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### School Calendar



### What's happening

## LOL Kids' Blog

### Dates to Remember

Jan 10, Tues All 1st graders begin recorder lessons and continue for 10 weeks

Jan 13 - Feb 27 Read to Succeed

Jan 16, Mon Martin Luther King Day - School Closed

Jan 20, Fri Parent-Teacher Conferences - School Closed

Jan 24, Tue PTA Meeting, 7:30, Blue Room at the Harborside Campus Kick-off meeting for the Art Auction & Gala Parent's Night Out

Jan 25, Wed Jump Rope for Heart at the Harborside Campus. Dix Hills information to follow.

Jan 27, Fri Parent-Teacher Conferences - School Closed

Feb 3, Fri Deadline for Early Bird Special rate on applications for next year

Feb 5, Sun Bowling Family Fun 4pm-6pm

## January 9 Parent News

Volume 12, Number 17

### Parent-Teacher Conferences

Last week we sent home Parent Teacher Conference sign-up sheets and information. Please complete and return your conference preference sheet as soon as possible, so that we may schedule your conference with your child's teacher. Sign-up sheets are available under the LOL Parent News Attachments. Thank you.

### Read to Succeed 600 Minutes of Reading Program – January 13 – February 27, 2012

During the dead of Winter – such as it is this year – we are coming alive with our traditional Read to Succeed program, which encourages reading for fun on the part of all our children. The program is sponsored by the Six Flags Corporation – every participant who reads for 600 minutes or more during the six week program period, will receive a free ticket to Great Adventure in New Jersey (you can negotiate with your child another treat closer to home if you don't want to make the trek to New Jersey!). This program is for Kindergarten and Elementary aged kids.

Starting Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, all reading your child does, including your reading to them, counts and must be kept track of. Tally sheets will be sent home on Friday with your children. When the sheet is full, let us know and we'll send home another (but in a pinch, ordinary loose leaf paper will work – the important thing is keep a record). All sheets must be returned on Monday, February 27th in order to count for the contest.

In addition to the ticket to Great Adventure, there are book token prizes awarded to the top readers in the school.

### How much technology access do our children need for a good education?

This has been debated in the media quite a bit recently. It is something that bares careful consideration and a balanced approach. This past week the Times had a front page story on the resistance of some educators in Idaho the requirement that students take some online courses to graduate high school. In response, one of the letters to the editor is a good read:

To the Editor:

I teach in a college. Over the last 10 years we have witnessed a dramatic increase in the use of technology among children and teenagers.

Despite the ready access to these information-rich tools, our students come to college with weak attention skills and too often an active dislike of sustained reading. Their knowledge base is far less than that of their parents and older siblings who lacked the ready access to technology.

While the Web may provide information, it does not equip the student with the critical-thinking skills to discern the good from the bad or ridiculous, despite what Gov. C. L. Otter of Idaho hopes.

Ann Rosenbaum, a tech-savvy young teacher, is right in cautioning

### Contact Love of Learning

Harborside ([directions](#))  
 (631) 754-4109

Dix Hills ([directions](#))  
 (631) 547-0879

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### LOL Parent News Attachments

- [Dix Hills Winter Ancillary Classes](#)
- [KidsKatch.com Website](#)
- [LOL Apparel Order Form](#)
- [LOL Apparel Samples Pictures](#)
- [LOL Glammatoys FUNdraiser](#)
- [Lunch Ticket Order Form](#)
- [Parent Teacher Conference Sign-up and Information](#)

### On the menu

Harborside:  
 Wed: Baked Ziti. Thank you Singh Family!  
 Thu: Bagels  
 Fri: Pizza

Harborside Hot Lunch Volunteer Jooner's link (please copy and paste the link into your browser):  
<http://www.jooners.com/guest?t=help&p=none&l=-4787f07f:12f2a2d5f41:-6f9f>

Dix Hills:  
 Wed: Bagels  
 Fri: Pizza

All School Lunches are served with a fruit and vegetable.

Larkfield Lanes - more  
information to follow

Feb 7, Tue Vision  
Screening at Dix Hills

Feb 20-25 Winter  
Recess - School Closed

Apr 1, Sun Deadline for  
Bus Transportation  
through your local  
school district. NOTE:  
Check with your district  
to find out whether  
applications are due  
Friday, March 30 or  
Mon April 2.

May 12, Sat Art Auction  
& Gala Parent's Night  
Out

against the substitution of technology for quality face-to-face inquiry.

Her students will succeed in college and in the business world  
because they will know how to talk with one another, work through  
differences of opinion, have and use information productively, and  
solve problems critically and cooperatively.

None of this is achieved through mouse clicks.

WENDY C. TURGEON  
St. James, N.Y., Jan. 4, 2012

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N.Y.*