

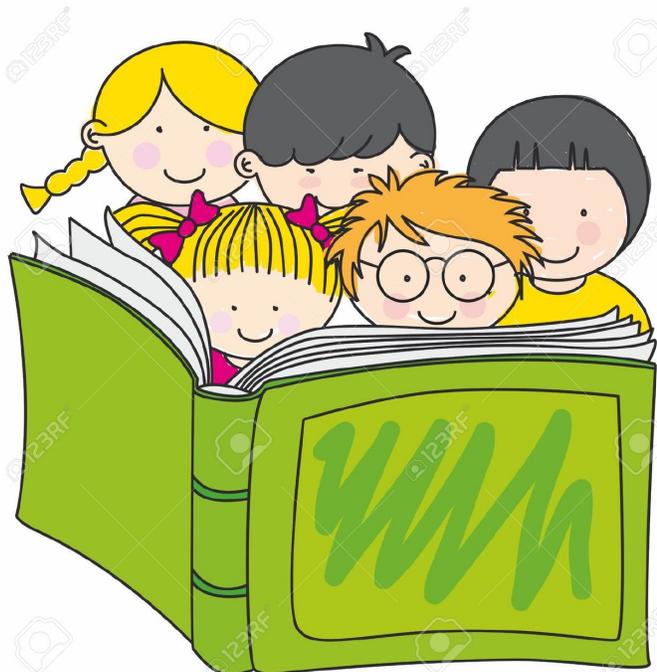
The Plaza Press



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BALDWIN SCHOOLS
PLAZA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
"Where Learning Takes Off"
 501 Seaman Avenue, Baldwin, NY 11510 • 516-377-9361
 Mr. Mark Gray, Principal



A Note from Our PTA President

Dear Plaza Families and Faculty,

Happy New Year! We hope you enjoyed the break and had a wonderful holiday season. It certainly has been an eventful school year thus far. First and foremost we would like to thank all of our Plaza families. Without you and your support, none of our efforts would become a reality. Thank you for always being there, selflessly sharing your talents, and being so generous to our children. We are proud to be a National PTA School of Excellence, and this accomplishment is due to what each and every one of you do for Plaza.

We would also like to thank Mr. Gray, Mrs. Graham, and the entire Plaza staff for their continued support. We appreciate all that you do for our members and our students. And a special thank you to our custodians. They are the best and we couldn't do this without their help.

Looking ahead, we have many great events planned, including Supermarket Bingo, the Special Someone Dance, Math Night, and Be Internet Awesome Night, so keep an eye out for flyers, Parent Link or MemberHub messages, and check plazapta.org and our Facebook page regularly!

Respectfully yours,

Susan Fisher
Plaza PTA President 2019-2020



**SCHOOL OF
EXCELLENCE**

A message from Mr. Gray

Dear Plaza Families,

Happy New Year and welcome to a new decade. We have a lot planned for 2020 and we look forward to sharing it with you. Before you know it you will be on line for the Spring Concert wondering where the year went. As always, I'd like to remind you of the many ways you can get involved in your child's school life. Joining the PTA, if you haven't done so already, is a great start. All of the learning and events at Plaza are brought to you by a nationally recognized faculty/staff and PTA. Getting involved doesn't have to be overwhelming (though it can be 😊) and there is no better way to be a role model for our children than by placing importance on school as an adult. In the meantime, awesome things are coming. A Drama Club Production—Student Council Activism—Team Orchid's 300th Story—Spring Concert—Founder's Day—Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences—5th Grade Events—Memorial Day Parade—Molloy Saturday Program—AM Edu Jitsu Sessions—Cheerleading Club—Google Grant Family Night—Black History Month—Kindness Assemblies—and so much more. We look forward to seeing you and wish all our families a healthy winter season.

School Zone Safety Tips:

- Be on the lookout for school zone signals and ALWAYS obey the speed limits.
- When entering a school zone, be sure to slow down and obey all traffic laws.
- Always stop for school busses that are loading or unloading children.
- Watch out for school crossing guards and obey their signals.
- Be aware of and watch out for children near schools, bus stops, sidewalks, in the streets, in school parking lots, etc.
- Never pass other vehicles while driving in a school zone.
- Never block crosswalks/driveways
- Never park in illegal spaces
- Never change lanes while driving in a school zone.
- Never make U-Turns while driving in a school zone.
- Never text while driving.
- Avoid using a cell phone, unless it is completely hands-free, while driving in a school zone.
- Unless licensed to do so, never use handicap or emergency vehicle lanes or spaces to drop off or pick up children at school.

Please drive safe we all live here!



NEXT BUS DRILL:

MARCH 31ST !

PLEASE CONTACT KIM
KUCHAROVIC IF YOU
WOULD LIKE TO
VOLUNTEER !

plazaptahealthsafety@gmail.com

YOU ARE ALL WONDERS!

Plaza Kindness Jars

You are all wonders. Beautiful, amazing wonders. Each one of you shine in your own different light. Each one of you make this world a brighter and happier place. Today someone smiled because they saw your brightness shining through. Today you brought happiness and joy into someone's life. Today each one of you will start an amazing journey for the rest of the school year. My hope is you start this journey here in school and carry it into the world. Today you will start filling your jars with kindness. Write a little note about what makes you happy. Write a note about what kindness means to you. Write a note about your act of kindness or what someone did for you. Fill these jars with so much love, joy and kindness. Then at the end of the month take these notes and read them out loud. Listen to the words being read. Listen to how you or someone else brightened up the day of a teacher, a student, a friend. Take these acts of kindness out and into the world and use them to brighten up someone else's day. Remember to always choose kindness.

Sincerely,

Kimberlyn Kucharovic
and the members of Plaza PTA



PANCAKE BREAKFAST



A special thank you to National Standard Abstract for the generous donation toward the Applebees fundraiser!



NATIONAL STANDARD ABSTRACT

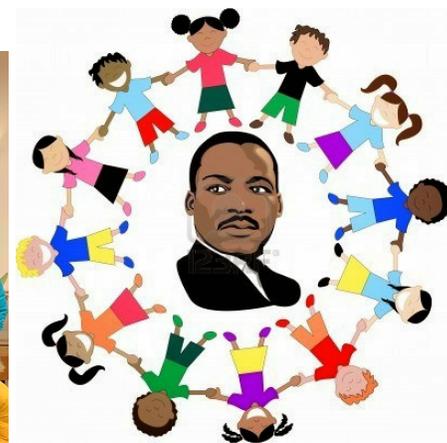
The Bridge to Building One Community at a Time.



5TH-GRADE COMEDY SHOW



MLK JR DAY



Plaza's 5th-Grade students volunteered a day of service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The students visited Townhouse Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing, where they read books to the residents, followed by assisting them in making a dove craft as a symbol of peace and love. The residents were smiling and grateful for the students' visit. Likewise, Plaza's 5th grade students had fun and felt proud to help others. We hope that students and families will continue to volunteer selfless acts such as this one on future MLK days of service, as well as other times throughout the year.



Life's most persistent and urgent question is,
"What are you doing for others?"

~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. ~
Nicole Morris
 5th Grade Events



**"The time is always right,
 to do what its right"**

Healthy Lifestyle Night



Plaza PTA was the winner of the National PTA Healthy Hydration Grant sponsored by Nestle Purewater. Using the money awarded by this grant, we hosted a Healthy Lifestyle Night on November 26, 2019. This was a fun, educational evening engaging families in healthy activities.

Mr.Gray and Emerson from OMMA came to demonstrate and teach a brief Jiu-Jitsu lesson. Students watched as some basic moves were demonstrated, and then were able to try these moves out as well. Plaza Alum Christiana McCoy and her mom Deena McCoy came to lead our students and parents in a short Yoga routine. Students got to work on their flexibility and learn about yoga. We had some visitors from Meadow School PTA. We hope that sharing this event with them, and working with other PTA's helps to bring a sense of community throughout the district.

Parents and students were given healthy food choices for dinner and participated in a water taste test. We had blueberry-orange, strawberry-basil, and cucumber-mint waters for our parents and students to taste. These waters were flavored with fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs. Families could take the recipes with them to make these flavored waters at home.

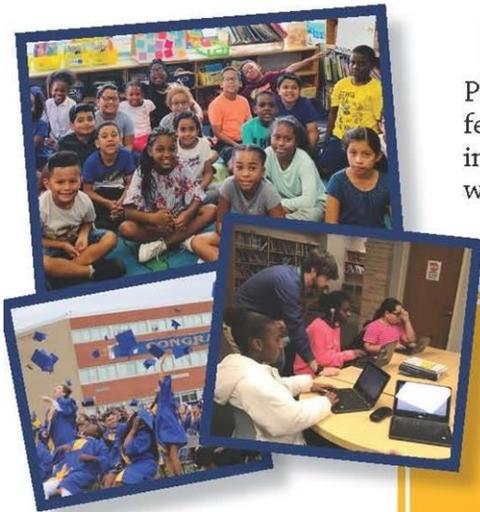
Students and parents also participated in a hands-on matching game. They tried to match the amount of sugar with the correct drink. This was an educational experience, and some families were shocked to learn how much sugar was found in drinks they had every day. Students learned about recycling and collected all the empty water bottles to be recycled.

This was a wonderful event, allowing parents and students to spend time together, and learn about making healthier choices. We hope to bring more events like this to Plaza School.

INNOVATION 2020

Community Information Sessions

Please join us to learn more about the final proposal based on community feedback for **Innovation 2020**, Baldwin Union Free School District's capital improvement initiative. The presentation will cover the proposed scope of work and the future bond referendum on **March 18, 2020**. Residents will have an opportunity to ask questions. We look forward to seeing you at one of the information sessions listed below.



TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2020

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020

Each session will take place at

7:30 PM in the District Office "Professional Learning Lab"

960 Hastings Street, Baldwin, NY 11510

Save the Date!

Capital Project Referendum Vote

Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Baldwin High School

7 AM – 10 PM



For More Information

Visit baldwinschools.org/innovation2020 or scan the QR code with your cell phone camera or QR reader app to learn more about the proposed scope of work, financial projections, and the vote on March 18.

IMPORTANT DATES



5th-Grade's Annual Car Wash will be April 25th
Plaza's Teachers' Parking Lot
9am - 1pm



presented by Plaza PTA 5th Grade Events
Certified Instructor: Eilean Calderon
FEBRUARY 4TH
PLAZA GYM

K-2nd Session 6:30 - 7:20pm Gr. 3rd - 5th Session 7:30-8:20pm
Price \$8 (at the door \$10) per child

Go to <https://plaza-pta-zumba-for-kids.cheddarup.com> to reserve your spot

Questions? Email 5thgradeclassof2020@gmail.com





NYS PTA Mental Health Conference
By Susan Fisher

On December 10th, I attended the NYS PTA Mental Health conference. This was a one day conference that addressed current issues surrounding the mental health of our students, the new mental health education laws and mandates, and the resources that we have.

In attendance were representatives from NYS PTA, NYS School Counselor Association, NYS Mental Health Association, and GoGuardian.

There are two current issues that are important for us to educate ourselves and each other about and to discuss with our schools. Mental Health and mental health education and the vaping epidemic affect all of our students, and we need to be aware of the issues, and resources available to help our students.

Message from The Editor

Dear Plaza Families,

Once again, I would like to thank you all for taking the time to stay updated on the amazing events and projects taking place at Plaza. There are so many things to look forward to not only in Plaza, but Baldwin as well! Please cast your vote for the Baldwin School District’s Innovation 2020 project on March 18th! I can’t wait to see you all at the Special Someone Dance, Founders Day, and all of the other amazing events planned for the New Year!

Thank you,

Sara Jamison

Corresponding Secretary



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New York Congress 010-227

Plaza PTA



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