



PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION



Dear A. Fantis Families,

As we move through December, we're reminded of how lucky we are to be part of such a close-knit community. This season brings with it a deep sense of gratitude, joy, and togetherness, values that shine especially brightly at A. Fantis! Our school is truly special because of the families who fill it with love, generosity, and support. Thank you for the countless ways you show up, not just for your children, but for each other. As we wrap up the year and look ahead to a hopeful 2026, we're excited to celebrate the season with you through our events, acts of giving, and opportunities to strengthen our bond as a community.

Wishing you a joyful December filled with friends, family, and festive cheer!

Warmly,

Your PTO Board

Save the Dates

- Thu, Dec 11:** Early Dismissal: Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Fri, Dec 12:** Last day to contribute to the [Holiday Fund](#)
- Sat, Dec 13:** Breakfast with Santa, 9am - sold out!

- Sun, Dec 14:** G4 & 6 Christmas Mini Show
 - Sun, Dec 14:** Sunday School Christmas Pageant
 - Mon, Dec 15:** PTO Best Seats Auction for K-8 Christmas Show Starts - Stay tuned for the link
 - Tue, Dec 17:** PreK Holiday Show, 8:45am
 - Thu, Dec 18:** K-8 Christmas Celebration, 6pm.
 - Fri, Dec 19:** Early Dismissal
 - Sat, Dec 20:** [Goya Christmas Party On The Go](#), 10:30am
 - Wed, Dec 24 - Fri, Jan 2:** Christmas Recess, No School
 - Wed, Jan 7:** PTO Meeting via Zoom, 8:30pm
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Last Chance to Contribute to the Faculty & Staff Holiday Fund

You still have a few days to opt in and contribute to the **Faculty & Staff Holiday Fund** - the last day to submit your contribution is this Fri, Dec 12. This annual fund is organized by the PTO as a service to you. It provides holiday gifts for all faculty and staff, including specials, assistants, and maintenance, directly from family contributions. Don't worry about missing anyone - we've got you covered.

This year, we're also introducing a **separate Beyond the Bell Holiday Gift Fund** for families who wish to contribute to the after-school team. Each child's name will be included in the Christmas card for the fund(s) they contribute to, so please remember to add your kid(s)' names when checking out.

This is **not a fundraiser**; 100% of contributions go straight to staff. Participation is entirely optional, and families are always welcome to share their appreciation independently - a handwritten note or drawing from your child means a lot!

[**Contribute to the Holiday Staff & Beyond the Bell Funds Here**](#)

Spread Holiday Cheer With Christmas Poinsettias

Who doesn't love poinsettias in the Christmas season? Help beautify the church or your own home this holiday season by ordering a Christmas Poinsettia from the Philoptochos of Sts. Constantine & Helen ([\\$25 donation](#)). You can choose to dedicate your flowers "In Memory Of" or "For the Health Of" a loved one. Be sure to place your order by this Sun, Dec 14, and pick it up on Thu, Dec 18. Payment can be made online, or via cash or check. More info: 718-624-0895.

[**Order Christmas Poinsettias**](#)



Core Values T-Shirts Are Here

The Core Values T-shirt turned out super cute! A total of 74 shirts are now being proudly worn by students, parents, and staff, raising \$910 to support school enrichment and middle school initiatives. Once we receive the funds from the vendor, the PTO will collaborate with Middle School teachers to allocate them where they're most needed. Thanks to all who purchased the exclusive design, a beautiful artwork created by our very own Maya Wade (G6) under the guidance of Ms Cait. You made this fundraiser a success!

Parent Spotlight: Our Class Parents!

This month, we want to extend a heartfelt spotlight on **all** of our incredible class parents from PK3 through 8th grade. These dedicated parents are the heartbeat of each classroom, giving generously of their time and energy to help keep our classroom community connected and thriving.

Class parents play a special and vital role: they support our teachers, communicate important updates, organize class events, share reminders, and answer endless questions (with patience and grace!). They are the bridge that brings parents, students, and teachers together, ensuring that every class runs smoothly throughout the year.

To each of you who serves: **thank you!** Your dedication strengthens our community, brings our mission to life, and makes our school a warm, supportive place for every child and family.

Support Fantis with RaiseRight

This season, let your Holiday shopping do double duty! With **RaiseRight**, every gift card you buy - whether it's for morning coffee, weekly groceries, or Christmas gifts - earns money for A. Fantis. It's the easiest way to support our teachers and students without spending anything extra.

There are 750+ participating brands from Target to Sephora to Amex and Hilton. View the full brand list [here!](#)

Setting it up takes just a minute:

- 1) Visit [RaiseRight.com/Enroll](#)
- 2) Enter the code **6KPJTVYVYN9X** to link to **A. Fantis**
- 3) Download the app and start shopping!

Tip: Use RaiseRight gift cards when buying items from teacher wish lists or classroom economy supplies - you'll give back twice in one purchase!

More Ways to Shop, Save & Support Fantis

Did you know you can **save money and support A. Fantis at the same time**? Our yearlong fundraisers make it easy: shop exclusive discounts, and a portion of every purchase goes right back to our school programs.

- **Mabel's Labels:** Durable name labels for gear and clothes. Search our school at [www.mabelslabels.com](#) and save on replacing lost items. 20% of all purchases support the PTO.
 - **Minted:** Get 20% off cards, gifts & more with code FUNDRAISEAFANTIS while Fantis earns 10% back! Go to [www.minted.com](#) .
 - **Squadlocker:** Show off your school pride. Our [Squadlocker](#) Spirit gear is always available, and every order helps fund PTO initiatives.
 - **Shoott:** Use [our special link](#) to book your photo session, and a portion comes right back to A. Fantis.
 - **Box Top\$:** Buy the brands you already love and earn \$5 for A. Fantis. Learn how to earn using this [link](#) and browse all participating brands [here](#).
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In Case You Missed It

Here are some of the PTO initiatives from the past month! Look out for our emails, Bloomz posts (including albums), and the **PTO Corner** in the *This Week at Fantis* weekly newsletter for the latest updates and opportunities to get involved. You can stay up to date through the [School Calendar](#) and the [PTO Linktree](#), and connect with us at any time at pto@afantis.org



Christmas Cards - Our G1-8 students created beautiful Christmas cards under the guidance of Ms. Cait, and families absolutely loved them! We sold 279 cards, raising \$1,095. Net proceeds will support the 8th-grade trip to Greece. Sales are now closed, and orders will be delivered to the school early next week.



PTO In-Person Meeting - Last Fri, Dec 5, A.Fantis parents got together in the gym for the first in-person PTO meeting of the 2025-26 school year. It was a great turnout! We covered updates, highlights, and upcoming plans, and even hosted a lightly used uniform sale. Check it out in the [meeting notes](#).



Peter Brown Visits G2-4 - On Dec 4, students from grades 2-4 had the exciting opportunity to meet **Peter Brown**, author of *The Wild Robot* series, during a special virtual visit organized by the PTO. Students were captivated as he shared stories about his creative process and even engaged in a shared drawing activity. The event sparked thoughtful questions and plenty of inspiration among our young readers and artists.



Candy Drive and Food Drive - Following Halloween, the PTO coordinated a Candy Drive benefiting The Service Collective, and a Thanksgiving Food Drive supporting St. Ann's Food Pantry. Thanks to your generosity, we delivered bags full of treats and essentials to spread kindness across our community. Thank you!



Buddy Day Thanksgiving Breakfast - On Nov 18, the PTO hosted our first-ever **Buddy Day Thanksgiving Breakfast**. Students from K-8 shared breakfast with their buddies, while preschoolers had crafts and treats. The morning was filled with connection, cards, and gratitude. A big thank-you to Ms. Kara and all the teachers who led this wonderful Social-Emotional Learning activity, and to the parent volunteers who helped make the event happen!
