



**1st Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey**  
Unique needs deserve a unique school

[www.cerebralpalsycenter.org](http://www.cerebralpalsycenter.org)

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## In the News

Patrick Colligan, Director  
Joan Krotenberg, Principal

### Special Dates to Remember

1:00 Dismissal  
13th

School Closed  
18th

Basketball Championships  
19th at 1:00

### Did You Know?

Ms. Ann Marie is retiring this month after 24 years of service! We wish her luck on her move to Kentucky!

### Paper Mill Players

The Paper Mill Players performed a musical rendition of their own version of "Scrooge" for our students. As always the actors were amazing! Not only do our students always enjoy the show and love singing along

### Happy New Year!

Welcome Back! We hope everyone had a joyous holiday recess. Now that winter is upon us, we would like to remind you that in the event of an emergency closing due to inclement weather or other factors, you will be notified by phone via the Honeywell Instant Alert System. You can also check the school website or call the main number where a recording will inform you of any

closures.

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday the 13th as the students will be dismissed at 1:00 for a Staff Professional Development Day. The school will be closed on Monday the 18th for the Martin Luther King holiday. When we return on Tuesday the 19th the students will attend the championship basketball game! We wish all our athletes luck!

### Verona Police

Some members of the Verona Police Department dress up in popular character costumes and deliver gifts of coloring books and crayons to our students every year. The students look forward to seeing their favorite characters come to life!



to the theme song at the end of every play but they love meeting the actors after the performance! It is a very special treat! We look forward to their next production in February!



# NJAPERD Adapted Physical Education Conference

Ms. Kim was a guest speaker at the recent NJAPERD Adapted Physical Education Conference. Ms. Kim presented two topics: 1) Modifying Games for Small Spaces & All Abilities, and 2) Orientation & Mobility. The audience was made up of professionals and students who are looking to join the field.



# Family Night

During the month of December we have many activities, but nothing like Family Night. The holidays are a time where families come together, and this was just that. Students and their families enjoyed pizza and snacks. The kids then had the opportunity to decorate gingerbread cook-

ies baked by Mrs. Santasieri (Ms. Andi's mom) with Hershey kisses, Sweedish fish, and icing to name a few things. We then made snowflake picture frames and added pictures that were taken earlier in the evening. But that's not the only reason I enjoyed family night. I loved

that it gave us a chance to catch up with students that we don't get a chance to talk to during the day as well as their parents. Parents got to talk to and hang out with other parents. I consider everyone at 1st Cerebral Palsy my family so it was like a fun family get together! Submitted by Jesse





## RJ Cooper Workshop

On November 20, 2015 our school was lucky enough to host RJ Cooper for an assistive technology workshop. RJ is a pioneer in the field of assistive technology. He has over 30 years of experience as a researcher and developer of hardware and software products for people with disabilities. During the workshop, he worked directly with eight of our students. The workshop was attended by the therapy

staff, administrators, teachers and aides of the students participating and many of the students' families. In addition, we had many other child study team members from local school districts present. It was great to see RJ working hands on with the students. He was able to try different types of technology using different means of access best suited for each individual. Each of the students re-

sponded to him in his or her own way and communicated to receive various toys and motivators. One point to emphasis was the importance of constant encouragement of functional communication. He also tried to keep the "work" fun as this is how children learn best. Check out the pictures of everyone busy at work using technology to communicate!



## Elk's Christmas Party

Members of the North Central Elks Special Children Committee of 11 lodges brought pizza lunch, the Grinch movie, and Santa with presents to all the students at the 1st Cerebral Palsy of NJ. Thank you to the Elks for making everyone smiles and

wishes come true! Lodges: Belleville, Kearny, Nutley, Lyndhurst, East Orange, South Orange, Cedar Grove, Orange, Bloomfield/Newark, Harrison/East Newark, and West Orange.





### Holiday Bags

Troop 5795 of The 1st Cerebral Palsy of NJ made 72 bags for the Veterans at the Veterans hospital in East Orange. Thank you to Santa (Jim Walsh) and the Elks who will be delivering them to the hospital for us. Thank you to our staff, families, and friends who donated the supplies. Each

bag has 2 socks, 2 wash cloths, deck of cards, toothbrush, bag of candy and pocket tissues. The Boy Scouts also filled three boxes to be shipped to Ms. Michelle and the Army officers in-training of the National Guard.

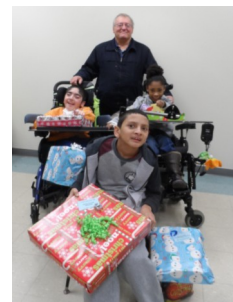


### Gift Delivery

William Mackey the Grand Marshal along with Knights of Columbus members Peter Briody and William Rottmar delivered gifts from a wish list the students populated. Members of the Knights of Co-

lumbus kindly bought all the items on the list for the students! The students were very excited and happy with their presents! We are very grateful for the generosity of all the members! Pictured with

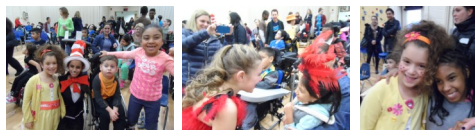
Mr. Mackey is Jashmin, Said, and Rony who are thrilled with their gifts!



### Pixie Dust Players

This is the first time the Pixie Dust Players performed for our school. They performed Seussical The Musical! The students loved the show! They were very excited to

meet the performers after the production. We hope to see them again soon!



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1<sup>st</sup> Cerebral Palsy Center  
7 Sanford Ave.  
Belleville, NJ 07109

Phone:  
(973) 751-0200

Fax:  
(973) 751-4635