



# The Prall Press

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**Prall Intermediate School**

- Ms. Tracey Kornish, Principal
- Mr. Joseph Pecoraro, Assistant Principal of Journalism
- Ms. Andrea O'Donnell, Asst. Principal of Enterprise
- Ms. Marie Grandner, Special Education Asst. Principal
- Mr. Dennis Bellatoni, Assistant Principal of Engineering
- Ms. Susan Keag, Journalism Teacher

## *A GIANT Surprise at Prall* *By Andrew Ballou*

Did you hear all the excitement on September 12? Well, that was because three of the New York Giants visited the school!! You might not have seen them, but our eighth graders did. Real pro-Michael Coe, Prince Amukamara and Derrick Martin spoke about the Play60 program which is about going outside and playing instead of sitting around and eating fast food. (The sixth and seventh graders who found out were trying to sneak into the auditorium for the assembly!!!).

The Giants came because our school donated a LOT of money to the American Heart Association through fund-raisers like Hoops for Hearts. In total, the school donated more than \$6,000, thanks to the help of Ms. Gutmajer, an Art

teacher. She helped raise money for this organization because her son had rheumatic fever, a heart condition, when he was younger, (around 12 years old!!) He was helped by the American Heart Association and had a full recovery; he is now a successful student at CSI.

Not only did the Giants stop at Prall but they also stopped at the BP gas station and the 7-11 on Victory Boulevard, signing autographs and giving away merchandise.



Derrick Martin from the Giants puts a Giants hat on Ms. Gutmajer.

Photo courtesy of *SI Advance*.

The Giants sent five vans through each of the five boroughs going to only one school in each. We were glad they chose to stop here. Even though I am a Jets fan, it was great to meet some of the Giants in person. So seventh and sixth graders, if you want a real professional sports team to stop by again, donate as much as you can when our school has fund-raisers and participate in fun events like Hoops for Hearts!

## *Tell Bullies to Back Off* *By Luke McNamara*

**WHAM!!** One second, you're walking to your next class and the next second, a bully is pushing you around. Over 50% of kids experience this, 10% regularly, according to Time Magazine for Kids. This is bullying, now against the law.

Meet the new impresarios



of bully prevention. Oh yeah, you already know them. They're YOU!!! Stand up against bullies. Bullies will back off

99% of the time, because inside, they are cowards. Forty-seven states have passed laws of bullying, and now it's your turn to make a difference.

Be the chief of our Bully Police. Don't let you or your friends get hurt by a bully!!!!

***For more editorials on Bullying, go to page 4.***

## *Breakfast kicks off the new school year*

### *By Hira Qureshi*

I.S.27 had welcome breakfasts for many of its new sixth graders in the school cafeteria. I was lucky enough to stop in the breakfast for my academy, Enterprise Academy on Sept. 23, where they were having a lot of fun. The breakfast included milk, juice, bagels and cereal. The breakfast was co-hosted by Enterprise Academy Leader Ms. Miller and Assistant Principal Mrs. O' Donnell.

There were fun raffles at the breakfast. Every student at the breakfast got a raffle ticket and if their number got called, they won a prize. They would also get a prize if they answered a question correctly. Many of the prizes were cool sporting equipment donated

by Ms. Miller's husband's company, Metro Soccer NY. There were tennis rackets, soccer equipment, shin guards and T-shirts.

Student Rebecca Ruiz of Class 622 liked the special treatment for the sixth graders. "It was really nice that they welcomed us into the school with our own breakfast," she said. Rebecca's favorite part? "Free homework passes!" she said. Rebecca explained that one of the raffles was a free homework pass which could be used for any subject or class (just for one day of course!)



Photos by Ms. Brusco

## *IS 27 shows support for breast cancer in school and in the community by Brigid Fegeley*



*Photos by Brigid Fegeley*

Student Justin Burks (above) shows his support of breast cancer awareness by showing off his new haircut. Yes, that's a breast cancer ribbon shaved into his head!

**R**eal men wear pink!!! It's not only a girly color, but it's also an all-gender color. It is also the color of the breast cancer symbol.

Have you ever known someone with breast cancer? It is estimated that there will be about 250,000 new cases of breast cancer diagnosed in the United States in 2011. (That means that a little more than 1 in 8 people [both men and women will be diagnosed with breast cancer.] To show support for the people affected by breast cancer, thousands of people came out to support the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk at Clove Lakes Park on October 16. Many students,

parents and teachers from our school, I.S.27 were at the park to participate.

A woman marching with I.S.27 went around with stickers saying, "I WEAR PINK FOR..." and she would ask you and write the person's name that you were marching for. "Who are you marching for?" the woman asked Radina Yanekiva of 731. "My friend's mom." she replied. The DJ was also awesome and helpful. If someone walked up to him and said 'I can't find I.S.27' He would then say, 'Where is I.S.27!'

Thanks to everyone who may not have come to the walk but still contributed by purchasing stickers, teddy bears charms, charm bracelets

wristbands and pins at school (sold by the eighth-grade volunteers in homeroom). Even if you didn't want to buy anything, many people still donated a dollar to breast cancer—and their contributions were displayed on pink ribbons throughout our school.

Ms. Brusco, the girls' gym teacher, was at the walk and gave students who attended extra credit for their Physical Education class grade.

So if you didn't walk this year, make sure next year you mark your calendar for October. "Making Strides" is a fun event and supports a great cause!



*POETRY PAGE:  
Our tribute to the  
10- year anniversary of  
9-11*



**I am a Proud New Yorker**  
By Christine Ramiro

I am a proud New Yorker.  
I wonder what new ads are up in Times Square.  
I hear the crowds talking.  
I see all the other New Yorkers.  
I want to go to another Broadway show sometime soon.  
I am a proud New Yorker.

I pretend that I am a New York designer putting clothes together.  
I feel happy that I live in New Yorker.  
I touch the trees in the Silver Lake playground.  
I worry sometimes for the policemen.  
I cry knowing that on 9/11 lives were lost.  
I am a proud New Yorker.

I understand why people are still sad.  
I say that I am sad for the people.  
I dream that one day the world will be at peace.  
I try my best in school.  
I hope that New York will improve and be bigger and better for the years to come.  
I am a proud New Yorker.

**I am a Confident New Yorker**  
By Bridget Saw

I am a confident New Yorker.  
I wonder where the city bus will take me today.  
I hear the cries of street vendor owners.  
I see crowds of people, pushing and shoving to get through.  
I want to go to F.A.O. Schwartz.  
I am a confident New Yorker.

I pretend the tall skyscrapers are castles.  
I feel the breeze whistle through the city.  
I touch the soft grass while having a picnic in Central Park.  
I worry that we will have another event similar to 9/11.  
I cry for the pain people received 10 years ago.  
I am a confident New Yorker.

I understand why people grieved every September 11.  
I say the Empire State Building has the best views.  
I dream of working on Wall Street one day.  
I try to eat a NY hot dog whenever I can.  
I hope I can watch the Rockettes at Christmas.  
I am a confident New Yorker.

**I am a Thoughtful New Yorker**  
By Sami Pirozzolo

I am a thoughtful New Yorker.  
I wonder what I'll do today.  
I hear the birds chatter.  
I see the children playing in Battery Park .  
I want to show my Italian cousins the shops.  
I am a thoughtful New Yorker.

I pretend that people aren't sad.  
I feel sorrow for them.  
I touch their shoulder and comfort them.  
I worry about their families.  
I cry for them all.  
I am a thoughtful New Yorker.

I understand more about 9/11.  
I say that I liked the Broadway show, The Lion King.  
I dream of going back to visit Italy with my cousins.  
I try to keep warm in the cold New York air.  
I hope that they are making soup at home  
I am a thoughtful New Yorker.

*October is National Bullying Prevention Month:  
Read on to learn more about what you can do to  
stop bullies today!*

Find out the forms of bullying  
and stop it!

By Isabella Rose Capila- Padiz

Have you ever been bullied? Have you ever been the bully? Well, guess what? Almost ALL of the states in our country have passed anti-bullying laws. That's right, it's against the law to bully in the U.S. However, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota still don't have that law. If you live in any of these states and have been in a bullying situation, do NOT wait for the law to make decisions!!! Anti-bullying law or not, bullying shall not prevail!!!

People bully others to make themselves feel good. The forms of bullying include kicking, hitting, spitting, stealing, gossiping, embarrassing others, verbal violence, and dirty looks. Surveys show that almost 50% of kids get bullied in their lifetime and nearly 10% get bullied DAILY!!! Bullying has a great impact on how kids function, especially in school.

Nearly 160,000 are absent from school every day because of their fear of being bullied and some kids' grades drop because of lack of concentration and confidence. Some kids get depression, mood swings, paranoid and even nightmares. Very serious bullying can often lead to suicide. Even though the bully didn't personally kill that person, that person killed him or herself because of how badly the bully was treating that person. As you can see, bullying is no joke!!

So, if you are being bullied or if you have witnessed bullying, report it to an adult that you can trust immediately. If *you* ARE a bully, I'm sure you have better things to do. Hang out with your friends, play a video game, read a magazine, or get a mani-pedi! There are better ways to gain confidence and be happy.

**Bullying: The New Crime**  
By Monika Niebrzydowski

Sian Yates, committed suicide at age 13. Ben Vodden committed suicide at age 11. Austin Murphy committed suicide in 2007. Desire Dreyer committed suicide 2006. What do all these (and hundreds of others) children have in common? They were all victims of bullies.

Bullying is any form of harassment that can hurt someone physically, emotionally or mentally. Bullying can be a small act like someone calling you stupid to something much, much worse, like someone punching you. Bullies usually hurt other people to feel better about themselves, but in my opinion, that's just wrong.

Now, if you don't live in Montana or North or South Dakota and have bullied someone, then you have just successfully broken a law!

Almost every state, including New York, has an Anti-Bullying Law. But these laws, sadly, won't banish bullying from the universe.

This is what you should do if you are EVER a bully, bystander, or a target. If you are the bully, then STOP ALREADY! Whatever is bothering you, tell an adult you trust and don't EVER blame someone for your problem.

If you are getting bullied, tell an adult right away and always stick with a friend. You'll survive better!

If you are a bystander, don't act like you don't know what is going on. We all know that you must be scared, but a simple, "Leave them alone!" or "C'mon, lets get out of here" will do. No need to take karate. But, if you're scared run (er, walk) and go immediately to tell a trusted adult.



**No one has the  
right to bully**  
By Angel Rosario

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. It is illegal in 47 out of 50 states. That's 96% of the U.S.!! Bullying is a very big problem. Plus, it can't happen in schools!! But, sadly, that is where the bullying happens.

Children think that they are better than others. Therefore, they think that they have a right to pick on others.

Most schools have people to deal with the problem of bullying. Those people are called 'mediators' or counselors. I was a child mediator, also known as a 'peer mediator' in my elementary school.

One guidance counselor in our school is Mr. Kilgallen, who is very helpful. But, a mediator or counselor isn't the only person that can help. You can tell an assistant principal, dean, teacher, school safety officer, a parent or guardian or any adult that is responsible.

We all need to help somehow. If you see an argument, don't encourage it, STOP IT!!!

## Anning S. Prall I.S. 27

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Staten Island,  
New York 10310

Phone: 718-981-8800

Bullying Hotline: 1-(212)-709-3222

Days and Hours: Monday- Friday at 2:30pm- 9:30pm

Find us online at:

[www.is27-anningsprall.org](http://www.is27-anningsprall.org)



**R.I.P.**

Steve  
Jobs

## *Saying Goodbye to Steve*

### *Jobs*

*By Omar Ghannoum*

As we already know, the great Steve Jobs recently died. He was born in 1955 and was the inventor of the iPhone, iPad, iPod, iTunes and the famous MacBook Pro. Let me tell you an interesting story:

My dad works for Apple Inc., so when I was little, my dad took me to the Apple Factory in California. When we were walking around the factory, Steve Jobs was there and he asked my dad "Is this your son?" and my dad said, "Yes." So then Steve said, "Here's my email and when he grows up give it to him." As the years passed, I got older and my dad gave me the email address. I planned to e-mail him when I got older, and never got the chance. Two years later, Steve Jobs, the person I always looked up to, died. Right after he died, I got the iPhone 5. It's two times bigger than the iPhone 4, it has two Face Time cameras, one in the top left and one in the top right corner and the apps are 6x6.

## *Upcoming Important Events*

- School Dance, Nov. 10 from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

**\*\*Tickets are first come, first serve (75 students per Academy!) Admission is \$10 a ticket. No tickets sold at door. Students attending the dance must have a good conduct grade!**

- Friday, Nov. 11: No school, Veterans' Day
- Monday, November 14th, 2011- Report Cards Distributed
- Thursday, November 17th, 2011- Half Day and Parent Teacher Conferences
  - Wednesday, November 23rd, 2011-  
**HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATIONS DUE!!! Last day!**