

# PTO hosts canned food drive during 'Spirit Week'



Melrose School third graders Josef Cohen, Madison Hodrick, and Matthew Bonner celebrate "Mad Hatter Day" during Spirit Week.  
Photo by Sam Bari

**By Sam Bari**

The Jamestown Parent Teacher Organization is hosting a food drive to benefit the Jamestown food bank during Spirit Week at Melrose School this week. Spirit Week is traditionally held the week before February vacation.

"It celebrates keeping the school and the community together in a unified unit," co-principal Carrie Melucci said.

A parent suggested ending the week with a student-faculty game similar to the ones that are held at Lawn school with the soccer and basketball teams. The games are popular events at the middle school and it was thought that the younger students would enjoy the interac-

tion with their teachers on less structured level.

Using the event as a fund-raiser, by selling raffle tickets to the students for a chance to participate in the game, was briefly discussed before PTO co-president Robin Tregenza suggested the food drive and raffle.

"The PTO strives to have at least one community service project throughout the school year that ties to the local community," Tregenza said. "We chose the Jamestown food bank because it is a local organization and we had been told that their shelves were getting low."

For every canned good or non-perishable food item that students brought in between Feb. 11 and

Feb. 13, they received a raffle ticket to be entered in the "Knock the Pin" raffle. Four students from each grade will be chosen in today's raffle to play "Knock the Pin" against the Melrose School staff tomorrow, Friday, Feb. 15.

"The kids are so excited. We have had a great response so far. Kids have been bringing in multiple cans," Tregenza said. She also said the staff has been supportive of the effort, as well as students from the middle school.

"The staff participation rate is over 90 percent, and we have even had people from Lawn bring in food because they read about it in

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