# Parent Connections

Official Newsletter of the PTA of EWSIS Vol. 4, Issue #7, March 2015

#### East-West School of International Studies

46-21 Colden Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

Flushing, NY 11355

Main Office: 718-353-0009 School Website: <u>www.ewsis.org</u>

Ben Sherman, Principal
Wen-Wei Chang, Assistant Principal
Kent Kleiman, Assistant Principal IA
Robin Mandel, Dean of Student Affairs
Jeannie Park, Guidance Counselor
Carlos Diaz, Guidance Counselor
Clarice Washington, College Advisor
Janine Esposito, Community Assistant
Sue Jen Hu, Community Assistant
Margarita Torres, Parent Coordinator
Polly Chea, Community Associate

#### **PTA Executive Board**

Sharlene Tillett, Co-President Carol Samano, Co-President Vacancy Vice-President Denise Eng, Treasurer Tijuan Harris, Secretary

E-mail Address: <a href="mailto:pta@ewsis.org">pta@ewsis.org</a>



Keep Collecting -- They are a great way to help our School!

We are taking Box Tops all year long! Be sure to submit your Box Tops with your child's name & class.

## PTA News

Dear EWSIS Parents & Guardians,

A special thank you to all the parents who helped out with our Valentine's Day Sale. This month, PTA will be selling concessions at the EWSIS Talent Show to raise funds for graduation and our scholarship fund on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. If any parents would be able to assist with the fundraiser, please contact any of the PTA board members or Ms. Torres, our new Parent Coordinator. We are looking for parent volunteers willing to help sell food and drinks or if you are able to donate cooked food or snacks to sell on that night. Any donations would be appreciated.

Advance ticket sales for the EWSIS Talent Show has begun. Please support the Arts department and our student performers by purchasing your tickets now. Tickets are \$3.00 or 2 for \$5.00.

We encourage all parents to take the opportunity to meet with our teachers at the upcoming Parent-Teacher Conferences on March 26 & 27 to discuss your child's academic progress. Please utilize the resources on Pupil Path to monitor your child's academics. If you need any assistance accessing your child's Pupil Path account, please contact Ms. Torres, our Parent Coordinator at mtorres@ewsis.org.

This month, we are forming our Nominations Committee to look for parents interested in serving on the PTA Executive Board next year. If you are interested in joining the Nominations Committee or would be interested in running for a position, please contact any current PTA Board member at pta@ewsis.org.

We continue to strive to work together to create a more successful and harmonious school community. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

PTA Executive Board

## Attention...

East-West School of International Studies was not chosen to participate in the Pilot Program offering free lunch to all Middle School Students. If your child has an outstanding lunch account, we would appreciate if you settle the account as soon as possible. If you have any questions regarding your child's account, please contact Ms. Taylor at 718-353-0009 ext. 4059

## **School News**

The results of the High School Application 1st Round will be distributed on March 5, 2015. Second Round will begin shortly. Please remember that 2nd Round is only for students who were not placed in a school during the 1st Round or who want to be considered for new smaller schools. Schools that were placed on your child's 1st Round application, will not be reconsidering their placement decisions during this process. Appeals will be considered at the end of the 2nd Round.

## East-West Talent Show



March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 5:30 PM

Doors open at 5:00 PM

Advance Sale Tickets:

\$3.00 each or 2 for \$5.00

At the door: \$5.00

## **Calendar of Events**

03/6 First Fridays
@ 8:00 AM
03/7PTA General Membership Mtg.
@ 10 AM
03/26 Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences
@ 5:30-8:00 PM
03/27 Half Day
Dismissal @ 11:15 AM
03/27Afternoon Parent-Teacher Conferences
@ 12:15-2:30 PM
04/3-10Spring Recess
School Closed
04/14-16Middle School
NY State ELA Exam
04/17 First Fridays
@ 8:00 AM
04/18PTA General Membership Mtg.
@ 10 AM
04/22-24Middle School
NY State Math Exam

China trip 2015 will be taking place on March 27.

Three teachers, Ms. Seide, Ms. Duec, and Ms. Chang will chaperone 9 students to visit our sister school in Hangzhou, participating in classes and visiting neighboring schools. After the sister school exchange program, the group will join Beijing tours and come back on April 7.

## A once in a lifetime opportunity!

#### Great honor!

## Building strong bridges between New York City communities!

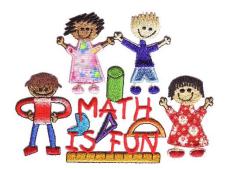
In recognition of our International Studies and as a gesture of friendship and collaboration among our diverse communities, East-West School was awarded 15 spots in the Grand Finale of the Gala Concert celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the oldest continuously running theater in New York – The Folksbiene Yiddish Theater.

Since early January, Ms. Pechersky, an author and renowned expert in Yiddish musical folklore, and Ms. Minckler, EWSIS music teacher, have been training our students in everything they need to meet the highest standards for the performance.

A very talented group of EWSIS students have been working hard to prepare for this historic event! They will perform at Carnegie Hall among 250 children from many public, private, and performing schools. Zalmen Mlotek, Folksbiene Artistic Director and Broadway producer, conductor, and pianist, will visit East-West and give a Master Class to our singers on March 18. They will perform with Itzhak Perlman, a virtuoso violinist, and other famous artists, on Tuesday, March 31.

East-West singers are very dedicated! Students in grades 6-12 volunteered to rehearse weekly, to practice at home, and to attend a dress rehearsal on Sunday, March 29, in the city. They have been learning songs and melodies in Yiddish – a language of European Jews. They discovered many similarities between English and Yiddish, which are both Germanic languages unlike Spanish or French. They explored new music modes, symbolism, family traditions and their meaning, and the value of unity, solidarity, friendship, and empathy among various communities. Ms. Pechersky is delighted she was able to arrange this collaboration with Carnegie Hall and the Folksbiene Theatre. Special Thanks to Ms. Minkler for her enthusiasm and flexibility, to Mr. Sherman, Mr. Kleiman, and Mr. Chang for supporting this project, and to the parents, whose continuous support brings EWSIS students to such exciting achievements!

For more information, please contact Ms. Pechersky at <u>LPechersky@ewsis.org</u>



## **Upcoming Event...**

Can You 24? Mathematics Competition

May 21st

More details to come