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# Harold Martin School

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October 8, 2010

## Parent Flash

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No School Monday,  
October 11



### The Playground Project

Last spring I received a message to call back a member of our Hopkinton community just like I do every day. I had no idea the impact that this call would have on me, our school, and our town. We now call this person our anonymous donor and thanks to this gift, as well as donations from HYSA, PTA, 'Tween School N' Home, and many of you, we will have a **brand new Harold Martin School playground** installed by Thanksgiving! All of this will occur without tax payer dollars.

Beginning in a few weeks, we will need **volunteers** to help dismantle the former playground which we will not be saving due to its age and condition. The swings will remain of course. During this phase, a **large playground structure** from Gametime Inc. will be installed by an outside contractor, complete with manufactured wood fibers as the surface, replacing the current pea

stone flooring. We will also have a new **smaller playground structure** for our preschool children, built on the right hand side of the playground built partly with funds from Federal stimulus (ARRA) dollars.

Our second phase of the project which will hopefully occur next spring, is to complete a makeover of the **ball field** in the back of the playground, adding top soil and re-seeding as well as building a small ball field which HYSA and the school can use. This is completely dependant on donations, however, and today a letter from our Playground Committee is going home explaining our goals.

There's so much more to say, and I would encourage you to head to our website for a complete report from the Playground Committee with all the details you would need including pictures of the new playground. A special thanks goes out to the entire Committee, especially Bob Berliner our chair. Without his expertise and energy, this project would not have happened. The Playground Project Page is at:

<http://www.hopkintonschools.org/haroldmartinschool/playground/>

I will update the web site often and place plenty of pictures of the installation progress on there as well.

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When we have a better idea of the dates we need volunteers, I'll put a call out through our normal channels. As always, call or email me if you have questions.

Have a great weekend!

Bill Carozza, Principal

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**Publishing Center needs just a couple more volunteers!**

PC is a great way to get involved with your child's classroom.

We need ...

- An Interviewer for Ms. Yonemura's class
- 3 typists (2nd grade, 2P & 2Y and 3G)
- 2nd grade editor/printer

The typist and editor roles can be done from home if you are not available to volunteer during school hours.

Matching parents to their child's classroom is done whenever possible.

If you are interested in helping or would like more information, please contact Jenifer Dexter [dexterdesign@comcast.net](mailto:dexterdesign@comcast.net) or 493-3545.



**NEXT WEEK AT  
'TWEEN SCHOOL 'N HOME  
CHILD CARE PROGRAM  
Week of October 11-15,**

**HARVEST TIME**

- Mon: No School  
Columbus Day  
Tues: Maple Wreathes  
Wed: Coloring Contest  
Thurs: Curled Paper Pumpkins  
Fri: Yeast Air Balloons*

*TSNH has an immediate opening for a group leader to work with Hopkinton children up to five days a week from 2:15 to 5:30 on days school is in session. That special someone will be over 18 years old and:*

- (1) love working with and being around children (grades K-6)
  - (2) be creative and able to plan and lead crafts and projects
  - (3) be energetic and able to lead group games
  - (4) be fair, patient, and even-tempered
  - (5) be a dedicated team player
- This is a great part-time employment opportunity. Call Linda Ottery at 529-2186 for more information or to apply.

TSNH is looking to expand its Board of Directors. If you have a passion for children and their care and would like to have a conversation about what it means to be a Board member of TSNH, please call Christine Ojendyk at 731-1377.

**NEWS FROM PE**

*Mr. Girzone*

Since the beginning of the year, all grade levels have been learning how to work alongside their new classmates while at the same time understanding my expectations. I intentionally start each year with a **cooperative games** unit to ensure that students understand how to listen, communicate, compromise, and ultimately work together in large group settings. These skills will benefit each child as we progress through the year and will also aid in extracurricular activities outside of school. As you may already know, I believe the social aspect of my class is just as important to your child's development as learning physical skills.

**Kindergarten and first grade** classes have started working on the fundamental skills of **throwing and catching**. We will cover both the over-hand throw as well as the under-hand toss. The mechanics behind an over-hand throw can be difficult for anyone at any age so I have chosen to pick the most straight forward cues to teach. For example, stepping with ones opposite foot can seem basic but more times than not, this technique is difficult to master. Also, when referring to catching, I explain that we want to use our hands rather than "hug" the ball. Just as it is important for your

child to practice academic skills outside of school, I encourage you to join your son or daughter in simple games outside that can reinforce some ideas learned in class.

**Second and third graders** are still finishing up with their group-initiative lessons and will soon be starting a **basketball** unit. Dribbling, passing, and shooting will be the main focus of the next few weeks of classes. I am not interested in teaching the technical rules of the game nor do I intend to play a traditional 5 vs. 5 with the students. The purpose of this unit is to work on hand-eye coordination, visual tracking, various gross motor skills, and to expose the children to the sport.

And just a reminder, **sneakers** are the safest footwear for participating in P.E class. Rain boots, snow boots, crocs, sandals, or any shoe without a back is not advisable. If your child needs to wear boots to school please help remind them to pack sneakers if they have P.E class that day. Thank you so much for your support.



**Halloween Swap Sale...** come get your costumes for Halloween. Costumes will be anywhere from \$5 - \$12. We will be at Maple School Street Gym on 10/9/10 from 9am - 3pm. Also Halloween costumes are being accepted.



**Girl Scouts**  
**Get your daughter in**  
**on something great –**  
**the power**  
**of girls together!**

Hopkinton Girl Scouts welcomes girls to become Daisies (kindergarten and first grade), Brownies (second and third grade), Junior Girl Scouts (fourth and fifth grade), Cadettes (sixth through eighth grades), and Seniors (older ages).

If your daughter is interested in joining Girl Scouts, please contact Cindy White at 225-5935 or [bcdjc@comcast.net](mailto:bcdjc@comcast.net).

The next HYSA Board meeting will be Sunday, October 17th at 7 p.m. in the High School cafeteria.

Registration for the upcoming basketball season will begin this Sunday, Sep 26<sup>th</sup> and run thru Oct 17<sup>th</sup>.

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### **Hopkinton Rec. Dept.**

#### **Fall Festival - Halloween Holler**

The Hopkinton Recreation Department will be hosting their second Fall Festival "Halloween Holler" on Saturday October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 12pm – 3pm at Kimball Cabins. This is a free event but there will be food/drinks and snacks for sale by the Hopkinton Woman's Club. The day will be filled with games, crafts for kids, a story telling, horse-drawn carriage rides, face painting and fun for the whole family. This event immediately follows the Harold Martin Halloween Parade. Please park at Harold Martin School. For further information or to volunteer please contact Justin at 746-291

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