

The Great Neck Community School Reaching Out to the Community

By Carolyn Levin

For two days after Halloween, large orange boxes were available near the entrance of the Great Neck Community School. As the children came to school, they dropped their extra Halloween candy and lollipops in the boxes. The Community School then delivered the boxes of treats to local hospitals for children who were unable to go trick-or-treating. The candy and lollipop collection was just one of the many community outreach programs planned for the 2006-2007 school year.

The Great Neck Community School takes great pride in its extensive community service program. Through yearlong community outreach projects, the Community School teaches its children how important it is to give back to the community and also how great it feels to do so. According to Beth Farkas, chairperson of the school's Community Involvement Committee, "Young children at Great Neck Community School begin a lifetime of helping others



Sharing the joy of giving.

because of the example the school sets. Their level of awareness is heightened by the spirit of giving within the school in addition to its outreach programs."

Last month, the Community School had a "Pennies in a Jar" event, in which the children filled a glass jar with pennies brought from home to be donated to a worthy cause. In addition, parents added to the coffers, to contribute over \$1,000. The contributions were then given to a local Long Island family with a toddler suffering from advanced cancer. Community School Director Barbara Breslow stated that she was "overwhelmed" by the immediate and heartfelt generosity exhibited by the children and their families.

The Community School's other community service activities include an annual book drive, in which the school collects gently used children's books to donate to St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx; the school's sponsorship of the annual Kids

(continued on page 12)

12

GREAT NECK RECORD - NOVEMBER 16, 2006



Giving to others brings a big smile.

Reaching Out to the Community (continued from page 3)

and Family 5K Run/Walk to benefit the Cancer Center for Kids at Winthrop Hospital; and "Band-Aids and Lollipops," a collection to bring smiles to the kids' faces at the pediatric units at North Shore University Hospital and Long Island Jewish Medical Center. Through these activities and more, Community School children are building a habit and ethic of helping and giving to others.

The Great Neck Community School is a not-for-profit, non-sectarian, multi-cultural cooperative nursery school incorporated in 1932. The school is accredited by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs, licensed by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services and registered by the State of New York Education Department. As such it meets national, state and local standards in certification and training, curriculum, classroom environment, children's health and safety and child-school-parent interpersonal relations.

For information about the Community School, please call or email the school's director, Barbara Breslow, at 482-5005 or info@gncommunityschool.org.



Carefully counting out those pennies.