

A message from the PSA Co-Presidents:

Hello, my name is Regina Montrony. My son, James is Hard-of-Hearing and is currently in the Cleary Kindergarten satellite program at Connetquot Elementary School in East Islip. My other son, Luca also attends Cleary School as a hearing role model for the 4-year Preschool program. My family and I have been fortunate enough to be with Cleary since January 2013 when we started the Parent-Infant-Program (PIP). I remember having such mixed emotions, I felt so lost and uncertain, scared and alone but relieved to have found a connection with others going through the same situation as we were. As a parent of a Hard-of-Hearing child, the road has had many obstacles and we could not have made it through all these years without the help and support of all the Cleary teachers, staff and parents we have met along the way.

I first joined PSA when James turned 3, graduated from PIP and entered the Preschool program. I sometimes wished I joined sooner because I can't tell you how wonderful it has been to have gotten to know the members of the PSA and developed long lasting friendships. It has also been an extreme pleasure to be able to find ways to get the parents together, to show the staff how much they are appreciated, to watch the children's happy faces when we sponsor fun activities and events. At the end of the day, that is what it is all about...the children.

In today's world, it just doesn't seem like there is enough time in a day to do everything. I struggle at times balancing my full-time job, PSA, after school activities, my activities, doctor's appointments, etc. The struggle is real, the balancing act is real and I know you all can relate. I urge you to get involved as little or as much as you can. Join the PSA, volunteer when you can, come to the Parent Networks and other events throughout the year. Or help with a small donation. As a parent of both a Hard-of-Hearing child and hearing role model, it makes no difference. You want the support of amazing teachers and staff, you want the support of other parents not only for your child but for your family. Cleary has showed me and my family that in so many ways and I will forever be grateful. I want to pay it forward and I hope you can too by showing your support, however that may be.

If you have any questions, concerns, comments please do not hesitate to contact me.



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