



(1) From left to right: Megan Mulroy, Gabriella Mansour, Ally Cisar, Nicole Shapiro, Gabriella Arias, Ava Shapiro, and Jenna Falconite enjoy themselves at the dance. (2) Fathers dancing with their daughters at the event. (3) Saint Leo's Fathers' Club president Michael Leibrock and daughter Victoria pose for a photo. (Photos courtesy of Angela Mansour)

## SAINT LEO THE GREAT SCHOOL FATHER'S CLUB HOSTS FIRST FATHER AND DAUGHTER DANCE

On Sunday, November 4, Saint Leo the Great Father's Club hosted the school's first-ever Father and Daughter Dance, held at Branches Catering in West Long Branch. The event was opened to fathers and daughters from kindergarten through eighth grade, and over 250 people attended. Upon arrival, fathers and daughters lined up to take their keepsake photo together, provided by Memory Keepers. Afterwards, everyone entered the main dining hall, where they spent the remainder of the afternoon eating lunch and dancing together. A Touch of Class DJ enticed the crowd with popular music and also provided various types of father and daughter games along with favors and activities. The afternoon was filled with merriment and laughter.

Mr. Gary Krall, a father at Saint Leo the Great School, stated, "Sunday's Father and Daughter Dance was truly a day that I will always cherish. All the girls, along with my daughters Gracie and Julia, looked absolutely beautiful! The dads and I were all smiles. There were some with tears, but only happy heartfelt tears. I hope that the Father and Daughter Dance becomes a fixture on the Saint Leo the Great School calendar. Our children grow up fast, sometimes you can't blink because you will miss too much. Thank you to the Father's Club, especially the president and event organizer, Michael Leibrock, for making the day possible. It was one day that I didn't blink."

## SAINT LEO'S PRINCIPAL TAKES ON "READ YOUR HEART OUT" PRINCIPAL CHALLENGE

On November 13, Saint Leo the Great School Principal Cornelius Begley joined hundreds of principals around the country in the Pizza Hut BOOK IT! Read Your Heart Out Principal Challenge. This challenge is designed to celebrate National Young Readers Week and promote reading. National Young Readers Week is an annual event that takes place on the second week of November, and is co-founded by Pizza Hut and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

As part of the challenge, Principal Begley read all day to the students in kindergarten to fourth grade from the first morning bell to the last. He made the experience fun and unique by designating a western theme, which included a "Begley Reading Round Up" station set up in the main entrance hall. He also dressed up in a sheriff costume to enhance the western theme and feel. He visited each classroom and read a book to each class. His inter-



Principal Cornelius Begley posed for a photo with second graders at the Begley Reading Round Up station. (Photo courtesy of Angela Mansour)

action with the students was filled with enthusiasm and attentiveness. The students were fully engaged and eagerly answered all questions he had for them pertaining to the story he read. Principal Begley stated, "As a role model to the students, I wanted to participate in this challenge to set an example for them and demonstrate the importance of daily reading. Stories teach you life lessons and inspire you to go places and do things you never thought were possible. Stories open a world of wonder to children."

By participating in this challenge, each elementary school principal earns a chance to win 101 copies of "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Hard Luck," the eighth book in the Wimpy Kid series released on November 5, for his or her school's library. In addition, the author of the series, Jeff Kinney, will personally autograph one of the books for the winner.