

EL SEMANAL

5 de Diciembre 2014

Noticias de la semana



**An HoLa student shows off his Scratch to Give fundraiser card.**

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**“Scratch to Give” Fundraiser is ending in just five days!** Just a quick reminder that all cards and donations need to be **turned in by next Wednesday, Dec. 10th.**

Please ask your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers for support. There is still time! **Here are a few tips to boost your success:**

- Encourage people to scratch more than one dot. Remember, every time they scratch and donate, they get another coupon sheet!
- Explain that we are collecting the money **for technology integration** in the classroom.
- Remember to smile!

Send all collected money by Wednesday, December 10th - via homework folder or check by mail. For details, contact [bbrennan80@hotmail.com](mailto:bbrennan80@hotmail.com) or [alisonschultz2@yahoo.com](mailto:alisonschultz2@yahoo.com). Thank you for all your wonderful efforts!

**HoLa’s Winter Extravaganza** will be held next Friday, Dec. 12th at 6:30pm in the HoLa gym - all grades will be performing in this **mid-year musical celebration**. Ten or more volunteers are needed to help fold chairs and put away staging equipment after the concert is over -- signup at [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0E4CAEAA2CAB9-winter](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0E4CAEAA2CAB9-winter).

**Hoboken Tree Lighting:** Once again, a group of **HoLa’s 3rd graders** will be singing at the Holiday Tree Lighting at City Hall. Come cheer them on Tuesday, Dec. 9, 5:30-6:30pm!

The 6th Grade **Class Coffee** will be held on Thursday, Dec. 11th.

**Week of Code:** The NJ Assembly has designated Dec. 8-12 as Computer Science Education Week, and schools across New Jersey are encouraged to expose their students to computer programming by participating in an “Hour of Code” initiative (see <http://hourofcode.com/us> and [www.code.org](http://www.code.org) for more information). HoLa’s 5th and 6th grade students are already learning to code using Scratch and Python, so we have decided to not only provide every student in grades 1-4 with at least one hour of coding tutorials and activities, but to transform it into a whole week of code for our middle schoolers, who will get at least an hour of coding every day next week, with special projects to complete. Here is what HoLa kids will be up to next week:

- **1st & 2nd Grades:** During their Technology period, students will create animated snowflakes that they will customize through coding to be as unique as real snowflakes!
- **3rd Grade:** During their Technology period, students will learn the basics of programming concepts and apply them to familiar video games, using a drag and drop format to control directionality, speed and movement of animated characters.
- **4th Grade:** During their two STEM periods, students will learn basic coding concepts through a Tynker-based Fprogramming game, and then will use code to combine colors, patterns and movement to create an animated holiday tree, which, once submitted, will be incorporated into the programming loop for the lights decorating one of the actual 56 holiday trees outside of the White House!
- **5th Grade:** Students have submitted project plans for games, tools and animations that they will create over the course of the next week using Scratch ([scratch.mit.edu](http://scratch.mit.edu)), which they have been applying in ever more sophisticated ways over the course of the first trimester.
- **6th Grade:** HoLa 6th graders have started learning Python this year, in order to prepare them for their Robotics STEM course in coming months. However, for our Week of Code, students will use MIT App Inventor II ([appinventor.mit.edu](http://appinventor.mit.edu)) to create Android apps that can be run on Android phones or tablets.

**School photos** are available for viewing and purchase using the following link: <http://dovephotography.smugmug.com/event/HoLa2014School-Portraits/UW7gLYNMjwOrw>  
The password is "holarocks". **The photographer has donated a limited number of scholarship prints** to those families who qualify; please contact Marta for more information.  
**NOTE: the link will become inactive as of Dec. 19th, so order your portraits now!**

**Good news!** You can now become a PTO member online. Join today at [http://holahoboken.org/parents/pto/PTO\\_membership](http://holahoboken.org/parents/pto/PTO_membership).

\*\*\*\*\*OTHER FUNDRAISING\*\*\*\*\*

**Stella & Dot Holiday Cheer and Shopping!** Come out next Mon., Dec. 8th, 7:30pm for holiday shopping in the Community Room at Maxwell Place (1125 Maxwell Lane). Our host Shan Gettens, (4th & 2nd grade mother and Stella & Dot stylist) will bring gorgeous jewelry and accessories from the newest collection to purchase—just in time for the holidays or to treat yourself to something fabulous. This fun event raises money to purchase jewelry that we auction off at Sabor de HoLa to benefit the school. You can also shop online, and HoLa still gets the credit: <http://www.stelladot.com/ts/2kp36> For every \$50 spent in December at this trunk show you will receive \$25 in Dot Dollars to spend on a \$50 purchase in January!

Once you register your **TargetRED** credit card and designate HoLa, you are done! No numbers to remember and nothing to hang on your keychain. And you will receive a 5% discount each and every time! **Save some money and raise money for HoLa.** [www.Target.com/TCOE](http://www.Target.com/TCOE)

**Shoparoo** allows people to raise funds for community schools by **taking snapshots of their grocery receipts** - whether they're from large retail chains or a local mom & pop shop. Receipts under \$10 convert into a one-cent donation for a local school, those of \$10 to \$49 convert into a two-cent donation, purchases of \$50 to \$99 translate into a four-cent donation, and those over \$100 are six-cent donations. Download the free app here: <http://www.shoparoo.com/r/clom5620>. Available for Android or IOS. Use code **clom5620**.

**Holiday shopping time is here. Shop to Benefit HoLa** on [www.smile.Amazon.com](http://www.smile.Amazon.com) and select HoLa. Amazon will make a donation to our school every time you shop!

**Save Your Boxtops:** HoLa's PTO collects Box Tops throughout the school year. Start collecting now! We will also be collecting **Labels for Education** this year.

\*\*\*\*\*FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE\*\*\*\*\*

**PARCC:** Thank you everyone who came to the PTO meeting last week, and stayed to hear about the Common Core and HoLa's preparations for the roll-out of the new PARCC assessment for grades 3-6, which will be administered in March and May. As promised, we will create a summary of information and resources, and include those with next week's El Semanal. Also, we will post the testing schedule for March at that time, as well as the after school test prep schedule for the weeks leading up to the March assessments, so that parents can factor that into their plans.

**Student Outreach:** It's that time of year again when we need **Ambassadors** for student recruitment. One of the most important objectives of the outreach team is to ensure **EVERY family in Hoboken is aware of HoLa** as an option for their child, regardless of their economic background. That means that every year, a group of parents are needed to knock on doors at subsidized housing and public housing units in our city and to put posters up and talk to prospective parents about HoLa. If you can spare 3-5 hours total between now and Jan. 5 to help with outreach, please email [fpalmer@holahoboken.org](mailto:fpalmer@holahoboken.org) or signup at [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0E4CAEAA2CAB9-hola1](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0E4CAEAA2CAB9-hola1).

**It's Cold Out There!** We send our students outside for recess if the temperature is above freezing, so **please remember to dress your child warmly!**

\*\*\*\*\***COMMUNITY NEWS**\*\*\*\*\*

Take the **Superintendent Survey** on the Board of Education's website to share what attributes, qualifications, etc the new Superintendent should possess AND **petition for a dual-language program in Hoboken High School**. Comment on Question 5 to express your interest/desire for Spanish immersion education in Grades 9-12. [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Hoboken\\_Supt\\_Search\\_2014](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Hoboken_Supt_Search_2014)

**El Semanal:** Have something to share? Send a few lines of information and/or related materials, including dates, times, and contact information to PTO communications officer [fpalmer@holahoboken.org](mailto:fpalmer@holahoboken.org) by Wednesday evenings. If you do not have Internet access, please inform [Paola Verdejo](#) in the main office.

**FECHAS:**

- Weds, Dec 10 — HoLa Board of Director's Meeting
- Thurs, Dec 11 — 6th Grade Class Coffee
- Fri, Dec 12 — Winter Extravaganza
- Weds, Dec 17 — Open House
- Dec 22-Jan 2 — School Closed / Winter Recess
- Mon, Jan 5 — Admissions application due
- Wed, Jan 7 — HoLa Board of Director's meeting
- Fri, Jan 9 — Admissions lottery
- Mon, Jan 19 — School Closed/Martin Luther King Jr. Day

