside, the 2014-2015 school year marches on! TAG PTA is getting an early glimmer of spring with the announcement that a generous grant from Blackrock will enable us to establish a professionally-coached middle school debate program! This is the culmination of two years of hard work by parent/coach William Castro, by our formidable student debaters, who consistently take top prizes at city tournaments, and by our indomitable TAG PTA Grants team, led by parent Catherine Martinez. Now, with Blackrock funding and coaching by Agape Leaders Institute, TAG's team will have the resources to compete on an even grander scale, both locally and nationally.

Our recent Ski trip to Shawnee Mountain, PA was another bright spot in the dark of winter. TAG hurtled at breakneck speeds down the Poconos slopes, showing impressive talent in body as well as mind, and most importantly having a good time together in a non-academic setting! There's more of that to come, with the Masquerade Ball, the Silent Auction, and the Talent Show right around the corner. With spring at TAG also comes the intensive phase of TAG PTA's planning for the next school year, so we need to hear your voices at the monthly meetings, or via email if you can't make it. Many new and exciting ideas are in the works, and we want as many parents involved in the process as possible.

From one TAG parent to another, thank you for everything you do for our kids and our school. Hope to see you at all the great events we have coming up this spring!

All the best,

Jason Gots
TAG PTA President. 2014-2015

Paul Gross) to parentsupport TAG's awardwinning middle school debate team. The funds will pay for our Agape partners, as well as cover the cost of transportation competitions and debate t-shirts for the students. Blackrock Employees will also participate in debate competitions as judges!

The program has already attracted 13 students who meet on Fridays. During the first meeting on Jan 30th, students learned how to formulate arguments for both the pro and con sides whether or "Naturalized citizens should be allowed to become the President of the United States." There first debate tournament be Saturday March 21st. For more information. contact:

debate@tagscholarspta.org

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE UPDATES

As of February 11, 2015 the Fundraising & Grant Committees have raised over \$98,000.00!

DAVE & BUSTER POWER CARDS

The PTA Fundraising Committee asks TAG students to participate in our "Fun-Raiser" by selling **Dave & Buster Power Cards** to their family, friends, neighbors, & co-workers. The

iPLEDGE CONTINUES!

Thank you to all the donors listed below for their support of iPledge! Because of your generosity we have raised over \$73,000.00. For those of you who have not yet donated

TAG PTA will earn a generous 50% from the sale of each card. You can purchase Power Cards on tagscholarpta.org. All orders forms are due Monday, February 23rd. are due Monday, February 23rd. REMEMBER, the TOP selling student will receive a \$100 American Express Gift Card, delicious lunch & dessert, and a Dress Down Day! The 5 top-selling students will enjoy a delicious lunch & dessert plus a Dress Down Day! If you have any questions please contact Trina Edmundson fundraising@tagscholarspta.org.



time or funds- vou still have time! Make your donations online today at tagscholarspta.org or by leaving a completed form in the drop box in Ms. Bruno's office.

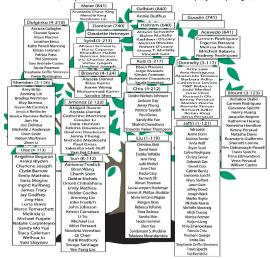
IHANK YOU!!

Thank you to all the donors listed below for their support of iPledge!

Because of their generosity, iPledge has raised over 500 volunteer hours and \$70,000! And congratulations to the raffle winners: - Debasish Das (winner of the iPad)

- Class 1-119 (Most funds raised; wins 1 dress down, ice cream party, & surprise gift)) - Class 3-117 (Most time donated; wins 1 dress down, ice cream party, & surprise gift)

Class 1-121 (Most participation; wins 1 dress down, ice cream party, & surprise gift)



THE ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION

Are you craving some adult time in an evening accompanied by, delicious food, an open bar, conversation, and dancing? Want to help TAG at the same time? Sounds like you need to come to the Annual Silent Auction on April 25th! Individual tickets are \$55.00 Early Bird Tickets (until March 2rd). Tables are \$165 (seats 2) and \$325 (seats 4). The tables for 8 have SOLD OUT!

Buy your ticket HERE or by leaving a completed form and payment in the drop box in Ms. Bruno's office. We are still seeking donations of enticing items to be auctioned off. So if you or someone you know can donate services, items, or tickets to events, please contact: Trina Edmundson at fundraising@tagscholarspta.org.

The TAG PTA is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization so donations are tax deductible! Questions? Contact Trina Edmundson at fundraising@tagscholarspta.org or Catherine Martinez at grants@tagscholarspta.org



PARENTS WORKING TO IMPROVE OUR PARK

The TAG PTA has spearheaded Friends of Poor Richard's Playground, a community

group which is gathering ideas and momentum for improvements to Poor Richard's Park and playground area, including using the green space on the corner as a garden, upgrading the equipment and repairing, and improving the grounds. **The group has a website:** http://meganfotog.wix.com/poorrichards. We are looking for a few more dedicated parents to join our efforts! Please contact Megan Joplin if you would like to be involved in helping to make Poor Richard's Playground a beautiful, usable park and playground for our kids and community.

THE LATIN JAZZ CONCERT IS COMING...

Last spring's Latin Jazz fundraiser concert was a wonderful opportunity for TAG musicians to rub shoulders with professional players. First, the Latin Jazz Ensemble performed a set of their own music. Special guests Bobby Sanabria and Carlos Henriquez brought in a band of top-flight pros to play a couple of numbers. And, as a conclusion, everyone played together on an exciting, impromptu version of Tito Puente's "Oye Como Va." The best comment was from one of the 8th grade flute players: as the last notes died away, and the applause swelled, she said, "This is the best day of my life!" Be on the lookout for details about this year's upcoming must-see concert!

Have feedback or an event/ article you'd like included in the monthly newsletter or the weekly digest? Email it to: communications@tagscholarspta.org

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