



Mount Tabor Elementary School

Mr. Mark Fasciana
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What's New at Mt. Tabor?

May/June 2012

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Thank you to the Mt. Tabor PTA for organizing an incredible *Staff Appreciation Week!* Your dedication and commitment to the students and staff of this school is amazing.

What's going on at Mt. Tabor, you ask? Well, here you go:

NJ ASK- The Time is Now!

All the preparation and work our students have done has led them to this. They have worked hard and now it is time for them to showcase their knowledge. At the time of this writing, we have just begun with the 5th grade testing. Before they started, Mrs. Cieri, our guidance counselor, and I visited each of the classrooms to speak to the students about the testing itself. We began by easing any anxiety that they had about taking the test, but at the same gave them the motivation to give it 100%. *Students, you should begin to see tests like this not as an obstacle, but an opportunity- an opportunity to showcase your abilities, your knowledge and your creativity. Take this opportunity to show the world how much you've learned. Give it your best! Soon you will begin to see opportunities arise often in your life. Take each opportunity as a chance to shine!*

Benchmark Scores

Overall, our benchmark scores continue to rise with the inclusion of *Spelling City* and *Fresh Reads* as reading comprehension activities. Each marking period, the grade level teachers input their scores on a *Google Docs* spreadsheet. Then, they collaborate and discuss these results, placing emphasis for future activities and lessons. The Site-Based Objectives committee then reviews the data and marks trends. Overall, to this point in the year, our scores have been progressing, and in each grade level the majority of students are proficient.

Teacher of the Year

Our Teacher of the Year award went to Mrs. Jacqueline DeMarco this year! Congratulations to Mrs. DeMarco. Her leadership abilities and commitment to the students of this school is second-to-none. We are proud to give her this award. She is an asset to our building!

Upcoming Activities

There are several activities that are on our calendar for the end of the year. First, our 5th Grade *Social* is scheduled for Friday, May 11th, and our *Veterans Assembly* will be Tuesday, May 15th. The veterans assembly will include several veterans as well as Representative Frelinghuysen. Kindergarten Orientation is Thursday, May 17th, and we look forward to welcoming a new set of Kindergarteners. Our 5th Grade Car Wash will be Saturday, May 19th and we look forward to June, where our Moving Up Ceremony will be June 19th.

Thank you to all the parents who make this school what it is: an amazing place to grow and learn!

Sincerely,

Mark Fasciana
Principal
Mt. Tabor School
973-889-3361