



Here's Some of the Stuff That's in All Those Emails You Keep Getting.

(We know there are a lot! We are sorry!)

JANUARY 2024

UPCOMING DAYS SCHOOL WILL NOT BE OPEN (OR IS A HALF DAY),

- NO SCHOOL MONDAY, JANUARY 15TH (MLK Day)
- THERE IS A HALF DAY ON FEBRUARY 7TH
- THERE IS ANOTHER HALF DAY ON FEBRUARY 13TH
- NO SCHOOL MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH (Presidents' Day)

HEY THERE, I'M GOING TO QUICKLY REPEAT TWO OF THOSE DAYS BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT HOLIDAYS AND YOU'RE 100% GOING TO FORGET THAT YOUR KIDS HAVE A 12:45 PICKUP THAT DAY

- **THERE IS A HALF DAY ON FEBRUARY 7TH** (TEACHER TRAINING)
- **THERE IS A HALF DAY ON FEBRUARY 13TH** (ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER CONFERENCES)

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT – january 19th at XX o'clock

Get together and grab drinks with other PS5 parents! Vent about never fully knowing how to log into Clever and repeatedly forgetting your Infinite Campus password! Meet up is at Healy's Bar right across Newark Avenue. 10% of the proceeds will go back to PS5. We are all in the same boat, so it's nice to touch base about it once in a while.

VALENTINE'S DAY POPS – january 17th – january 31st

For those of you familiar with our annual valentine's day fundraiser, we're selling Lee Sims chocolate pops. So this fundraiser entails supporting a Jersey City small business that's been around for generations while ALSO supporting PS5 while ALSO buying and eating chocolate. If you're not sure for whom to buy the chocolate pops, here's my list of suggestions.

1. Your child's class
2. Your child's teacher
3. Your child's specials teachers
4. Any and all PS5 support staff
5. Just yourself and you don't even need to justify it, it's fine
6. Me
7. Friends outside PS5
8. Family
9. Dance teachers, Soccer coaches, all the people who help get your kid through the week
10. I already said yourself but whatever, I'll say it again. January is a long month.

LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION IN THE GARDEN

For anyone on top of the cultural celebrations, thank you for joining us at Three Kings Day and mark your calendar for the Lunar New Year celebration coming up on February 15th (It's a Thursday). Join us in the garden as we ring in the year of the Dragon (It's an exciting one!) with some crafts, history and food. Always free.

DRESS. DOWN. DAYS.

For anyone whose kid is itching to wear those taco-print leggings they were gifted over the holidays, here are the Fridays they can wear them (for the very reasonable cost of \$1). Help raise money for the school while also letting them wear something fun that you don't feel guilty for not ironing. The next three dress downs are:

- January 19th
- February 2nd
- February 16th

These are occasionally added or changed so please, please, please, please, please, please, also check our [Facebook Page](#), which is the most frequently updated source of information. [HERE is the flyer with all the dress downs.](#)

CLUBS AND THINGS THAT KIDS CAN JOIN

- CHESS CLUB: Normally Fridays at 4:30, all ages welcome. [Here is a doc with a bunch of information,](#) including the link to the WhatsApp.

- CONTI KINDNESS CLUB for middle schoolers attempts to foster a culture of kindness between older and younger grades. We're still deciding if we'll meet mornings or afternoons, so if you'd like to weigh in on this timing decision, e-mail PS5KindnessClub@gmail.com.
- The GARDEN CLUB for middle schoolers meets on Tuesdays at 3PM in the garden.
- There is a Drama club Wednesdays right after school until 3:55. 5th grade through middle school and it meets in the auditorium. Contact Ms. Valentin if interested.
- There is a reading club Mondays right after school until 3:55. 5th grade through middle school and it meets in room 314 (Mr. Gallagher's room). Contact Mr. Gallagher if interested.
- There's a BOOK CLUB AT PAVONIA LIBRARY for middle schoolers that chooses books focusing on mental health. [Here's a link with info and how to sign up!](#)

AND AN 8TH GRADE TRIP THANK YOU

While we're so grateful to everyone who's donated, an individual thank you to Henry "Rival" Vijande, our afterschool program breakdance instructor, who donated to the trip at the Bronze Level.

If you wanted to sign your kids up for breakdancing outside of the ASP, [here's his website with info](#). (Which he didn't ask me to post, I just looked it up out of morbid curiosity and decided to link to it since I was thanking him anyway)

Ok, that's everything for January. I let you know about those two half days in early February twice, so if you didn't write them down yet I can't save you.

Stay healthy and connected and we'll all make it through these next two cold, joyless months in one piece.

Sincerely,
The PS5 PTA