
Harold Martin School



January 5, 2007

Parent Flash

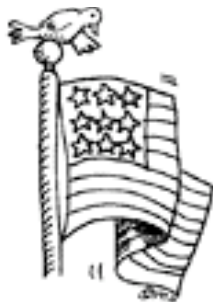


THE BIG PICTURE

NO SCHOOL

1/12 Staff Prof.
Development
Day

1/15 Civil Rights
Day



Kindergarteners developed their **paper manipulation** skills while learning about the **cool colors**. They folded, cut, and glued paper snowflake decorations for the winter concert. Students also used **cool colors** to draw snowflakes (all snowflakes having 6 points) and created a watercolor resist painting. Students drew and cut black shadows to glue on top of their paintings.

The students in **first grade** painted **value** snowmen. After reading *Kipper's Snow Day*, by Mick Inkpen, students created **tints** (by mixing one color plus white) for the snowmen bodies. Students created **shades** (by mixing one color plus black) to add details such as hats, faces, scarves, arms, and boots to the snowmen.

Second grade students created winter self-portraits using fabric. Students quickly sketched a **gesture drawing** to use as a pattern. From fabric they cut and **collaged** their snow pants, jackets, hats, mittens, scarves, and boots. The fabric pieces were

enhanced with buttons and pom-poms to add more 'texture feel.'

Third graders began their **Asian Arts** unit by painting a decorative fan. Fans have been used by the Chinese people as artistic props in plays, dances, and story telling. Students painted a **watercolor wash** on both sides and added Chinese decorations with colored pencils and black markers. Students will learn how to dance with these fans in P.E.

The **Silver Palette** is a team award one class earns each month for meeting the expectations in the art room. Congratulations to **Mrs. Grady's third grade** class for earning the December Silver Palette! Excellent work!

CAMERA ANYONE?

Digital cameras are important tools that we use throughout the building. We utilize them for our digital portfolios certainly, but we also use them for specific students to assess their progress at a particular moment in time. While we have a few of them here, we would like to have enough so that we can be more spontaneous with their use. If you happen to have a digital camera that you are not using and could donate it to the school, would you let us know? Thanks.

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.



Winter ball held at the Concord Boys & Girls Club on January 27th from 7 to 10 p.m.

Who's invited? Girls in Kindergarten through 5th grade. Bring your special "guy", such as your Dad, Grandfather, Uncle, or the special man in your life. (Special Guys must be 18 years or older.)

Only \$15 a couple! This will include a flower for the girl, couple photo, drinks & snacks, games and dancing to a DJ!

All profits will benefit the Girl Scout Camp Scholarship Fund and the Boys and Girls Club.

CALL 224-6230 FOR MORE INFO. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.

Sponsored by Girl Scout Cadette Troop 2063.

The Hopkinton Drug and Alcohol Coalition will be presenting it's second forum titled, "***A Roll Of The Dice,***" a straight talk about the risks associated with early exposure to drugs and alcohol. This forum will be facilitated by Attorney Ann McLane Kuster. The presentation will be held at the Hopkinton Town Library in the Bates Community Room on Tuesday, January 16th. The presentation will start at 7 PM.

NEXT WEEK AT 'TWEEN SCHOOL 'N HOME CHILD CARE PROGRAM at Harold Martin School 2:30-5:30 p.m. Multi-Purpose Room Week of January 8-12, 2007

Monday: Dr. Dodgeball
Tuesday: Peanut Butter Pinecones
Wednesday: Strip Paper Pictures
Thursday: Strip Paper Pictures
Friday: No School

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

H.Y.S.A.



Baseball and Softball Registration

\$35 - T-ball & Coach Pitch (Grades K-2) \$45 - 9 yrs. - 15 yrs (Grades 3 & up)

Jan 6th (Saturday) 8 - 9:30 am @ HHS during Bitty Ball

Jan 8th (Monday) 5:30 - 7:00 pm @ Maple Street School

Jan 10th (Wednesday) 5:30 to 7:00 pm - @ Maple Street School

Jan 13th (Saturday) 8 - 9:30 am @ HHS during Bitty Ball

Artist in Residence
Parent-Child Workshop
January 25th



...more information forth coming.



Over the last two **PTA meetings**, we have focused on the issue of **homework**. In December, HMS and MSS teachers were on hand to talk about their approach to homework and last night, middle/high teachers did the same. There has been some new research and opinion floating out there, some of it spurned on by the writings of Alfie Kohn, a Boston area educator and writer in his latest book “The Homework Myth” and others on the other side of the spectrum who are a bit more positive about the value of homework.

As a parent of three (we don’t live in Hopkinton) I have experienced the ups and downs of homework. I’ve seen my children enthused about a project and motivated to research, read, and write. And there have been other situations when the assignment appeared more like busy work and had little meaning.

Above all, I believe that homework needs to be respectful. It needs to respect the academic level and age of the child and it should exist to support the classroom instruction. Parents need to be aware that there is not a direct proportion between the amount of homework and the academic rigor of the classroom. To use a tired adage, the quality

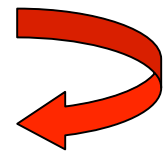
of homework is much more important than the quantity.

At our level, the single most important homework assignment is to have your child engage in reading for about 20 minutes per night. This may not seem very official and the benefits aren’t immediately seen such as in the completion of a worksheet or the building of a project. Yet, simply put, we know that practicing reading, or being read to, is the single greatest factor in improving one’s literacy skills.

If you didn’t have a chance to go to one of the PTA forums on homework, feel free to give me a call or email if you would like to chat about this subject. I always love a good dialogue.

Have a great “winter” weekend. I’m going to start my snow blower and get it ready this weekend, because I know I’ll need it sometime!

Sincerely,
Bill Carozza
Principal



REMINDER

SPAGHETTI DINNER
FUNDRAISER

In The Multi-Purpose Room at Harold Martin School

The staff at HMS cordially invites you to attend a spaghetti dinner with all the fixings. This event is a fundraiser with all proceeds going to the HMS Playground Development efforts. Plans are in the works for a sandbox, picnic tables, and basketball hoop(s).

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2007

(Snow Date: Thursday, January 25, 2007)

COME JOIN US FOR DINNER

- Spaghetti
- Choice of Red Sauce or Meat Sauce
- Bread Sticks
- Salad with dressing
- Dessert
- Milk, Water, Coffee, Tea

Adults \$7.00 Children \$3.50
Family Rate: \$20

Please RSVP by returning your signed dinner confirmation form that was previously sent home, and thank you for your support of our programs.

We look forward to “serving” you!!

Artist-in-Residence

We are excited to have Alice Ogden as our Artist-in-Residence this year. She will be weaving tree stars with students K-6 and baskets with fourth graders, the core group, during the months of January and February.

About Alice Ogden & Her Baskets

*Alice Ogden of Salisbury, New Hampshire is a traditional black ash **basket maker**. Considered a master of her trade, she has been making baskets for more than 25 years. None of her materials are store bought and each basket is crafted entirely of materials collected from the woods and swamps of New Hampshire and prepared by hand. Alice prepares the logs, strips the splints, and then refines and cuts the splints for basket weaving.*



Tree Stars

The tree star is a wonderful project that introduces kids to basket weaving, sewing, and an appreciation for working with materials gathered from nature. All of the materials in the kit can be gathered from the woods, swamps and fields of New Hampshire. The star itself is woven using pre-cut, traditionally-prepared black ash splints - a Star made from a Tree.

The above excerpt is taken from Alice's website

<http://www.aliceogden.com/>



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