

Deal School PTO Newsletter

Happy New Year from the PTO!

Have you wondered what we are up to?
Read on to find out.....



PTO Meeting Tuesday January 24th at 7PM in the library

First, we have been coordinating the **monthly assemblies** your children have been having.

Hopefully you heard about the Birds of Prey that visited last month. You can check out some photos in the photo gallery at www.dealschool.org Coming up is Franklin Science's Life in Space Assembly at 1PM on January 25th. On February 17th, we are thrilled to bring in The Speech Doctor to discuss public speaking with our students.

As per the suggestion of parent, Lisa Gatto, the PTO brought **Bricks 4Kidz** to Deal School for a month of afterschool programming for grades 1-4. This was a hands on class using Legos, where students designed and built models and learned about engineering and architecture. There was some discussion that parents were unaware of the class despite emails and flyers. We would like to explore the communication of upcoming events with you at our next PTO meeting.

PTO member, Pam Koskoff ran a wonderful **bake sale** during our holiday show that earned over \$200. Thank you to Pam and thank you to the many parents who donated their time and baked goods.

Thank you to all parents who brought in coats for our **Coat Drive**. Approximately 70 coats were collected and donated to Lunch Break in Red Bank.

Next up on the schedule is our **Scholastic Bookfair**. Deal school parent, Carolyn Saraqusa has agreed to take on coordinating this year's bookfair on Monday 2/6 through Friday 2/10.

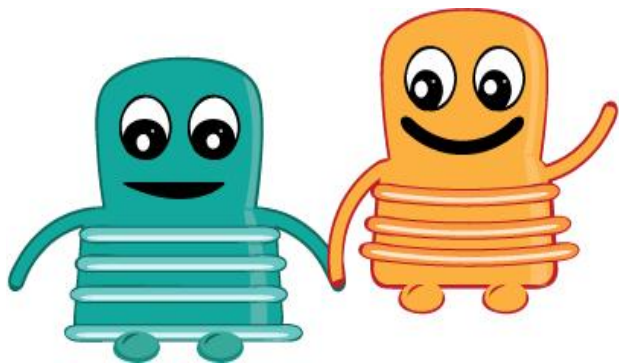
The theme this year is a bookfair Luau. To compliment the bookfair the PTO will be hosting another great **Family Fun Night of Tropical Bingo** complete with frozen drinks (non-alcoholic) and leis. Winners of each round will receive prizes of gift certificates to the bookfair. Rumor has it there may even be a limbo contest. The event is open to families of all grades and will begin at 6:30 in the Deal School cafeteria on Wednesday February 8th. We hope to see you there.

We also wanted to thank Kimberly and Colleen at etal Fine Foods on Main Street in Allenhurst for working with us to provide a lovely **holiday luncheon** to our teachers. Congratulations to Senorita Marmion on winning the raffle for the Monmouth Mall gift card.

The laptops are in!!!

The really big news is that the laptops are in and our many months of researching an online language program has come to fruition. The PTO has paid \$1500 for each student to have access to the program from Transparent Language called Byki. **Byki** formerly "Before You Know It," is a 3-Step, rapid learning system employing spaced interval repetition. Experts agree that the key to language learning, especially at a beginning level, is to first build a strong lexical foundation - a ready supply of words and phrases locked into one's working memory. Byki is the fastest, most direct path to that goal. Byki takes users through three simple learning steps to memorize words and phrases in a new language, including their meanings, representation, and proper pronunciation, in the shortest possible time. Millions of people around the world already use Byki, which currently comes in more than 70 languages.

Please visit www.Transparent.com for more information.



It was with heavy hearts that we said goodbye to longtime Deal School paraprofessional Denny Fronapfel. Thank you to the teachers, students and alumni who submitted contributions to the memory book. She loved

Our next **PTO meeting** will be **Tuesday, January 24th at 7PM in the library.** We will need to work on volunteers for the bookfair and Bingo specifically and discuss our plans for the spring. We have two very exciting projects in the works. Once again, we need to stress that Keelin and Danielle are the only two board members and will be finishing at the end of this year. In order to continue programming, we are asking any interested persons to contact either of us.

The last week in February is **Read Across America** week and our ever popular **Penny Wars**. So start collecting your spare change to help your student win the war and a pizza party for his or her class.

