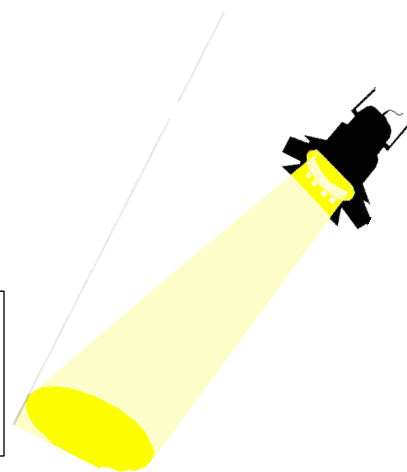


MAY 2016 SPOTLIGHT



*A lot of problems in the world would disappear if we talk
to each other...`*
Author unknown



Mark your calendars for the following dates:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| ✓ Tuesday, May 17 th – 8:30 AM | PTO Meeting – Markham Place |
| ✓ Wednesday, May 18 th – 8:00 PM | EFLS Meeting – Point Rd. School |
| ✓ Thursday, May 26 th – 7:00 PM | Board of Education Meeting |
| ✓ Monday, May 30 th | Memorial Day – School Closed |

Point Road

The Kindergarten classes celebrated **Arbor Day** with a wonderful program teaching all of us the importance of planting trees and taking care of the Earth. Thank you to **Little Silver Shade Tree Commission** for providing all Point Road students with seedlings to plant at their own homes.



For the past nine years Point Road School has partnered with Sickles Market to deliver **Earth Day** messages to their customers. Mr. Sickles donated 500 paper bags to PR for this special project. With the help of Ms. Dvorak, each student from Point Road School had the opportunity to decorate a bag with an environmental message. **Sickles Market** then shared the bags with their customers on Earth Day. **Thank you Mr. Sickles!**

Little Silver Day

Little Silver Day is fast approaching on Saturday, **June 25th** from **3 PM-10 PM** with a rain date of Sunday, June 26th. The event will be held behind Borough Hall in the fields near Markham Place School. The event requires no admission, but food & drink tickets can be purchased online at www.LittleSilverFoundation.com. Many local food establishments are catering this event. In addition to a wide range of activities for children, there will be a full lineup of very talented musicians including: Pat Guadagno, Dave McCarthy, Rick Dill, The Stone Bullets, Tim McLoone & The Shirleys, and The Haven. The day's celebration will conclude with a spectacular fireworks display. For information about sponsorship opportunities or about the event in general, please contact Rick Brandt at RickBrandt80@gmail.com

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 2nd-May 6th is Teacher Appreciation Week. A very special **“Thank You”** to all of our dedicated staff members who work tirelessly to support the social, emotional and academic achievement of the children of Little Silver. We are very lucky to have you! Thank you for all you do!

Markham Place Student Government Day celebration spans over 40 years!



On **Wednesday, May 3rd**, the Markham Place 8th grade students took part in the Annual Student Government Day. Every 8th grade student was assigned a job in the local municipality and/or as a Little Silver Board of Education member.

Teaching the functions of government, and providing our students with an opportunity to learn how to have an appropriate voice in their own affairs, is important. 8th Grade Social Studies Teacher and former Little Silver student, B.J. Olsen, carries on the annual tradition of Student Government Day affording the students of Little Silver the opportunity to learn about the workings of local government including the job responsibilities of both elected and appointed positions.

Mayor Robert Neff swore in Student Mayor Tor Haugen to begin the day. Tor welcomed his classmates and made some poignant remarks... "Ultimately, we, the students, must take the initiative and use this day to learn about the role of municipal government. It is the level of government that has the most influence on our daily lives. Therefore, one can argue, it is the most important... Little Silver is a perfect model of how democracy is supposed to be carried out. We, the Markham Place Class of 2016, must take this day to better appreciate the inner logistics of our flourishing town."



Save the date

The Markham Place Art Show is June 9th from 6:30-8:30 PM. For a preview of the projects and artists visit <http://nicolelawlor.weebly.com/current-projects.html>

Trills & Thrills 2016



Trills and Thrills is a music festival that provides selected 7th & 8th grade students with an opportunity to perform and receive feedback from a panel of professional music adjudicators. Each ensemble (Chorus, Orchestra & Band) will be given a rating and a critique of their performances. On **Friday, May 27th**, Markham Place participants will take part in morning competitions followed by a half-day visit to Six Flags Great Adventure as a reward for years of hard work and training in music education.

On **Tuesday, May 24th**, Markham Place will hold its annual Spring, **Band, Chorus and Orchestra Concert** at 7:00 PM.

LS nears completion of PARCC Assessment

Thank you to parents of 3rd-8th grade students for recognizing that, as a public school district, Little Silver is governed by Federal and State requirements regarding testing and must administer the PARCC. **This year's participation rate was almost 98%!** We received a plethora of important assessment data after last year's administration and we look forward to the same this year.

New Jersey is one step closer to requiring that students take **and pass** PARCC exams before they can graduate from high school. Last month (April 6, 2016) the NJ State Board of Education took the first of two votes to finalize high school graduation requirements for the classes of 2020 and 2021. The proposal, approved without opposition from board members, would effectively eliminate the ability for parents to "refuse" the test on behalf of their children.

The State Board of Education proposed that the class of 2020 (our current 8th grade) will be required to take (but not necessarily pass) the PARCC to graduate high school. Pending the final vote, beginning with the class of 2021 (students currently in seventh grade) will be required to pass the Algebra I and tenth-grade English exams in order to graduate.