
Harold Martin School

May 2, 2008

Parent Flash

CALENDARS AND SCHEDULES

The school schedule is an issue that causes a fair amount of conversation between parents, teachers, and students. Our **2008-09 calendar** is now online at <http://www.hopkintonschools.org/> (click on "Calendar") and I have already received a few energetic emails thus far with varied opinions.



Artist in Residence Workshop

*"Come Create
with Clay!"*

Thursday, May 15th
3:15-4:15
MSS

Of course, the most recent variation in the schedule is the time added to every school day to make up for three school days in the latter part of June.

Why was this choice made?

- If we were to stay with this year's calendar with no modification, the year would end on June 25, easily the latest end of the school year in recent memory. By extending the school day the rest of the year, we are able to end the year at a more conventional time, Friday June 20.

- Why not just stay with the 25th as the last day? There are a number of summer camps and activities that begin the week of June 23 and our belief is that school attendance will certainly be lower if school went into that week, and students would

miss out on summer experiences.

- Perhaps more importantly, given the temperature in the building in late June, more learning will be taking place in the extra half hour per day now, than on the three days the week of June 23.

What is happening for the extra half an hour a day?

- Teachers are using the time to provide additional reading, writing, and math instruction for students.
- At our level, it is easy to maximize the extra time. Our classes are self-contained, meaning that students have one primary teacher for the day and do not switch classes as older students begin doing. We don't have to adjust the master schedule significantly to make it work.
- Our specialists (art, music, p.e., and reading) are maximizing the time as well. Small groups of students are involved in various projects related to the teachers' specialties.

As always, feel free to call or email if you have concerns. Have a wonderful weekend.

Bill





The Big Picture

Kindergarten students have been busy exploring different **watercolor painting techniques**. Students experimented with sprinkling **salt**, placing **plastic wrap**, and placing **bubble wrap** on a wet painting. Students also tried painting on **plexi glass** and **marbleizing**. We used **straws** to blow into a puddle of paint and see what shapes it could make, as well as created texture by using **sponges** to paint with. We will be using the papers we created to make a book.

Students in **first grade** took an imaginary trip to Africa to learn about **traditional textiles**. After identifying New Hampshire and Africa on a map, we looked at **patterns** seen in textiles. In partners, students painted their own **color pattern** on burlap and printed it onto paper. On top of the **color and texture patterns**, we then added **line patterns** with oil pastels and **shape patterns** with tempera paint.

Second graders have been incorporating their **weather** knowledge into art. We are

currently looking at different weather books and creating our own weather drawings based on the 'clues' we find that other artists use. We identified the **space** in the picture and now draw **ground lines** half way up the paper. On the bottom half students draw a scene using **wax resist** and then use different **watercolor painting tools and techniques** to create the weather on the top half. Students will be using their images to create a book.

Third grade students continued creating their **three-dimensional (3D)** pop up books. We practiced different paper folding and cutting techniques to make people, animals, and objects pop out or up. Students collaged individual pictures or created a three-page picture story using colored construction paper.



The **Silver Palette** is a team award one class earns each month for meeting the expectations in the art room. Congratulations to **Mrs. Kaplan's first grade** class for earning the April 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.

NEXT WEEK AT 'TWEEN SCHOOL 'N HOME CHILD CARE PROGRAM Week of May 5-9, 2008

Mon: Celebrate Cinco de Mayo
KARATE LESSONS
Tues: Special Surprises for Mom
Wed: Special Surprises for Mom
Th: Special Surprises for Mom
Fri: Special Surprises for Mom
MUSIC LESSONS

Mark your calendars – get your tickets. On Sunday, May 18th, at 3 p.m. TSNH, in celebration of its 25 years of service to the Hopkinton Community, and Hopkinton Friends of the Performing Arts will co-sponsor a fundraising concert of classical piano music by well-known Concord pianist, Jayne Kelly. The program will feature Chopin and Rachmaninoff and will be held in the First Congregational Church of Hopkinton. Advance tickets are available at the HMS office, at TSNH, at the Cracker Barrel, and from Mike Alberici at MSS.

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

BOOGIE FOR BILOXI

Come join us for a **Spaghetti Dinner and Dancing** to music provided by DJs on Saturday, May 17th at St. Methodius Faith and Heritage Center (formerly Camp Merrimac) in Contoocook. Dinner is at 6:00 pm with dancing to follow. Tickets are \$10.00 per person/\$18.00 per couple. Please call or email Vickie Baronas at 746-3582 or baronas35@tds.net to reserve your tickets. All proceeds will go towards Team Biloxi of First Congregational Church of Hopkinton's trip to Biloxi, Mississippi in October to help with Hurricane Katrina rebuilding.

Dear Hopkinton Families,
You are invited to a **Memorial Day Celebration**
Monday, May 26
4-7 p.m.
at the home of the Chapin's
331 Maple St., Contoocook

This will be a kick-off to the Building Fund for the Owen and Rita French Hopkinton Boys & Girls Club
There will be many old fashioned cars on display, with the opportunity for high school students to sign up to be driven at graduation.

Good music
Chili and hot dogs
Nonalcoholic beverages
Please come! All are welcome!



**Fun Fair - Saturday, May 17
10am-2pm**

Mark your calendars for this fun event sponsored by the Hopkinton PTA to be held at Harold Martin School. This year's items include a dunk booth, silent auction, raffle baskets, plant booth, 2 bounce houses, inflatable obstacle course, numerous games and booths, prize table, food and a lot more! Forms will be sent home soon looking for volunteers to staff a booth or game for a 2 hour shift that day. We also ask each class to donate items to put together raffle baskets that we raffle off that day. These forms will be sent home soon. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Morris at 746-4137 or juliemorris@tds.net or Stephanie Lesko at 746-2156 or lesko@conknet.com

**Notice to all Hopkinton parents of:
HYSA baseball/softball and T-Ball players**

Opening Day Celebration
Saturday May 3rd, 2008 4:00
PM – 7:00 PM

Please join HYSA and the Hopkinton youth baseball, softball, and T-Ball teams as we celebrate the opening of the 2008 season. Festivities will begin at 4:00 PM with a parade of the teams starting at the Houston Fields complex that will travel down Pine Street, take a left onto Kearsarge Ave and will end at the High School fields.

Following the parade there will be a cookout and games (pitching machine, base running contest, etc.). There is no cost for the event. All players from T-Ball to Babe Ruth will be in the parade and we invite everyone to come out and help cheer on our teams as we kick off the 2008 season!

In case of rain or snow, the event will be postponed to Sunday, same time.

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