

Clinton Courier

A Publication of the Clinton Parent Teacher Association
Issue 2, October 2007

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I trust you are enjoying the splendor of this autumn season. With it brings much change. The temperature gets cooler. Most of the leaves on the trees turn color and eventually fall. We turn the clocks back. The squirrels gain weight as they prepare for the winter (like me). What an enriching opportunity the fall brings for you to enhance the learning of your child. Nature is its own classroom. Just taking a walk in the park or hiking in the woods with your child offers opportunities to view firsthand and talk about all the changes taking place.

Bring out the artist in your child while you discuss the color of the leaves or carve and decorate a pumpkin. Listen for the sounds of the birds and the wind as it whistles through the trees with your young musician. Being that it is Hispanic Heritage Month, listen to music from a Spanish-speaking country. As an author, your child may want to co-write a story with you about something they have observed on your walk or hike. Read to them from books by Dan Gutman and Jim Aylesworth, two wonderful authors who will visit with us this month, or from the books you bought at our outstanding Book Fair. There are amazing natural geometric patterns surrounding us that spark interest in our young mathematicians. Help them use their math skills by cooking or baking healthy meals and snacks with them. Challenge your scientist as to why the temperature gets colder or why the leaves change color. Hide the digital clocks and use clocks with the "big hand and little hand" to discuss the time changes (when you find out *why* we do it, let me know). Demonstrate the importance of community by collecting food items for a family in need or an animal shelter. The opportunities for enrichment are endless.

Speaking of community involvement, what an awesome fifth grade class we have! The Student Council elections were held on October 1st. The students who ran were so impressive and gave such passionate speeches. We are so proud of them. Our newly elected officers are:

President – Hannah G.
Vice President – Ali P.
Secretary – Mona D.
Treasurer – Traci Marie C.

We will be working hard with Mrs. Rollo and the Student Council—including our class representatives—to give them a voice and help make our school the best it can be.

I want to thank you for understanding how important your child's safety is, and I thank you for signing in and wearing a visitor's pass when you are here. I also want to thank you for dropping your child off in the front of the school and not in the parking lot. Reserving the parking lot for staff parking and not drop-off (except for the breakfast program) will help keep our students out of harm's way. Another safety reminder: unless your child is in the breakfast program, please do not drop him or her off before 8:25 am. There is no adult supervision before that time. Thank you for helping us.

OCTOBER-AT-A-GLANCE

1-19 TH	SALLY FOSTER GIFT WRAP SALE
18 TH	GENERAL PTA MEETING, 7:15 PM
19 TH	ART ON STAGE ASSEMBLY
27 TH	PUMPKIN PATCH
31 ST	HALLOWEEN PARADE

COMING IN NOVEMBER

1 ST	FOUR HOUR DAY, EVENING CONFERENCES
2 ND	SCHOOL PRIDE DAY
5 TH -16 TH	DISPLAY MY ART SALE
6 TH	FOUR HOUR DAY, AFTERNOON CONFERENCES ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE
8 TH & 9 TH	SCHOOL CLOSED, NJEA CONVENTION
30 TH	SCHOOL PICTURE DAY

BUTTERFLY GARDEN TO BLOOM

In the not too distant future Clinton School will be the proud home of a butterfly garden like no other, designed in the shape of a butterfly with symmetric wings boasting a riot of colorful flowers. The garden will feature a stone bench at its center and brick paths to allow students, faculty, and families to stroll through and enjoy this tranquil natural sanctuary.

The seed for this idea was planted two years ago when former Clinton parent and grant writer Suzanne Vine approached Antonia Kent about a \$2500 science grant she had received from PSE&G. They agreed it would be a great idea to use the money to create a butterfly garden. With this in mind, Kent bought some books so she could begin doing preliminary research, and last year, she tapped Jeremy Moss, head of the school's Outdoor Beautification Committee, to help her come up with a plan. With great enthusiasm, Moss created an elaborate landscape design for the garden, which will be situated at the corner of the schoolyard where Garfield Place meets Underhill Field.

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Thanks to the non-stop efforts of our PTA, the extraordinary dedication of our staff, and the ever-present enthusiasm of our students, we are well on our way to an exciting and productive year, and I look forward to enjoying this splendid season with you, the staff, and the students.

—Patty O'Neill

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FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT

September brought us together on the first day of school, for our morning coffee, and again for our wonderful Ice Cream Social, which was expertly organized by Liz Salituri (thanks, Liz!). Both events were very well attended and allowed us to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones. Our first PTA meeting of the year was also a full house. Our hardworking PTA Board discussed plans for the year ahead and our principal, Ms. Patty O'Neill, talked about the smooth opening weeks of school and some of the things we have to look forward to. The fall Scholastic Book Fair was a big success, as always, and we are grateful to Liz Herring and Kat Lozynsky for all of the time and energy they spent chairing and running this popular event.

You may have noticed that many of our flyers look so professional lately that it's hard to believe they've come from the PTA. For this we need to give a special thank you to Kevin Henegan, for his superb graphic design, and Nancy Mattia, for her keen editorial eye. We also want to thank Denise Stennett (owner of The Goat Café and Clinton mom) for letting us use The Goat for our class parent meeting on September 16th. It was a great meeting, made better by the cozy ambience.

There is so much to look forward to in October! Our fall After School Enrichment Program is off to a great start, and on October 20th, we're having our 2nd Annual Meet and Greet Party. This fun adult night out will be held at Casa Italiana in South Orange (see p. 3 for details), and this year we'll be celebrating with a delicious night of pasta featuring the best sauces from our favorite local Italian restaurants. The Pumpkin Patch, on Saturday, October 27th, is always a great family event (see p. 3 for details). And please, if you can, come out to our annual Halloween Parade—kids, teachers, and Ms. O'Neill will parade around the building in costume. It's a fun day for all. Wow, what a great list of community events!

Community is a word I always associate with Clinton School. In thinking about the word community, I looked it up: com mu nit y: *A group of people living in the same locality and under the same government.* Well, yeah, that's who we are on the surface. But as I looked a little further down the list of definitions I found another one that suits us even more: *A group of people having common interests: the scientific community; the international business community, the Clinton community* (well, I added that). We all have a similar interest, the education of our children. And then, further down on the list I found the definition of community that, to me, sums up our Clinton community best: *Sharing, participation, and fellowship.* This is what sets us apart from so many. We come together in school to volunteer in classrooms, the library, the music and art rooms, and the cafeteria and playground. We take part where we can in our children's education. We even come together as adults, on weekends, to socialize and get to know each other better or to work outdoors to beautify our school. We are always working together to make our school a safer, cleaner, greener place. Our location brings us together, but our participation makes us a community. If you are new to the school I urge you to attend some of our school events so you can experience firsthand our amazing community.

Happy October!

Leah Gomberg

COME TO OUR OCTOBER PTA MEETING

Please join us at our next **PTA Meeting on Thursday, October 18th, at 7:15 pm in the Clinton School cafeteria.** Our school social worker, Lindy Rollo, and our two social work interns will be on hand to discuss the social work program at Clinton. Learn about mediation, lunchbox buddies, our recently elected student government, and the social work services provided at our school. As always, refreshments will be provided and babysitting is available for children 4 and older.

MEET & GREET PASTA PARTY!

Come to Clinton PTA's second annual Meet & Greet Party and enjoy a night out with other Clinton parents (no kids!) featuring an incredible Italian buffet with pastas and sauces courtesy of your favorite local Italian restaurants, accompanied by beer, soda, and water. There will be entertainment featuring music from the '80s, '90s, and '00s and a wild game of "Name That Tune."

Place: Casa Italiana, 133 Fairview Ave., South Orange; 973-761-5752

Date and Time: Saturday, October 20, from 6:30 pm.-10:30 pm.

Price: \$25 per couple or \$15 per person

For more information, contact Liz Salituri at 973-275-9702 or salituri@verizon.net.

IT'S PUMPKIN PATCH TIME!

Join us on **Saturday, October 27th**, from **11 am to 2 pm**, when we turn the Clinton School front lawn into our very own pumpkin patch. For \$4 you can purchase and decorate a pumpkin and enjoy a freshly picked apple and a cup of cider (or you can buy three pumpkins for \$10). We'll also have savory and sweet treats for sale. If it rains, we'll be in the cafeteria. If you can help out that day or make something for our bake sale, contact Lindy Romaine at 973-762-4703 or nyeromaine@gmail.com or Leah Gomberg at 973-275-0927 or ldgomberg@verizon.net.

PTA'S ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE

On **Tuesday, November 6th**, from **8:30 am to 12:30 pm** stop by Clinton's Election Day Bake Sale for some coffee, a bagel, or some yummy baked treats. Clinton parents prepare everything from soup to bread to dinners-to-go for this popular annual event, so stop by early for a full selection. We'll also have our 25 cent snack table for Clinton kids. We need volunteers to bake or help out on the day of the sale. Please contact Rita Dadaian (973-763-9143 or rita@cakescuture.com) if you'd like to donate food or an hour of your time.

The Parenting Center and Elementary School PTAs present Celebrate Reading—An Evening With Children's Author and Storyteller Jim Aylesworth on October 11th at 6:30 pm. at Tuscan School. All elementary school students and parents are invited.

GET READY FOR CLINTON'S FIRST MUSICAL HALLOWEEN PARADE!

One of Clinton's most colorful fall events, the Halloween parade on October 31st features students of all grades decked out in their Halloween finery. This festive affair is about to get musical. We're asking parents, faculty, and students to carry and play hand-held instruments as we march in the spirit of a New Orleans Dixieland parade. Faculty and parents who have instruments and even just a bit of musical talent are invited to join in as are any older students who can read notes, have had some lessons, and are willing to do some rehearsing. All other students will bring in or borrow small instruments from home (drums, tambourines, harmonicas, etc.) and sing while they parade. Please contact Tricia Bloom (973-763-1018 or rubbybloom@earthlink.net) or Susan Dillon for more information.

ART ON STAGE AT CLINTON

On **Friday, October 19**, Clinton will welcome **Art on Stage**, our first Cultural Arts assembly of the year. The program, presented by New York Free Style Arts, will feature an interactive performance designed to unlock the hidden art skills within each student, and it will teach them about different styles of art and important artists throughout history. Some highlights will include on-stage animations projected as "Cartoon Movies" and "Relay Race Abstract Paintings" created by students. There will be two shows, one at **9 a.m.** and one at **10 a.m.**, and parents are welcome to attend. Parents of afternoon kindergartners, in particular, may wish to bring their children to one of the shows. Additional seating will be available on the balcony. If you can't attend, make sure to ask your budding Rembrandt to tell you all about this fun-filled assembly. Thanks go to the PTA for once again sponsoring a great learning experience for students. —*Lori Mirabal*

WANTED: LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

The Clinton School Library, and our wonderful librarian, Sharon Edelberg, play an important role in the lives of Clinton students. Keeping our great library running smoothly requires a great deal of help, however, and we are now recruiting library volunteers. Library volunteers perform a variety of tasks in the library and the hours are quite flexible. Your children will love having you at school, and the library will benefit greatly from your help. For more information about volunteer possibilities and scheduling, contact Kavita Torres (973-761-4869 or jkjktorres@verizon.net).

ICE CREAM SOCIAL FUN

Thank you to all who joined us for this year's Ice Cream Social. We had a fantastic turnout, and it was great to see so many new faces in the crowd. A special thanks to all of our wonderful teachers who came out to scoop ice cream. —*Liz Salituri*

OUTDOOR BEAUTIFICATION

I'd like to start off with a big thank you to the **Berkshire Park Neighborhood Association** for raising \$252 at its block party to help fund our outdoor beautification efforts. I'd also like to thank former Clinton parent **Mary Jo Hoyt** for generously donating a maple tree.

Our fall "**Tidying Up and Planting Weekend**" will be held on **October 20th and 21st**. Please check your child's folder for the flyer, which will contain more information. We still need a lot more mature shrubs and perennials and, of course, lots of your time! Come with spades, forks, rakes, and trowels, and help us continue the great progress we have made in beautifying the grounds of Clinton School.

We are also going to begin work on our **Butterfly Garden** (see p. 1). We will need help in clearing the turf in the designated area. I am hoping to start working on this every Saturday morning after the planting weekend, up until the first frost. Again, look for the flyer, which will have more details. —*Jeremy Moss*

GETTING TO KNOW FIRST GRADE TEACHER KELLI JOHNSON

Though this is her first year teaching first grade at Clinton, Kelli Johnson has been part of our school community since last year. When third-grade teacher Natasha Pomares left for maternity leave in November, Ms. Johnson took over her class. Then Melanie Secor left for maternity leave just as Mrs. Pomares was coming back, so Ms. Johnson stepped in again, this time taking over a fourth-grade class. But now, she has a permanent role teaching first grade. And everyone—students, staff, parents—are thrilled. And so is she! We chatted with her after school one day.



Tell us about your background and education. I grew up in Mendham, and I went to the University of Rhode Island for my BA in psychology. Later I got my master's degree in elementary education at Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Did you have one of those “aha!” moments when you realized you wanted to be a teacher? I come from a family of educators, so I think I always knew that I would some day like to do the same thing. But first I tried different fields—I was a financial analyst and corporate trainer (for seven years!), and I also worked at a treatment center helping preteens and teens. But sure enough, I realized that working in education was for me and here I am...and I am loving it!

Which family member influenced you the most? My mother. She taught high school special education for 30-plus years and really gave everything she could to all of her students every day. I witnessed firsthand how fulfilling being a teacher made her.

Did you ever help her out in the classroom? Oh yes, of course! She let me help her set up her room every summer and sometimes I helped correct papers.

How is filling in for other teachers different from having your own class? Last year I wanted to make sure that I kept to the same routines that the children were used to—I didn't want to disrupt anything. This year, though, it's nice to be able to start the year off with the students and initiate my own routines.

Do you have any tricks to making sure each child in your class feels special? I make sure to call attention to every student for the positive things that they do or achieve. It is vital for children to feel important and special. I'm getting to know them all individually, their likes and dislikes, hobbies, and what they feel they are good at. If they feel that they are successful, they will be more interested in learning.

Describe your own favorite teacher from your past. There were a couple of teachers that I loved, so it's hard to pick just one. The quality that they all had in common was that they pushed their students to always be willing to try, that it is okay to make mistakes, and never to say “I can't.” I try to bring that into my teaching as well.

What's the best part of your day? The worst part? The best part is in the early morning—I'm definitely a morning person. The worst part is driving home and sitting in traffic. But I run every day...everything feels better after I run!

Fill in the blank: The most rewarding thing about being a teacher is...when the light bulb clicks in a child's head. If a student is struggling with a concept, I try to find different ways to teach it. When they get it—and you can see when they get it because it's written all over their face—it's really a great feeling!

Are you outgoing or shy? I think I am outgoing and that my personality helps to bring all the kids out of their shells—even the really shy ones!

How involved do you ask parents to be? We have a program where the parents can come in and read to the class on Friday afternoons. The students love to see their parent or a friend's parent. It's good for them to listen to a story being told by someone other than me. I also ask parents to come in and help with certain projects during the year. Parents are an important part of their child's education—being involved in the homework (making sure it's done every night) and making time to read to them or together. It's so important to have reinforcements at home.

As a teacher, what goals do you set for yourself? To do my best for each and every child who enters this school—and not just those in my classroom—whether it's a smile or hello or extra time for a student to help them feel confident in the classroom.

Anything else we should know? I love it here at Clinton. Each day is unique and that is what I love about this job. Everyone—staff and parents—were so nice from the day that I arrived. I am very happy to be a part of this community.

—Nancy Mattia Henegan

Butterfly Garden, continued from page 1

Realizing that the grant would not cover all the costs of creating this garden, Kent and Moss came up with a unique solution: to sell personally engraved bricks to families, staff, alumni, and anyone else interested in leaving a lasting legacy at Clinton School. The bricks will be used to form the pathway through the garden. The sale of the engraved bricks, which will cost somewhere around \$25 or \$30 apiece, will help offset the cost of this elaborate effort. A flyer will go out at the end of this month with more details. The PTA has earmarked \$500 for the garden and the Maplewood Garden Club has also made a contribution of \$200. In the months to come Moss will need a lot of help from parent volunteers to clear the grounds. He is hoping to begin planting next fall.

Parents were treated to a preview of the garden on both Back-to-School Nights when Kent and Moss presented a detailed sketch of their plans. Some of the plants included in Moss's rendering are *Black Adder Hyssop*, lavender, *Buddleia* (also known as Butterfly Bush), cornflowers, *Scarlet Verbena*, boxwood shrubs, *Black-Eyed Susans*, and evergreens. Moss will use black mulch to further echo the design of butterfly wings and to make the colors of the flowers really pop. "The idea is to give the children a feeling of ownership," says Moss. "Beauty begets beauty, after all."

The garden has been designed to engage all the senses. Moss chose certain plants such as lavender for their olfactory qualities and others such as lamb's ear for their tactility. Ideally teachers will be able to bring small groups of students into the garden to learn about plants and insects and even birds. "My philosophy is that kids learn more when they are having fun," says Kent. "Exposing them to a butterfly garden is a great way to teach science to students in an interactive way."

—Liz Herring

FALL BOOK FAIR THANKS

Thanks to all who participated in this fall's Scholastic Book Fair, which raised more than \$2,400 for the PTA and put hundreds of books in the hands of students and teachers. We are grateful to all those who helped make this fair a success: Marie Aguba, Linda Arbus, Liz Athos, Emni Audet, Shirley Bankole, Karen Bethel, Olivera Bevanda, Rosemarie Black, Jacqui Byrne, Marinia Caines, Eli Connaughton, Odette Cordner, Rita Dadaian, Tammy Dandino, Robin Davenport, Erica Dussman, Celine Egeonu, Julianna Excellent, Robyn Frazier, Lisa Gaffin-Howell, Joyce Hart, Nancy Januzzi, Janice Katz, Susan King, Karen Koenig, Eddie Korbich, Kim Kushmerick, Jackie Lahey, Lorraine Lebonne-Storch, Andy Leech, Ruth Lowenkron, Sharon McHale, Sandra Mazara-Taylor, Darlene Mercado, Alanna Munoz, Rivka Nelson, Caroline Onyesowu, Clare Payton, Mike Pease, Catherine Peyroux, Agnes Reiss, Duncan Rogers, Susan Rogers, Lindy Romaine, Cecilia Rosenberg, Amy Rubel, Marguerite Scandiffio, Jennifer Tate, Ben Taylor, Moya Titus, Kavita Torres, Sharon Williams, Laura Whitmire, and Megan Young. Special thanks go to Karen Bethel, Laura Whitmire, and Barbara Cokorinos for their help with the Teachers' Luncheon. We'd also like to thank our head custodian, Mr. Williamson.

—Liz Herring and Kat Lozynsky

KEEP CLIPPING THOSE BOX TOPS!

Those box tops labels on your child's favorite cereals and snacks earn Clinton School ten cents each. For a complete list, visit www.boxtops4education.com. Campbell's products are also eligible. See www.labelsforeducation.com for the full list. Send box tops and Campbell's UPC codes from labels to school in an envelope with your child's name and teacher and your child will be mentioned in the Box Tops Clippers column starting next month. For more information, contact Stephanie Mose at socratesmthr@comcast.net.

A FUNDRAISING UPDATE

September was a banner month for fundraising! Thank you to all who participated in the **No Frills Fundraiser**, which has earned over \$3000 for the PTA to use to fund school assemblies, additional rock climbing walls for the gym, and much more.

Students have finished their **Display My Art** projects, and the results are impressive. You'll see the finished products in a few weeks when order forms go home in your child's backpack. The Display My Art products make wonderful holiday gifts for grandparents and other relatives and friends.

Our **Clinton School car magnets** have arrived and look great. They can be purchased for \$5 and will be available at all PTA-sponsored functions.

The Sally Foster Gift Wrap Sale began on October 1st and will run through October 19th. The quality wrapping paper and accessories are great for all your holiday needs, and the catalog features some wonderful gifts as well.

You can make a true difference for Clinton School by simply shopping and eating in Maplewood and South Orange. **Goldfinch Books** gives a percentage of funds from books bought there to Clinton School. Simply keep your receipts and send them in to school in an envelope marked "PTA: Goldfinch Books Receipts." Goldfinch Books is hosting a "Clinton Day" on Saturday, November 17th. An even greater percentage of funds from books bought there on that day will be donated to Clinton School. Our **Restaurant Receipt Program** is another great way to help earn money for our school. When you eat at the local restaurants listed below on the days designated a portion of your bill will go to the Clinton PTA. Keep your receipts and send them in with your child in an envelope marked "PTA: Restaurant Receipt Program."

Monday Night: Village Trattoria (this year it includes *all* food—not just pizza—and both eat-in and take-out)

Tuesday Night: Arturo's Brick Oven Pizza

Wednesday Night: Bunny's Restaurant

Friday for Lunch: The Goat Café

Now you can enjoy a wonderful meal and contribute to our school throughout the week! *Bon Appetit!*

—Karen Bethel

Many thanks to the 27 volunteers who served 36 students as **ACHIEVE** tutors at Clinton School last year! Districtwide we had 177 tutors who served 263 students! **The ACHIEVE Volunteer Tutor Program** is calling once again for adults and high school and college student volunteers to serve as tutors to students in grades K-12 in the South Orange and Maplewood Schools. To find out more about being a tutor, please call 973-762-5600, ext. 1847 or e-mail achieveprogram@yahoo.com.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GIRLS ON THE RUN

Last spring, Clinton hosted its first **Girls on the Run** program. Girls on the Run is a non-profit prevention program that encourages preteen girls to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles through running. Girls in grades 3-5 participated in the weekly sessions, which culminated in a 5K race held in Madison, NJ on June 9th. Under the direction of Clinton parents Anne Klein and Josie O'Brien, and Clinton teacher Jennifer Cudmore, the girls did an awesome job throughout the session and on the day of the race. A big congratulations goes to our runners: **Lexie R., Elle K., Whitney A., Allie V., Ali P., Daisy T., Patty L., Gabby H., Brigid L., Nora M., Eilis P., Madison B., Charlie O., and Luci S.** We're so proud of you all! Girls on the Run will be back at Clinton this spring. For more information contact Anne Klein at kleins.nj@verizon.net.

THANK YOU CLASS PARENTS

Thanks to all of you who have generously offered to be class parents. Your efforts will have a great impact on your child's classroom experience and will be much appreciated by your child's teacher. Thanks, too, for attending our great class parent meeting on Sunday, September 16th at the Goat Café and sharing helpful ideas and comments. It was great to see so many familiar faces and meet so many new ones. Our first request for help (art room volunteers during our Display My Art fundraiser) was a big success thanks to you. We're looking forward to a year of great communication and fun activities!—*Cecelia Cancellaro*

HELP HONOR OUR TEACHERS

Every year the PTA sponsors a **Teacher Appreciation Lunch** to celebrate our talented and committed staff. This year, the lunch will take place on **Wednesday, November 14th**. Please contact Marieka Buckham (973-313-0580) if you're willing to provide a dish or help out that day. Flyers will be sent home in backpacks in mid-October with more details.

JOIN THE CLINTON SCHOOL PTA

Fill out the form below and return it with your dues (\$12 per person) in an envelope marked "PTA Membership." Checks should be made payable to Clinton PTA and should include phone number. Envelopes can be deposited in the PTA mailbox in the main office. For more information, contact Erica Dussman at 973-763-1717 or solutionstosavor@earthlink.com.

CLINTON PTA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name of Parent/Guardian:

Address:

Phone: E-mail:

Names of Children:

MULTI-LINGUAL EFFORTS ABOUND AT CLINTON

Ninas, ragazze, djevojka. This is how a girls' room is identified in Spanish, Italian, and Croatia respectively. Take a walk around the Clinton School building this year and you'll also learn how to say library in Spanish (*biblioteca*), gymnasium in Filipino (*himnasyo*), and principal's office in Portuguese (*principal escritorio*).

The colorful multilingual signs that hang throughout the Clinton building are just one component of a new school initiative to promote communication, celebrate the school's diverse cultural population, and enable all students to learn key words in many languages.

In addition to the signs, last month, for the first time, a newsletter of school events was distributed in both Creole and Spanish, and this will be done bi-monthly throughout the school year. Translation for the first newsletter was generously provided by Mr. Francel Michel, an aide at Clinton School, and Senora Maritza Leyva, a Spanish teacher. Future translations will be done by Clinton parents as part of a new translation committee the PTA is sponsoring this year. Principal Patty O'Neill has this to say about our new multi-lingual approach, "*Como directora de la Escuela de Clinton, yo estoy entusiasmada ser parte de tal ambiente mundial. Tenemos a estudiantes de alrededor del mundo que hablan diferentes idiomas y añaden al don cultural que forma parte del encanto de esta escuela.*"

As the district's English as a Second Language (ESL) school, Clinton School has always benefited greatly from its international flavor. Seventeen countries are represented at Clinton and about ten languages are spoken. We are fortunate that our students have the opportunity to learn about cultural diversity, tolerance, and world cultures and languages first hand. One just needs to visit our Annual International Dinner, held each spring, look at our fourth grade immigration projects every year, flip through the pages of our PTA's multicultural cookbook, *The Melting Pot*, or watch how entire classes come together to welcome a new student from Sudan, Haiti, or Latvia to witness how much our school community values, celebrates, and lives cultural diversity.

—*Cecelia Cancellaro*

ADIOS HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Muchas gracias to Senora Seltzer, Senora Levyva, Mrs. Pomares, and Liz Herring for their contributions to the Hispanic Heritage Month display. October 15th marks the end of our month-long celebration, and three winners will be selected at that time for the Spanish book reading raffle. Students should ask their Spanish teacher for details about the raffle.

We will celebrate Native American Heritage Month in November, and I look forward to your continued support with ideas and artifacts for the display. I can be reached at 973-378-3068. *Adios!*

—*Jacqueline Rhinehart*