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# Harold Martin School

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November 20, 2009

## Parent Flash

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First Trimester  
Report cards will  
be sent home  
December 16<sup>th</sup>.



**Thanksgiving** is one of my favorite holidays. It's universally accepted by nearly all Americans and while its historical basis is debated, the result is that families pull out all the stops to be together on that day. My hope for all of us is that the noise and stress of everyday life may fly away for our holiday and that we can focus on the core values that really matter. Happy Thanksgiving everyone.

I want to **thank all of the volunteers** who provided such a rich combination of food for our teachers on parent conference day. Thanks also to the volunteers to our book fair. What would we do without all of you?

We are continuing our tradition of the **Walking School Bus** on Trekkin' Tuesdays. Every Tuesday morning up until the winter break we will depart from South Road near the Oberheims around 7:15 and walking down South Road toward the Cracker

Barrel. You can also meet the group at the Cracker Barrel at 7:30 for a 7:35 departure to HMS. We will walk rain, shine, or snow. If you would like to participate, contact Natalie Duval at 746-3920.

Recently you were given the opportunity to sign up for our **alert call system**. Keep in mind that if you signed up, this system will not call you for every snow day; it is designed to alert you if there is an emergency or a major change in schedule during the school day such as an unexpected dismissal.

Again, have a family-filled Thanksgiving.

Bill Carozza, Principal

School is in session a  
full day on  
November 24<sup>th</sup>.

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Dear Hopkinton Neighbor,

We are writing to ask for your support in continuing **Project Graduation** – a tradition that benefits the graduating class at Hopkinton High School.

For over twenty years, our community has provided the graduates a fun, memorable and safe way to celebrate. Through **Project Graduation** the entire class is invited to spend graduation night with their classmates at a “secret” location where they can eat, dance, play and bond one last time in a chaperoned, substance-free environment. The festivities start shortly after commencement ends and continue into the next morning.

**Project Graduation** has only been able to continue through the generous support of our community. All donations will be acknowledged in the Hopkinton High School Graduation Program as:

Honor Roll (\$30)                      High Honors (\$50)  
Salutatorian (\$100)                  Valedictorian (\$250)  
Other (Donations in any amount will be appreciated)

Please send your tax-deductible contribution to:

**Project Graduation**  
**PO Box 291**  
**Hopkinton, NH 03229**

*Thanks for your continued support!*

Peggy Baron	Maggie Cook	Anne Merrow
Sandy Babson	Nalda Levy	Dot Helm
Lisa Maria-Booth	Mary Beth McNicholas	Tracy Hawkins
Sandy Sherman	Joyce Kilens	Terry Grady

*Note: Typically letters are mailed to homes but this year we are trying to be environmentally responsible. Help us avoid a mailing by sending your check today!*



November Notes  
From  
the Music Room  
*Mrs. Griffin*

The holidays are rapidly approaching and so are the HMS winter concerts. It is a special time of celebration that you won't want to miss! The children work hard to prepare some wonderful songs to offer as a gift straight from their hearts. Please put the following dates on your calendar; Monday, **December 14<sup>th</sup>** will be the concert date for **grades 2 and 3**, and Tuesday, **December 15<sup>th</sup>** will be the date for the **kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade** concert.

The concerts will be held in the HMS multi-purpose room at 1:45 in the afternoon. (In the event of a weather-related cancellation, the affected concert will be held on Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.) Children should be dressed in festive, yet comfortable clothes. (No jeans or t-shirts, please.) Another consideration is to avoid dressing the students too warmly, as the children can get over-heated singing together on the risers. Hope to see you there!

It's been a busy time in the music room. The **kindergarteners and 1<sup>st</sup> graders** have been singing

and dancing to songs about apples, leaves, and fall festivals. Their musical focus has been ascending and descending scale patterns and gaining vocal confidence.

The **1<sup>st</sup> graders** accompanied themselves on tone bells as they sang, "Five Little Pumpkins." The children always have a great time exploring the contrast of heavy and light sound qualities with the movement game, *Mice and Monsters*. A visual presentation of Haydn's *Surprise Symphony* was also a favorite.

The **2<sup>nd</sup> graders** developed their singing and theatrical skills with the lively echo-song, *Can You Hear Me?* The song has seven humorous verses about a person, a tree, and a bear, performed with actions. As the children became more familiar with the song, volunteers took turns leading the song and having the rest of the class echo their words and actions. The **2<sup>nd</sup> graders** also practiced playing rhythm patterns to some favorite songs such as *October Rocktober* and *Music Rocks*.

The song, "B A Marching Monster," (no, that's not a spelling typo,) provided a lot of fun and engaging learning activities for the **3<sup>rd</sup> graders**. They reinforced their understanding of whole notes, half notes and quarter notes by "monster stepping" in

accordance with whichever rhythmic pattern was designated. They also reviewed copies of the sheet music, identifying the "B's" and "A's" that make up the simple melody (hence the silly title.) Then they transferred their knowledge to the xylophones, playing along with the recorded accompaniment.

Recently, we have all transitioned to a focus on concert preparation. The children are now working hard on learning their songs. You won't be disappointed.



PICTURE RETAKE DAY  
DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>  
10-12:30

If you'd like your child's picture retaken, please send in the original photo.

If your child's picture wasn't taken, send in the money for the packet you choose and it will be taken on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

NEXT WEEK AT  
**'TWEEN SCHOOL 'N HOME  
CHILD CARE PROGRAM**

Week of November 23-27,  
2009 – DINOSAUR MONTH!

Monday: Movement Madness  
Meet the Brontosaurus  
Tuesday: Movie Day: *Ice Age*

Wed thru Fri:  
NO SCHOOL –  
THANKSGIVING RECESS

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The **Yappin' Yodas**, First Lego League rookie team 5278 (5th & 6th graders) will have their big competition November 21st at Bishop Brady High School. Please stop by and support your fellow classmates and use it as an opportunity to learn all about the fantastic First Lego League program first hand. Show up anytime from 9 to 3 (except 12-1 for lunch) and I suspect you can get a good overview of USFirst' FLL program if you think you might be interested in participating next year.



**2009 Christmas Tree  
Lighting & Carol Sing  
Saturday, December 5,  
2009 4 p.m.**

Sponsored by the Hopkinton  
Woman's Club and the  
Hopkinton Rotary Club

The annual Hopkinton Village Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing is Saturday, **December 5th** at 4 p.m. Please join us for this traditional, fun start to the Christmas festivities. Come gather around the Hopkinton Village Center evergreen tree, where the Hopkinton Town Band accompanies our singing of Christmas Carols from song sheets (provided) while the Christmas Tree lights are turned on for the first time. Then, walk over to the Congregational Church Parish House for hot chocolate, home-made goodies, and community fellowship. A simple craft is provided for children.

This is a family event, wonderful for all ages, and will be held, regardless of weather, except extreme snow (no alternate date).

For questions contact Valerie Chittim at [vchttm@comcast.net](mailto:vchttm@comcast.net) or 226-2727.

**Hopkinton Historical  
Society**

**Last Chance Night:** The Hopkinton Historical Society is holding its **Last Chance Night** as part of its **Tomorrow's Masterpieces Annual Art Show & Sale** on Friday, December 4, 2008 from 5:00-7:00 pm. The event features live music, light refreshments, and art work from more than 50 local artists, including original works in oil, watercolors, acrylics, etching, fiber arts, pottery, silkscreen, folk art, basketry, glass, photography, mezzotint, ceramics, beadwork, pastels, and silkscreen.

**Family Art Program:** Make a postcard-sized mosaic to take home with local mosaic artist Lizz Van Saun on Saturday, December 5 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Participants must be age 9 and older; age 6-8 can come with adult one-on-one assistance. Pre-register by Nov. 27 as space is limited to 12 participants. Cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. The Hopkinton Historical Society is located at 300 Main Street in Hopkinton. To register or for more information, please contact HHS at 603-746-3825, [nhas@tds.net](mailto:nhas@tds.net), or [www.nhantiquarian.org](http://www.nhantiquarian.org)