

The Highland Avenue Newsletter



In the Newsletter:

- 2020 Highland Talent Show
- Spelling Bee Champion retains Title
- Parent Portal —

Special Talent Show Performances:

**Mr. Roberto
Sings and Salsa's**

**Highland Teach-
ers "Do the
Twist"**

"I am always
excited to see
my student's
talents."
—Ms. Abballe

"I was so excited to
witness my first tal-
ent show— I was not
disappointed."
—Ms. Horuzy

"It's nice to see
students excel
outside the
classroom."
—Ms. Mont

"It's a great way
for students to
showcase their
hidden talents."
—Ms. Tamburri

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The Highland Talent Show

- MP students shine in what has become one of the best nights of the year

The Midland Park Elementary PTA does some extraordinary things to support the Highland and Godwin Schools. Everywhere from sponsoring field trips, reimbursing teachers money spent out of pocket (which they do all the time), hosting after school activities like Movie Night and Harvest Fest, and of course, taking the lead on the annual talent show. The annual talent show has taken on a life of its own. Everyone, every year, looks forward to the show. Mrs. Scala explained, "It is my favorite night of the year." This sentiment seems to be across the board.

Acts of this years talent show ranged from students singing solo, to students dancing in sequence, to stand up comedy, to synchronized swimming. All acts, even the more unconventional ones, are entertaining to say the least. Of course the shows ends with a 6th grade finale, where students who are on their way to 7th grade come together to showcase what the 6th graders are made of. This year focused on who the students are and who they will be-



The opening act: Students dressed as an older generation sport some fancy dance moves.

come. The talent show takes a lot of planning, a lot of organizing and is a thankless job. From rehearsals, to organizing the music, to the counseling that is involved when perhaps a little drama worms its way into the 'behind the scenes' talent show. But all is part of show business and the stresses and greatness that come with it.

I agree with Mrs. Scala. It is this Principals favorite night of the year and the teachers feel the same way as many come back to be part of the most unique show in Midland Park. I love seeing students come out of their shell, brave the stage, and celebrate what makes them unique and special. We cannot wait until next year.



Alexis Williamson performs a Whitney Houston song. Amazing!



The 6th grade poses for a pre-finance picture.

THE HIGHLAND SCHOOL

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Upcoming Events:

- **1/31:** Report Cards Distributed on-line
- **2/3:** InView Testing Grade 5
- **2/5:** MP Drug Alliance begins presentations for grades 3 and 4.
- **2/11:** 5th grade visits Mill Gardens
- **2/12:** PTA Art Ventures after School
- **2/14:** 6th Grade visits the CTC Academy
- **2/17-2/21**—Presidents Week = No School
- **2/24:** Students begin School Climate Survey
- **2/27:** One School One Book Kickoff for grades 3 and 4
- **2/29:** MPPEF Gala

Spelling Bee Champion Retains Title in a Hard Fought 'Battle of Words'.

The 4th Annual Highland Spelling Bee took place on Wednesday, January 29th. Over 30 contestants qualified to compete at the school level. Mrs. Steel, the Enrichment teacher, runs the Bee and with the help of Mrs. Scala and Ms. Carr. The Bee is documented and judged by the official Scripps Spelling Bee Rules. In the end, Gabby Pena, a 5th grader, brought home the Title of Spelling Bee Champion for the 2nd year in a row. (Gabby also won it all in 4th grade.) However, the runner up, Marianna Ilievski, a 3rd grader, seems to be taking the same path as her predecessor. Gabby, when she was in 3rd grade, placed in the spelling bee, which was now 3 years ago. Both girls are very similar in their approach to the Bee. Do not let their pleasant smiles fool you, both girls are very competitive. Highland School will be behind Gabby when she goes to compete in the county bee later on this year. Congratulations to all the contestants. **WE ARE PROUD OF ALL OF YOU.**



Pictured from left to right: Gabby, Mrs. Steel, and Marianna



Contestants who competed in the 2020 Highland Spelling Bee— grades 3-6

IMPORTANT

Parents, please make sure you can log onto the Power School Parent Portal. This is the only way to receive Report Cards. It is so important that we are all on the same page about your child's progress. If you cannot get onto the portal or need assistance (after you hit the link that says "Forgot Password") please contact the Highland School main office or e-mail Mrs. Treta, Highland School tech. guru at Ctreta@mpsny.org.

<http://www.mpsny.org/>