

PARENT FLASH

November 18, 2011

Read, read, read...

Hopkinton Town Library

Movie Sing-Along
Sunday, Nov. 20
3 PM

Have a supercalifragilistic time with Mary and Bert at our interactive sing-along! The movie is Rated G and runs for 139 minutes. All ages. No sign up required.

We just completed our annual Book Fair at Harold Martin. Thank you for your wonderful generosity in purchasing books from the Fair which helps to support our reading program. Now that you have all of these shiny new books with the bindings barely bent, what are some ways to continue the spirit of reading within your child?

Surround your children with stories...bedtime stories, nursery rhymes. Instead of a video in the car, have your child listen to books on tape.

Be sure to encourage both fiction and non-fiction reading.

I'm not sure there's a true gender bias, but boys seem to enjoy non-fiction books even more than girls. Feed the desire to read non-fiction.

Ask questions of your children as they're reading. What are the characters all about? What do you think will happen next?

Have your child see that language is all around us. It's not just about the book that comes from Harold Martin; everyday reading can happen with parent notes in lunchboxes, road signs, and cereal boxes.

I need to hear this myself...turn off the screen and pull out a book. Of course, reading on a Kindle or iPad is allowed! Be sure that your children see you read.

Encourage your children to read to you and try not to worry about their reading mistakes. Make reading a fun time for you and your children and less of a lesson.

With the holidays upon us, make books and magazines the perfect gift.

You want to go the extra mile? Support your children in writing about what they read by having them post a review online or on book focused message boards, with parental supervision of course.

Start a parent-child book club. Read the same book as your child and find a time to discuss the book together.

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Reading, cont'd.



"Surround your children with stories."

If you want to put down the book but continue the literacy theme, spend time playing word games like Scrabble or Boggle together.

Do you realize what an incredible Town Library we have in Hopkinton? Its quality far exceeds the amount of people utilizing its services. Join Library Director Donna Dunlop and her staff in enjoying this local gift. In addition to a strong collection, you can check out eBooks, downloadable audiobooks, participate in book groups, and enjoy story time for children. Check out the Town Library site.

at: <http://www.hopkintontownlibrary.org/>

Of course, if you're looking for more ideas, please contact your child's teacher or we can get you in contact with our Reading Department. Have a wonderful weekend everyone.

Best,
Bill Carozza, Principal

December Concerts

Parents, the wonderful HMS December concerts are right around the corner. The 2nd and 3rd grade concert will be held in the MPR on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 1:30 in the afternoon. The Kindergarten and 1st grade concert will be held in the MPR on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 1:45. The children are working hard to make it very special, so you

won't want to miss it. Children should come dressed in festive yet comfortable clothing. (Please keep in mind that the children can feel very warm performing together on the risers.) Most importantly, the children should wear their beautiful smiles. See you there.

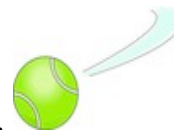
Thank you,
Edna Marie Griffin

Recess

"Please send your children with warm clothing for recess—hats and mittens!"

Can you spare a few tennis balls, especially those that are no longer usable for the court? Wall ball is still a game some of our children enjoy at recess and we could

use a few new balls. You can bring them into the office.



Thanks.

Ski Helmets

The Hopkinton PTA is offering GIRO ski/snowboard helmets at cost, at a 40% discount. The anticipated delivery date is mid December 2011. Helmets will be delivered to the school and sent home with your child. If the helmet is a gift for your child, please indicate on the form. **Ordering information:** Please contact Natalie Duval via email, subject "ski helmets,"

to cpspalding@tds.net, to receive an order form. Complete the order form and return it to your child's teacher with payment by check, payable to "Hopkinton PTA," no later than **Monday, November 21, 2011**. **Need information on sizing and styles?** Check the Giro website, <http://www.giro.com/>.



"Anticipated delivery date is mid December."

December PTA Meeting

December's PTA meeting will be held on the 7th at 6:30 pm. Please be sure to write that on your calendar! The meeting will be brief as this is also Game Night sponsored by the PTA. We are encouraging all to come to this event and try out the games. All games ordered will arrive in time for Christmas! What an excellent opportunity to get some Christmas shopping done.

Here is a listing of some of the available games:

- Can You See What I See?
- Finders Keepers
- Bingo Link
- Chomp Duck
- Banana Hats
- Boochie Captain Clueless
- Castle Keep
- Aunt Millie's Millions
- Forbidden Island
- Funny Business
- Dog Dice
- Mermaid Beach



Our Hopkinton **Lego League** is competing tomorrow at Hillside Middle School in Manchester with third graders, Preston Hall and Spencer Burdette, as part of the group that includes ages 9-14. Opening ceremonies are at 8:30 AM and their first match is at 9:10. We wish them the best!

Harold Martin School

271 Main Street,
Hopkinton, NH 03229

Phone:
746-3473

Fax:
746-6803

E-Mail:

bcarozza@
hopkintonschools.org

We're on the Web!

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

'Tween School 'n Home

NOVEMBER THEME: Pilgrims & Native Americans
Week of nov. 21-25

Monday:	I Give Thanks
Tuesday:	Special visit from the <i>SPCA</i>
Wednesday:	NO SCHOOL
Thursday:	Happy THANKSGIVING
Friday:	NO SCHOOL

From the Community.....

- Sign-ups for the Bill Koch **League Nordic ski** program will be on Tuesday, Nov. 29th from 5:00-7:30pm in the Maple Street School library.
- **“Starry, Starry Weekend” Dec. 2-4 in Contoocook and Hopkinton** Come celebrate the holiday season at **Starry, Starry Weekend**, a three-day shopping and family fun-filled event in the villages of Contoocook and Hopkinton on December 2, 3, and 4, 2011. More than 20 local businesses and community organizations have planned special events and programs throughout the weekend, including artisan fairs, craft workshops, food and wine tastings, tree lightings and caroling, factory tour, art show, church fairs, and multiple health and fitness opportunities. In the spirit of the season, all locations will be accepting donations for the Hopkinton Food Pantry. Maps are available at all participating businesses and organizations. For a complete list of events and times, go to www.StarryStarryWeekend.com.
- Come to the Hopkinton High School Gym on Saturday morning for the introductory session of **BiddyBall**, a fun, skills-based introduction to the game of basketball led by Dave Chase and the Hawks Boys and Girls Varsity basketball teams. If your child enjoys it, they can sign up for the 7-week session that begins January 8th. Kindergarteners and first graders will play from 8-9am and the second graders will play from 9-10. Visit the HYSA website at HYSA-nh.com for more information.