



Pelham Press



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<http://pe.arps.org>



Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, October 2	PTO meeting- 6 pm
Wednesday, October 3	Savings Makes Sense begins!
Thursday, October 3	School Council- 7:30 am
Thursday, October 3	School Committee- 6:30 pm
October 5-17	Book Fair
Monday, October 8	Columbus Day- NO SCHOOL
Wednesday, October 10	Open House- 7-8
Wednesday, October 30	Picture Day



Dear Pelham School Families,

Last February, Massachusetts was granted a waiver from the federal No Child Left Behind law that governed school accountability since 2002. Based on the details of the waiver, a new accountability system is being implemented. This system places all schools and districts in Massachusetts into five different “levels” based on the achievement of students taking the MCAS in math, language arts, and science as well as the growth in achievement of students in math and language arts. The primary measurement tool is called “PPI” (Progress and Performance Index), which takes all of those factors into account over a period that includes the past four years, with more weight placed on the most recent years in that span.

We are very proud to announce that the accountability level of Pelham School is a Level 1. Level 1 schools have PPI scores that are at the highest level for the aggregate and all subgroups and are meeting all their goals and showing growth. Level 1 schools do not require state involvement because of their achievement and growth. We will continue to focus on providing high-quality instruction and supports, developing our Response to Intervention models as well as utilizing data to inform our instructional practices.

The Harvest Night Potluck Dinner/ Ice Cream Social last Friday evening was a big success, and many thanks to all of the families that contributed the delicious food and ice cream toppings for the event. It was unfortunate that the ban on outside activities kept children from enjoying the playground, however they still seemed to have lots of fun running around the gym with their classmates.

A big thank you to the PTO for providing new students at Pelham School with “Be a Buddy not a Bully” t-shirts and gift bags. Many students wear their t-shirts on a regular basis and it is wonderful to see them promoting the school with such pride!

Classrooms are busy preparing for the upcoming Curriculum Night in order to showcase the many facets of learning at Pelham School. We hope to see you all there!

Curriculum Night :

Class Presentations--Grades K, 1, & 2	7:00 - 7:20 PM
Class Presentations--Grades 3 & 4	7:20 - 7:40 PM
Class Presentations--Grades 5, & 6	7:40 - 8:00 PM

This is a parent/guardian only event, a time when teachers share with you important information about their classrooms and their curriculum. Most teachers will have a sign up sheet for parent conferences. Teachers will begin their classroom presentations promptly at the time on the above schedule. We hope to see all of you there! The Book Fair will also be open during Curriculum Night. Please fill out the form attached to this newsletter if you need childcare for the evening.

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Lisa Desjarlais

Community News

DEMONSTRATION OF SHAPE NOTE SINGING, Sunday, September 23, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Historic Pelham Town Hall, corner of Daniel Shays Highway (Route 202) and Amherst Road, Pelham. Visitors' participation at this 11th annual informal event is encouraged, but not required. Books available. Participants may come and go as they please. Sponsored by Pelham Historical Society
For information: Barbara Jenkins, 253-2929

The Enchanted Forest: “50 Something”

A Non-scary Halloween Event

Friday & Saturday, October 19 & 20, 5 – 8:30pm

Come to the Enchanted Forest for a magical treat. Creatures emerge along pumpkin lit trails through the woods to share their stories. This year's theme is “50 Something” in honor of our 50th anniversary. You may meet a spotted salamander with 50 spots or a 50-year-old turtle. Fun for all ages.

Registration required. Call early as this event fills fast! 413-256-6006

Third Grade News

Meg Gallagher

Once upon a time clouds were dinosaurs, whales, or Mickey Mouse to your child. Now they may still be imaginary creatures, but they are also known as cumulus, cirrus, or stratus clouds! Students in third grade have begun their Weather Unit. We will learn about clouds, the water cycle, wind, high and low air pressure, fronts, weather maps, and air temperature. We will collect data about temperature, wind speed and direction, precipitation, and cloud type and cover, and then we will try to predict weather based on our data.

In math, we have completed the first unit in our new program, *Everyday Mathematics*. As lined out in the letter I sent home this week, we are beginning a unit in addition and subtraction. Be on the lookout for fact triangles coming home next week for students to use while studying their basic facts. The Student Reference Book also contains directions for a variety of games to play that will help your child master the facts.

In reading groups, we are reading realistic fiction novels at this time. We are working on vocabulary, decoding strategies, and comprehension skills. In addition to this we are learning ways that authors make characters come alive for us. Children will have the opportunity to pick a second realistic fiction book of their own choosing next week. They were quite excited about this.

We have completed our first writing assignment. Your children are so creative! They will be posted for you to read on Curriculum night. We are currently involved in creating a personal narrative about one specific moment in time that held emotion for us. Students are learning techniques that good writers employ.

Thank you for the careful attention you are paying to the homework folder. It is important that the students see the reading log as an integral part of their homework. When you check that they are writing their titles correctly and doing at least 20 minutes of reading you are reinforcing strong habits.

I look forward to meeting you all on Curriculum Night.



THE PELHAM BOOK FAIR STARTS NEXT FRIDAY!



*We'll be open
Friday, October 5th
through
Wednesday, October 17th.*

**Every Day After School
and the evening of
Curriculum Night (Wed October 10th)**



*The Pelham Book Fair is sponsored by
the **Pelham PTO** and proceeds go to
the **Pelham School Library**.*

Questions? Feel free to contact
Ellen Leuchs (mom of Jamie in 6th grade)
eleuchs@comcast.net, 413-244-4891

Parent Volunteers!



HELP STAFF PELHAM'S FALL BOOK FAIR

We need parent volunteers for several timeslots during our October Book Fair:

- **Tues Oct 9** 12-5:30 pm (This will include class browsing for, K, 1st, 2nd and 6th grades)
- **Wed Oct 10** 10-11am (3rd grade browsing) and
 6:30-8:30 pm (during curriculum night)
- **Thurs Oct 11** 1-5:30 pm (This will include class browsing for the 5th grade)
- **Mon Oct 15** 3-5:30 pm
- **Tues Oct 16** 3-5:30 pm
- **Wed Oct 17** 1:15-5:00 pm

**If you have 1, 2 or 3 hours to volunteer
At the Book Fair, we'd welcome your help.**

*The Pelham Book Fair is sponsored by the Pelham PTO
in order to support the Pelham School Library.*

Please email Ellen Leuchs (mom of Jamie, 6th grade)
if you can give us some of your time.

eleuchs@comcast.net, 413-244-4891

ARHS Hurricane Hall of Fame 2012 Induction Ceremony

September 29th, 2012

UMASS-Amherst ~ Student Union Ballroom

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6 p.m. -7 p.m. ~ Social Hour  
7 p.m. ~ Dinner  
7:30 p.m. ~ Induction Ceremony

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Price ~ \$50.00 pp ~ checks payable to ARHS
Tickets available by mailing payment and SASE to:

ARHS
21 Mattoon Street
Amherst, MA 01002
ATTN: Athletics

Deadline for Ordering Tickets is:
Wednesday, September 26th, 2012

ARHS Athletics Hall of Fame Inductees 2012

Hugh Clark - Football- 1950's
Frank Kuzmiski - Football, Basketball, Baseball, Track & Field- 1940's
James Parkinson - Football, Basketball, Baseball- 1965
Steve Peene - Swimming- 1978
Nadine Jackson - Basketball, Volleyball, Track & Field- 1980
Rhonda Jackson - Basketball, Softball, Field Hockey- 1985
Mario Lopez - Lacrosse- 1988
Shawn Durocher Chalmers - Softball, Basketball, Golf- 1988
Jen Pariseau - Basketball, Softball, Tennis- 1993
Betty Lawson - Volleyball Coach
Robbie Russell - Soccer- 1990's
Colleen Schmitt - Field Hockey, Softball, Diving- 1997
James Ihedigbo - Football, Basketball, Track & Field, Lacrosse- 2002
1959 Football Team



Happy Valley Children's Chorus

Offered Thursday afternoons, 4-5 PM,

Rehearsals held at First Congregational Church of Amherst, Room 13

Sept. 27th through Nov. 15th

Performance Sunday 3 PM, Nov. 18th

Cost \$50/child for whole fall session

For children 6 years old and up

HVCC is open to children of all abilities, backgrounds and economic circumstances.

Families may apply for financial assistance, if needed. All inquiries will be kept confidential.

Directed by Dorothy Cresswell, retired public school teacher, Nationally Board Certified, member of One Journey, the First Congregational Church Choir, the Journey Home Singers, and the Healing Circle Singers.

Call 413-323-9383, or email dcresswell@charter.net to enroll your child.

Curriculum Night Childcare Registration Form- 2012

The Curriculum Night is meant to be a parent only event, but we recognize that childcare can be an issue for many families. In an effort to provide parents with an opportunity to visit their children's classrooms, a childcare service is being offered by After School director, Lennie Ware, for the Pelham School Curriculum Night on Wednesday, October 10 from 7:00 – 8:00 pm. **Preregistration is required** for this service in order to ensure that there is sufficient staffing coverage and space to accommodate the needs of the group. There is **a registration fee of \$2.00 per child.** **Please return your registration fee with this form .** This service is only being offered for ages four and up. We are sorry that we cannot accommodate young children for this event.

Please return this form with your child to Pelham School by Friday, October 5.

Child (ren) _____ Age

_____ Age

_____ Age

_____ Age

Parent(s) _____

*Please list the grade levels classrooms being visited:

Grade: _____

Grade: _____

Children on the playground MUST be monitored by an adult.

Parents are requested NOT to leave the building while their children are at childcare. Parents must sign their children in when they arrive as well as when they come to pick them up.