

The Mission Statement of The Forest Park School, P.S. 97,Q

Welcome to P.S. 97, The Forest Park School! We are a diverse school that works together to provide opportunities for students to achieve their best. We support and involve parents and guardians along with the community in nurturing lifelong learners.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents:

Welcome to The Forest Park School. Whether you are a new parent to our school or a returning parent, we invite you to be an active member of our school community.

You are your child's first teacher. We want to work with you to enrich your child's year with us.

We invite you to visit our school and meet the teachers. Join the Parent Teacher Association and attend their meetings and functions. We encourage you to join us at the many parent/guardian workshops and events that are scheduled for your convenience.

We look forward to a successful year for everyone. With your help and support, we are confident that our students will reach their individual academic levels of success.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Custodio
Principal



PROCEDURES, RULES, AND REGULATIONS



ATTENDANCE

Regular school attendance is required for all students. It is the responsibility of the parent to stress the importance of daily attendance. Only excused absences (illness or family emergency) are permitted. Please be sure to bring your child to school on a regular basis. A note is required after each absence.

LATENESS

Lateness causes a disruption to the classroom and the student's day. It also causes your child to miss important instruction time. Lateness is recorded on the student's record and report card and is a criteria that is reviewed when attending middle school or high school.

SCHOOL HOURS

Our breakfast program begins at 7:30 a.m. All students are invited to participate in the FREE breakfast program. Class will begin at 8:00 a.m. Being on time is critical to the academic success of your child. Please make certain to be on time.

Students who do not participate in the Extended Day Program will follow the Regular School Day Schedule.

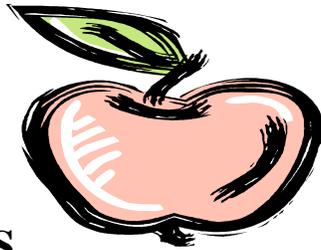
Regular School Day Schedule

Monday – Friday

8:00 a.m. – 2:10 p.m./2:20 p.m.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAMS

Breakfast and lunch are served daily. It is mandatory for each child in our school to have a completed lunch form on file. Please make certain to return your child's lunch form. We are a TITLE I school. Additional funding to support the many programs offered to our students is received based on our lunch forms.



SCHOOL VISITORS

Visitors are always welcome at The Forest Park School. Visitors are asked to:

- Show photo identification
- MANDATORY
- Sign in at the security desk
- Go directly to the main office

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

During inclement weather, please tune to WINS (1010 AM), WCBS (880 AM), WLIB (1190 AM), WBLS (107.5 FM), WADO (1280 AM), WKDM (1380 AM), WNYE (91.5 FM), WSKQ (97.9 FM), WXLX (620 AM), as well as "NY 1" (Channel 1 on cable television), and WNYE-TV (Channel 25 on television). Announcements will be made by 6:00 am. We encourage all families to register with Notify NYC at <http://www.nyc.gov/>.



EMERGENCY BLUE CARDS/FORMS

Emergency blue cards/forms are kept on file in the main office and nurse's office. When completing these cards/forms, be sure to include two current phone numbers. Any change in address or phone numbers should be sent to the main office immediately. This information is critical in case of an emergency.

STUDENT AND CITIZEN OF THE MONTH AWARDS

Each month, students are selected by their classroom teacher to be awarded with Student of the Month and Citizen of the Month certificates. Certificates are distributed to students at Award Celebrations, which are held each month.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

A parent orientation is held at the beginning of the school year. Please take advantage of this opportunity to let us know more about your child, while you, at the same time, can become better acquainted with class goals and school programs.

Parent Teacher Conferences are held in the fall and then again in the spring. These conferences are held in both the day and the evening to accommodate the needs of our families. We encourage you to meet with your child's teachers to discuss the academic progress of your child.

In addition, parents may request a conference with their child's teacher anytime during the year. We ask that you call the office to make an appointment.

All visitors must report to the office upon entering the building.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

The parents of The Forest Park School are invited to join the Parent Teacher Association. The PTA Executive Board, elected by the parents, conduct monthly meetings. PTA meetings provide parents with current information about school programs and offer opportunities in accomplishing school goals. Guest speakers provide relevant information on specific topics. The PTA is involved in fundraising, and special events that are scheduled throughout the year. We encourage all parents to get involved and attend PTA meetings. Parent involvement is vital to the success of your children.

MEDICATION

If your child is required to receive medication on a regular basis, the school nurse must be informed. The school nurse will advise you of the procedure to follow if you want her to dispense the medication. In all cases, students are **NOT** allowed to bring medication to school. If a child needs medication during school hours, the parent or guardian must bring the medication to school and administer the medication to the child.

TRIP PERMISSION SLIPS

Signed permission slips are required for all class trips. Permission slips indicate the destination, means of transportation, and expected time of arrival and departure. Students participating in trips are required to bring in a signed DOE permission slip. Faxes, hand written notes, or verbal permission are not acceptable. Chaperone Contracts are required to be completed by all parents/guardians who will be chaperoning a trip. The responsibility of a chaperone is to help the teacher maintain the safety of each student in the class. Chaperones are to travel with the class to and from the trip. They will walk with the class on walking trips. If it is a bus trip, they ride with the class. Chaperones are responsible for any trip fees.



SCHOOL ATTIRE

- We are a Mandated Uniform School. Students are expected to be in uniforms every day. Navy bottoms and white or light blue tops. Black rubber soled shoes for all.
- Boots, gloves, scarves and hats are necessary during the cold and snowy season. **(Please label all items.)**
- Sneakers and gym uniform are suggested for physical education classes.
- Outer garments may not be worn while inside the school building.

EDUCATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

GUIDANCE

A guidance counselor is available to help students who appear to be experiencing difficulties in school or at home.

SCHOOL-BASED SUPPORT TEAM

The SBST consists of a psychologist, a social worker, and an educational evaluator. They are here to help evaluate students who may need to receive special services.

SPEECH

Our Speech staff provides speech to students in need. Evaluation determines placement in the program.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Children with limited English skills receive ELL services according to their needs. Students are introduced to the English language while maintaining a sense of pride in their own ethnic background.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Students of Grade 4 & 5 have the opportunity to get involved in Student Council. Our Student Council runs many events in our school to support our community.

PARENT SURVEYS

Parent surveys are distributed each year with anticipation of them being completed. This is your school; your voice! Thank you for participating in this most important initiative of the NYC DOE.



ARTS

Through the art program, our art teacher provides our students the opportunity to express themselves through drawings, sculptures, paintings, and collages.

HOMEWORK

Homework is a reinforcement of the day's work. Your child will better understand his/her work if it is reviewed at home. Parent/Guardian Homework Help workshops are offered throughout the school year. Dial-A-Teacher offers free homework help on Monday through Thursday in many different languages. We encourage you to take advantage of these services. 212 – 777-3380.



SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCE



Our staff incorporates social studies in their daily lessons. They discuss community and the world. Our science staff offers lessons on the earth and our solar system. Our students proudly display their work at our Spring Science Fair.

FUNDATIONS

Our Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 2 students are learning a multi-sensory approach to phonics instruction with the Foundations program. They enjoy learning a systematic approach to both reading and spelling. Notice how they tap their fingers together to sound out the words.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The physical education program offers a variety of physical activities and encourages exercise in daily routines and a healthy lifestyle.

SPECIAL EVENTS

We host many special events throughout the school year. We encourage your participation in the events such as these listed below:

- Candy Sale Fundraisers
- Picture Day
- Student and Citizen of the Month Awards
- Book Fairs
- Family Multi-Cultural Potluck Dinners
- Mother's Day Plant Sale



CHARITY DRIVES

The Forest Park School Community participates in many charity drives throughout the school year. We encourage your participation and thank you for your generosity.

- Food Drives
- Pet Drives
- Penny Harvest
- Leukemia & Lymphoma Pennies For Patients
- March of Dimes Halloween Walk-A-Thon
- American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Awareness Walk
- American Heart Association Hoops for Heart
- St. Jude's Children Research Hospital Math-A-Thon

SAFE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Learning will be most successful when children feel they are in a safe and secure environment.

Some school rules to help reach this goal:

- Come to school well rested, prepared and **READY TO LEARN!**
- Always walk in hallways and staircases.
- Give special care to school property.
- Never use obscenities.
- Refrain from chewing gum and eating in the classroom.
- Refrain from bringing candy to school at all times.
- Follow all class and school rules.
- Always use the official school pass and make certain to sign out when leaving the classroom.
- Always obey instructions of people in authority.
- Show consideration and kindness to others.

POSITIVE THOUGHTS

Always think positive! Positive energy promotes success!

We Follow Our Hearts!

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Your child's birthday can be celebrated during their lunch period in the cafeteria. Cupcakes and juice boxes are suggested. Birthday cakes, candles, balloons, photos, and parents/guardians are not permitted.



THE FOREST PARK SCHOOL

**SCHOOL HANDBOOK
CONTRACT**

FOR THE TEACHER:

I have discussed with my class, _____, the guidelines and school policies contained in this handbook. We will work together to see that these school codes are followed.

(Teacher's Signature)

FOR THE PARENT/GUARDIAN:

I understand the importance of the guidelines and school policies that are contained in this handbook. I have read and discussed them with my child.

Child's Name

Parent's/Guardian's Signature

FOR THE STUDENT:

My parent/guardian, teacher and I have read and discussed the contents of this school handbook. I know what is expected of me, and I will follow the rules and regulations of The Forest Park School.

Student's Signature

**The Forest Park
School Pledge**

**I pledge allegiance
to our school
and those in P.S. 97.**

**I promise to follow
all rules, to do my work,
and respect others
in our community.**

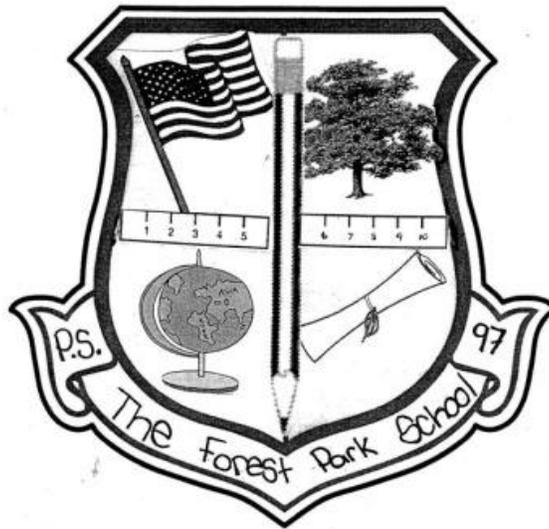
**Accepted by
student enrollment on
June 2, 2006**



The Forest Park School
P.S. 97, Q
"We Grow Beautiful Minds"

Mission Statement

Welcome to P.S. 97, The Forest Park School! We are a diverse school that works together to provide opportunities for students to achieve their best. We support and involve parents and guardians along with the community in nurturing lifelong learners.



This agenda belongs to:

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____
PHONE: _____