

Windsor Central School District

Alice Freeman Palmer Elementary School
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Greetings to all our Palmer Families,

Where has the time gone? Can it really be that this year is coming to an end? And what a year it was- a year filled with excitement, fun and learning! I thought it might be kind-of neat to use this final parent letter to highlight some of the great programs and events that combined to make our time together so enjoyable and successful. So get ready to take a little trip down memory lane as we look back on the 2009-2010 school year together.

We ushered in September with a fun-filled back to school picnic. Although Mother Nature forced us indoors, we still managed to picnic on hotdogs and pizza and dance to our favorite songs from the house DJ. A little later in the month we opened up the school and held our annual Open House and Book Fair. What a great turn out!

In October, we showed our true Black Knight spirit by joining in on the Homecoming festivities. Palmer's halls were adorned in black and gold as little knights-in-training proudly wore their spirit wear to school. Students also stayed busy learning about Fire Safety and Halloween Safety. The month concluded, of course, with our annual Halloween parade.

November found us busy as the school honored our veterans with a special Morning Program assembly. We also took some time at the end of the month to learn about the first Thanksgiving and were treated to a special feast prepared by Mrs. Jurusik's class.

December is a busy time for everyone and here at school was no exception! The month began with our annual Reading Extravaganza night and right on its heels was our annual music concert and holiday lunch-in. Our special visitor in the Red Suit had so much fun at the lunch-in that he decided to hang around a bit and visit us at a fun-filled breakfast and craft day event as well!

After a well-deserved winter break, we began January with our after school enrichment program where students stayed after school to learn how to sew, scrapbook, decorate cakes, eat healthy snacks, make movies, learn to speak Chinese and more! The month ended with our exciting Palmer's Got Talent performance-weren't the students just wonderful?

In February we were treated to our first Living History Night and we certainly hope this becomes an annual event! February also saw our Odyssey of the Mind team head off to regional competition and we all know how that event turned out!

In March we enjoyed all the fun and excitement of PARP and embarked on a Hearts for Haiti fundraising campaign that would go on to be amazingly successful. We were so proud when we presented the American Red Cross with over 800.00 dollars!

The highlight in April was our evening Spring Fling dance. We had such a good time doing the Limbo, the Chicken Dance, the YMCA and other favorites. Students and adults alike spent the evening spinning and twisting to their favorite songs. April was also special because the students completed their beautiful mosaic castle. What a treasure that will be for years to come!

In May students worked hard to prepare an experiment for competition in the annual Science Fair. Before the night was over the gym had been transformed into one giant laboratory! May also saw the grand opening of our beautiful new Colonial Garden located near Grove St. It is just wonderful to watch students extend their learning beyond the classroom setting.

And that brings us to June where we recently enjoyed our wonderful Knight of the Arts program. Warm wishes go out to Mrs. Szigeti as she begins her well deserved retirement. In addition, Flag Day and field days are right around the corner and, of course, there is our Pre-K graduation and our 5th grade moving up ceremony to enjoy as well. Oh yes, and field trips... lots and lots of field trips!

So as we close out the school year I hope this letter brought a smile to your face as you revisited the special memories that you have surrounding some of these events. I am so proud to have had the chance to share in these moments with all of my students and want to wish the very best to my wonderful 5th grade class as they continue their journey into Middle school.

Have a wonderfully safe and fun-filled summer,

Jamie Bernard

p.s. Back to school picnic with Vitamin L is scheduled for Sept. 24th. Save the date!