

but also with the tester, or "the game lady," as we call her. Jeff's individualized recommendation letters, in which he, in consultation with classroom teachers, reveals the "shining star" within each applicant, also contribute to the success of our applicants. Among the schools who accepted our graduates this year are: Grace Church, St. Luke's, Village Community School, Little Red, British International School, City and Country, Lycee Francais de NY, UNIS, Friends Seminary, Claremont, Calhoun, Allen Stevenson, and Ethical Culture. Parents who preferred to go the public school route for their children have chosen PS 41, PS 3, PS 234, PS 116, and PS 150, some of the best public schools in New York City. Others have chosen excellent option schools such as Midtown West. Soon the results of the Gifted and Talented program will be in. We are optimistic that, as usual, several of our children will be accepted to those programs. In the recent past, for example, NEST, which has very rigorous standards, accepted six of our children in one year.

Upcoming events:

- April 21-April 27: Spring Break
- May 2-3: The children's portraits, by photographer and VPC dad, Michael Thmpson, will be displayed at **Cooper Classics Collections gallery space**, donated by VPC parents, Noeline & Elliot Cuker. The framed portraits will be sold as part of this fundraising event.
- May 22: End-of-Year Celebrations for all classes (except Blue Jays)
- May 23: Maypole Day, graduation for Blue Jays.
- May 29: First day of **Summer Camp**.
- June 7: June Jams: New branding of our good-old-fashion fair, combined with a musical performance by Ms. Maritza Mr. Butch and Mr. Thomas (not to be missed!), and a chance to meet our new families.



Village Preschool Center Newsletter

April 2008

A note from Suzette

When I observe the camaraderie, the warmth, the fun that the parents had at the gala, and the slide show evenings, it always brings me back to the original reasons for creating our school. I feel blessed that my dream of establishing a loving community is continually being fulfilled. I always tell Jeff that I receive equal happiness when I see not only the children but also the parents connecting, laughing, relaxing with one another, knowing from past experience that many life long friendships have had their start with us. Last year a parent from over fifteen years ago called us to say, " I just have to call you to tell you that I am at a cocktail party and everyone here met at the Village Preschool Center." There is great joy for me in knowing that I chose (or I was " called") to have the opportunity to create this beautiful little community of love.

Love,
Suzette



WOW!

Our 2008 Fundraising Drive

We have just totaled the results for our spring 2008 fundraiser, and we are thrilled with the outcome. The current total (cash donations are still coming in), which includes the Spring Gala admissions and live auction, the online auction, and cash donations, came to \$67,000!

Private schools such as ours, and the top public schools, work in partnership with parents to provide the best for the children. You, our approximately 140 families, the friends and family members whom you encouraged to check out our auction website and the owners of neighborhood businesses who donated wonderful goods and services, make us feel very supported indeed. **Thank you for partnering with us.**

There are many people to thank, because so many worked so hard behind the scene to make this fundraising drive and Gala a rousing success. Nadia, Koll's mom, was involved in every step of the process of organizing the Gala and the auction. Nancy brought VPC to the 21st century by finding and operating the silent auction online tool. Along with Nadia, Jennifer, Billy and Kelcey, Dylan's mom, she put together the fantastic online auction catalog. Thanks to Susan, Molly Sue's mom, for designing the beautiful invitation for our Spring Gala, which put all of us in a blooming mood; to Jill, Johanna and Talia's mom, for her artistic support, helping with the children's art projects and decorating our event; to Birgitte, Amelie's mom; Ariadna, Diego's mom; Alicia, Matthew's mom and Tara, Madeleine's mom; Sarah and Steve, Tess' parents; Denise, Darby's mom; Rebecca, Jasper's mom, and Kristin, Ella's mom; also to Jacqie and Coleman, Bond's parents, for providing the music for the Gala.



Warm thanks and our gratefulness to Denise and Peter, Aidan's parents, who donated their terrific space for the Gala. An extra special thanks goes to auctioneer Alasdair Nichols from Freeman's Auctions in Philadelphia, who graciously volunteered his services.

Our Graduates



Once again, even though we have many additional children applying to private schools, one or more of the ongoing private schools has accepted all of the families who applied to at least eight schools. This is in spite of the fact that this has been the most difficult year ever to place children, due to the large number of siblings, who get priority, and the huge pool of applicants.

Our success, we feel, is due to many factors. First, our children are exceptionally qualified. Directors of the ongoing schools are constantly calling to thank us for the children who apply. They tell us that our children are very advanced and well prepared. Second, our Kindergarten Information Night in September prepares parents for the rigors of the school placement process. We discuss school options, private, public, parochial, and gifted programs. We invite speakers and past parents to represent various schools, in order to familiarize parents with a broad spectrum of school choices. We also discuss the importance of the interview process, for both the child and the parents.

Most private schools now require the ERB test. To make the testing process as stress-free as possible for children and parents, we offer the ERBs in the friendly setting of the VPC. The children not only feel at home in the testing site,

