



Pelham Press

Vol. 21, No. 27, April 8, 2011

<http://pe.arps.org>



Dates to Remember:

Friday, April 8

Friday, April 8

Monday, April 11-13

Wednesday, April 13

April 18-April 23

Friday, April 29

Wednesday, June 22

Thursday, June 23

ARMS Registration Packets due

PTO Variety Show 7pm

Kindergarten Registration 9:00-2:00

Pelham School Open House 7:00-8:00 pm

Spring Recess

Annual Lasagne Dinner 6-8 pm

Grade 6 Graduation

Last day of school!!!



Dear Pelham School Families,

As I began to draft this week's Pelham Press, I was distracted by the sight of the kindergarten students outside of my window looking at the beautifully blooming daffodils and crocuses and drawing them in their sketchpads. When I went outside to join them, they were also working very hard at sounding out the letters in the somewhat complicated words with their teachers' help. What struck me as I watched them was not only how earnestly they were trying to hear the sounds in the words and connect them to print, but also how far so many of them have come since the beginning of the year. It was a beautiful day to be outside learning and drawing, and I wanted to share some of this sunshine with you.

On April 13th, we will have our **Spring Open House**, for all grades. This is a special time we schedule each year for students to share their work with their parents. Each classroom presentation is different and reflects the various units students study from grades K – -6. Parents, please come straight to your child's classroom. We will start promptly at 7:00 PM (The first grade presentation will begin right at 7 PM; third grade at 7:30.) and end promptly at 8:00 PM to allow students to get home at a reasonable hour. Students are expected to remain with their parents throughout the evening. We hope to see you all there!

This is the final week for the Art Club, and next Tuesday will be for students that needed an extra session to complete their projects. The students have had a great time during this after school program, and we will be showcasing their art work for Open House.

The grades 3-6 have completed the MCAS English Language Arts Test. Grades 3 – 6 will take the math portions of the test in May, and at that time the 5th grade will also take the MCAS science test. If you would like more information about these tests, please contact your child's teacher or check the Massachusetts Department of Education website <http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/>.

Please join us at the Talent Show this evening. It will be a fun-filled evening with entertainment, food, and lots of laughs!

Sincerely,

Lisa Desjarlais

Survival Center Food Drive!

Dear Parents,

The first grade is running a food drive to support the Survival Center of Amherst. We are finishing a unit on Homes and Families with a short focus on Homelessness. We have learned about different ways children can become involved in their communities to help others. Please feel free to donate any non-perishable food item to the first grade before April 15.

Thank you for your help.

Ms. Shaw - First Grade Intern



Mangia! Lasagna!

Pelham School's 5th and 6th Graders request the honor of your presence at their Annual Lasagna Dinner

When: Friday April 29th, 2011, 6 pm – 8 pm

Where: Pelham Elementary School Cafeteria

What: Lasagna (cheese, veggie or meat), beverages, salad, bread, and dessert

Cost: Adults--\$9.00 Children Under 12--\$6.00

Please return ticket order forms by April 15, 2011 to the Pelham School Office. Pick up your tickets at the school or at the dinner. Proceeds help fund the annual 6th grade Nature's Classroom Trip.

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Please complete the order form below and return to the Pelham School office no later than April 15, 2011.

Ticket Order Form:

Adult Tickets Cheese _____ Veggie _____ Meat _____

Child Tickets Cheese _____ Veggie _____ Meat _____

Make checks payable to the Pelham 5th/6th Grade Fund

Name: _____ Phone: _____

IF IT LOOKS LIKE A CAMP, AND FEELS LIKE A CAMP....

Do you need summer care? I will be having 2 weeks of all day care this summer. These camp like sessions, scheduled for June 27 – July 1 and August 22- 26, are staffed by familiar faces and have been very popular in the past. The cost is \$185 for each week with a sibling discount. State vouchers are accepted and some scholarships are available for eligible families. This fun program, held at the Pelham School, will run from 8:30 to 4:30 (with early and late care negotiable). See Lennie Ware to sign up or call 265-3766.

(This program is not limited to current after school families.)

**Superintendent Maria Geryk, District Administration and Principals
Cordially Invite**

**All PTO , School Council and Parent Volunteers
to attend a**

Recognition Celebration

Monday, May 23

4pm-5pm

PD Center at ARMS

Please RSVP to stenderk@arps.org

Pelham School Penguins Bowl Big for Big Brothers/Big Sisters!

Last Saturday, ten dedicated bowlers raised over \$600 to help Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Hampshire County to reach their goal of \$10,000! Meg Gallagher, Lisa Desjarlais, Paul Lipman, Paula Russell, Janet Scott, Leanne Hasbrouck, Bridgette Hasbrouck, Deb King, Savion King and his friend Clayton from Fort River School enjoyed themselves at the Northampton Bowl on a beautiful spring afternoon. The money they raised will help support children in our community and throughout Hampshire County.

Thank you to all who donated this year and please consider a donation next year (or even joining our team)!

Paul Lipman – Pelham Penguin Captain

Mr. Lipman's Class

Games Day – Now that we are so well staffed with as many as 4 teachers in the room, we have been able to break into 4 small groups to play board games 2 or 3 times each week. Checkers, Sorry, Candyland, and Monopoly Jr. are among some of the choices and we are learning both math and social skills while we play. I would encourage you to try a games night at home each week to enjoy a TV free alternative to enjoying time together as a family. If you have an extra Candyland or Chutes and Ladders that you would be able to donate to first grade, please send it in!

Wish List – With cold season still in full swing we have depleted our supply of tissues. We could also use some clear tape refill rolls, pipe cleaners and beads with letters on them if you are near Michaels at the mall. Thanks!

Weather - For the next couple of weeks 1st grade will be learning about Weather. We will observe puddles evaporate in the classroom, test different fabrics for rain resistance (both if water goes through them and if the fabric feels wet), observe and classify clouds, and use thermometers to measure the temperature inside and outside.

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Thank you for your help.

Ms. Shaw - First Grade Intern

Good-bye, Ms. Shaw – Sadly we must say “Good-bye” to Ms. Shaw on Friday, April 8 as she moves into Ms. Jacque’s Kindergarten to complete her Early Childhood intern requirements. She has become a well-loved fixture in first grade and her presence will be missed by all. Thanks for all of your hard work and for sharing your talent with us!

Junior Achievement – Three volunteers from Umass – Emily, Katie, and Amy – have been volunteering their time with us on Fridays to teach an extension and our “Families” unit. Each week they bring us a new lesson on family roles and community structure designed to inform children of some of the things they may do as adults. Expect to see some type of activity or project coming home on Fridays.

Chinchilla Sitters Needed – Would you like to enjoy an exciting, fun-filled vacation with 3 cute and entertaining chinchillas! I have a portable cage and all the items needed to send Calvin, Chico and Slick to your house for April and/or summer vacation. Don't miss this opportunity to liven up your house!

Second Grade News

The second grade is keeping warm and thinking of dry sunny days as we study the deserts, especially the Southwest deserts. We learned that there are deserts all over the world and we learned how deserts were created. We read and discussed how plants, animals, and people survive in the desert through adaptations. The children are now working on a report about a desert animal which explains what adaptations these animals have in order to survive the harsh desert climate. Last week we began creating our dioramas of desert animals and plants that they have researched. Their job is to design a scene for a display at a museum that showed how their researched animal depends on the plants and other animals in order to survive. Next week we will begin to study the Hopi people who live in the Great Basin Desert. As we study the people of the southwest desert area, we will read some Native American legends.

We are also studying poetry. The children will be writing and reading poems from many different authors with many different styles. One poet we have studied is Emily Dickinson. The children were very interested on our visit to the Emily Dickinson Homestead to learn about her life. Hopefully, the second grade poets will have some of their work ready to show you during Open House next week.

In math, we have started our unit on fractions. During this unit the children will learn what fractions mean, how to write and represent fractions, how to find a fraction of a whole and a fraction of a group, and we will learn about mixed fractions and how to represent them.

Ms. Keith will begin her lead teaching next week and she will continue leading the class after April vacation. She has prepared many interesting lessons to meet her objectives. So far she has done a wonderful job leading the class through several lessons, and I know she will do a great job during her lead teach.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our Open House!!

Third Grade News

Meg Gallagher

The excitement is mounting in our classroom, as the students become very excited about Open House and our State Fair. Children have studied a particular state, learned about its location, landforms, and interesting things to do and places to see. They have completed typing their reports and designing their covers. We are in the process of assembling our creative maps, and putting the finishing touches on our PowerPoint presentation. Our "fair" will be open from 7:30 pm to 8:00 pm next Wednesday evening for families to view, and each class will visit the fair next Thursday. Your children have worked very hard preparing for these special days.

We completed our fraction unit on Tuesday of this week, and students showed a strong understanding of the concepts we worked on. We covered understanding and ordering common fractions, finding equivalent fractions, and using concrete objects and models to add and subtract fractions. We even dipped our toes into an introduction of decimals. Our next unit will strengthen more advanced addition and subtraction skills, as well as begin work on multiplication algorithms.

Our current geography unit is filled with maps, map games, and the terrain of the United States. We are concentrating on New England at the moment. Watch for sections of the US map coming home to study.

Our sessions with Eshu Bumpus began this week. The students are extremely enjoying working with him. Their creativity levels are soaring as we work on creating folktales together.

4th Grade News

The salmon have arrived. If you haven't seen them yet, you can't miss 'em. Right now we have approximately 200 Atlantic salmon eggs in a 30 gallon fish tank in the classroom. In cooperation with a local fishery, we are planning to raise them until they are ready for their long journey to the sea. They are hatching and drifting to the bottom of the tank. They lay on their sides, absorbing their yolk sacs. The water temperature is a balmy 41 degrees F, maintained by a chiller unit attached to the back of the tank. We will be studying the fascinating life cycle of these creatures for the next few months.

We've stayed occupied reading Leaper, The Story of an Atlantic Salmon, by Robert M. McClung, for key vocabulary words that will help us devise board games based on the life of a salmon. Students have brainstormed clever ideas and are now sharing them with others. From these ideas they will plan out an entertaining game with rules, art work, and yes, salmon trivia. For a splash of color we are assembling a salmon mural that depicts key images from the book, loosely arranged in chronological order.

We are winding down the Alaska unit with some writing. The Native Alaskan story they wrote was inspired by a collection of Athabascan legends. After getting a feel for the writing style, students tried their hand at creating their own. Native Alaskans feel strongly about returning something to nature when they must take from it. Another strongly held belief is the unity of human and animal spirits. Sometimes they even change from one into the other!

In math, we have finished a fractions and probability unit and now continue to review key skills such as multiplication and division. We are discovering how to apply different operations in solving more complex questions. For example, some questions require several operations, while other questions have many other questions embedded. We are also practicing how to show and explain our work. They have become quite skilled in this area, providing expansive descriptions of how they arrived at the answer.

★★ NEW SPECIAL EVENT! ★★

Patriot's Day

REVOLUTIONARY

Muster & Parade

Learn about the "shot heard 'round the world"

Saturday, April 16, 2011 (rain or shine)

Explore a full day of activities for visitors of all ages throughout the village.

Rediscover the Revolutionary Past!



- ★ Hear the Lexington Alarm! "To Arms, To Arms! Gage has fired upon the people..."
- ★ Parade to the Town Common for the reading aloud of an official "Muster."
- ★ Follow a self-guided "Liberty Walk" tour with highlights throughout the village.
- ★ Visit the exhibition *Engraved Powder Horns from the French and Indian War and the*

American Revolution: The William H. Guthman Collection at Historic Deerfield's Flynt Center of Early New England Life.

Travel back in time!

- ★ Experience revolutionary times during a



Fun for the whole family!

- ★ Make a flag to wave during the afternoon parade, and then take it home as a memento.
- ★ Play with children's toys and games in the encampment.
- ★ Ride around the village on a horse-drawn wagon, too!

- ★ Enjoy delicious, family-friendly food at the Deerfield Inn and The Bement School.

Special Event Admission of \$12 adults (18+), \$5 youth (6-17), under 6 and members free. Event tickets on sale at the Hall Tavern Visitor Center. Group rates available by advance purchase at (413) 775-7132.



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Take Me Fishing



Day of Fun, Fishing, and Learning

Saturday, May 7, 2011

rain or shine - 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

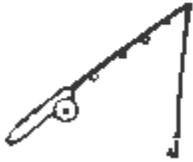
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
South of the intersection of Route 9 & Route 116 North
behind Staples and Applebee's Hadley

Free fishing for kids 14 and under Free live bird demonstration



- Baiting a hook
- How to cast
- Arts & Crafts
- How your rod works
- Face Painting

Borrow a rod and reel (or bring your own rod, barbless hooks only).
Food on sale by Hadley Boy and Girl Scouts.



Prizes will be awarded in three age groups
for the longest fish caught.

Wildlife and nature art on exhibit in
Regional Office Gallery.



For fishing day information, call 413/253 8303 or Federal Relay Service
for the deaf and hard-of-hearing 1 800/877 8339.

All activities are accessible to people with disabilities.
If you require special arrangements, call the number above.

Supported by

- Big Y
- The R & R Sport Shop
- The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING **PELHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

When: Saturday, May 14, 2010
9 a.m. – 12 Noon

Where: Pelham Elementary School
Amherst-Pelham Road, Pelham, MA

What to Bring & Fee You Pay:

Computer	\$5	TV	\$10
PC Monitor	\$5	Home Appliance	\$15
Printer	\$5	(stove, microwave,	
VCR, Stereo, Radio	\$5	washer, dryer)	
Office Machines	\$5	Appliances w/Freon	\$20
(phone, fax, copier)		(air conditioner, fridge,	
Computer		dehumidifier)	
Accessories	\$2	Printer Cartridges	Free!
(mouse, keyboard,		Cell Phones	Free!
cables, hard drive)			

Proceeds Benefit Pelham PTO !!!
Responsible recycling of materials - www.crtr.org

For more info contact Pelham School

413-253-3595

Not a school sponsored event

