

PS 111

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www.ps111adolphsochs.org

What programs are offered here?

General education, District G&T, Integrated Co-Teaching, Self-Contained Special Education, and SETSS

Tell me about the District G&T program

The G&T program has K, 1, 2 & 3rd grade and a combined 4th & 5th grade class. The G&T classes follow the same curriculum as the general education classes in the school. However, students explore the topics more deeply than other students, and at times, the work is accelerated. Like other teachers, each unit of study is preceded by an assessment to determine what students know. Students who demonstrate mastery of content prior to being taught that work are provided with accelerated work in that unit of study.

Which special education services are offered?

The school offers Special Education Teacher Support Services (SETSS), Integrated Co-Teaching classes (ICT) and Self-Contained classes. There are two guidance counselors, a School Based Support Team (SBST), Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech and Language Therapy.

How big are the classes?

Kindergarten class sizes (across all programs) vary, but incoming classes are initially capped at 25 Children, to accommodate late-joiners.

How long is the school day?

8:20 AM to 2:40 PM.

When do the children eat lunch?

Pre-K eats lunch at 10:35 A.M. and Kindergarten eats lunch at 11:25 A.M. Lunch and recess combined is 50 minutes long. Yes, lunch starts early for the Pre-K, but the school day starts early and ends early. The school currently has three lunch periods. Students who have early lunch periods have a daily-dedicated time for a snack later in the day.

Tell me about recess.

There are two outdoor playgrounds (the early childhood courtyard) and the new big yard. Pre-K and kindergarten classes have recess in the Early Childhood yard and grades 1-5 have recess in the large new yard. Both have access to sports equipment such as jump ropes, basketballs, soccer balls and more. There are two school aides at all times and additional staff members monitoring lunch. We also have parent volunteers. During inclement weather, students utilize the auditorium and gym, or play board games in the library and designated classrooms.

Tell me about drop-off and pickup.

Students from grades 1 through 5 can arrive at 8am in the morning and walk into the large yard. Students in grades 1 and 2 are picked up by their teachers. Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 begin the year with teacher pick-up, but transition to independent school entrance. Pre-k and Kindergarten students can enter through the little yard located on the 52nd street. (Unless there is inclement weather, where kindergarten students may go to the lunchroom and students from grade 3-5 go straight to the auditorium.) Pre-K students may only be dropped off at 8:20 a.m. since they eat breakfast with their class after arrival.

The gates to both the little yard and large yard open at 8:00 am and students will be picked up by their teachers at 8:20 am. Children who come on the school bus are escorted off and on the bus by our school aides. Parents are not allowed to escort their children into the building beyond the front door.

Afternoon pickup is at 2:40 p.m. in the large yard for grades 1-5 and the Pre-K & K pick-up spot is in the little yard. Each class has a dedicated meeting spot.

What specials does the school offer during the school day?

Music- twice a week (reading music, instruments, songs)

Physical Education-twice a week

Chess- once a week grades 1-5 on Thursdays. Each class has a coach for one semester.

Visual Arts-collage & painting

Alvin Ailey Dance and Musician program - 10-week residency program for grade 4

Read Ahead program- corporate volunteer reading lunch program (students in grades 1-5 meet with their mentors once a week)

Marquis Studios (Visual Arts: Puppetry & Self Portrait) for grades K & 1; a 20 week residency (January - May)

SAG Book Pals- Professional actors read to Pre-K through grade 2 classes throughout the year

Soccer Program - Monday, Tuesday, and Friday for grades 4 & 5; Roads to Success also has soccer after school

Young Storytellers - Select grade 5 students creates 3 to 5 minute plays with writing and acting mentors. There is a fall and spring showcase of their work.

NY State mentoring -Mentors teach social and business skills to 3rd graders and monitoring and work with them until they reach grade 5.

Eco Club - 4th & 5th graders learning how to protect our environment.

Student Government - The P.S. 111 Student Council is comprised of representatives from each class in grades 3, 4, and 5. Individual classes and teachers decide on how to elect representatives as a way to explore the principles of democracy where they will meet on a monthly basis to discuss community and team building, leadership skills, and ways to create change. Our goal is to bring student voice to school-wide decision making by initiating, guiding, and leading school improvement efforts.

Spoons Across America - Healthy Eating & Nutrition program for grades 2 through 5. They meet once a month throughout the academic year. (Spoons Across America, ®the recipe for healthier children", is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to educating children, teachers, and families about the benefits of healthy eating. We work to influence the eating habits of children through hands-on education that celebrates the connection to local farmers and the important tradition of sharing meals around the family table.)

Studio in a School- 14 week residency for Pre-K classes (Art based centers and small group instructions in an exploratory manner creating collages & painting ending with an Art Gallery for parents). They meet once a week starting in November through March.

NYU Dental Van - NYU Dentistry Mobile Dental Care Program providing services to the students attending PS 111 Dental care is administered under the direct supervision of an experienced licensed dentist and our senior pre-doctoral dental students are providing care; such as: examinations and necessary x-rays, preventive services that include cleanings, fluoride treatments, sealants and oral hygiene instructions; and fillings and simple tooth extractions. All students are eligible to participate in this program, regardless of coverage, with no out-of-pocket expense. In addition, all children who wish to participate must have a completed consent form signed by their parents or guardians. A school staff

member will escort all students to and from the dental mobile van. (Mobile Dental van will be stationed outside of school for 3 days).

Technology - Students have technology in a dedicated computer MAC lab used by students when working on essay and research projects. (Grades 2-5) Each class has Smart boards and we have computer laptops in mobile carts for classrooms to use.

Afterschool programs:

Chess - (Fee Based) Meets once a week on Thursdays with students from across the grades, from 2:40pm-5:30, for a fee of \$600 per semester.

Roads to Success (Fee Based) after school program/H.W. Art, Sports and more. There are drop in and full week options available. Hours are 2:40 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Orchestra of St. Luke's music program Wednesdays & Fridays 3:30pm-5:00pm (no fee) for grades 2-5 where they learn to play a musical instrument in a small group with top music teachers, learn about and play orchestra music, learn to read, compose, conduct, and improvise music. (The Youth Orchestra of St. Luke's (YOSL) is a youth music initiative of the Manhattan-based professional ensemble Orchestra of St. Luke's (OSL).

BOKS-Building Our Kids Success is a free physical activity program aimed to get children moving. Wednesdays & Thursdays 2:45pm-4pm October 19 - December 15 for grades 4 & 5(no fee). There will be a different BOKS/CHAMPS physical activity each season.

Dollar Dance Days - The PTA provides three free dance classes each week, taught by a professional instructor.

Coding classes- Introduction to coding and computational thinking for grades Kindergarten through fifth grade.

What is the math curriculum? Our teachers utilize both Go Math and Engage NY. Go Math is a city-approved curriculum. However, our teachers in K-5 believe that supplemental curriculum is necessary, so they incorporate units/segments, of units, from Engage NY (which is a state curriculum option). Teachers, when appropriate, also provide project work for the students. This most often occurs at the end of a unit.

What literacy program does the school utilize? Our literacy program is from Teachers College Reading & Writing Project @ Columbia University. The expectations placed on students is very high, but at the same time, we coach students at their individual "instructional level". Students read and write every day,

for about 100 minutes. Students are exposed to all genres in reading, while in writing the focus is generally on narrative, realistic fiction, and informational writing.

What is the science program? We have a dedicated science teacher for grades 2, 3, 4, & 5. We are fortunate to have a fully functioning science lab that our upper grade students are able to use. The teacher engages the students in a mix of scientific reading, exploration, and projects (i.e. making a solar oven!). Lab reports (writing like a scientist) are a large part of the work in these classes.

What happens with children who have Peanut/Nut allergies? All children with allergies are identified as soon as they enter the school. We have one dedicated "allergy table" for children whose parents/guardians elect for this special seating. Our lunch personnel make every effort to ensure that at least one friend sits with any student eating at this table, so that no one eats alone.

Where can I find more information about after-school? We have one neighborhood after-school program, PAL that offer school pick up and a fee-based in house after-school Program Roads to Success. After-School program information is also posted on our web site.

P.A.L.-212.265.7933 Roads to Success - www.roadstosuccess.org

What events does the school host?

In addition to DOE calendar events, the school (combined school/PTA/SLT) typically has hosted the following events:

- Winter Solstice concert
- Earth day concert
- Back to School Family Night
- Family Curriculum Night
- Math Night
- International Night
- Field Day
- Family Fridays (visit your child's classroom once a month 8:30am-9:00am)
- Pretzel Friday
- Winter Wonderland Family Event
- Food Drive
- Talent Show
- Mother-Daughter event (5th Grade)
- Father-Son event (5th Grade)
- Friendship & Love Family night (February 14)

- Bake Sales
- Grade Assemblies
- Krispy Kreme Fundraiser
- PTA School Carnival
- Parent Workshops

Tell me about the PTA.

The PTA covers Pre-k through 5 and meets monthly. The PTA promotes school community, advocates for parents, performs fundraising drives and sales, and helps organize school events. "Friends of P.S. 111 Adolph S. Ochs Inc." is a non-profit entity, recognized by the IRS as a 501(c) (3). You may view their website at <http://www.111pta.org/>

Parent Volunteers - We encourage parents to volunteer in the school with fundraisers, events, lunchtime, classroom projects. If you are interested in becoming a parent volunteer, you may contact Zaida Cosme, our Parent Coordinator. (See below her contact information.)

Tell me about the school administration and Related-Service staff members.

In addition to Principal Edward Gilligan, there is one Assistant Principal, Ms. Harvey. There is also one full time Parent Coordinator, Zaida Cosme, a school guidance counselor, Stephanie Pendleton and a crisis counselor, Darice Scholl.

You may contact the Parent Coordinator at zcosme@schools.nyc.gov or you may reach her at 347-563-5213.

The SBST (School Based Support Team) and AIT (Academic Intervention Team) teams meets weekly to discuss any student issues in order to support them academically, socially and emotionally. Its members include our related service providers (speech therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapist, psychologist, social worker) who are an integral part of the school, and help administration make important decisions in regards to meeting the needs of our students with and without learning disabilities.