
Harold Martin School

January 11, 2008

Parent Flash



I am frequently asked by parents, “what can I do to help my child at home?” In the area of mathematics, here are some practical suggestions to reinforce your child’s skills:

Calendar Dates

- 1/21 No School
- 1/24 Spaghetti Dinner
- 2/7 Early Release
- 2/8 Early Release



1. **Kitchen Math:** There’s so much math in cooking. Be sure to show your children the various cups and measuring spoons you use and how to measure. If your kids are ready you can challenge them by asking them to cut a recipe in half. If they want their cooking to be successful, it’s certainly important to get the math right!

2. **Grocery Store Math:** Bring a calculator with you and have your child add up how much you’re spending on groceries as you go through your shopping. You can challenge them by comparing the per unit costs which most stores provide customers so one can determine the best value.

3. **Math On the ‘Net:** There are some great programs such as *Math Blaster* and plenty of online programs. A great place to start is: <http://www.kidsites.com/sites->

[edu/math.htm](http://www.kidsites.com/sites-)

4. **Math On The Road:** Living in the country, camping, and heading out on long trips gave the Carozza family lots of opportunity for learning. Make it a priority to find examples of math in license plates, maps, mileage, and speed limit signs.

5. **Math in Money:** Money is a tough concept for children-it’s very developmental. Don’t be surprised if your child has difficulty grasping it. Yet, look for opportunities to reinforce these math concepts and have your children buy items on their own.

Enjoy these early years of teaching and modeling math to your children. It’s a whole different parenting skill when they start taking college statistics or calculus.

See the rest of the *Flash* for more great information. I especially endorse Lynn Lyons’ upcoming talk and of course, the wildly popular Spaghetti Dinner at HMS. With a name like mine, you know I support pasta consumption.

Have a great weekend. While I’m a little worried about the Jaguars’ running game, I have a feeling the Pats will move on to the next round, probably against Indy. Go Patriots!

Bill Carozza, Principal



THE PACE OF PE

Kindergarten students have continued with their study of *Manipulatives* through participation in *Station Activities*. Station Activities allow students to work with a partner while focusing on various motor tasks to enhance fine motor control, perceptual motor skills, and sequencing abilities. Bean Bag targets and bowling pins were set up so that the students could develop eye/hand coordination along with aiming, rolling, and throwing for accuracy skills. Hoppity Hops are large balls with handles that students sit on and then try to move along by bouncing. These balls enable the children to develop the skills of balance, spatial awareness, and also strengthen the large muscles in the legs and abdomen. The Kindergarten children are doing a wonderful job “manipulating” these objects!

First graders are finishing their *Manipulatives* unit. Using plastic dowel/wands, the students continued to develop eye-hand coordination as they worked on tossing and catching skills along with balancing the wand on the palm of their hand and on one fingertip. Collectively, the students manipulated a parachute to make various patterns including a merry-go-round, a

mountain, and a floating cloud. Using the parachute helps the children develop hand and grip strength, leg power, and upper body flexibility. Continuing with the concepts of fitness, the students enhanced upper body strength while traveling across the MPR on scooters propelling the scooter using arms only, legs only, and then arms and legs combined. The children enjoyed applying these motor skills in the game of *Scooter Tag*. Marvelous work first graders!

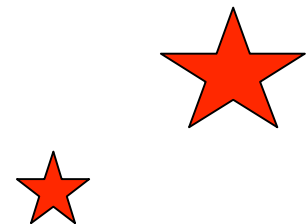


Second grade students have recently finished a brief **basketball unit** that focused on dribbling, passing, and shooting baskets. Students were given instruction on how to use their “finger pads” to dribble the ball using right hand only, left hand only, and with alternating hands. With partners, the students worked on bounce passes and chest passes. The children also had the opportunity to shoot baskets from various spots from around the “basketball key.” Great job second graders!

Third graders continued with their **basketball unit**. After working on the skills of dribbling, chest pass, and bounce pass, the students focused on shooting baskets. The students were introduced to the “B.E.E.F.” principle, which stands for **B**alance before you shoot; **E**yes on the target; **E**lbow of shooting hand bent; and **F**ollow through after releasing the ball. Fabulous work third graders!



This month’s PE Super Star Awards go to: Mrs. Kent’s morning kindergarten, Mrs. Boyko’s first grade, Mrs. Pepper’s second grade, and Mrs. Helm’s third grade! Awesome work!



COMMUNITY NEWS

Events listed under Community News do not necessarily indicate endorsement from Harold Martin School or the Hopkinton School District but are provided as a community service.

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

Week of January 14-18, 2008

Mon: Checker Tournament

Tues: Baby Blankets

Wed: Scrabble
Tournament; DI

Thurs: SPECIAL PROGRAM:
Art w/ Barbara Filleul

Fri: Hat Day
Music Lessons

NOTE: *Due to great interest in skiing and Destination Imagination, Dance Lessons with Pat Walker will stop for now and Will restart on February 20th.*

For more information about TSNH, contact Linda Ottery at tsnh@comcast.net or 529-2186.



Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, January 15 at 6:30PM for the return of **Lynn Lyons**. Lynn presented "Quickly Calmer" last year and this year she will present "**Worried About Your Worrier.**" This seminar applies to helping all kids become more resilient and confident in the face of change and transition.

Babysitting will be provided by the National Honor Society students from the high school. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Morris, MSS Volunteer Coordinator at 746-4137 or juliemorris@tds.net

relief work through Back Bay Mission) will be holding their second annual Mardi Gras and Silent Auction! Please join us for great Cajun food, crafts for the kids, over 100 silent auction items and the wonderful music of the Tall Granite Jazz Band. Tickets are \$7.00 per person/\$25.00 per family. Please call Kathy Ashton 428-6347 or Vickie Baronas 746-3582 for tickets. All the money raised from the event will go to help defray some of the costs of the trip and as a donation to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi which helps the low income, uninsured families of the gulf coast who were devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

**Mardi Gras
and Silent Auction**

On Saturday, **February 2nd** at 6:00 p.m. at the Harold Martin School in Hopkinton, Team Biloxi (a group of 28 adults from First Congregational Church in Hopkinton who will be traveling to Biloxi, Mississippi for the second time in October 2008 to help with Hurricane Katrina



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