On April 1st in 1700, English pranksters begin popularizing the annual tradition of April Fools’ Day by playing practical jokes on each other.

Although the day, also called All Fools’ Day, has been celebrated for several centuries by different cultures, its exact origins remain a mystery. Some historians speculate that April Fools’ Day dates back to 1582, when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar, as called for by the Council of Trent in 1563. People who were slow to get the news or failed to recognize that the start of the new year had moved to January 1 and continued to celebrate it during the last week of March through April 1 became the butt of jokes and hoaxes. These included having paper fish placed on their backs and being referred to as “poisson d’avril” (April fish), said to symbolize a young, easily caught fish and a gullible person.

Historians have also linked April Fools’ Day to ancient festivals such as Hilaria, which was celebrated in Rome at the end of March and
involved people dressing up in disguises. There’s also speculation that April Fools’ Day was tied to the vernal equinox, or first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere, when Mother Nature fooled people with changing, unpredictable weather.

April Fools’ Day spread throughout Britain during the 18th century. In Scotland, the tradition became a two-day event, starting with “hunting the gowk,” in which people were sent on phony errands (gowk is a word for cuckoo bird, a symbol for fool) and followed by Tailie Day, which involved pranks played on people’s derrieres, such as pinning fake tails or “kick me” signs on them.

In modern times, people have gone to great lengths to create elaborate April Fools’ Day hoaxes. Newspapers, radio and TV stations and Web sites have participated in the April 1 tradition of reporting outrageous fictional claims that have fooled their audiences. In 1957, the BBC reported that Swiss farmers were experiencing a record spaghetti crop and showed footage of people harvesting noodles from trees; numerous viewers were fooled. In 1985, Sports Illustrated tricked many of its readers when it ran a made-up article about a rookie pitcher named Sidd Finch who could throw a fastball over 168 miles per hour. In 1996, Taco Bell, the fast-food restaurant chain, duped people when it announced it had agreed to purchase Philadelphia’s Liberty Bell and intended to rename it the Taco Liberty Bell. In 1998, after Burger King advertised a “Left-Handed Whopper,” scores of clueless customers requested the fake sandwich.

Source: Historychanell.com
Upcoming Events & Announcements

**April 10**
- Spring 2nd Cycle of PM School begins

**April 11**
- Regents 1st draft invitations distributed during 3rd period

**April 12**
- School Safety Meeting
- Tentative NHS Movie Night

**April 18**
- ELA Spoken Word

**April 19-26**
- Spring Recess School Closed

**April 29**
- PTA Executive Board meeting

**May 1**
- Senior Decision Day
- Wear your college shirt day

**May 2**
- End of Marking Period
- Hair Production @3:30

**May 4**
- Hair Production @ 1-6 pm

**May 6**
- AP Exam: AM – US Government
- PD – Promethean Board Training
- ALL PE classes report to auditorium

**May 8**
- AP Exam: AM – English Lit
- ALL PE classes report to auditorium
- Grades Due

**May 9**
- Parent Teacher Conference
- 5:00-8:00
- Hair Production @ 3:30
- ALL PE classes report to auditorium

**May 10**
- AP Exam: US History
- ALL PE classes report to auditorium

Progress reports will be mailed out this Thursday, April 4th.

State Regents are scheduled from June 3, 18-23 and June 25, 2019. Students will receive two draft invitations on April 11th; a second draft was distributed on May 30th. Final invitations will be distributed on June 6th. Be advised, June 3rd is a Regents Day. Students scheduled to take the New Framework: Global History & Geography II and/or Comprehensive Art Regents must attend school on that day. Students who are not registered to take either of these exams **do not** have to report to school unless they have scheduled tutoring or an extra-curricular activity.

The PTA has assembled a second class ring manufacturer to give parents more latitude with pricing. Please forward this to all senior parents.

The link is: [https://tinyurl.com/adhs2019ring2](https://tinyurl.com/adhs2019ring2)

And we created a short 3 minute tutorial on how to navigate the site to customize your own fabulous school ring. [https://artanddesignpta.org/senior-class-ring-2019/](https://artanddesignpta.org/senior-class-ring-2019/)
[https://youtu.be/Gk9XuMMf8cc](https://youtu.be/Gk9XuMMf8cc)

We hope you will use this going forward in the years to come. A parent can get a decent senior ring for $60, all the way up to $1700 if they choose!

Miguel Chavez
PTA President
Art & Design High School
917-710-7664
So much news to share! PTA meeting this week, with our continued elections, funding votes, but most importantly - CHOOSE YOUR MAJORS! Plus more...

- **Thursday, April 4, 2019 6:30PM**

  Please join us for our April Meeting on Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 6:30pm - 8pm.

  Agenda items Treasurer’s Report and Principal Ureña's report will be joined with the Nomination committee (Elections are in our May meeting) for 2019-2020 school year, as well as new funding requests.

- **By Laws Amendment**

  We have a special vote at this upcoming meeting, to approve our by laws amendment! Your vote counts! As per Chancellor regs, we introduced the changes at the March meeting to give our parent body time to look it over. Basically the amendments are there to enhance parent participation: clearly spell out that each executive position can be run as co-officers. And we set aside two positions for Fall elections, allowing incoming parents a chance to join the exec board. There are copies of the new draft of the bylaws at the main office, room 607.

- **And finally...**

  We would like to welcome the many new families that have signed up for the PTA email list! Please note, as has been tradition in years past, you are very much invited to attend our PTA meetings and other PTA events - you are just not a voting member - yet!

  The Drama Club is about to announce their May performances for HAIR: The Musical, with tickets on sale to the GENERAL PUBLIC in April. Like all of their productions, this is a MUST SEE!

  The PTA Auction is ramping up! More information about that is here.

  The LAST bake sale of the year by the PTA is Wednesday, April 17. The flyer for that is here.
A message from Mr. Harrington:

Below are two photos from the recent Scholastic Art Awards ceremony at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The first is Nova Stanely, Mr. Brian Lee’s student, and the second is my senior, Marlene Reyes. Some of our students brought their entire families with them (jpeg #3 is Marlene with her family.) HSAD had many students represented from all of the majors. I recall students of Mr. Lee, Mr. Pasetsky, Ms. Jimenez, Mr. Harchol, Ms. Farrelly and Ms. Alexander, Ms. McLaughlin, Mr. Filardi, and I’m sure I am forgetting a few.

I also just found out that Aimee Veliz won a National Silver Medal, in addition to the two I mentioned the week before last: Darcelis Gutierrez (Silver) and Priscilla Villacres (Gold). The award ceremony for all of the Gold and Silver regional recipients is today at the New School.

Congratulations to these students and a BIG thank you to Mr. Lee and Mr. Harrington for the instructional guidance and support they provide our students!!!
More Scholastic Awards News:

Isabella Roman - Junior - Editorial Cartoon
Angel Melgar - Junior - Digital Art
Nicholas Trowers - Senior - Editorial Cartoon

Below are pictures from the Met reception for the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. They include Nicholas Trowers (Senior - Gold Key for Editorial Cartoon) and Isabella Roman (Junior - Gold Key for Editorial Cartoon). Below is Angel Melgar’s piece that won Gold Key for Digital Art - Angel is a Junior.

In next month’s Parent Bulletin we will publish all the names of Scholastic Art Awards winners; the list is quite lengthy which showcases the talent our students possess.
Congratulations to Esther Paturel (Senior) for his Gold Key Scholastic Art & Writing Award for his film Benjamin’s Documentary. A **BIG** thank you to Mr. Harchol for helping Esther hone his film skills!!!
Congratulations to all of our illustration students for the outstanding Illustrations Exhibit in the Kenny Gallery. Thank you to Mr. Harrington and Mr. Brinegar for the work in curating the art. Below are some pictures:
A Message from Ms. Edelman and Mr. Landeggar:

It was almost a clean sweep this year!

Carl Landegger students:
**Nova Stanley**, High School Cover Grand Prize and Popular Vote winner
**Alari Billig**, Runner Up and Middle School Cover

Janice Edelman student:
**Angel Feng**, Kindergarten Cover

Congratulations to these students, Ms. Edelman, and Mr. Landeggar!!!
Here is Angel Feng's:

Nova Stanley and Alari Billig:
A message from Mr. Bencsko:

On Friday, March 15, we had a visit from Theresa Evangelista, a senior graphic designer for Penguin Random House publishing where she presented to the Honors Junior Graphic Design students about careers in the publishing industry. She also provided a project brief on designing a book jacket for one of their publications so they can have an authentic design experience. I will keep you updated on our progress.
A Message from Mr. Harchol:

On March 13th after school, HBO Producer Melissa Baron and LPZ Cinetech Executive Director Kevin Lopez met with twelve of our select film students to hear our students pitch their ideas for three A & D student-produced short films to be screened at HBO. They were blown away and all three pitches were "green-lit".

Later that evening, one of the twelve students, Joel Ureña, was invited to be a production assistant on the set of a concert event that was filmed by HBO.

On March 14th, Apollo Theater came to our school to work with our film students. Students participated in creating Special Effects Makeup, producing a Camera-Ready Newscast, and crafting and delivering a Professional Pitch.
On Friday, March 15th, teaching artists from the Apollo Theater worked with our students on producing, special effects, makeup, filming, lighting,anchoring, etc. See pictures below:
On Friday, March 15th, a group of our students commenced an internship/mentoring partnership with Bloomingdale's. Thank you to Ms. Reingold for spearheading this.
A **BIG** thank you to our PTA for the **Pi Day** bake sale. There was plenty of pie!!!
Congratulations to all of our Students of the Month!!! See below.

- **Devin Desir** (Freshman)
- **Shayne Stephens Bynoe** (Sophomore)
- **Ben Chen** (Junior)
- **Hannah Qeliqi** (Senior)
A **BIG THANK YOU** to the PTA and its Executive Board for the wonderful Staff Appreciation luncheon provided to our staff.
Thank you to all of the architecture students who presented their designs for our rooftop. We are also grateful to Ms. Vachicouras, Ms. Lewis, and Mr. Rabel for helping those students make their visions a reality. The three designs presented will now go through final revisions and we will post them online for voting by our school community. The winning design will be constructed with the help of the NY Horticultural Society. The green space will be used by students and staff for recreation during lunch periods. See pictures below:
On March 8th the College Office held its annual College Fair. It was simply **OUTSTANDING**!!! We had record parents and students and colleges there. Thank you to Ms. Morales and her team for making this happen. See pictures below:
A message from Ms. Vachicouras:
The "International Women's Event: Inspiring Future Leaders" was hosted by Turner & Townsend on March 8th 2019. The event started with an introduction from John Robbins, the Managing Director, USA & Head Real Estate North America. His wonderful staff engaged our students with Job Shadowing, Interview Skills/Role Playing. Introduction to Speed Networking was presented by Jean Manning, Operational Controller and Tatenda Tazarurwa, Director. We also had a wonderful and inspirational presentation by their client, Cat Lindsay, Executive Director, Head of Work Place & Design at Warner Media. A special thanks goes to Gavaskar M. Reid, Industry Engagement Manager, Career & Technical Education and Angie Francisco and Nicole Martin of Turner & Townsend in organizing this special event for our future architects and engineers. We also thank Turner & Townsend for the breakfast, lunch and backpacks! It was an awesome experience for our young professional women!

Thank you Ms. Vachicouras for spearheading this wonderful opportunity for our students.
March 29, 2019

Dear Principal Urena,

Congratulations! We are delighted to inform you that Briana created by Darcelis Gutierrez has been selected from over 1,200 entries to be included in the P.S. Art 2019 exhibition at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. This is the twelfth year we have had our P.S. Art exhibition installed at the Museum and it’s quite impressive.

P.S. Art celebrates the visual arts in New York City’s public schools and showcases the tremendous talent of students from every neighborhood across the city. Darcelis Gutierrez, as well as your art teacher, James Harrington are to be commended for the exemplary work submitted for this competition. We also wish to thank you for creating an environment in your school where such quality artwork can be produced.

Your art teacher is invited to a professional development/celebratory event on Thursday, April 11th from 8:30AM to 3:00PM at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Art teachers will be honored, and share exemplary work and practice. They will explore the Museum, identifying several works of art students can relate to their own artwork. With supporting resources from the Arts Office, each teacher will create a customized brochure to present to his or her PS Art student. This unique brochure can be used by students when they visit The Met with their families throughout the duration of the exhibition (June to October).

The opening reception will be held at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in the Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. You and your art teacher will receive formal invitations. Your student will receive an invitation and will be permitted to bring guests.

P.S. Art will be on exhibit at The Metropolitan Museum of Art from June to October, and then will move on to the Tweed Courthouse where it will be on display during the fall semester.

Once again, our hearty congratulations to you, your student and your art teacher. A congratulatory letter has also been sent to your art teacher, James Harrington.

We look forward to seeing you on June 11th.

Sincerely,

Paul L. King
Executive Director

Karen Rosner
Coordinator of Visual Arts
Congratulations Asilbek!!!

Dear Principal Urena,

Congratulations! We are delighted to inform you that B Train created by Asilbek Akmalov has been selected from over 1,200 entries to be included in the P.S. Art 2019 exhibition at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. This is the twelfth year we have had our P.S. Art exhibition installed at the Museum and it’s quite impressive.

P.S. Art celebrates the visual arts in New York City’s public schools and showcases the tremendous talent of students from every neighborhood across the city. Asilbek Akmalov, as well as your art teacher, James Harrington are to be commended for the exemplary work submitted for this competition. We also wish to thank you for creating an environment in your school where such quality artwork can be produced.

Your art teacher is invited to a professional development/celebratory event on Thursday, April 11th from 8:30AM to 3:00PM at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Art teachers will be honored, and share exemplary work and practice. They will explore the Museum, identifying several works of art students can relate to their own artwork. With supporting resources from the Arts Office, each teacher will create a customized brochure to present to his or her PS Art student. This unique brochure can be used by students when they visit The Met with their families throughout the duration of the exhibition (June to October).

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P.S. Art will be on exhibit at The Metropolitan Museum of Art from June to October, and then will move on to the Tweed Courthouse where it will be on display during the fall semester.

Once again, our hearty congratulations to you, your student and your art teacher. A congratulatory letter has also been sent to your art teacher, James Harrington.

We look forward to seeing you on June 11th.

Sincerely,

Paul L. King
Executive Director

Karen Rosner
Coordinator of Visual Arts
March 29, 2019

Dear Ian:

Congratulations! We are delighted to inform you that *Hibernating* (Artwork ID #11_78166512) created by Ilona Masimova, has been selected from over 1,200 entries to be in the P.S. Art 2019 exhibition.

P.S. Art celebrates the visual arts in New York City’s public schools and showcases the tremendous talent of students from every neighborhood across the city. You and your student are to be commended for the exemplary work submitted for this competition.

We are delighted to invite you to an exciting professional development/celebratory event on Thursday, April 11th from 8:30AM to 3:00PM at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where you will be honored, and will be able to share exemplary work and your practice with your peers. You will explore the Museum, identifying several works of art your student can relate to his or her own artwork. With supporting resources from the Arts Office, you will have the opportunity to create a customized brochure to present to your PS Art student. This unique brochure can be used by students when they visit The Met with their families throughout the duration of the Exhibition (June to October). Please register for this event here: [https://www.cvent.com/d/86qs8q](https://www.cvent.com/d/86qs8q)

The P.S. Art exhibition once again will be on display at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in the Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education. The opening reception will be held on **Tuesday, June 11, 2019** from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. You and your principal will receive formal invitations to the opening reception. We will also send you an invitation to give to your student, who will be permitted to bring guests.

P.S. Art will be on exhibit at The Metropolitan Museum of Art from June to October, and then will move on to the Tweed Courthouse where it will be on display during the fall semester.

Once again, hearty congratulations to both you and your student. We look forward to seeing you on April 11th and at the reception on June 11th.

A similar congratulatory letter is being sent to your principal.

Sincerely,

Paul L. King
Executive Director

Karen Rosner
Coordinator of Visual Arts
The Alumni Association conducted its annual spring Draw-a-thon. It was a huge success!!! A special thank you to Mr. Weinstein for his help in making this happen every single year!!!