

COMMUNITY NEWS 13

“Today’s voices, tomorrow’s leaders”



Volume II – Issue I

Fall 2017

“Owl” Student of the Month Is....

Many Community School 13 students dream of being chosen for student of the month. Being nominated by their teachers to represent the “ideal student” within their class is a proud moment for them. Every month one student from each grade is celebrated for their positive influence to peers and meeting particular expectations from their teachers.

Students of the month, along with their parents and administration, are invited to a special breakfast and are recognized by the school community by posing with other star students. The picture is magnified and stands as a proud reminder in the school’s main lobby.

Student of the Month Committee lead teachers, Ms. Lauren Spagna and Mrs. Jessica O’Neill run the program. Mrs. O’Neill described it best when she expressed that working for the Spirit Committee, which is responsible for running student of the month events, is the school’s legacy. “It’s something I’m always

Student Government



Campaign 2017 – 2018: 8th Grade Team Wins the Lead

(Contributor: Chanel Matos)

A new school year means a new year of school leaders. On Tuesday, October 3rd, candidates for student government 2017-2018, anxiously prepared to share their speeches as they presented their electoral goals to their peers. Headed by Social Studies middle school teacher, Ms. Melanie Guarino, candidates were presented to Community School 13’s administration, staff and middle-schoolers with bright signs of support and enthusiastic cheers from the audience.

Every September, students interested in running for office are required to submit two teacher



YPS Mobilizing for Disaster Relief: C.S 13’s Outreach Contributions Efforts for Puerto Rico & Mexico

(Credits CNN.com)

Almost a month after its initial destruction in Puerto Rico, we continue to hear how Hurricane Maria has left the island lacking everyday necessities and with limited electricity, if any. Two weeks earlier, the most volatile earthquake with a magnitude of 8.1 hit Mexico, leaving many in emotional and physical turmoil. These traumatic events have called for action and it is no wonder that it has become a calling for many; even Community School 13.

(Continuation from Page 1)

excited about because it makes everyone who is involved, happy. Knowing that it's a positive contribution and something everyone looks forward to definitely makes it worthwhile." Qualifications for this recognition include good behavior and consistency in meeting academic expectations, and are potentially viewed as role models to their peers. Fifth grade teacher, Ms. Lauren Spagna stated, "Our kids always look forward to this recognition – congratulations to all students and future nominees!"

C'mon fellow Owls! Be a role model to your peers and rock out like the awesome and hard workers that you are! Show your teachers you deserve the spotlight! ★



Congratulations to September & October's Students of the Month nominees!



recommendations which include a rating scale. Those interested in being a part of the student government without campaigning for a position, were also required to submit recommendations to teachers, which would determine their membership status. Membership into student government can become competitive, but it is always selective.

Every student's speech was filled with new promises and driven by change. Teachers, staff and administration listened attentively as students cheered on and supported their favorite candidate. Once the speeches were delivered, students submitted their votes the following period. It wasn't until the next day during our morning announcements that winners were announced. Cheers took over the entire 3rd floor as the new 2017 – 2018 student government was elected into office: President, Mia McCants, Vice-President, Cris Ripoll, Secretary, Jerard Patterson and Treasurer, Chanel Matos. This is definitely a power-team in the making.

When asked about the new role as student government president, Mia McCants' jubilant smile said it all. "I felt very ecstatic and very proud of myself."

Ms. Guarino noticed this year's group as one that "really wants to make a positive impact on the school." Even non-members of student government are described as "willing and eager to assist." She also shared how students are "building a legacy for the school and the community" through their sense of togetherness. What a great recipe for success! Best of luck to the new student government team! ★

Per the Yonkers Public School's website, "Yonkers Public Schools and the Yonkers Council of PTAs, in collaboration with the Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Board are committed to helping victims of Hurricane Maria and the earthquake in Mexico by collecting and delivering critically needed surplus medical supplies, hospital equipment, and humanitarian provisions for acute and ongoing health crises and disaster relief worldwide."



C.S 13 quickly began classroom collections with donation boxes that included non-perishables items ranging from water to personal hygiene products. Efforts were so successful district-wide, that drop-off dates were extended. C.S 13's executive secretary, Mrs. Angela Mancini shared that though the efforts came directly from the district, everyone contributed, those from within and outside the building. "Neighbors within the community dropped off supplies, who may have not had a student at the school, also contributed to the cause," said Mrs. Mancini.

Principal Isabel Hernandez stated, "I was taken back by the parents that came in with huge packs of water ready to drop-off. It was so great to see everyone help out. Our school never fails at giving; it's what we're about."

Proceeds for relief efforts came from all grades and after two weeks' time, boxes lined up the hallways, working their way to provide aid to the survivors of these disastrous events. What a great feeling to see that our com-

(Continuation from Page 2)

When you're filling out a multiple choice test and realize you answered D-A-B for your last three questions



OWLS P.S.A...

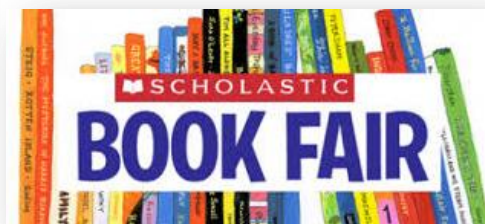
Join Extended Learning!
Don't be afraid to Build Towards Your Greatness!
 (ask your teacher for details)



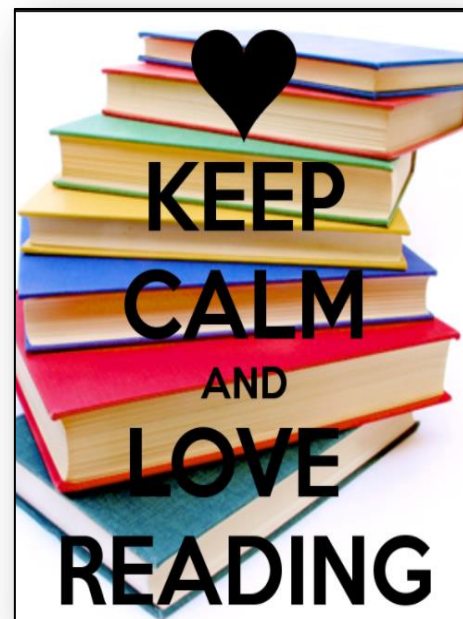
Reading for All! C.S 13's Book Fair

In early October, numerous metal carts stacked with boxes, were lined up in the main floor of the school. The bright, red lettering showing "Scholastic" could've meant a gigantic book order, but instead it was something better - Community School 13's Book Fair! Held in the school's parent room, books for all ages and avid readers were displayed for sale. This annual event led by fifth grade teacher, Mrs. Evelyn Graves, took place in efforts to fundraise for the school, while students are also able to check out their favorite books and make a purchase on the spot. Not only were books for sale, but also posters, stationary, bookmarks; many fun gadgets that accompany the reading experience.

"I like to run this event because it gets children to read!" said Mrs. Graves. We couldn't agree more! Proceeds from the book fair raised \$650 for the school. Great job Owls! ★



munity's efforts make such a significant difference in the world!



Upcoming C.S 13 Events!

- **Nov. 16, & 30:** Coding Club
- **Nov.8th:** Student of the Month Breakfast
- **Nov.10th:** Veteran's Day – School's Closed!
- **Nov.13th:** Picture Day!
- **Nov.17th:** "College is in my Future!" Day - Wear college apparel to cheer on your future dreams!
- **Nov.22nd :** Twin Day! Dress like a friend or teacher!
- **Nov. 23 & 24:** Thanksgiving Break

If you have any events or great news to share with the C.S News 13 team, please leave a note in Ms. Medranda's mailbox.

Many thanks to the teachers, staff and students that contributed to the newsletter.

Special thanks to:
 Chanel Matos
 Christine Heidelberger

