



# THE P.S./M.S. 71 TIMES

## In The Loop Edition



VOLUME 1 PG 1

September 2023

Bronx

Sunny 85 °F

### Inside This Issue

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Back to School Curriculum Event

Kindergarten Ice Cream Social

New Members of our P.S./M.S. 71 Family



On 9/14 teachers hosted a virtual meet the teacher/curriculum event for parents. During this virtual meeting, parents will learn about grade specific curriculum and expectations. As always, we strongly encourage parents to communicate with their child's teacher all year long to establish strong partnerships between the home and school. We encourage parents to take advantage of Parent Engagement time to keep the lines of communication open and to remain actively involved in your child's education. Always reach out to your child's teacher first to let them know about your concerns!

P.S./M.S. 71's  
Parent  
Coordinator  
Suzette Perez  
347-939-3918  
sperez69@  
schools.nyc.gov



## A Message From The Principal

Dear PS/MS 71 Families:

Welcome back to the 2023-2024 school year! Our school year is off to a great start. I am looking forward to another exciting, inspiring, and successful school year. As you know, it takes a collaborative effort to ensure that all goes smoothly and successfully on opening school day and throughout the school year. Our entire school community will work together to ensure that all students receive high quality instruction by implementing a strong curriculum in a safe and supportive learning environment. We will continue to engage students in rich, rigorous, and relevant educational experiences and provide daily opportunities for students to practice, develop, and enhance their skills as readers, writers, mathematicians, historians, and scientists. At PS/MS 71 we recognize the integral role you play in your child's academic success and value your partnership. As we continue to build upon our successes, we will continue to increase parent engagement opportunities and foster a positive home school connection. With your active involvement and support, I am confident that Every Child, in Every Classroom, Every Day, will have a positive and successful school experience.

- Principal Miranda

*"Parents are their child's first and most important teachers. Parents and educators have a shared responsibility for the success of our children. We must work together to achieve that success."*



## Kindergarten



Our annual Kindergarten Ice-Cream Social took place on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at dismissal. We welcome our newest members of the PS/MS71 Family and their parents to join us in the cafeteria. It was a great opportunity for parents to meet and mingle with teachers, staff, and get to know other Kindergarten parents.



Scan here!





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### Inside This Issue

Stay In the Loop

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**STAY IN  
THE  
LOOP!**



We believe in building strong partnerships with parents by keeping you informed and in the "loop" of important news and events happening in our school. Be on the lookout for our monthly newsletter that will include a message from the Principal, highlight important curriculum related activities happening in classrooms and across the different grades, as well as important events/updates. Please provide the school with your current email address. The school and PTA will send electronic copies of "In the Loop" and the Parent Handbook to families. Email is another great way to keep you informed and up to date.



**CHECK  
YOUR NYC  
SCHOOLS  
ACCOUNT!**

See your students grades, test scores and more in My Student!  
Take classes in Parent University  
Report bullying  
Access forms for your child  
Reset your child's DOE account password

**Early Drop Off & Breakfast:** As a reminder the school day starts for students in grades K-3 at 8:20 am and 8:00 am for students in grades 4-8. **Effective September 11, 2023, the morning arrival team will open the breakfast doors at 7:15 am for early drop-off.** Students arriving for early drop off, must enter the cafeteria through the school yard via the Jarvis Avenue gate. **Students in grades 4-8 arriving after 8:00 am and students in grades K-3 arriving after 8:20 am will be marked late.** Students arriving late must then enter through the main lobby doors on Roberts Avenue to receive a late pass before going up to class.

### Dismissal Plans & Dismissal Procedures:

During dismissal time, it is imperative that our teachers' full attention be on the safe dismissal of their students. Therefore, teachers are unable to have conversations with parents at the rope. Your cooperation is essential and appreciated to ensure a safe and orderly dismissal of all students. Please note if you would like to speak to your child's teacher, they are available to meet and conference with parents during Parent Engagement Time.

**NYC DOE Visitor Protocol:** Please remember, that you must show Photo ID to the school safety agent when entering the building and you must sign the visitor's log. This is to ensure the safety and well-being of our entire school community. Your cooperation and understanding are appreciated. **Safety first! Show your ID!**

**Attendance Matters:** Students need to be present in school **everyday** to maximize learning, and to receive the quality instruction they are entitled to. When students are frequently absent, there is an impact on the continuity of instruction, making it difficult for students to master grade level standards and achieve academic success. Students who reach 18 absences during the school year are considered chronically absent. Our Attendance Team will conduct parent outreach via phone and email regarding excessive absences. Please ensure that your child comes to school on time every day and is present to learn.

**Join the PTA  
Facebook  
Group!**



**PTA MEMBERSHIP:** Parents are encouraged to attend monthly PTA meetings and to be actively involved in supporting our school. During these meetings, the PTA will share their goals for the school year and how they plan to support school wide initiatives and programs. Opportunities are also provided for you to voice your concerns regarding school related issues and to ask questions. PTA Meetings also provide a great forum for you to network with other parents, teachers, and staff. The PTA hosts many events throughout the year and would love to have parent volunteers!

## Important

Drop Off and Pick Up  
Reminders



**All entrances will close  
at 8:00 am or 8:20 am!**







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## Meet the NEW Members of our P.S./M.S. 71 Family!

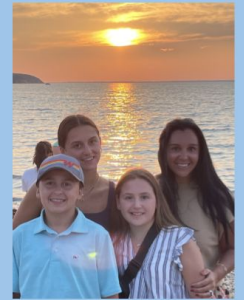
### Alexis Navatta

Hi, I am Ms. Navatta! I graduated from Pace University in May 2022 with a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood and Childhood Education. Following that, in May 2023, I graduated with my Master's degree in Special Education. This year I am teaching a first grade 12:1 class. I actually went to P.S. 71 from Pre-k to 8th grade! Something interesting about me is that all throughout high school and college, 9 years total, I was a cheerleader for our football and basketball teams. This school year I am looking forward to having my own classroom, while teaching and inspiring little minds.



### Jenn Caiola

Hi! My name is Jenn Caiola and I will be teaching 2nd grade at P.S. 71 this upcoming school year. I received my Masters degree from Adelphi University. In the past, I have taught kindergarten and 2nd grade. This will be my first year teaching in 16 years, for I have been home raising my three kids, Marin, Nick and Alexa. I live in Westchester with my husband, children and dog, Enzo. I am looking forward to the exciting school year ahead!



### Alex Conti

Hi! My name is Alex Conti, and I am a 6th grade Special Education teacher at P.S. 71. I am a career changer and went to Iona College for my Bachelor's Degree. I have always felt that teaching was the most rewarding profession, which made the decision to change my career very easy. I went to Manhattanville College and recently earned my Master's Degree in General and Special Education, Grades 1-6. I enjoy reading books, traveling, and spending time with my family and friends in my free time. This year, I look forward to gaining different strategies and resources to fill my teacher toolbox and give the students a learning experience they will enjoy and always remember.



P.S. I'm getting married tomorrow :)

### Kashaun Wortham

Hello. My name is Mr. Wortham. I am from Oxford, Mississippi. I attended Oxford High School and moved on to study Music Education at the University of Mississippi. While at Ole Miss, I was a member of the University Singers, Concert Singers, Opera Theatre, and the LOU Symphony Orchestra. I play the piano, cello, and one song on the harmonica. I just got married to my bride on a beach in Florida and our honeymoon was in Barbados. I previously taught Choir for six years in Northern Mississippi. This year, I will be teaching Music for grades 6-8 this year at PS 71.



### Maggie Costikyan



Hi, my name is Maggie! The students at 71 call me Miss C. I received my Masters in Childhood Education (1-6) from Fordham University where I participated in the 5-year accelerated program. This year I will be teaching 3rd grade!! A fun fact about me is that I was a student teacher at P.S. 71 last year! I taught 1st and 6th grade. I am really looking forward to getting to know my students (cliche, I know!). Having a good relationship with my students is one of my top priorities as a teacher! Looking forward to a great year!!

### Noah Willsey

Hello! My name is Mr. Willsey and I was born and raised in Hunterdon County, NJ. #JerseyStrong. I attended North Hunterdon High School, and received a Bachelor's Degree in English from Fordham University in the Bronx. This past may I graduated from Fordham's Graduate School of Education's Accelerated Master's program. I also had the privilege of student teaching at MS 071. While at Fordham I sang a cappella with the Fordham Ramblers, and played trumpet in the pep band. I also enjoy playing the guitar, pogo sticking, The Lord of the Rings (Books > Movies), Star Trek (Picard > Kirk), and making grilled cheese sandwiches. I am excited to be a member of the PS/MS 071 community, and I can't wait for my first year of teaching to begin!







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## Meet the NEW Members of our P.S./M.S. 71 Family!

Daniela Bifolco



Hello! I'm Mrs. Bifolco, a 3rd grade teacher at P.S. 71. With a Bachelor of Arts from Wagner College in Theatre and Speech and a Master of Science in Childhood Education from Hunter College, I'm dedicated to shaping young minds. In my third year of teaching, I've already guided 1st and 2nd graders, fostering a love for learning. I'm thrilled to inspire my 5th graders on a journey of literary exploration. Beyond the classroom, I'm passionate about travel and recently explored Italy on my honeymoon. I can't wait to ignite a lifelong passion for learning in my students and make this year unforgettable!

Shantel Tineo



Hello! My name is Ms. Tineo. I was born and raised in the Bronx. FUN FACT: I am a product of the NYC public school system! I've attended schools in Districts 10 and 12. I graduated from City College with my Masters in English Education. I started my career as a paraprofessional in District 11 in 2018. I've worked in two middle schools in Co-Op City in the Bronx. In these schools, I found my passion for teaching ELA. I had the opportunity to meet and work with many incredible teachers. I intend to bring all the knowledge and skills I've gained while working as a paraprofessional and apply them to my very own first classroom! I'm excited to start my teaching career at PS/MS 71!

I am finally a Middle School Teacher!

[NYC K-8 Student's Discipline Code](#) is accessible through this QR code.



Families should report student attendance notifications to this email address: [71studentsattendancebox@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:71studentsattendancebox@schools.nyc.gov)



**October 5 - District 8 Town Hall w/ Superintendent Joynt 6:30 pm -7:30 pm on Zoom**  
<https://tinyurl.com/8fuhfppa>  
**English: 646- 931- 3860**  
**Meeting ID: 750 522 9653#**

**October 6 - 8th Grade Graduation Photos**

**October 9 - Schools Closed**  
**Italian Heritage/ Indigenous Peoples' Day**

**October 10 - Come to P.S. 71 at 9 am to have COFFEE AND CONVERSATIONS with Principal Mirando!**

**October 14 2nd Annual Fall CAR-nival! 10am -1pm Stickball Blvd. Between Randall and Seward Ave. in front of PS 182**

**October 21- 2nd Annual Every Body Reads Event @ P.S./ M.S. 71 - 11:00 am -1:00 pm**

**October 24, 25, and 26- Fall Picture Days! Look out for schedule!**

**October 30 - Grade 5 Fall Dance**

**October 31 - Kindergarten Costume Parade**

**November 2 - Half Day of School! Virtual Parent Teacher Conferences!**