
Harold Martin School

March 19, 2010

Parent Flash



Two Early Release
Days next week!

On both Thursday
and Friday (March
25 and 26)
students will be
dismissed at 12:00.

The staff will
attend workshops
for Professional
Development.

It's cliché to start a newsletter talking about the weather, but it's hard to look out my window without marveling at the bizarre shifts in New Hampshire weather. The sunny skies and mild temperatures also allowed me to sneak in a fire drill this morning.

Please spread the word that *Kindergarten Registration* is in full swing and in order to have a good sense of our school numbers next year, we really need to have parents register right away. A teacher and I had a chuckle this morning at our very direct sign out in front of the school that reads: "Kindergarten Registration Now". It's not very subtle is it? Please spread the word to neighbors.

Congrats to the Safe Routes to School Committee and especially Coordinator Natalie Duval for our partially funded Round 4 Grant for

a total of \$220,000. The grant should cover the cost of finishing a sidewalk on Cedar Street. This will make it safer for students to walk to Maple Street and make downtown Contoocook more safely accessible to residents on Cedar and Carriage Lane.

One of my greatest fears is leaving students unattended for any reason. This is not acceptable for students at Harold Martin and unfortunately this can happen often first thing in the morning. Please do *not* drop your children off before 7:30 AM as there is no one on duty until then. Thank you so much.

Bill Carozza
Principal





From Mrs. Griffin

Congratulations to all those students who participated in the Celebration of the Arts and a big thank you to all of the volunteers who helped make it a success. Please note the following dates and events:

* Wednesday, April 7th at 2:30 – costume committee meeting (most of the costumes have been created and are just in need of some sprucing up!) Please consider attending if you are a parent of a 2nd grader. E-mail me at: egriffin@hopkintonschools.org if you plan on attending or if you have any questions.

* Monday, May 17th at 6:30 – 2nd grade musical production of “Character Matters” for parents and families.

* Tuesday, May 18th at 8:30 A.M. - 2nd grade musical production of “Character Matters” for the school community.

* Monday, June 14th –3rd graders need to return recorders to Mrs. Griffin.

Kindergarten: We have marched right into Spring. The saying, “March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb” provided the basis for several of our songs and movement activities. It also inaugurated the K-1 focus on orchestral instruments. We proudly donned our imaginary crowns and paraded about the room to “The Royal March of the Lions” from *The Carnival of the Animals*, by Saint-Saens. We celebrated St. Patrick’s Day with a variety of songs, jigs, and games. The children will be learning to imitate and invent some drumming patterns as well as read some basic rhythms comprised of quarter notes and rests.



1st Grade: The first graders are studying *The Carnival of the Animals*, learning a new section every week. The study includes listening to a selection while engaging in a related movement activity. Afterwards, we discuss the elements and instrumentation of the piece and then sing related songs. At the end of class, we listen again while the students color a page that shows the featured animals and instruments. It is a fun way to develop some auditory discrimination and listening skills. The children have also

sung some songs that focus on instruments and instrument families while observing related instrument posters.

2nd Grade: The 2nd graders are doing a great job learning the songs for their up-coming musical presentation, “Character Matters” which will be performed at H.M.S. at 6:30 on the night of May 17th, and then again at 8:30 on the following morning. They have been getting familiar with the script and adding some movement to the songs. I help all of the students to get comfortable with as much of the story and music as possible, giving everyone a chance to envision themselves in different roles and enact those roles in class. The students have had some opportunity to “try on” different parts by volunteering to read portions of the script and/ or sing solo in front of the class. My goal is to develop interest, experience, and confidence, with an emphasis on individual growth. The actual casting of parts will happen later in our study and is just an outcome of our work together.

3rd Grade: The third graders have been working hard at note identification and the fingerings for their first five notes on the recorder. They have completed a number of activity sheets that incorporate note identification into little stories. They have also been working on several songs. “Who Let the Recorders Out” is a lively piece with a fun, rockin’

accompaniment. As mentioned earlier, actual practice and progress on the recorder is a matter of individual interest, but 10 minutes a day, several days a week will help children progress with their skills. As added motivation, we have begun a friendly competition among the classes. Each class has the opportunity to earn points by coming prepared with their recorders, and also by demonstrating ability on designated songs. The class with the most points will have an ice cream party in June. Please remind your student to bring their recorders to music class on Mondays. We actually had perfect recorder attendance (every child present that day had their recorder with them) this past Monday. Kudos to the students, staff and parents for making that happen! What a great start!

WEEK OF MARCH 22-26, 2010 – OCEAN MONTH

Mon: Make a Crab
Tues: Aquarium Diorama
Wed: Quiz Show
Hip Hop Dance
Thurs: *Early Release Day*
MAGIC with Peter Boie
Fun with Martial Arts
Fri: *Early Release Day*
Field Trip to the
SEE Science Museum

AN OPEN INVITATION TO HOPKINTON FAMILIES: On Thursday, March 25th, at 1:45, TSNH will sponsor an amazing **one-hour show** by Magician Peter Boie. Peter travels all over the U.S. with his energetic, high-spirited, child-oriented, interactive show. We invite any parent or grandparent or caregiver to accompany their child for this fantastic show. We'll be in the Multi-Purpose Room. Hope you can join us!

TSNH has openings for children in grades K-6 from both Harold Martin School and Maple Street School. So if you're looking for a place for your child to be safe and have a great time after school and would like more information, contact Linda Ottery, Executive Director at 529-2186 or tsnh@comcast.net. You also may download a registration form at our website: www.twenschoolhome.com.



2010 Hawk Sports

Camps ...is accepting registrations for this summer. For more information contact Dave Chase at: 4chaseteam@comcast.net

From the Rec Dept.

Please check the Hopkinton Recreation website for updated information. <http://www.hopkinton-nh.gov> (then click Recreation)



Easter Egg Hunt

Join the Hopkinton Recreation Department as they welcome back the Easter Bunny! On Saturday, March 27th, join us at Hopkinton High School for the festivities! Doors open at 10:30am, the Bunny will arrive at 11am and the Easter egg hunt will begin at 11:30 am. Children up to third grade can participate in the hunt. There will be face painting, crafts and snacks. Don't forget your Easter Basket! Please call 746-2915 with any questions.

Summer Employment

The Hopkinton Recreation Department is looking for qualified individuals to work as Camp Counselors and Lifeguards for this summer. Job descriptions, qualifications and employment applications can be found online at www.hopkinton-nh.gov, click on recreation. If you have any questions, please call 746-2915.