



# Pelham Press

Vol. 21, No. 9, October 29, 2010

<http://pe.arps.org>



## Dates to Remember:

- |                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday, October 31    | Pelham School Halloween Party       |
| Monday, November 1    | PGO Meeting, 7:00 pm in the library |
| Tuesday, November 2   | Early Release Day at 1:20           |
| Wednesday, November 3 | Savings Makes Sense                 |
| Thursday, November 4  | School Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm   |
| Saturday, November 6  | Recycling Fundraiser                |
| Sunday, November 7    | Daylight Savings Time ends          |
| Thursday, November 11 | NO SCHOOL- Veteran's Day            |



Dear Pelham School Families,

It has been a very busy time of the year with many learning activities, field trips, and events taking place at Pelham School. The Harvest Night fundraiser last Friday was great fun, and it was a spectacularly spooky sight when we had all the pumpkins lit and lined up on the stage with the lights out!

Grades 5 & 6 went to the UMass Fine Arts Center to view the performance of the much heralded "Three Cups of Tea" story by Greg Mortenson. They were treated to an unusual performance in which a single actor was able to alternate between scenes in the U.S. and Pakistan and highlight the lessons that can be learned from a culture that is seemingly so different from our own.

The fourth grade SAFE program culminated in a special ceremony on Tuesday evening at the Amherst Regional High School. Students were recognized as graduates of the program, and it was a very high energy evening. It was a great turnout by all of the elementary schools, and the enthusiasm of the graduating students was evident as they quickly donned their SAFE t-shirts. We extend a special thanks to the Amherst Fire Department and the SAFE program instructors for their dedication to this program and for the wonderful work they have done here at Pelham School.

With Halloween falling on this weekend, I want to bring to families attention how important it is to remind your children to keep safe if they are going to be going out trick-or-treating. Please ensure that costumes fit well, candy is checked carefully, and that they are not out by themselves. It is very difficult for drivers to see children who are dressed in dark clothing, so some way to illuminate is best. We will be having a Halloween party here at Pelham School complete with a haunted house on Sunday, beginning at 5 pm. **I am requesting that all children be accompanied and supervised by an adult throughout the evening.** School equipment in the gym will not be available for use. Unless a parent is with them, children will not be allowed outside by themselves. Thank you in advance for your support in making sure children are carefully monitored.

Sincerely,  
*Lisa Desjarlais*



### **ART AT PELHAM - FROM DIANE TRAVIS**

We are off to a good start in art. All the classes have been working hard on their special pictures for the Original Artworks project. Each class had a theme: K- self portraits, 1st- butterflies, 2nd- animals, 3rd - radial designs, 4th - hand designs, 5th - peace and 6th - sun designs. I hope you will enjoy their pictures.

We are looking forward to many units of study that emphasize diverse cultures, a wide range of materials and lessons that are integrated with the classroom curriculum. Each student at Pelham will have experiences with printmaking, drawing, painting, clay, sculpture and fiber.

The big news is we will soon have a kiln for the first time at Pelham School. I was able to bring the kiln from Mark's Meadow to here! It will be installed soon and ready to go. This year I will be able to offer clay to all my students!

I look forward to learning and creating with all the children.  
Diane Travis

## Third Grade News

Meg Gallagher

I am very happy with the dedication third graders are putting into their studies. In Reading, we have finished a realistic fiction unit where groups of children read novels together. Each group concentrated on the setting, characters, problem, and solution of their book. They ended the unit by writing a letter which contained information from the story, to one of the characters in the novel.

Students are working on idea development in their writing. First, they used webs to organize ideas and then wrote paragraphs about a pet or favorite food. Now we are working on remembering a specific time we experienced in a specific place. After brainstorming ideas, children are drawing four pictures that tell the story. These will then become the organizer for their four paragraph story.

Our current math unit is called *Surveys and Line Plots*. We are describing, summarizing, and comparing data, representing data, designing and carrying out a data investigation, and measuring with standard units. It would be beneficial at home to do some measuring with a ruler or yardstick with your child.

Our weather unit is coming to a close. We have studied air temperature, moisture, wind speed and direction, cloud types, and precipitation. We have used a number of weather instruments to collect data about our daily weather. Our work has also involved differentiating between weather and climate, reading weather maps, and describing how the water cycle works.

I notice that some children are doing their spelling homework early in the week. It is important that they do each sheet on the day it is assigned. This way, the rule will hopefully make it into their long term memory. Thank you.

I appreciate the time you are giving to checking over homework and signing the reading log when 20 minutes or more of reading has been done. Students are developing some strong study skills in this class!

## Fourth Grade

Students have read a number of books about Native American culture. We have learned what a typical day in the life of a Wampanoag boy looked like 300 years ago. In Tapenum's Day, the main character was not chosen to be a warrior and he makes a plan to work hard to achieve his goal. In People of the Breaking Day, children have been exposed to the way of life for this interesting tribe.

We have started our Pilgrim just in time for Thanksgiving. Students are reading many books on the subject and are getting a real sense of Pilgrim culture and what it must have been like starting a colony in the New World. Some might be surprised to know that there were different groups of people on the Mayflower. The Strangers, as they were called, were not so much motivated by the promise of religious freedom, but rather the opportunity for a better life than they had in England. The Saints of the Holy Discipline had been persecuted relentlessly by King James and had to hold their services in secret. No doubt they were also looking for a new chance, spiritually and economically. And there was the crew who delivered the passengers safely and returned to England with the Mayflower.

Students are making connections with our Wampanoag unit and seeing how the two different groups interacted and helped one another, at least in the early years. Each culture had its own way of life, but the intersection of these two groups of people created a new way of life that exists to this day. Students will soon be considering topics for Pilgrim reports and projects.

In mathematics we are concluding our investigation into story problems. We will continue to look at these throughout the year, but I have been satisfied that the children can compose word problems and use a variety of strategies to solve them, including the use of diagrams, pictures, tables, and equations. It is remarkable that students have so many strategies to solve word problems. The essential idea is that students can picture the situation in their heads and map out a successful solution. Make sure that you look at all the corrected work that is coming home to give you a better idea of the great work they are doing. Our next unit will be geometry. I have many manipulatives that will convey basic geometric concepts. Tangrams, geoboards, power polygons and pattern blocks are all excellent ways to demonstrate the ideas we will be covering.

We continue to probe into the magnificent world of geography. Understanding legends, keys, and symbols is central to comprehending what maps are telling us about our world. Students have studied special maps that enable them to look at desert, plains, coastal, and mountain regions. I was impressed by how much knowledge they brought with them from the earlier grades. We will practice identifying the shape of each state and the characteristics of each region in the United States. As an extension activity, students will begin memorizing capitals.



## **Physical Education News:**

Physical education classes are off to a great start. Students learn and practice new skills, improve fitness and have fun. Kindergarten, first and second graders have been focusing on large outdoor games. These activities included soccer skills in games of soccer, circle soccer and soccer tunnel tag. The third and fourth graders activities shift toward specialized skills and sports activities. Students continue learning and improving sport skills while participating in cooperative and competitive sport lead up games. These include line soccer, multiball soccer, and regulation soccer. The fifth and sixth grades began with regulation soccer games, positions and strategy. They participated in large group outdoor cooperative games such as; ant and anteater, and ghosts, ghouls and goblins. We will continue these cooperative activities (including trust fall, airport, and titanic).through November. The focus will be working as a cooperative member of the class.

If you have any questions about your child or the program, please contact me. I am in Pelham on Fridays. Help your student come to class able to participate fully with appropriate clothing and sneakers.

Mary Taylor

**Fundraiser Fundraiser Fundraiser**

**RECYCLING RECYCLING RECYCLING**



**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>**

**5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Fundraiser**

**Proceeds to fund 6<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Nature's  
Classroom**

- **Please bring all your returnable's, "Cans and Bottles" to the Pelham Recycling.**
- **Bake Sale - "Assorted Goodies"**

**"Thank you for your Support"**

## **SLAVERY IN COLONIAL AMHERST**

The Pelham Historical Society will meet on Monday, November 15, at 7:30 p.m. in the Ramsdell Room at the Community Center in Pelham.

Following the annual meeting, Robert Romer, emeritus professor at Amherst College and author of the book, *Slavery in the Connecticut Valley of Massachusetts*, will talk about slavery in the Valley, where the Amherst minister and other prominent citizens owned black slaves in the 1700s.

The public is invited. For more information, call Barbara Jenkins at 253-2929.

For timely release.  
10/29/10  
Thank you.

Doris Holden  
Publicity Chair  
253-5993

## **Boy Scouts of America**

The Boy Scouts of America is now 100 years old. Come join Boy Scout Troop 500 Amherst to see how Scouting is evolving as it enters its 2nd century. Troop 500 has a 50+ year history in Amherst working with school-age boys (grades 5-12). Troop activities are organized and run by the boys, including weekly meetings, monthly campouts, and projects in the community. Our Scouts learn practical outdoor skills and develop leadership skills while having a lot of fun. For more information, contact Scoutmaster Peter Crowley at (413) 253-0964.

**PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
**For the Pelham Halloween Party**

If you can come help for an hour or two,  
we need some extra hands  
this coming Sunday, 10/31  
at the Pelham School Halloween Party.

**We can use help anytime between 4-8pm.**

If you're interested,  
please contact Barry Parker  
bpgator94@me.com, 413-687-1284.

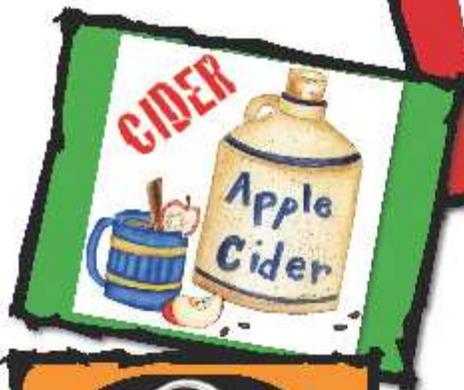
Thanks!

Pelham School



# HALLOWEEN PARTY

SUNDAY  
OCTOBER 31, 2010  
5:00 - 7:00 PM  
IN THE SCHOOL



APPLES



GIFT BAGS



GAMES

PRIZES

TRICK OR TREATING



Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Item		Unit Price	x Quantity	- Total
Sumatra FR (dark)	Whole Bean	\$9.00		
Sumatra FR (dark)	Ground	\$9.00		
Moka Sumatra (medium)	Whole Bean	\$9.00		
Moka Sumatra (medium)	Ground	\$9.00		
Decaf Peruvian (dark)	Whole Bean	\$10.00		
Decaf Peruvian (dark)	Ground	\$10.00		
Decaf Liberation (medium)	Whole Bean	\$10.00		
Decaf Liberation (medium)	Ground	\$10.00		
Hot Chocolate, 12 ounce		\$4.50		
Java Drops, Milk Chocolate		\$8.50		
Java Drops, Dark chocolate		\$8.50		
 Pelham Coffee Mug		\$10.00		
 2 Pelham Coffee Mugs		\$15.00		
Grand Total				

\* All coffee and Java Drops are 16 ounce bags. Decaf is Swiss Water Process.

All orders are due at the last day of the month.

Please make checks payable to: **Pelham Elementary PTO**

Please return this form to the school. Thank You!!

Any questions: Amy Wasserman 253-4664, amy@cutnpaced.com



Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Item		Unit Price	x Quantity	- Total
Sumatra FR (dark)	Whole Bean	\$9.00		
Sumatra FR (dark)	Ground	\$9.00		
Moka Sumatra (medium)	Whole Bean	\$9.00		
Moka Sumatra (medium)	Ground	\$9.00		
Decaf Peruvian (dark)	Whole Bean	\$10.00		
Decaf Peruvian (dark)	Ground	\$10.00		
Decaf Liberation (medium)	Whole Bean	\$10.00		
Decaf Liberation (medium)	Ground	\$10.00		
Hot Chocolate, 12 ounce		\$4.50		
Java Drops, Milk Chocolate		\$8.50		
Java Drops, Dark chocolate		\$8.50		
 Pelham Coffee Mug		\$10.00		
 2 Pelham Coffee Mugs		\$15.00		
Grand Total				

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