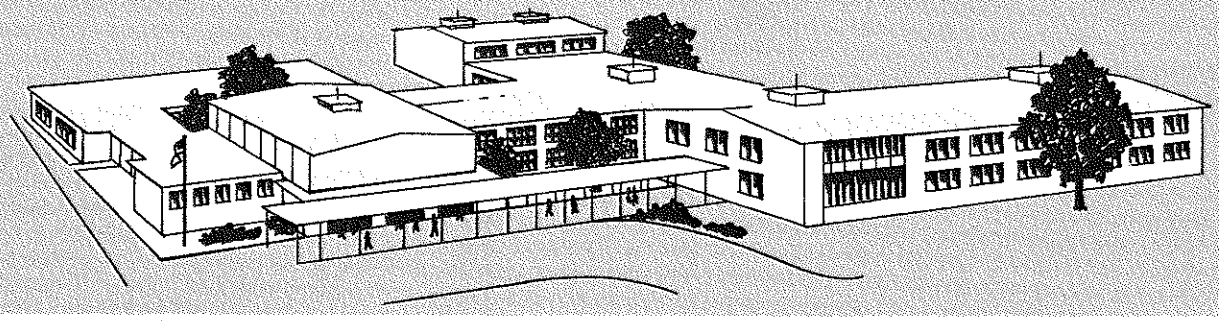
JOHN F. KENNEDY *Newsletter*



VOL. IX, No. 2 WINTER 1966

KEY ACCEPTANCE

Dr. John L. Miller, Superintendent of schools, presented the symbolic key of the school to Miss Grace Warner at the dedicatory ceremony on Sunday, January 30th. Miss Warner received the key on behalf of three groups: the staff, represented by Mrs. Marion Billhardt, the Assistant-in-Curriculum; Mrs. Agnes Plumb, fifth grade teacher, representing the classroom teachers; and Mr. Karl Seitz, Industrial Arts teacher, representing the consultants; the parent body, represented by Mrs. Coralie Leveen, President of the P.T.A.; and the student body, represented by Teddy Prisant a sixth grader and Lisa Gilliar, a kindergarten student.

In accepting the building on behalf of these groups Miss Warner said: "This afternoon the school's chorus sang about a dream which has come true. Indeed a dream has come true for us in this magnificent structure. The staff now has an even bigger dream. This dream is to give each child a love for learning, good academic skills, positive attitudes and good work-study skills, the knowledge of what is right and what is wrong, the moral courage to stand up for that which he believes, and pride in being an American citizen. We know that we will be able to climb mountains, to conquer obstacles and follow rainbows to find this dream with Dr. Miller's leadership, the support of the Board of Education, the cooperation of the parents and the dedication of the staff for Lisa and Teddy and for all the Lisa's and Teddy's who are yet to come to the John F. Kennedy School."

Left to right: Superintendent, Dr. John L. Miller; Miss Grace Warner, Principal; Lisa Gilliar, kindergarten, and Theodore Prisant, sixth grade student.

Our P. T. A. to Sponsor Movie

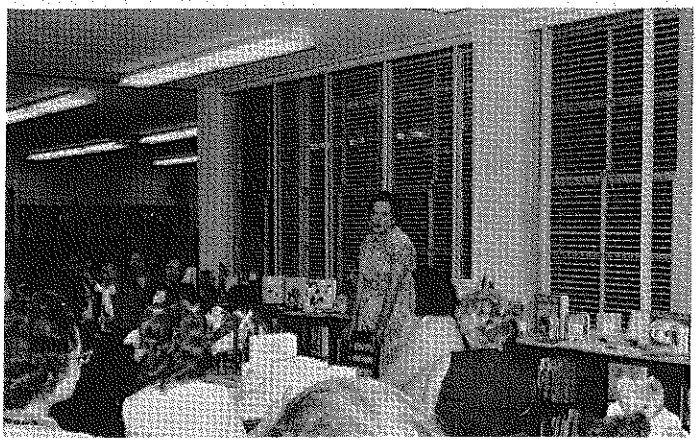
Our P.T.A. will present a movie during the coming winter vacation. "The Inspector General" starring Danny Kaye is a picture that children of elementary school age will enjoy. It is to be shown on Wednesday, February 23rd at the North Junior High School. Doors will be open at 1:30 p.m. and the picture will start at 2:00 and end at 3:45. Tickets are being sold by your class-mothers for $1.00 each. For further information call Joan Linden HU 2-4114.

Special Thanks

The Staff and student body of the John F. Kennedy School wish to thank Mr. & Mrs. Jack Friedman for the bust of Kennedy which may be seen in our school library.



"Enchanted Evening" by P. T. A.



On February 8th parents of children in kindergarten, first and second grades attended an unusual Grade Level Meeting where they were privileged to hear Miss Florence Beaujean talk on the wonderful world of books.

Miss Beaujean, who teaches kindergarten in Scarsdale, has been interested in books since she was a little girl. Through the years she has acquired a magnificent collection of children's books, which were on display at the J.F.K. school library.

By the time parents met Miss Beaujean and saw her exhibit they knew all about how nice she was, her beautiful books, her stuffed Winnie the Pooh and Piglet, Raggedy Annes, Three Bears and ... "Mommy she had the tinyest cookies you've ever seen for Raggedy Anne, and little books for her to read from, and the bears had tiny jars of honey, and, and, and." No kindergartner first or second grader could keep the event to himself for long. During school hours they had had a tour of the exhibit, listened to the music boxes, heard Miss Beaujean tell and sing "The Little Fur Family", and had been told by her to "keep your eyes open for old book friends and keep your eyes open for new book friends."

To parents Miss Beaujean pointed out the different categories of books on exhibition, such as concept books, seasonal books, story books, poetry books, fairy tales, and others. She reminded them of how important books were to them in their childhood and how the love for books and reading should be fostered in their own children, through reading a bedtime story to them every night and providing appropriate books for them as well as answering their questions.

The exhibit remained in the library for three days so that the third, fourth, fifth and sixth graders were able to see it, too. Thank you, Miss Maltby, for introducing us to Miss Beaujean.

Faculty Notes

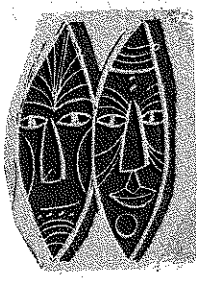
Miss Emily Engel, fourth grade teacher, is engaged to Mr. Werner Reinhard and plans a wedding in July.

Mrs. Ruth Martin, secretary, will be leaving on February 9th. She plans to be married in March to Mr. Strahan Davis.

Mrs. Mary Metzger is replacing Mrs. Judy Berman, third grade teacher. The Berman's are expecting their first child.

Mr. Larry Toorock, gym teacher, is engaged to Miss Engrid Rothstein. They are planning to be married in June.

P. T. A. Brings Africa to J. F. K.



The 4th, 5th and 6th grades had a special treat on February 7th when the P.T.A. in combination with U.P.T.C. presented Pearl Primus and her dancers and drummers.

Pearl Primus, an anthropologist, as well as a professional dancer, combined two arts in her performance at J.F.K.: story telling and dancing. Her program, especially tailored for elementary school children so engaged her young audience that not a sound was heard in the auditorium except applause and laughter at the performer's antics. Among the numbers best received was "How the Spider Got its Waist," danced and narrated by Miss Primus. Another, performed by the drummers, was "Family Talk" between father drum, mama drum and baby drum.

Pearl Primus, as an authentic ambassador of her race, has something that no white dancer can give, and it is clearly of immense importance to her to give it. Her person recalls the distant land of her remote ancestry, but her voice is that of the composed, college-bred American woman that she is. In the Spring of 1948 she received a Rosenwald Fellowship for nine months research in Africa. Her first hand knowledge of Africa permeates her interpretation of the African customs, and her primitive dances are choreographic compositions derived from tribal dances. Africa came to J.F.K.

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The above program as well as the performance of the Nut Cracker Suite given by the South Senior High School Dramatic Club, on December 14th to second, third and fourth graders, were possible thanks to the efforts of Mrs. Richard Sokolov, Chairman of the P.T.A.'s Cultural Resources Committee. Thank you, Jean!

JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL DEDICATION





Despite a raging snowstorm there was a large turnout of people at the dedication ceremony on Sunday, January 30th.

Those people not seated in the Norman C. Draper auditorium, where the actual proceedings took place, were able to listen in other rooms. Music played by the school band, and singing by the chorus warmly welcomed the many guests. Participants in the ceremony included officers of the school, past and present members of the Baord of Education, local religious leaders, Great Neck's congressional and local representatives, businessmen and teachers and pupils of J.F.K. The main address was given by Congressman Lester Wolff. The importance of education and proper teaching facilities stressed by our late President Kennedy has led to the new role of the Federal Government participating in school aid. Indicated throughout the presentation was the community spirit of Great Neck, so vital towards creating an effective future with opportunities for all to line up to their abilities. Immediately following the acceptance of the new building, Principal Grace Warner thanked all those responsible for making the J.F.K. school possible.

The new building was then open for inspection to all who were interested and many enthusiastic visitors strolled through the rooms. Modern features such as adjustable chalk-boards, sinks and water fountains in every room, well equipped work shops and library are just a few of the ideal facilities that impressed the onlookers. The dedication ceremony and tour of the John F. Kennedy School was an outstanding community event and will long be remembered by all.

Mrs. Joseph Shorin, Publicity Chairman





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Calendar

February	23	"The Inspector General." P.T.A. Movie at the North Junior High School. 2:00 to 3:45 p.m.
March	29	P.T.A. Event - Grade Level Meeting (3rd, 4th and 5th grades) 8:15 p.m.
April	19	Junior High School Orientation for 6th Graders at North Junior High School.

It Really Happened at J.F.K.

At discussion time, a second grade teacher said to the class that since holiday time is approaching, wouldn't it be fun to have a party. "What would be some of the things we would need for the party?" asked the teacher. An eight year old boy quickly raised his hand and said, "The first thing we need is a caterer."

Overheard ... one little girl remarking to another, "My mother is very, very, very rich. She is a Brownie troop leader and she just collected a lot of money for Brownie cookies."

A group of Kensington-Johnson students visited the John F. Kennedy School. When asked "Why would Kensington-Johnson students visit us?" a J.F.K. student answered, "We are allowing them to use our old school."

Bad Fall

We are so sorry to report that Miss Joan Riggi fell and fractured her back. We all wish her well and hope she mends quickly.

Please!

To save our trees and to protect the grass we request parent cooperation in not having the children come back after school to use the slopes for sledding.



John F. Kennedy School Newsletter

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Principal	Grace A. Warner	HU 2-7745
P.T.A. President	Coralie Leveen	HU 7-7292
Editors	Zelma Davies	HU 7-5953
	Beverley Fishler	HU 2-3991
Faculty Editor	Elaine Wolf	School
Photography	Leo J. Stoecker	PO 7-9062
	Graphic News Photos	HU 2-8387