



**Our World Neighborhood Charter School**  
*Elementary School*  
Kindergarten to Grade 5  
36-12 35th Avenue  
Astoria, NY 11106

*Middle School*  
Grade 6 to Grade 8  
31-20 37<sup>th</sup> Street  
Astoria, NY 11103

November 30, 2009

Dear OWN Families:

This past month has been a very busy one for your children and the school. There have been many events such as the book fair, K-5 curriculum night, grade 5 students taking the NYS Social Studies Exam, and the Middle School Flag Football team having another successful season. The school has also planned several health related informational sessions, to which we are inviting all parents. The first one was held at the November PTO day meeting and addressed issues and concerns surrounding the H1N1 Flu vaccination. Our next health information session, on December 4, will be presented by the New York State Department of Health and focus on health insurance options for all children, irrespective of the financial capabilities of the family. Please attend and learn how you can secure high quality health insurance for you and your children.

By now each family should have received a copy of the Parent Student Handbook. If you did not get one, please contact your child's homeroom teacher. The handbook includes many important pieces of information. Questions such as what to do when a child is absent and what is student of the week and the Pillars are addressed in the handbook.

During the school year parents are often faced with many questions about their child's experience, from issues such as the amount of homework, scores on quizzes and tests, to negative interactions with other children in the classroom, lunchroom, or at recess. When questions arise, you should immediately contact your child's homeroom teacher. This is an important point of contact for all parents. It is through this open communication that the teacher and the school will be able to address academic, social, emotional, and safety issues. In addition, to your child's teachers, please note there is a staff of support personnel ready to assist you and your child. Make use of our Assistant Principals, Dean, Guidance Counselor, and Social Worker. This team is here to assist you and your child in all areas of school life.

In the next couple of weeks, you will be hearing about the school's plans to improve its programs and facilities. We will be surveying families and teachers and we want to hear from you. The PTO will be your direct link to this process of School Improvement and Strategic Planning. If you have questions about the process and how you can be involved call us or come to the next PTO meeting.

Respectfully,

Executive Director & Principal

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K-5                      Tel: (718) 392-3405    Fax: (718) 392-2840  
Grade 6-8              Tel: (718) 274-2902    Fax: (718) 274-7146  
[www.owncs.org](http://www.owncs.org)

# December 2009 UPCOMING EVENTS

## Pillar—Respect

Tuesday, Dec. 1	Applications available for new students for September 2010 entrance
Wednesday, Dec. 2	Gr. 6 Field trip to Cold Spring Harbor Whaling Museum PTO Night Meeting @ 7pm Middle School
Friday, Dec. 4	PTO Day Meeting @ 8am Elementary School—Info Session on Child Health Plus Insurance Program Gr. 6-8 Fall Harvest Dance 7-10pm Middle School Gym Gr. 8 High School Applications due to Guidance Counselor
Saturday, Dec 5	OWN's Got Talent Show at Frank Sinatra High School
Thursday, Dec. 10	Gr. 6-8 Curriculum Night @ 6pm
Monday, Dec. 14	K-7 Re-enrollment forms for all students for September 2010 sent home
Tuesday, Dec. 15	Board of Trustees Meeting @ 7pm Middle School
Thursday, Dec. 17	January 2010 Parents' letter sent home
Friday, Dec. 18	Gr. 6-8 Quarter II Progress Reports sent home Gr. 5 Family Potluck Dinner @ 7pm
Wednesday, Dec. 23	K-8 Noon Dismissal
Thursday, Dec. 24 to Friday, Jan. 1	No School—Winter Recess
Monday, Jan. 4	K-8 School re-opens
Wednesday, Jan. 6	PTO Night Meeting @ 7pm Middle School
Friday, Jan. 8	PTO Day Meeting @ 8am Elementary School
Thursday, Jan. 14	Gr. 5 Parents' Mtg.—Middle School Information Session @ 6:30pm Middle School