



# FPNS NEWS

## Letter from the Director

What an exciting first few days of school we have had! The kids were happy to join their teachers in their classroom and on the playground. The weather was beautiful and added to the excitement of starting a new school year. Smiles were everywhere—kids and adults alike!

The “Giving Tree” is up once again in our front hallway. The teachers have found things that they are “wishing for” in their classrooms. If you would like to participate, simply “pick” a leaf off of the tree, give it to me or Francesca along with a check, and we will order it for the classroom! Some items are on the expensive side, so you may want to find another family or two to split the cost.



I hope to see everyone at **Parents Night on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**

in the church Common Room. You will also have an opportunity to see your child's classroom and visit with your child's teacher. For those of you who could not make it to our Parent Coffee, see the sidebar (at right) for a short description of “What's New” at First Pres this year!

I'm so happy to be beginning my second year here at FPNS! We are off to a great start and will have fun making wonderful memories all year long. Feel free to contact me at any time.

Joanne A. LaVista  
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## What's New?

- Handwriting program: the Wilson Foundations Pre-K Activity Kit has been purchased for all 4's and Pre-K students. This is the same curriculum that is used in Pre-K and Kindergarten in the New Canaan Public Schools. We will be trained in the program and will implement it this year!
- Student Assessment notebooks: a new process we are using in which teachers highlight indicators of Connecticut Early Learning and Development standards that each child has mastered. More information can be found at [www.ct.gov/oc/elds](http://www.ct.gov/oc/elds).
- Hand-Up meetings: Teachers used the new Student Assessment notebooks in Hand-Up meetings, so that information regarding last years' students could be shared with the child's new teachers.
- Mary Ann DeFelice was introduced as our new In-Residence Instructional Consultant.
- Redesigned Website: All the same important information, in a prettier, more organized package! There's also a password-protected section that allows us to post more information and photos, while respecting the privacy of our children.



# SAVE THE DATES

Exciting things are happening at FPNS!

September 23, 2016	Cocktails and Croquet at the Roger Sherman
September 26, 2016	First Day of Lunch Bunch, Jumpstart, and extended day
October 4-5, 2016	New Canaan Fire Department visit
October 25, 2016	Parents' Night
December 3, 2016	Holiday Movie at New Canaan Playhouse
December 15-16, 2016	Holiday Parties
January 26, 2017	Bunco Night
March 4, 2017	FPNS Fundraiser at the Carriage Barn
April 18-19, 2017	Picture Day
May 4-5, 2017	Mother's Day parties
May 13, 2017	End-of-year Family Playground Party (Rain date: 5/20/2017)
May 24-25, 2017	End of year parties/ last days of school (tentative due to snow days)
May 30- June 23, 2017	Camp (tentative due to snow days)



## Thank You!

To all the families who donated mums for our Playground Beautification Day— and a special shout out to those worked so hard on a hot, humid day in order to get our playground looking so beautiful for the first day of school.

