

# Charlton Heights

## Principal's Piece

Dear Families,

During this time of hope and celebration, our character words of the month are "Kindness and Caring." We are stressing that children are helpful and polite with their words and actions, and are thoughtful of how others feel.

Congratulations to Tracy Blowers and all of the children who participated in the first BH-BL Theatre for Children BY Children with their performance of *Rapunzel*. We are very proud of all of our performers! Congratulations also to all of the winners of the annual PTA Reflections Contest. The names of all of

the students who participated can be found in the newsletter.

I ask families to remember to send children into school prepared to go outside with boots, hats, gloves, snow pants and jackets during the winter months. It would also be helpful if you labeled all belongings for easier identification when items are lost.

The Charlton Heights staff would like to wish all of you a very happy and healthy holiday season.



Sincerely,  
Tim Sinnenberg

December 2009

## Reflections Winners

PTA Reflections Winners Announced The National PTA developed the Reflections program in 1969 to interest children, parents, teachers and communities in the arts. This year's contest

theme is "Beauty is..." Students at O'Rourke Middle School created a piece of artwork, took a photograph, wrote a story or song, and /or created a dance or film about a theme. The following is a

list of students whose work was chosen as the most outstanding at O'Rourke, and will be judged at the regional level for their work.

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## First Grade News

December is here and what fun it brings! The wonder in a child's eyes, excitement in the air, the smell of fresh baked cookies and Santa soon will be here. First graders will be learning about maps and globes and will be applying their map skills with a mini unit on holidays around the world. First graders will be travelling among classrooms and learning the about the December holidays

celebrated in England, Israel, United States, and Sweden. Individual classrooms have planned holiday parties, baking and festive décor. First graders will also be celebrating with "Candy Cane Day" where everyday school curriculum will incorporate candy canes in some way. We end the holiday celebrations with a day of reading with "Read the Day Away"

before heading off for a holiday vacation/a special week with family and friends. Best wishes for a safe and wonderful holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah!



The First Grade Team

## Student Council News

This holiday season the Charlton Heights Student Council will be collecting money for the Make-A-Wish foundation of Northeastern New York. Student Council representatives will be collecting spare change in the cafeteria during every lunch period beginning Monday, December 7th through the 16th. Kindergarteners will be able to participate, as well. We will have angels available for pur-

chase in both classrooms. We will once again be taking part in the Adopt -An-Angel program. Paper angels will sell for the special school price of \$1.00. With each \$1.00 donation, students will receive a paper angel to bring home and place on their tree as a sign of their generosity. We hope to sell 300 angels in support of Make-A-Wish. Please remember that one hundred percent of the funds raised

from this campaign help grant the wishes of local children who are living with life-threatening medical conditions.

Alison Donofrio  
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## Beauty is.....

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Also listed are the students who earned honorable mention status for their work.

Film: Johnathon Sinopoli

Music: Park Piotrowski

Photography: Matthew Sinnenberg and Colin Swain

Visual Arts: Madeline Boussa, Sophia Swain, Rebecca Kelley, Samantha Kelley and Natalie Burgner

Honorable Mention: Grady Sondergrath and Macenzie Jackson



A special thanks to all who participated in the Sally Foster Fundraiser

## President's Post

What a great way to start the month of December and the holiday season...by experiencing the joy of the CH PTA Holiday Shop an event that so many of us look forward to...as a child or an adult!

It is an amazing sight, to watch the students come into what is typically the school gym, yet on this day, the space is transformed into a shopping scene for them to independently browse and buy for those they love...the experience is priceless!

We would like to extend a massive thank you to Tara and David DeLuke for their many

efforts to organize the day. There is a great deal of preparation, strategy, and energy invested in orchestrating this annual event but Tara and David (and even their son Nathan) cooperatively and enthusiastically worked together as a team to "cover all of the bases" of our Holiday Shop.

We would also like to thank the many volunteers that shared their time to help make the day run smoothly, as well as the talented vendors that shared their wares for our children to choose from. These efforts are another example of how those who participate in PTA, empower each other for success, and

support our students at Charlton Heights!

Last but certainly not least, the students of Charlton Heights should be commended for their exceptional manners and the respect that they showed for each other, the vendors, and the volunteers!

We wish you and your family a healthy and happy holiday season!

~Krissy Jackson and Allison Attuil

## Fifth Grade News

After reading many short stories, and the novels, *Dear Mr. Henshaw*, *Shiloh*, and *Riding Freedom*, fifth graders have enjoyed selecting their own novel by Beverly Cleary to read. While reading, students chose from a wide-variety of topics, such as a place in the story they would like to visit, a part they would like to change, or a character who was like them,



and they told why in their journals. Students did a great job explaining their thoughts and ideas and we all enjoyed talking about these beloved books.

Enjoy the holidays!

The Fifth Grade Team

Send newsletter items to Sue Hansen:  
Heyhansens@aol.com



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Thank you to everyone who supported the "One for Books" charity collection during our Fall Scholastic Book Fair. Your spare change amounted to about \$27, which will be matched by Scholastic, and donated to the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, Kids in Distressed Situations and the National Center for Family Literacy in the form of books for children. Thanks for your generosity in making the world a better place!



*Nominations are still being accepted until Dec. 30 for Founders Day nominations. Contact Laurie Kruppenbacher for more info. At [tkruppenbacher@att.net](mailto:tkruppenbacher@att.net)*



## Volunteers Needed for CHESS Publishing

This is an opportunity for students at Charlton Heights to write, edit, print, and bind their own original stories. Volunteer helpers will be asked to type and print out student manuscripts on home computer. (Paper will be provided) You may set your availability for this task to once a week, once every other week, or even once a month. Please notify Laura Paolino if you are interested. (357-8975 or [paolinofamily4@yahoo.com](mailto:paolinofamily4@yahoo.com))



Dear Parents,  
School banking has resumed!  
Contact Brenda Mills at :  
[brendamills3@verizon.net](mailto:brendamills3@verizon.net)

Thank You!  
Laura Paolino

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