



# Children's School News

**W**e hope everyone is enjoying the summer. The Children's School for Early Development is growing each day and we are now expecting 150 students for the 2007-08 school year. The school will consist of 14 preschool sites and one Mommy & Me with new sites at Weekday Nursery School in New Rochelle, Mt. Kisco Day Care and Peekskill Headstart and one additional class at Uriah Hill School in Peekskill. The school has many activities planned for the upcoming school year, including our parent workshop series starting in the fall and the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Westchester Arc "Gateway to the Community" building in January 2008.

## Ask The Attorney?

*What can you do if you do not agree with the school district's evaluations of your child?*

It is not uncommon for families to feel that their child needs additional tests or to feel that the school district's testing is inadequate. Parents may want additional evaluations or may be interested in testing their child in areas the school district did not test. A parent is entitled to use their own funds to have their child tested by an outside evaluator. These tests are referred to as Independent Educational Evaluations ("IEE") and should be considered by the school district during the CPSE/CSE meeting. A parent interested in having the school district pay for an IEE must request the IEE from the school district in writing and provide reasons for the additional outside testing prior to the IEE. The school district may pay for the IEE when:

1. The original evaluation was incorrect;
2. The original evaluation was not done in the child's native language;
3. The original evaluation was incomplete and additional tests are needed; or
4. The evaluation could not be done with the needed accommodations (for example in Braille for a blind student).

Sheryl Frishman, Esq., is an attorney with the law offices of Frishman & Faber in Mount Kisco, NY.

**This is not legal advice. Please do not rely on this without first consulting with an attorney.**

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### The Children's School for Early Development

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[westchesterarc.org](http://westchesterarc.org)

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### Children's School News Summer 2007



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### Dates to Remember

8/5/07  
PACDS Annual Picnic

9/17/07  
MBIA Invitational

10/17/07  
A Mater of Taste 4

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### Newsletter Submissions

If you have information to share with our families, email us at <mailto:mooney73@verizon.net>

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## Keeping Special Kids Safe

The Journal News published a great article regarding how police departments and first responders are being trained on how to handle children with Autism and others with development disabilities in a time of need. Currently in Westchester County the New Castle, Bedford and Mount Kisco Police Departments have set up a registration program called Kid Find to help a child with Autism when they are called to help. The program consists of having important information about your child in the police database, such as child's name, address and phone number, plus description of the child, medications, allergies, emergency contact information and if the child is verbal or non verbal. All this information is important to a first responder if your child is lost or hurt or if someone in your family calls 911. If you live in any of the above towns and are interested in learning more about the Kind Find program please contact your local police department. The Town of Mount Pleasant is just starting their Kind Find program and should be available in the fall.

## Upcoming Events

### August 5th

PACDS Annual Picnic

John Downing Park, Yorktown

Contact: Mary Dantin, (914) 428-7714 or Ivy Lewis, (914) 827-8277



### September 17th

#### MBIA Invitational

A Golf & Tennis Classic to benefit Westchester Arc and Special Olympics - Hudson Valley

MBIA will host the twenty-third annual MBIA Invitational, a fun-filled day of golf, tennis and good fellowship to benefit children and adults with developmental disabilities. Contact Elyse Fowler, (914) 428-8330 x3027

### October 17<sup>th</sup>

#### A Matter of Taste 4

Westchester Arc Foundation's Annual Fundraiser

Wines paired with signature recipes from the area's finest restaurants. Honorees: Justin Israel and Alf Donnellan. Contact: Fran Higgins, (914) 428-8330 x3028

## Notes from the Children's School PTA

### Golfing for Kids

Thank you to all the families who contributed to the Golfing for Kids event. It was a huge success and the school raised over \$100,000 to better the education of our children.

### T-Shirt and Sweatshirt Sale

We are selling t-shirts and sweatshirts for kids and adults with The Children's School for Early Development logo on the upper left corner. The shirts come in blue and white for \$10 kids and \$15 for adults and blue sweatshirts for \$15 for kids and \$20 adults. To purchase these great items please email Theresa Mooney at mooney73@verizon.net

### Innisbrook Gift Catalog

Look for the Innisbrook Gift Catalog in your child's backpack in September. The catalog will offer gifts for the whole family plus early shopping for the holidays.

Learn more about the school and Westchester Arc at  
[www.westchesterarc.org](http://www.westchesterarc.org)