

Principal's Corner

This weekend promises to be a special one for West Side School! Our very own fifth and sixth graders will perform "*The Pirate Musical*" at the Cold Spring Harbor High School Performing Arts Center. I hope you and your family will join us on Saturday evening (7:00) or Sunday afternoon (2:00) for an exciting musical adventure!

"*The Pirate Musical*" is about a shipwrecked crew of "imagination explorers" who enter a talent show to save endangered species from the poaching hands of "pollution pirates." Its theme supports our goal of promoting environmental awareness, and the story showcases the many wonderful talents of our students.

We are fortunate that our school district and community work together to provide opportunities for our students to develop their scholastic, artistic, and athletic talents, and that our students now have the opportunity to be part of a theatrical production. Theater has the power to help children develop the "3 C's": confidence, communication and cooperation. Students who perform dramatically learn to communicate with and understand others in new ways. They learn to be persuasive and disciplined. And because theater involves a "real" audience, children learn to depend on each other. Working together cooperatively contributes to the success of each individual! Finally, theater helps children gain self confidence and poise. Children who perform in a play will be less likely to have difficulty with public speaking in their lives.

This experience is possible because of the hard work and commitment of many people. We are fortunate that our school district is so supportive of the arts and that our parent community is committed to providing additional cultural experiences for our students. On behalf of our students, I want to extend my gratitude to all of the people, including our wonderful directors, assistants, artists, and volunteers who put countless hours into making this dream a reality.

Thank you to the parents for supporting your children, and the student performers for your hard work and dedication. This weekend you will enjoy the "fruits of your labor"!

We are all looking forward to enjoying "*The Pirate Musical*"!

Yours,

Mrs. Herschlein