

## DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

Kevin Ciak

Number 1  
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- Hats off to the students of Truman School who raised over \$5,200 for the American Heart Association with Jump Rope for Heart. A special thanks goes to Mrs. Dulce Santos, former Truman School parent and PTA President as well as substitute teacher, for assisting with the implementation of this worthwhile activity. Also, thanks to the PTO for their involvement and help with this project.
- A job well done to Truman School teachers, Suzanne Blum, Kerri-Ann Cenci, Debbie Glaser, Paulette Hudock, Shennet Samuel, Kim Thornton and Sue Wilson for planning and implementing "Earth Matters" for the first-graders in conjunction with Earth Week. The projects including storytelling, poetry, games, working with clay, using the Internet, making and eating popcorn, edible soil and caterpillars reflected a joint effort that focused upon the importance of taking care of our planet. Mrs. Hudock's TAG students assisted the younger students with the activities. Well done!
- Special thanks to Truman School teacher Martha Malopolski for organizing and implementing the "Spring Beautification" of the Truman School grounds for the students and staff in conjunction with Earth Day on April 21, 2005.
- The UES TAG students, their parents, Mrs. Grace Gabriele (TAG teacher) and Ms. Maldonado attended an educational trip to Boston. The students toured the House of Seven Gables, the Salem Witch Museum, the Freedom Trail and the USS Constitution to name a few stops on their three day tour.
- Foodtown of South Amboy provided 675 grocery bags to the students at the UES who in turn decorated these bags with Earth Day messages and wonderful illustrations. The bags were used to bag groceries on Earth Day at Foodtown. Some of the projects can be viewed on the projects website at [www.earthdaybags.org](http://www.earthdaybags.org).
- Thirty students in Ms. DeSantis' Fifth Grade Social Studies class recently completed the 2005 Journey North's Mystery Class project. This was an 11 week Internet based project in which teams of students tracked the amount of sunlight (or photoperiod) in 10 mystery locations. Using this information, along with their knowledge of the seasons, as well as clues on geography, climate and culture, the students were able to successfully predict the location of all ten mystery classes. Ms. DeSantis' class and all successful classes in this nationwide project are listed at [www.learner.org/jnorth/mclass/spring2005/Contestants05](http://www.learner.org/jnorth/mclass/spring2005/Contestants05).

- Congratulations to Quo Vadis 2004, who for only the second time in six years, received a Silver Medal Award from Columbia University Scholastic Press Association.