

---

# Harold Martin School

---

October 27, 2006

## Parent Flash

---

### Calendar Dates

10/28 PTA  
Halloween Event 1PM



10/29 Daylight  
Savings ends

11/7 Parent Conf.  
No School for  
Students

11/10 Veteran's Day  
No School for  
Students

11/22-11/24  
Thanksgiving  
break

### The BIG Picture



**Kindergarteners** have been exploring color in art. The book *Mouse Paint* introduces the primary and secondary colors. Students learn that red, blue, and yellow are the **primary colors**, and by mixing those colors, purple, green, and orange can be created. Students displayed their cutting skills while creating strips of alternating **color opposites**.

**First graders** started the year by looking at fall colors and the structure of trees. After creating **texture** in the background, students painted a "V" **tree** just as Marty Kelly did in his book *Fall Is Not Easy*. Students then added a pattern to their tree with torn paper leaves.

**Second graders** have been exploring the difference between **realistic** and **abstract** art. Students created realistic values and textures with

pencil while observing a sunflower. Using what they had learned about sunflowers, students developed paper manipulation skills through a torn paper collage.

**Third graders** began the year reviewing the Impressionist artist Monet. Students looked at how Monet mixed **color opposites** to create **fall colors**. They experimented with mixing fall colors in their own paintings. Recently the students have just completed their pod prints, and had their choice of printing in either a **random** or **regular pattern**.



**The Silver Palette** is a team award one class earns each month for meeting the expectations in the art room. Congratulations to **Miss Nichols' first grade class** for earning the September Silver Palette! Way to go!

---

**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.*

**Support the arts!** Come see the Beech Hill Players production of **The Elves and the Shoemaker**. Performances are at Hopkinton High, on Friday and Saturday, November 3 and 4 at 7:00pm, and a Sunday matinee on November 5 at 2:00pm. Tickets are available at the door. For more information, call 746.4985. Fun and laughs for all!

**PTA Telephone Directories**

The 2006-2007 Student Telephone Directories went home with the children this week. If you did not receive a directory or if you have an error in your listing, please contact Julie Morris at 746-4137 or [hopkintonschoolspta@yahoo.com](mailto:hopkintonschoolspta@yahoo.com)

We would like to reiterate that these directories are for parents and students to use to arrange play dates and birthday parties and are not intended to be used for soliciting business either by mail or email. Thank you.



**HOPKINTON BOOSTER CLUB**

The Hopkinton Booster Club now carries youth sizes in Hawk Sweatshirts and Long Sleeve T-Shirts. These plus our regular items will be sold at all home soccer playoff games.

You may also Purchase items by contacting Joanne or Maggie at Maple Street School 746-4195.

Items available are, Sweatshirts, Long Sleeve T-shirts, Blankets, Sandals, Tote Bags, Flannel pants, key chains, car decals, umbrellas, tattoos and Stuffed Hawks.



**Greetings from Harold Martin School.**

In this issue of the Parent Flash, you'll read about our art program, news from PTA and the Booster Club, and I'll speak about safety items. Read on!

We have all been saddened by recent acts of violence in schools across the country. By all measures, Hopkinton is a very safe community, but we would be foolish not to take necessary precautions. Here are some Frequently Asked Questions that our district **Safety and Security Committee** addresses:

*What should parents and guardians do if there is an emergency at school?*

The Hopkinton Schools are committed to **communicating** with parents and guardians. During an emergency please stay near a phone or computer. The most efficient way for schools to communicate with parents and guardians is through a wide spread email. If you have not yet joined our school's email lists please sign up at <http://hopkintonschools.org/hms/principal/HMSNews.html> Very often at HMS, we will try to reach all parents by **phone**, but this is a difficult job at best when trying to contact the entire school population.

*Continued on next page*

*Please do not go to your youngster's school.* A large number of parents and guardians traveling to our community schools could prevent emergency vehicles from having access to the building. Details regarding child pick up and busing will be sent through emails, phone calls, or the media as appropriate. The district will use WMUR channel 9 for television communication and WJYY 105.5 for radio communication.

*Be prepared to talk with your child about emergencies.* Emergencies can be scary for everyone. Schools will make counselors and other resources available as appropriate. Providing a safe place for children to talk about their experiences and feelings is an important part of returning to normalcy.

*Communicate with us.* If you are concerned about any issue, please look to your school as a resource to help.

As always, call me if you have any questions.

Speaking of safety, our annual "Code Blue" drill will be happening the morning of November 9. We have changed the name to "**Lockdown Drill**" as this is more consistent with safety measures used throughout the country. The procedure is fairly simple as students hide in a corner of their classroom so that if an intruder should come into

the building, he or she would not be able to easily locate them. Preschoolers and most kindergarten students have not experienced this before, but we will be quite gentle with them as teachers explain the purpose and procedure. We'll review the specifics with all HMS children too.

After we say "Lockdown" three times over the intercom, students head to the part of the room that cannot be seen from windows, and stay quiet. I move around the building and check to see if any children can be seen or heard. With almost no exceptions, the building is eerily quiet during that time.



Another area of safety, which we have to pay attention to, is **parking lot procedure**, especially in the morning. This morning we had some visible angst from parents, including use of the horn and a few choice words, when a driver was a tad frustrated. Of course, keeping one's cool is important but there are some troublesome actions that continue to occur. I would love to have police presence every morning, but that is just not possible. So I will repeat again some rules that must be adhered to for the safety of all:

1. When you are dropping your child off, please make your **goodbyes short** so you can drive off and not keep the people behind you waiting long. If you want to walk your child down to the playground, kindly park your car first.

2. Do not, under any circumstances, drive through the **middle of the parking lot** after dropping your child off. This is simply crazy driving behavior as staff and students are arriving and walking through the parking lot at that time. I'm sad to say that I often see this happen.

I am actually finishing my part of the *Flash* right now as teachers are working on a variety of projects as part of the Thursday early release day. I'm sitting in the library and to my right teachers are learning how to add pictures of student writing to their student's **digital portfolio**. In other parts of the building, teachers are examining student's **MAP scores** from their recent computerized assessment, and still others are working on **curriculum** using our *TechPaths* software. This time is so valuable and appreciated by teachers as we use this uninterrupted time to grow professionally.

I will now sign off and head to the computer lab and see if I can support a few teachers and learn much from them in the process.



Have a wonderful weekend  
Bill Carozza, Principal