
Harold Martin School

December 21, 2007

Parent Flash

Mark your calendars
and save the date!

The 2nd Annual
Harold Martin
School **Spaghetti
Dinner** Fundraiser
will take place on
Thursday, **January
24** with a snow date
scheduled for the
following Thursday,
January 31.

There will be two
serving times: First
seating is at
5:30,; Second seating
is at 6:30. Look for
reservation forms to
come home in
January.

Bring your family
and let the staff of
Harold Martin
School serve you a
delicious spaghetti
dinner with all the
fixings! Look for
more details to
follow in January!



I think we are returning to the snowy
New England winters of our youth
when we were used to weekly
snowstorms. We have had two snow
days already and winter has not even
begun yet!

Keep in mind that we return to school
on Thursday, January 3, 2008 after
our holiday break. Also, now that we
know the NH Primary date is January
8, there will be no school that day.
We will have school on January 22,
the day in the district calendar we had
reserved for the primary. The
“primary” reason we need to close
school is that the high school is the
only location in town with a parking
lot large enough to support what we
predict will be a very large voter
turnout. To have school that day and
support voting would be a significant
logistical problem.

I was asked by *Hopkinton Green* to
remind parents to shut their car
engines off when they arrive at HMS
so that they are not idling. Obviously,

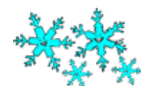
this is important for health and
environmental reasons. Thanks.

There are many important events
coming up in January. Our first PTA
meeting of the new year on January 10
will deal with transition between the
buildings. All of the Principals will be
on hand to hear your comments and
suggestions. Our second annual
Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for the
HMS playground, which was a rousing
success last year, is happening on
January 24. And, popular speaker Lynn
Lyons is coming back to HMS on
January 15. There is more information
elsewhere in the newsletter.

When my children were young and the
usual parent frustrations would arise,
my father would always remind me that
“these are the good ol’ days”. As my
daughter finishes her final year of high
school this year and soon joins my
oldest in the world of college, I hold on
tightly to the memories this time of
year. I hope you do too and remember
that indeed, these are the good ol’ days.

Enjoy your Christmas, Hanukkah, or
however you choose to celebrate the
holiday week.

Bill Carozza
Principal



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PE Progress

Kindergarten students have begun a unit in “Manipulatives” learning to control small objects in many different ways. Using beanbags, the students practiced tossing and catching with two hands, right hand only, left hand only, and by alternating hands. When using bouncy balls, the children worked on the skills of bounce and catch, toss and catch, and kicking a stationary ball. Finally, the children were given hula hoops and asked to try and find that “special wiggle” to keep the hoop spinning around their waist. The students were also guided in various jumping patterns in, out, forward, backward, side to side, and completely over the hula hoops. What a great way to enhance motor skills, following directions, sequencing, and coordination!

First graders have continued with their study of “Manipulatives.” In partners, the students used bean bags to enhance hand-eye coordination as they practiced tossing and catching a bean bag to one another. The children then applied these skills in game settings. Using jump ropes, the students were given the opportunity to work on their jump rope skills. They were also challenged to create various letters and shapes and then perform jumps, crawls, skips, hops and gallops in, out, around, and over the patterns. Bouncy

playground balls enabled the students to demonstrate their abilities to dribble the ball with right hand, left hand, and alternating hands. The students also worked on rolling the ball for accuracy as they played a simple version of bowling. It was awesome to hear the kiddos joyfully exclaim, “I got a strike!”

Second graders have recently been involved in a Jump Rope Unit. The children were given instruction on the two basic categories of jumping rope: Singles and Doubles. Singles states that for every turn of the rope, the feet land only one time on the floor. Doubles is described as “regular” jumping: for every turn of the rope, the feet land two times on the floor- a bounce/rebound pattern of jumping. Jumping rope is a fabulous activity to improve coordination and cardiovascular endurance! Fabulous work second graders!

Third graders finished up their soccer unit shortly before our first snowfall! It was wonderful to see the students independently apply the basic rules and strategies of soccer in their game play. The students have recently begun a Basketball Unit. They are working on the ball control skills—dribbling, passing, shooting on goal and teamwork. The students are also learning about some of the violations that can occur when not dribbling properly. The children look

forward to progressing onto passing skills and shooting baskets—according to some, “the best part of basketball!” Way to go 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. Jones’ third grade! Awesome work!

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, January 15 at 6:30PM at HMS 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.

PTA Meeting

Thursday, January 10, at 6:30

Student transition from Harold Martin to Maple Street or from Maple Street to the Middle/High School. All three school principals will be on hand to discuss current transition programs and to answer parent questions.
