



Pelham Press



Vol. 21, No. 14, December 9, 2010

<http://pe.arps.org>



Dates to Remember:

Thursday, December 16

Senior Center Choral Performance grade 4-6

Friday, December 4-January 2

Holiday Recess



Dear Pelham School Families,

Winter has arrived! Despite the colder weather, we will continue to have outdoor recess before school begins and once or twice during the school day unless it is raining or the temperature (or Wind chill) is below 0°F. During snow season, boots are required for playing on snow-covered areas and boots and snow pants are required for playing on “snow mountain.” Please remind your children to come prepared with all of their outdoor gear for the colder season. We will gladly take in donations of any outgrown winter clothing.

Florence Savings Bank Community Grants Program is planning to donate \$50,000 to local non-profit organizations in the area. This would be a great opportunity for Pelham School families and community members to support Pelham School during these tight financial times. If you have an account with Florence Savings Bank, you could nominate the Pelham School as a possible recipient of some grant monies. You can return these ballots to the school or to the bank. Please look for these ballots in backpacks today, and as always, we thank you for your support!

The Pelham School fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students will be performing for the Pelham Council on Aging next Thursday, December 16th at 1:00 in the Library. Ms. Zsigmondi, our music and choral teacher has been working very hard with them, and our students are eagerly anticipating this first performance of the year. Parents are invited and welcome to join us.

I am interested in forming an Art Club after school that would take place on Mondays, for an hour and a half after school. One of our new staff members, Ben Parker, has a teacher’s certification in visual arts and has expressed an interest in forming an afterschool art program. In planning for this program, I would like to get a sense of how many parents would be interested in this for their children, as we would have to structure the content so that it would be age appropriate for the children. Other than a nominal fee for materials, there would be no cost to parents. Most likely we would have to run the program in six week sessions, and tailored to the grade levels of the students. I have attached an “Art Program Interest Form” that parents can return to the school if interested in having their children participate in this Art Club. **Please return this form by Friday, December 17th.** Further information will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

Lisa Desjarlais

Kids Corner

Duct Tape

Duct tape is my life!

Unstable the world would be without it

Could not live without it

Too bad it doesn't come in bigger quantities

To Home Depot in case we run out

All things could not live as they do without it

Pelham should have a store full of it

Earth could not survive without it

By Kira Bixby

Grade 4

Community Notes

HOLIDAY TEA AND ENTERTAINMENT

The Pelham Library, along with the Pelham Historical Society, invites the community to a Holiday Tea and entertainment beginning at noon on Saturday, December 18. The Renaissance II Ringers and That Long Tall Sword longsword team will perform. The latter will include the Abbots Bromley Horn Dance in its program. Santa Claus will also be on the scene from 10:00 a.m. to noon. For information about the festivities, call the library at 253-0657.

Mr. Lipman's Class

Parent Conferences After having completed almost all parent conferences, I am struck by the support and involvement of Pelham parents in their children's education. Children adopt the values of their parents and when parents express interest in their children's schooling, the message of its importance is echoed more loudly. We are a team in maximizing your child's potential and I would like to thank you for your time, input and participation.

Captain Clean We have begun our germ-hand washing unit entitled "Captain Clean." Children will be treated to and perform in several plays about germs, watch germs grow in Petri dishes and conduct experiments to discover the most effective way to wash hands. This is a great way to learn how to stay healthy and I hope that it makes a positive difference in the number of illnesses this year!

Homework Folders Sending a couple of books each days is providing the extra practice to make a significant difference in your child's rate of reading progress. Homework folders continue to be a great success and children seem to be enjoying this new routine. Please contact me right away if the folder goes missing or you have any questions. Thank you for making the time to listen to your child read.

Paul Lipman

Second Grade News

Second grade has rocked through November. Our unit study was learning about and experimenting with all types of rocks. We studied bigger rocks called pebbles down to the smallest rock called clay. We used what we learned about the properties of rocks (color, weight, luster, hardness, and texture) to describe our own special rock. Mr. D'Andrea, Calvin's dad, invited us to UMASS to look at more rocks from the geology department. We looked at different igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks. These are big words that the children are adding to their vocabulary. In reading groups, we looked at nonfiction books on rocks to help us find information by using the Table of Contents, Index, and Glossary.

We have been writing about small moments and turning a small moment into an interesting story by adding details, many small steps, talking and thinking words, and a good ending. The children's stories are becoming better and better as they practice and add more information. They are quite proud of their work.

Our math unit for November was Shapes, Blocks, and Symmetry. The children enjoyed the many hands on activities using 3-D blocks, pattern blocks, and tiles to create shapes and learn about their attributes. We have just completed this unit and are moving on to more addition lessons and story problems. The children are also working on learning their facts. So far I have tested +0, +1, +2, the partners to make 10, and doubles. Almost everyone has passed these levels and those that haven't are only missing by two or three facts. Keep up the good work. Later this month I will test the doubles plus 1 facts.



From the Art Room: Diane Travis

We have been working on wide range of projects in art so far this fall from mosaic to sewing and many things in between!

In Kindergarten we have been exploring texture creating texture collages with a variety of media & creating texture by doing crayon rubbings from all kinds of found objects. In 1st grade we have worked on self portraits (now up on display) looking at the face & trying to draw ourselves as realistically as possible. We have now moved on to creating our unique Illuminated Letters studying of these amazing letters from Christian, Muslim & Jewish traditions. 2nd grade has been busy learning basic sewing skills with yarn & burlap. We are learning knot tying and the fine motor skills that go along with this work.

3rd grade is currently creating mosaic animal masks inspired by Mexican masks and mosaics. Students have painted and made their own pallet of tiles and these animals are really coming alive as the mosaics develop. We have been weaving in 4th grade and perhaps you have seen the God's Eyes they have made after their weavings are complete. In 5th grade we have just started making shadow puppets. We are looking at the different cultural versions of this unique art form from Indonesian to contemporary. 6th grade are finishing up painting on canvas with acrylic paint for our Aboriginal art unit. In 6th grade we study ancient cultures and art. The Aboriginal art from Australia is the longest continuous art tradition in the world, predating even cave paintings!

I am hoping we will have our kiln up and running soon so we can jump into working with clay as that is always a favorite!

Please feel free to stop by the art room (Monday) to see what we are up to or contact me with any questions or concerns.

Happy Holidays.

Diane Travis (travisd@ARPS.ORG)

Holiday Wish List 2010

Would you like to make a teacher's wish come true?

Each year around holiday time, the PTO asks Pelham School teachers to create a list of items for their classrooms to enrich curriculum and enhance every child's learning experience. This is a wonderful way to show your appreciation to the staff in a way that will benefit all. Please contact your child's classroom teacher if you need more information regarding a specific item.

Kindergarten: Gift cards to Michael's, acrylic paint, aluminum foil

First Grade: bath dust for chinchillas (Dave's Soda and Pet Food City), soccer ball, jump ropes, Pick Up Sticks, Connect Four, Candy Land, Chutes and Ladders, adhesive number lines to 20, stop watch, clear tape for dispenser

Second Grade: head phones for computers, brown envelopes (6X9), scotch tape for dispensers, Scrabble Flash, Boggle Reinvention, math or word games, Magnadoodles, Kid friendly stop watch, Magnifying glasses,

Third Grade: Crayola Model Magic – single packs in color, Crayola markers – thick + thin, Ziploc bags – qt. size, magnetic tape, Kleenex unscented tissues, Ticonderoga #2 pencils, gift card to Stop + Shop to use for MCAS snacks

Fourth Grade: Gift Certificate to Cowl's Building Supply

Fifth Grade: Big Y gift cards, electric pencil sharpener, stickers for planners and signs, fun pencils, items for grab bag, used books for book bag

Sixth Grade: granola bars, Stop and Shop or Big Y gift card to buy supplies for plate tectonics and structure of earth lessons – we use food as models, red pens, pencils

Music: Tissues, beanbags, CD's: ethnic music + classical jazz

Nurse Paula: Kleenex, bottled water (small size for kids)

Guidance Counselor, Ms. King: Kleenex, Clorox handi-wipes (non-scented), holiday donations for children of families in need.

The Office, Mrs. Scott: Extra mittens and gloves for children without

Amherst Youth Basketball League

**It's NOT too late to register for AYBL
(deadline is Dec. 8th!)**

Season begins Saturday, December 11, 2010 with a pre-season jamboree. Games start January 8-9, 2011

DIVISIONS

Coed League

Grades K-2 Instructional division
Fort River and Wildwood Schools on Sat. or Sun.
(Players practice but no formal games)

BOYS' Divisions

Grades 3 & 4 Sundays @ Wildwood
Grades 5 & 6 Saturdays@ MS gym/Hadley Elem.
Grades 7 & 8 Saturdays@ Middle School
Grades 9-12 Saturdays@ High School

GIRLS' Divisions

Grades 3 & 4 Sundays @ Wildwood
Grades 5 & 6 Saturdays@ MS gym/Hadley Elem.
Grades 7 & 8 Saturdays@ Middle School
Grades 9 - 12 Saturdays@ Middle School

Fees

Grades K-2 \$99
Grades 3-12 \$129

Team/Friend Request- you may list ONE friend.
There are no guarantees that all requests can/will be honored, as team rosters can fill up quickly! Registrations are accommodated on a first come, first serve basis

To register or for more information - call LSSE offices at 259-3065, or log onto www.LSSE.org. For league-specific questions or to volunteer to coach or referee, contact Mark Miville, Sports and Recreation Director at 413.259.3144 or email mivillem@amherstma.gov



presented By:



This is not a school sponsored event

**TOWN OF AMHERST LEISURE SERVICES
AMHERST YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE
2011 REGISTRATION FORM**
(Please Print)

Participant Name: _____ Parent/Guardian: _____
 Street: _____ Date of Birth: _____
 Town: _____ School: _____
 Home Phone: _____ Current Grade: ____ Gender: ____ Height ____
 Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____
 Parent/Guardian E-mail: _____
 Emergency Contact Name-**Other than parents/guardians**: _____
 Emergency Home Number: _____ Emergency Cell Phone : _____

FOR GRADES K-6 ONLY

IF YOUR CHILD WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST **A FRIEND**, PLEASE DO SO HERE: ONLY ONE FRIEND MAY BE REQUESTED: _____
 IF YOUR CHILD WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST **A COACH**, PLEASE DO SO HERE: ONLY ONE COACH MAY BE REQUESTED: _____

THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT YOUR CHILD WILL BE PLACED WITH FRIEND OR COACH REQUESTED!

Registration Fee:
 K - 2nd Grades \$99.00 \$ _____
 3rd - 12th Grades \$129.00 \$ _____
 Non-Amherst Resident Fee: \$10.00 \$ _____
 Additional Contribution* \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

*Additional contributions to be used for a general scholarship fund.

Payment Type: Check (payable to Town of Amherst)
 CIRCLE ONE: DISCOVER, VISA or MASTERCARD Acct. No. _____ - _____ - _____ - _____
 Expiration date _____ Signature _____

Office Use Only

2010 Team _____ 2011 Team _____

This is not a school-sponsored program.

**Amherst-Pelham Regional School District
Proudly presents an Anti-Bullying Education Forum**



Parents and Guardians are encouraged to attend a community discussion regarding the **Massachusetts Anti-Bullying Law**

Learn what measures of prevention, protection and education our schools are instituting to address bullying and cyber-bullying.

Chose to attend one of the following sessions:

Dec. 14 Fort River School Library

7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

Dec. 16 ARMS Auditorium

7:00—8:30 p.m.

These forums are free and open to all parents and guardians.

KID'S FUN & CULTURE CAMP

ART, MUSIC, SOCCER, DODGEBALL, DANCE, DRUMMING & EVEN MORE!!

Dec 27, 28, & 29 * 9am to 3pm * Allsport Soccer Arena

For 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders

\$149 including lunch and transportation



KidsAfrik is providing a 3-day Soccer Retreat & Cultural Camp during the Holiday school break this December 27-29th, 9am-3pm, with the support of the good folks at Allsport Soccer Arena, Northampton, MA.



Our mission is to offer an environment and group setting for 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders to develop self-esteem, positive social skills, and healthy lifestyles through cultural and recreational activities. We'll be providing our three main recreational activities – **Sports, Art, and Technology** – KidsAfrik's foundational tools for youth.

The activities will include soccer, dodgeball, dance, drumming, drawing, painting and much more.

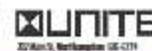
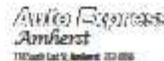
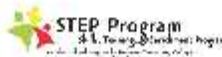
Please join us and experience three days of fun, energetic cultural activities with staff that are committed to children in our community. We are presenting this camp with the wonderful and fun STEP program, who have been supporting youth activities for 17 years.

Limit: 50 students.

Cost: \$149 (School lunch program discount available)

Food: A nutritious lunch will be provided each day

Transport: Buses will be provided by Allsport Arena, leaving from Amherst and Holyoke at 8:30am, and returning after camp



This is not a school-sponsored event

Pelham Artisans Sale

Featuring:

Wild Child Tie Dyes

Upcycled Vinyl Floorcloths by Amy Wasserman

Patrick Zephyr Photography

Barbara Goldstein Fiber Art

and more!



Sat & Sun, Dec 11 and 12, 2010, 10 am-4 pm

Pelham Community Hall

Amherst Road at North Valley

across from Pelham Elementary

Refreshments will be served

for more info: jodi@wildchildtiedyes.com or 253-1601



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health

August 27, 2010

Information for Parents about Influenza and Schools

Is influenza still a concern in Massachusetts?

Yes. Influenza, is also called "flu." Flu, including the pandemic H1N1 kind, is expected to spread in Massachusetts this fall and winter. Flu is a cause of serious illness in thousands of people every year. It can be prevented with a vaccine (shot or nasal spray).

Why is this important?

Flu can be very serious, especially for children 5 years old and younger, and for children and adults with chronic health conditions that make them more likely to get sick with the flu. Children with the flu miss days of school, can cause parents to miss work, and can spread the flu to others who may become seriously ill.

What can I do to keep my child from getting sick?

- **Get your child vaccinated** (the flu shot or nasal spray). Vaccination is the best way to keep your child from getting the flu. This year's vaccine protects against both the pandemic H1N1 influenza and two other kinds of flu. Your child needs to be vaccinated this year, even if vaccinated last year.
- **Teach your children to wash their hands often.** Washing with soap and hot water for at least 20 seconds is ideal (about as long as it takes to sing the "Happy Birthday" song twice).
- **Teach your children to use hand sanitizer.** Gels, rubs, and hand wipes all work well, as long as they contain at least 60% alcohol. Watch small children using gels so they don't swallow it.
- **Teach your children to cough or sneeze into their elbow—not their hands!** Cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or by coughing into the inside of their elbow. They should wash their hands after blowing their nose or coughing into a tissue.
- **Teach your children to avoid touching their nose, mouth or eyes.** They should keep their hands away from their face.

Is flu vaccine safe?

Yes. Flu vaccines are among the safest medications that are administered to people, including prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications. Like any vaccine or medication, flu vaccine should be administered by trained health professionals who will determine which vaccine is best for you and your child.

What should I do if my child is sick?

- **Keep your child home.** It is very important that your child does not go to school or other places where they could spread the flu to other people, such as group childcare, after school programs, the mall, or sporting events.
- **Call your doctor's office and let them know your child's symptoms.** Your doctor will advise you whether you should come to the office. It is best to call the office first to avoid spreading flu to others at the doctor's office.



Dear Pelham School Community,

Please join us for the first Pelham PTO meeting of the year on Monday, January 3rd, 7pm in the Community Room of the Pelham Library.

The agenda for the meeting is outlined below. Please feel free to contact me if you have a topic to add to the agenda.

Refreshments will be served. Thank you.

Regards,
Ruth Carolan
rdcarolan@charter.net

PTO Agenda – Monday, January 3rd

Welcome

- Introductions

Updates

- Principal's report – Lisa
- Treasurer's report – Barry
- School Committee Report – Kathy

Old Business

- Donated \$550.00 to Deb King to provide for Pelham families in need – Lisa
- Purchased class maps/globes for classes K-3 – Lisa
- Provided \$49.99 checks to teachers - Barry
- Holiday teachers' gift lists – Paul (any changes for next year?)

Ongoing Business

- Update on purchasing new curtains for stage – Lisa
- Update on 6th grade fundraising reorganization – Ruth/Lisa
- Dean Beans - Amy
- New fundraiser for May – recycled clothing to Fashion Republic - Ruth
- Possible purchase of school storage shed – Diana

New Business

- Movie Night - Friday, January 21st (need to select the movie)
- School Dance, February – Tracy
- Teacher's appreciation luncheon in March – Amy
- Variety Show in March? – Tracy/Leni
- Select date for next PTO meeting in February



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



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Great Gift Idea!!

The December order will be extended to the 15th of December. This program helps to fund the staff luncheon in March.