

# 2010-2011 ARRA FUNDED SATURDAY ACADEMY KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 8TH GRADE

## *Cycle One of Saturday Academy is Winding Down*

It is true that time flies when you are having fun. That is just what engaging your children every Saturday in the Saturday Academy has been, and the staff and I look forward to working with the eager students.



As we get closer, to the end of Cycle One, (December 18th), we look forward to the beginning of Cycle Two in January. By the time you see this newsletter, you may have received an invitation to have your child continue in Cycle Two, pending open spots.

Students will be chosen for Cycle Two as follows: 1) students being invited for the first time will be given

priority for roster spots 2) current students in Cycle One will be placed on a waiting list for any open spots. Rest assured it is our intention to fill all open spots so that we can service as many students as possible during Cycle Two.

Any student from Cycle One who participates in Cycle Two will continue their program of instruction from where they left off. They will not repeat

the same work. Our teachers will build upon their successes in order to ensure a rigorous course of studies is provided.

Please fill out the flyer and submit it to your child's school so it can be forwarded to me. If you have not received a flyer please e-mail me at [jhiggins@monroe.k12.nj.us](mailto:jhiggins@monroe.k12.nj.us).

**Have a  
Happy and Healthy  
Holiday Season.**

-Mr. James Higgins  
Saturday Academy  
Program Coordinator  
Assistant Principal  
Applegarth Middle School

### *Healthy Snacks*

During the Saturday Academy day, the students will have a short period of time where they may enjoy a snack that they bring from home. This will occur during the Keys to Success portion of the day. It is recommended that any snack sent with the student be a healthy one such as fruit or low fat chip bags, crackers or the like. Also, it is suggested that water or 100% fruit drinks be provided.

We do ask that you be respectful of those students who may have allergies so that they may partake in a safe learning environment.

### *Attendance*

As we look back and begin to assess Cycle One, we must address the issue of attendance. In order to get the full benefit from a program such as the Saturday Academy, consistency in attendance is crucial to all students. Students who miss as few as two of the six Saturdays in a cycle lose much of the potential benefit they would gain from attending all six sessions. We understand that other commitments may compete with Saturday Academy, but please help

us make Saturday Academy a priority for your child by having them attend all six of his/her sessions.

**If your child is going to be absent please contact Oak Tree School at 8:30am on the Saturday of the absence (609) 655-7642.**

#### **SATURDAY ACADEMY STAFF** **MR. JAMES HIGGINS** **PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

**PROGRAM NURSES**  
**MS. DEBORAH DOWD**  
**MS. CATHY LISTINGI**

**MS. AMY POLE**  
**PROGRAM SECRETARY CYCLE 1**

#### **STAFF**

##### **1ST GRADE**

**LAL BETHANY DUINO**  
**MATH COURTNEY EMANUELI**

##### **2ND GRADE**

**LAL KATHERINE PEDERSON**  
**MATH KRISTEN PULUMBO**

##### **3RD GRADE**

**LAL JILL PRICE**  
**MATH LYNN RICHARDS**

##### **4TH GRADE**

**LAL TERESA GREGORIO**  
**MATH MATT GORHAM**

##### **5TH GRADE**

**LAL JACLYNN MERLETTE**  
**MATH SHERRI HOLMES**

##### **6TH GRADE**

**LAL THERESA ANTHONY**  
**MATH PATRICIA LEWIS**

##### **7TH GRADE**

**LAL CHRISTY VISZOKI**  
**MATH NICOLE DILORENZO**

##### **8TH GRADE**

**LAL SUSANNA SULLIVAN**  
**MATH KYLEEN LAURETTA**

**TECH SUPPORT-PAT SHERMAN**

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

*Contact Information* 2

*Transportation* 2

*What's Happening* 2

*Monroe District Admin* 2

**Students may receive small amounts of meaningful, directed homework from their Saturday teachers. Please use this opportunity to reinforce the work at home.**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Mr. James Higgins  
Saturday Academy Coordinator  
Assistant Principal  
Applegarth Middle School

Phone: M-F 609-655-0604  
Fax: M-F 609-655-4314

Phone Saturday: 609-655-7642

E-mail:  
jhiggins@monroe.k12.nj.us

---

FIND US ON THE WEB  
WWW.MONROE.K12.NJ.US

---

MONROE TOWNSHIP  
ADMINISTRATION

DR. KENNETH R. HAMILTON  
SUPERINTENDENT  
OF SCHOOLS

MR. JEFF GORMAN  
ASST. SUPERINTENDENT

MRS. SHARON M. BIGGS  
ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF  
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

MR. MICHAEL GORSKI, CPA  
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

MS. MARIETTA RUELA  
DIRECTOR OF PUPIL  
PERSONNEL SERVICES

MR. REGINALD WASHINGTON  
DIRECTOR OF  
INFORMATION SYSTEMS

MR. GERALD TAGUE  
DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES



Mr. Lew Kaufman  
*Board President*

Mr. Marvin I. Braverman  
*Board Vice-President*

Mr. Ken Chiarella  
Mr. Mark Klein

Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich  
Mr. John Leary

Ms. Kathy Leonard  
Mr. Louis C. Masters

Mr. Ira Tessler  
Ms. Patrice Farone

*Jamesburg Representative*

## TRANSPORTATION

The staff of the Saturday Academy would like to thank the Monroe Township Transportation Department for their diligent work in teaming with us to provide quality bus service for each student to and from Oak Tree School.

Parent Reminders: Arrive at your bus stop 5-10 minutes prior to the arrival of the bus so the drivers can stay on schedule for their route. We also request that you arrive at the bus stop 5-10 minutes early to pick up your child. Student pick up and drop off will occur only at the designated stops. Any child who is not picked up by a parent or guardian at a bus stop will be returned to Oak Tree Elementary School. The staff will call to arrange parent pick up at the Oak Tree Elementary School.

## *What's Happening in our classrooms...*

Saturday Academy staff may contact parents to update them on their child's progress. Here are some of the highlights of our classes in the meantime:

**1st Grade Language Arts Literacy-Ms. Duino** The first-grade Language Arts program includes Reader's and Writer's Workshop. In addition to Guided Reading lessons, students will independently read stories based on their individual reading levels and work in small groups to practice skills taught. Students will also participate in Writer's Workshop where they will write, revise, edit, & publish stories. Both Reader's and Writer's Workshops include student conferences so the teacher can work with each student individually, and provide helpful feedback for needed improvement.

**3rd Grade Language Arts Literacy-Ms. Price** Third graders are working on Reading Comprehension skills during the Saturday Academy. Skills that will be worked on are: vocabulary, main idea, recalling details, following directions and making inferences. Student instruction will be differentiated to meet the needs of students through word study lessons in phonics, spelling, and vocabulary. All students will have the opportunity to use the Reading Eggs Program and work at literacy centers.

**6th Grade Language Arts Literacy-Mrs. Lewis** The students have been busy at work in their math classes. Cooperative learning strategies are used to build collaboration and provide students with support to complete tasks at various stations in the room. We have focused on: multiples, factors, as well as, solving problems using paper and pencil. The students have been using the skills they are working on in their regular math classes and applying them to the work being completed at Saturday Academy. They are also being taught strategies to help them in a testing environment. The students will be able to utilize these skills to increase their ability to start and solve problems.

**7th Grade Mathematics-Ms. DiLorenzo** In Ms. DiLorenzo's class the students have been working diligently to become mathematical thinkers. Based on pre-assessments, the students have begun investigating skills such as: order of operations, inequalities and integers. The activities are designed to help students build their mathematical reasoning as well as become proficient in a specific skill. We are looking forward to spending more Saturday mornings together to uncover the "Math Superstar" in all of the students!

**8th Grade Language Arts Literacy-Ms. Sullivan** In eighth grade language arts literacy classes, lessons and activities are based on building proficiency in the LAL standards and benchmarks. We are collaborating to better understand the process of writing open-ended responses to literature. Based on pre-assessment results, students will spend time on Study Island, focusing on reading skills that need further practice. In addition, we will practice writing multi-paragraph responses to persuasive and/or expository prompt. Students will use the six point rubric to score responses and incorporate editing and revising strategies to offer suggestions for improvement.