

October Newsletter

MASON ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2010/2011

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL *Theodora Dono*

Dear Parents & Guardians,

In the fall, Fire Prevention Week is recognized with special visits to the Dudley Fire Station. Captain David Konieczny prepares a wonderful program for our Preschool – Grade One students. On Monday, October 4th the Kindergarten classes went on a mini field trip, Tuesday, October 5th the First Grade classes, and later in the year Captain Dave along with a few firefighters will visit the Preschool classrooms. The students learn so much about fire safety and Captain Dave really enjoys planning this for the children.

Also this month, Chief Wojnar visited all of the Kindergarten and First Grade classes to introduce himself and to kick off the Officer Friendly Program. This is his eleventh year and he continues his commitment to this program even with a very hectic schedule. Throughout the year, he visits with the students at lunch and recess. His goal is to foster a positive relationship with the students and to help them understand that rules and laws are very important in our society. His wish is that all of our

students will become solid citizens in our community in the future. Many thanks to Chief Wojnar and Captain Dave for their dedication to our students.

Mrs. Laurie Jankowski is our library coordinator at Mason Road School. She has organized the volunteers and held orientation to review all aspects of the library. Mrs. Jankowski along with the many volunteers will be providing our students an opportunity to sign out the books and enjoy them in their classrooms or with their families at home. It has been a pleasure to work with Laurie. The Mason Road Staff and I sincerely appreciate the many hours she invests to keep our Media Center open for all of the students! Thank you Mrs. Jankowski!

Community Reading Day was held on Wednesday, October 20st at 1:00 p.m. A reception was held in the Media Center prior to our students arriving to escort their reader to their classroom. I would like to thank Ms. Teczar, our Reading Specialist, for organizing and preparing this wonderful sharing of

literature by community members for our students.

The Mason Road Elementary School Council held its first meeting on Monday, October 18th. The members of the School Council for the 2010/11 school year are as follows:

- Mrs. Theodora Dono-Principal
- Mrs. Christine Raymond-Instructional Assistant
- Mrs. Michelle Hooper -Teacher
- Mrs. Dawn Faubert-Teacher
- Mrs. Jeffrey Giarnese– Parent
- Ms. Leah Adamuska– Parent
- Mrs. Amy Marshall– Parent
- Mrs. Emily Babbitt-Community Representative

Please feel free to provide suggestions for school improvement to anyone on the Council. All meetings are open to the public.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- November 2 – PTO Meeting at Dudley Middle School at 6:30 p.m.
- November 3-Commerce Banking Program
- November 4 – Mrs. Dono’s Reading Club
- November 4 – Dudley Elementary Family Math Night at 4:00-6:00 p.m.
- November 5 - Mrs. Dono’s Lunch Club
- November 7 – Change clocks to Standard Time
- November 8 -Preschool Math Day at 1:00-6:00 p.m.
- November 10 – School Committee Meeting-Charlton Middle School at 7:00 p.m.

November 11 – **No School-Veterans Day**

November 12 – Mrs. Dono’s Lunch & Reading Club

November 15 – “Literacy Night” at MRS – Kindergarten at 6:00-7:15 p.m.

November 16 – “Literacy Night” at MRS –Grade 1 at 6:00-7:15 p.m.

November 17- Commerce Banking Program

November 18-- Mrs. Dono’s Reading Club

November 19 - Mrs. Dono’s Lunch Club

November 22 – School Council Meeting at 3:45 p.m.

November 23 – Kindergarten Thanksgiving Feast

November 24, 25 & 26 – **No School (Thanksgiving Recess)**

November 29 – PTO Learning Store

November 30 – Council on Aging – Kindergarten Mitten Presentation

December 1 – Report Cards go home



A Message from Preschool

In Preschool, we are discovering “math concepts” throughout the day. The room is one big learning center. Children learn to make sense of their world through everyday experiences.

We use a variety of materials and ideas to create an environment in which children explore math concepts. In the math center, there are puzzles, matching games, lotto games, dominoes, cards, pattern blocks and collections of objects that give children the opportunities to recognize numbers and build math skills.

In the block corner, children construct cities (by sorting and organizing) and use words like short, long, small and tall. At snack, a child passes out one napkin per child and the same number of crackers for each person (1-1 correspondence). We graph the weather daily, take attendance and count the days on the calendar. We even make patterns on the calendar.

Parents can find math moments at home also. With your child, identify numbers and shapes in your junk mail, as you cook together or do errands. You can make comments or ask questions that encourage meaningful math understanding. For instance, “We need a bottle of juice for each person in the family and your friend. How many shall I get?” Children love to be consulted on such matters. Just keep it all fun!!!

During October, the children measured pumpkins and recorded the results on class graphs. We determined which pumpkin was the largest and which was the smallest. We decorated our

pumpkins. We also sorted shapes onto different shaped spider webs.



A Message from Kindergarten

October has been a very busy month for kindergarten. The character trait for the month of October was Responsibility. We introduced our friend Cubby Bear and each student had a chance to share how they taught their own bear at home responsibility. It was wonderful to hear and see all the great stories the children had about teaching their animal how to be responsible.

Library began this month and children were very excited to have that special reading time with parents who volunteer. The children got to borrow books and learn about the “responsibility” of taking home a book and caring for it.

Our trip to the Dudley Fire Station was exciting and fun. The students learned all about fire prevention and safety. We learned what to do in case of an emergency and how to make sure our homes were safe as well. We watched a video about Sparky the Fire Dog who taught us all about being safe. At the end, we got to meet a firefighter in full uniform and had a chance to explore the fire trucks and ambulances. Overall it was very informative and a great success!

Officer Friendly had a visit to Mason Road School and talked with the children about safety. He taught the children about the importance of knowing how to dial 911 in an emergency and how important it is for us to know our phone numbers and addresses. Officer Friendly ended by

reminding the children about safety if participating in Halloween.

We would like to thank all of the volunteers that came to share wonderful stories with us on Community Reading Day! The children loved hearing new stories and enjoyed participating in the enriching activities. Thank you for sharing and enhancing our love for reading.

In Social Studies, Christopher Columbus was an important figure this month. We learned all about his adventures and tales through books and activities. We looked at globes and maps and talked about our Earth and how America was discovered. We also enjoyed the extra day off to take pleasure in the fall weather.

In science this month we explored apples. We learned about Johnny Appleseed and how apples grow on trees and start from a seed. We graphed our favorite apple, sorted apples by color, size, and stem. We also measured the circumference and compared weight. Next we learned all about leaves and why they change color every fall. We made leaf rubbings, graphs, necklaces, and paintings. We learned all about nutrition this month and how to choose foods from all the important food groups. The students got to browse through food flyers and create their own menus. We ended the month exploring pumpkins. We compared, graphed, weighed, measured and decorated our pumpkins. This month was filled with lots of fun science activities and the students really enjoyed becoming scientists!

This month ended with a Fall Celebration. We all participated in a

variety of exciting activities such as, leaf rubbings, leaf prints, sorting leaves, and pumpkin decorating. We want to thank all of the parents who participated in this event and for all of the donations that made our parties enjoyable.



A Message from First Grade

Wow! Can you believe it is already the end of October? How time flies. This has been another busy month in first grade. The children enjoyed a trip to the Dudley Fire Station where they learned about fire safety. A few days later, they were treated to a visit from Chief Wojnar, also known as “Officer Friendly”. He discussed the role of police officers within our community and answered children’s questions. We thank both departments for their continued efforts to serve our children and community well.

Speaking of the community, Community Reading Day was held on October 20th. The children were treated to some fun stories read by members of our town. The children enjoyed it very much. We would like to thank all of the readers for a job well done!

In our Houghton/Mifflin reading series, we have finished theme two, “Surprise!” The children have been reading stories from a variety of different genres. We continue to review/learn high frequency words, recognize and print letters correctly, and build real and nonsense words with short vowel sounds using different word families.

In math we have been busy counting nickels and pennies, telling time to the hour/half hour, adding and subtracting

numbers using a number line, exploring patterns and shapes, and learning about odd and even number patterns. Please continue to practice these skills with your child at home to reinforce the learning that is taking place in school.

This month's Character Education theme was "Responsibility". Every child created a page for a class book in which they showed how they taught one of their own stuffed animals how to be responsible. The stuffed animals were invited to join Mrs. Dono's Lunch Club on October 22. The children had a wonderful time.

This month has also allowed the children to participate in many fun fall activities involving apples and pumpkins. Our "Fall Festival" was great fun! The children enjoyed moving from classroom to classroom to complete a fun activity with each of the first grade teachers. As always, we thank you for all you do and for your continued support.



**A Message from the Library
Coordinator – Laura Jankowski**

Things here at the library are in full swing now that we are about a month into library class. The children are really enjoying their time in the library and having the opportunity to choose a book to take home each week. It amazes me how quickly the children find their book of choice. They certainly know what they want!! We have talked about library manners and being respectful in the library as well as being respectful to

the books in the library, especially when they are taken home each week. They are doing a great job adhering to these rules. Tell them to keep up the good work!!

We are using a new computer system in the library this year to check books in and out as well as for looking up books. This has made the check in/out process much easier and speeds up the process to allow the students more time for a story and for finding a book to take home.

Did you know with this new computer system, if your child wants to take out a particular book, you can look it up online from home to see if we have that book in our library? I will be sending home a letter to parents within the next week to show you how to do that. It is very user friendly and a great tool to see what types of books the library has.

Have a great month everyone and if you have any old books you are looking to donate, I would love to have them! Any book donations may be left at the office or you may contact me at the school.

**A Message from the Physical
Education & Health Teacher – Janet
Strazzullo**

Students in Physical Education classes continue to work on readiness skills. These include listening and following directions. This comes easier for some than others. Locomotor skills (running, skipping, and galloping) are also a part of each lesson. Students have also started using playground balls. This is always a fun time. As the end of October nears please have your child wear a sweater or jacket to school. This will be important if we go outside. Also, I cannot emphasize

enough how important it is for the students to wear sneakers on the days they have physical education. Remember this is for the safety of your child as well as others.

Other skills that are important for all students to learn at this level are sneaker tying, buttoning buttons, and zipping zippers. The more practice the students have the better they will become. Please help your child learn these skills.



A Message from the Music Teacher- Julianne Winans

For your planning purposes, listed here are the dates of the upcoming seasonal shows at Mason Road School:

Wednesday, December 15th - Kindergarten will perform. Snow date will be Wednesday, December 22nd.

Thursday, December 16th - First Grade will perform. Snow date will be Thursday, December 23rd.

A more detailed notice will be sent home in mid-November as to performance times and what the children should wear. Please contact me at school or via email at jwinans@dcrsd.org if you have any questions regarding this. I look forward to seeing you at the shows.

Please note that I will be available for Parent-Teacher conferences at the Mason Road School from 1-3PM on Thursday, December 2nd. I will be in room 24. Please feel free to stop by and say hello!

A Message from the TEAM Chairperson-Pamela Boyle

When parents and teachers are together on the same wavelength, the child is the one who always benefits. 3 Key Ingredients to foster great partnerships are:

- two-way mutual respect
- ongoing communication and,
- shared goals

Remember the big 3 and you will have the key ingredients for effective partnerships, which is critically important. The following are 7 key points that a special educator would like to share with parents of children with special needs.

Our Goals Are Shared:

As educators, we, too, want what is best for your child. We want to work with you to maximize achievement academically, socially, and behaviorally. As a parent, your child is your number one concern. As educators, many children become our number one concern. It may seem that we don't always put your child first however we do the very best for all the students under our direction and care. Always know that the 2 environments (home and school) are different and that we have many parents to form partnerships with in order to best meet the needs of all of our students with special needs.

I Want to Make the Difference:

I chose special education because I want to move your child from point A to point B in all areas of his/her development. I am

patient but also very committed to achieving the goals stated in the IEP. I have the firm belief that from the time a child is born, our goals are to help with independence while maximizing learning opportunities. I also realize that as the parent, you know your child best and I want to know about any concerns or suggestions you may have.

Meaningful Parental Involvement is Important to Me:

Research exists to link parent involvement in their children's education with greater student achievement in terms of grades, student attitudes and behavior. To this end, I believe you should be involved in planning, problem solving, decision making and IEP input. Sometimes, emotions run high in parent/teacher relationships. Let's remove the barriers together and use a solution focused approach. Together we can unlock your child's potential.

I Believe Strongly in Promoting Self-Confidence and Self-Esteem:

I am well aware that many children with special needs suffer from a lower self esteem. I work hard to promote their self-esteem and to improve their confidence levels. I alone cannot achieve this and will always rely on your support and the support of all of those working with your child.

It's Important to Me That We Work Together:

I believe that maximum success begins with both of us working together to achieve the goals that are in the best interests of your child. I believe that our [routines](#) should be similar to provide your child with a consistent set of expectations focused on growth in academic, social or behavioral areas. Conversations aren't always possible but agendas or communication books that are treated very seriously can be a great

means for daily communication. In many cases, daily communication through the agenda/communication book is essential. Let's keep the 2-way communication going.

Becoming Informed:

As an educator, I am a lifelong learner and will always strive to become informed about the special needs of my learners. I also encourage you to become informed about special education in our educational district. Depending upon which educational jurisdiction you are in, there are many great resources and parental guides to help you understand what special education is all about. Special educators tend to use a lot of acronyms. Whenever you want clarification, be sure to ask and/or check the wealth of resources available to you. The internet is also a great vehicle to learn about policy and procedures in special education.

Communication:

Communication between us is extremely important to me. When preparing for a meeting or phone conversation, I would encourage you to make a list of any questions, concerns, thoughts and information you might have. Time isn't always our friend, and the more we can prepare for conferences, interviews or phone calls, the quicker we will be able to find solutions. If possible, be sure to ask and get input from your child as well. We'll talk about the great things that are happening, the strengths we're seeing and the areas of concern or need while maintaining a positive tone.

In Summary:

In summary, I come back to my number one point. Always remember that our goals are shared. Believe in me and believe that I too share your goals. I want what is truly best for your child.

Source:
www.about.com.:specialeducation

**A Message from the Technology
Teacher- Kelly Frederico**

The Kindergarten classes have begun to use the program KidPix which is a drawing program. The kids really enjoyed this. They spent some time using KidPix to create balloons of a specified number and color. They really showed their ability to use the mouse to draw the balloons and the strings attached. They also learned how to print and exit the program using dropdown menus which is very difficult at this age. They all did wonderful!

In First Grade, we spent some time brushing up on some of our tools in KidPix. We drew Eric Carle's *Very Hungry Caterpillar* using KidPix. The students overlapped ovals to create the blended colors that Eric Carle uses. I hope you enjoyed these as much as the children enjoyed making them. During the last week, the kids drew some spider webs using KidPix. This required some very precise mouse skills. Great job to all! They also learned how to use stickers which are different rubber stamps as they are able to manipulate them in size and shape. The children are all progressing very well and did a very nice job!



**A Message from the Reading
Specialist- Laura Teczar**

The Power of Reading Aloud

Okay, so your child loves to watch television, play video games, and go on the computer...there is nothing wrong with those activities, as long as they are used in moderation. Most parents would also love to see their kids participate in more constructive activities -- like reading children's books -- but the trick is to get your child to actually sit down and open a book a few times per week.

One way to start is by sitting down and reading aloud to your children. By reading aloud to your child/children, you are showing them how to enjoy books, the English language, the wonders of a good story, and hopefully, you are instilling a love of reading and learning. (This reading can be counted toward the minutes needed on your child's monthly reading calendar.) Many children associate books with school work, but you want to show them how a well written children's book can be an exciting adventure, a real pleasure, as their imagination takes them to places they have never been to visit with people and characters they've never met.

According to a recent US government study, there is a direct relationship with reading aloud to your children and childhood literacy rates. Reading children's books and other materials to your children is not only a great educational head start for pre-school, but also a wonderful social activity, and a chance to spend quality time with your kids.

Reading to children is shown to have a positive effect on children's literacy outcomes, the government report concludes. Through experience with books, children gain important exposure to written language. They begin making connections between the spoken word and

the printed word while they are growing in their love of reading.

Regrettably, according to a recent study of children's free time, few seem to read for pleasure. In this study, only 7 out of 10 9-year-olds said that they enjoy reading as a pastime, compared with 78% five years ago, while for 11-year-olds, the proportion has declined from 77% to 65%. Children said they preferred watching television to going to the library or reading. But the biggest changes in attitudes were among boys. In Year 6, only 55% of boys said they enjoyed stories compared with 70% in 1998.

So getting your children, especially males, to read, and enjoy reading, is a real challenge these days. And again, one way to tackle that challenge is to read to your children aloud. One technique is to make reading a children's book a game, an interactive adventure that you can both enjoy. After all, this is another way to spend some quality time with your child/children, which is what they want anyway.

Some experts agree that varying the reading diet is key. Provide your child/children with different lengths and genres of book to keep him/her interested. Some parents shy away from longer books because they feel that their child will not be able to hold their attention that long; however, this type of literature can provide meaningful dialogue and character development that may be missing in some shorter books.

The goal is to get your child to open a book for fun, on their own, without prodding from you or their teachers in school. Teaching children to read opens

the world to them. They can go anywhere and do anything through books. But in today's age of high-tech gizmos and video games often the last thing our kids want to do is read. But there are some easy and fun ways you can share your love of reading with your kids. Implement these few simple ideas and your kids will be engrossed in a good book before you know it.

(Ideas adapted from an article by, Kent W Johnson)

Literacy Quote for the Month:

"T.V. If kids are entertained by two letters, imagine the fun they'll have with twenty-six. Open your child's imagination. Open a book." ~Author Unknown

A Message from the Title I Teacher – Michelle Gray

The children in the Title One programs have been working very hard this month: In Language Arts we have been practicing various reading strategies including decoding, blending and using picture clues to help us read new and unfamiliar text. We have been reading our Phonics Library Books; these are decodable texts focusing on stories that coincide with our short vowel and consonants of the week. We have been reviewing sight words from kindergarten and practicing new high frequency words as they are introduced. Please continue to read regularly with your child at home.

In Title One Math, we read the story Benny's Pennies by Pat Brisson and then the children were busy practicing counting pennies and nickels. The children have learned the value of these coins and how to add them together to calculate the total

value of the coins. We have practiced exchanging pennies for nickels and representing coin values in different ways through numbers and pictures. The children enjoy counting money and this is a skill that can easily be practiced at home. We have used the number line and number grid to add and subtract numbers and have begun to write number models. We have practiced additional skills including, counting and writing tallies, telling time to the hour, identifying and extending patterns and counting by 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s!

It was so nice meeting all of the parents that attended the Title I informational meeting on Thursday, October 14th. If you were unable to attend the meeting and you have questions, concerns or comments please call me at Dudley Elementary School on Tuesdays and Thursdays or at Mason Road School on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. You can also email me at mgray@dcrsd.org.



A Message from the Art Teacher-
Catherine Dube

October was a spo-o-o-oky fun time for learning in the art room. Bats, skeletons and jack-o-lanterns, Oh my!

Kindergartners created black cats with glow-in-the dark eyes and bats on the moon. We also learned two new songs, *Three Black Cats* and *Five Little Bats*. Ask your child to sing these songs for you! Concepts reviewed were drawing with geometric shapes, pattern, overlapping and small, medium and large. The focus, however, was

strengthening fine motor and independent working skills.

First graders created Ghostly Towns and watercolor spider webs with an almost real spider. Concepts reviewed were drawing with geometric shapes, primary and secondary colors along with mixing colors. geometric shapes, primary and secondary colors along with mixing colors.

Parents: Should children come home with paint on their clothing, even with the aid of a paint shirt, pre-washing with Lestoil usually removes any and all paint.

A Message from the School
Psychologist – Theresa Veilleux

As parents we want to raise self-assured, self-confident children, but we do not want to raise children that have unnecessarily high images of themselves.

What are better ways to boost your child's self-esteem?

1. Praise your child for doing a good deed or doing well at school.
2. Catch him or her doing something right. When you see him or her picking up a piece of paper, tell the child that you think they are being helpful. Thank your child for the kindness.
3. Encourage your children by really paying attention when they show you their artwork, school papers, and other creative works. If you just give them a quick compliment and only look for a second, the child can sense that you are not being sincere.

4. Applaud your children's effort to improve. Perhaps little Sally just brought her grade from a B or a C up to an astounding A. How should you react? We parents should not only get very excited, but also perhaps give the child an unexpected reward. This is positive reinforcement.

5. Listen to your child when he or she speaks to you. Ask your children questions. As parents, we will encourage our children to develop their verbal skills. Make them know that their ideas and views are important. This also keeps the line of communication open between parent and child, which is very important when the child gets older. Children are much more willing to come and talk to a parent about their problems if they know that the parent will really listen.

***A Message from the
Speech/Language Pathologist –
Jessica Davis***

Taken from Phonemic Awareness: An Important Early Step in Learning to Read, by Roger Sensenbaugh

With little or no direct instruction, almost all young children develop the ability to understand spoken language. While most kindergarten children have mastered the complexities of speech, they do not know that spoken language is made up of discrete words, which are made up of syllables, which themselves are made up of the smallest units of sound, called "phonemes." This awareness that spoken language is made up of discrete sounds appears to be a crucial factor in children learning to read.

5 levels of phonemic awareness include:

- to hear rhymes and alliteration as measured by knowledge of nursery rhymes
- comparing and contrasting the sounds of words for rhyme and alliteration
- to blend and split syllables
- to perform phonemic segmentation (for example, "Tell me the sounds in the word 'sun'")
- to perform phoneme manipulation tasks (such as adding, deleting a particular phoneme and regenerating a word from the remainder).

Research indicates that phonological awareness can be taught. There are activities that can help students become aware of phonemes before they receive formal reading instruction.

- At the preschool level, engage children in activities that direct their attention to the sounds in words, such as rhyming and alliteration games.
- Teach students to segment and blend (for example, "Tell me the sounds you hear in the word 'stop'"; "What word do you hear when I say these sounds /s/ /t/ /o/ /p/")
- Identify and express rhyming words (for example, "Do cat-hat rhyme?", "Do cup-boat rhyme?", "Tell me a word that rhymes with mop")

- Play with syllables and parts of words (for example, “Say cowboy”, “Now say it without ‘cow’”)
- Use group settings that encourage interaction among children.
 - a. Encourage children's curiosity about language and their experimentation with it.

Spending a few minutes daily engaging preschool, kindergarten, and first-grade children in oral activities that emphasize the sounds of language may go a long way in helping them become successful readers and learners.

For further resources please visit www.kidsource.com

**A Message from the School Nurse –
Maureen Gagnon**

At this time, everyone in Grade 1 should have received a Fluoride permission form. This program is available in the towns of Dudley/Charlton because the drinking water does not contain fluoride. This is an important step in helping teeth resist tooth decay. The school’s fluoride program is a weekly topical application of fluoride that the children “swish and spit”. Studies have shown that cavities are reduced between 20 – 40 % with the use of fluoride. This, along with regular visits to the dentist and good daily brushing and flossing are essential for good dental health. If there are any concerns or questions about this program, you can call the Oral Health Office of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health at (617) 727-0732 or

contact the nursing office here at Mason Road School.

Also, if a medication needs to be given at school, I would like to remind parents that these must be brought to school by an adult. A form must also be filled out prior to any medication administered at school. If you have any questions regarding this or any other medical concern, please call me here at school. Thank you.

**A Message from the Dudley Police
Department – Chief
Steven Wojnar**

The end of October means Halloween. This is always a time for children to have fun dressing up and receive all the goodies of the season. While having fun, a few safety rules should be observed in order to make this safe and fun for all. Remember these tips: Try to trick or treat as early as possible, to take advantage of the remaining daylight. Wear a costume that is easy to walk in and one that allows you to see and be seen. It is important to remember there are vehicles on the road at the same time as trick or treaters. Stay on the sidewalks and avoid walking in the roadway. Carry a flashlight and wear reflective tape or a costume light in color to be seen easily. Use make up instead of a mask that can limit clear vision. If there are no crosswalks, cross at corners. Do not cross between parked cars. Children should always be accompanied by an adult. You are also encouraged to trick or treat with a group. Parents should be aware of where children will be and who they will be with. Everyone should be home at an agreed upon time.

After returning home, children must not dive right into the candy bag and start eating. All candy should be inspected by an adult to be sure it has not been tampered with. Only give or accept wrapped candy or treats. Anything else should be discarded for safety reasons. If there are any problems or concerns about candy or any other activities surrounding Halloween, please do not hesitate to contact the police. Our officers will be out and about making sure the night goes smooth and everyone has a happy and safe evening.

A Message from the Dudley Fire Department – Capt. David J. Konieczny

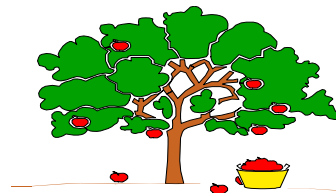
Our heating systems are now working as the weather continues to get colder and without periodic maintenance these systems can cause serious illness or even death. A heating system, regardless of the fuel source, can produce a lethal amount of carbon monoxide if it is not working properly or adequately vented.

Remember, carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless and tasteless gas that is extremely toxic. It displaces the oxygen within the bloodstream which can lead to unconsciousness, brain damage or even death. Symptoms associated with carbon monoxide poisoning include headache, dizziness, nausea, weakness and loss of muscle control.

You can reduce the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning by having your heating system serviced, including the chimney and vent pipes. If you are using alternative heating methods such as wood or pellet stove ensure it is properly

installed. Check your chimney for the presence of creosote and have the chimney cleaned annually. Direct vent systems need to be checked following snowstorms to make sure falling or drifting snow has not blocked the vent which can lead to high amounts of carbon monoxide backing up into the house.

Electric space heaters do not produce carbon monoxide, however, special attention must be given to placing a safe distance from combustibles, never leave it unattended or running while you sleep and has an automatic shut off in case it is knocked over.



A Message from the PTO

Please visit our Website available through your school webpage for updated information, reminders, and involvement opportunities!

Upcoming/Current Events

PLEASE do not forget to purchase your tickets for the Auction on Saturday November, 13. Tickets are \$25.00 pp or reserve a whole table. Purchasing information already went home through all schools. If you need tickets or didn't receive any information please contact Heather Bowes at Bowes96@yahoo.com . This is an adult night out!

Fall fundraiser Pickup: Pies and Cookie dough - Dudley Middle School Monday November, 15, 2009 5:30 – 8:00pm.

Raffle Calendar: Check the website for winners during the month of October! If you have any questions please call Debbie at 508-459-8803.

Spiritwear sale, watch for flyer to come home soon with delivery in time for Christmas.

Conferences are December 2nd for MRS and DES. We will be hosting a potluck dinner for the staff, please donate any way you can, information will be sent home.

Mark your calendars, Holiday Shoppe will be held Saturday December 4th. Watch for details and new location!

Things to know

The Dudley PTO is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a “non-profit charity”. Our 501© (3) status designates us as exempt from sales tax and donations to our PTO are tax deductible.

Check out the website for our monthly newsletters, information and updates.

Do you know we have enough members that if everyone only volunteered once or twice a year we would never have to ask for volunteers?

If you do not find the fundraisers attractive, and wish to make a cash donation, please make checks payable to Dudley PTO and send it in an envelope with your child to school.

Meetings

Please join us for our next meeting;

Tuesday, November 2 at Dudley Middle School at 6:30pm

A Message from the DC SEPAC

The Dudley-Charlton Special Education Parent Advisory Council (DC SEPAC) will be holding our next meeting on Tuesday, November 16th for a general business and open forum meeting from 7pm-9pm at the Shepherd Hill Library, 68 Dudley-Oxford Road, Dudley. Please join us to learn more about the SEPAC. Bring your questions too!

Our “Basic Rights” workshop on October 19th was a great success! We had a fantastic turn out. This was a great opportunity for parents of students who have different learning needs learn more about the eligibility process for special education and their legal rights. It was great to meet and welcome new members to the SEPAC. We look forward to meeting you at one of our future meetings!

DC SEPAC 2010-2011 Calendar:

1/18/11 (7-9pm)	Presentation Charlton	TBA Middle Library
2/15/11 Meeting (7-8:30pm)	Open Shepherd Library *	Forum Hill
3/15/11 (7-9pm)	Presentation Shepherd	TBA Hill
Library*		
4/12/11	Elections	(7- 8:30pm)
Middle Library	Charlton	
5/17/11	Transfer of duties	
(7-8:30pm)	Charlton Middle Library	

**Please Note: When attending meetings held at the Shepherd Hill Library, please enter through the Superintendent’s door. Thank you!*

DC SEPAC is open to parents of students and professionals in Dudley and Charlton,

as well as any interested parties. Please view our website for more details regarding our 2010-2011 calendar, membership information and updates at <http://www.dcrsd.org/community.cfm> or send an email to DCSEPAC@gmail.com.

A Message from English Language Learner Parent Advisory Council

The first meeting of the English Language Learner Parent Advisory Council will be Monday, November 15 from 4-6 pm in room 202 at Shepherd Hill Regional High School. All parents of ELL students are invited.

Arabic

وسيعقد الاجتماع الأول للغة الانجليزية المتعلم المجلس الاستشاري الأصل يكون الاثنيين 15 نوفمبر 6-4 مساء في الغرفة 202 في مدرسة ثانوية هيل الراعي الإقليمي. والدعوة موجهة إلى جميع أولياء أمور الطلبة متعلمي اللغة الإنكليزية.

Albanian ▼

Takimi i parë i gjuhës angleze Nxënës Këshilli i Prindërve Këshillues do të jetë e hënë, nëntor 15 4-6 pm në dhomën 202 në Bariu Hill Shkolla Rajonale e Lartë. Të gjithë prindërit e nxënësve ELL ftohen

Hindi

अंग्रेजी भाषा सीखने जनक सलाहकार परिषद की पहली बैठक शेफर्ड हिल क्षेत्रीय हाई स्कूल में 4-6 202 कमरे बजे से सोमवार, 15 नवंबर होगी. पक्ष के छात्रों के सभी माता पिता को आमंत्रित कर रहे हैं.

Icelandic

Fyrsti fundur á ensku Language Learner Parent Advisory Council verður mánudagur 15 nóvember 4-6 kl í stofu 202 kl Shepherd Hill Regional High School. Allir foreldrar ELL nemendum er boðið.

Polish

Pierwsze spotkanie English Language Learner Parent Rady Doradczej w poniedziałek, 15 listopada od 4-6 pm w sali 202 na Owczarek Regionalnego Hill High School. Wszyscy rodzice uczniów ELL są zaproszeni.

Portuguese

A primeira reunião do Idioma Inglês para os alunos dos pais do Conselho Consultivo será segunda-feira novembro 15 4-6 pm na sala 202 no Shepherd Hill Regional High School. Todos os pais de alunos ELL são convidados.

Spanish

La primera reunión del Idioma Inglés Consejo Asesor de Padres será Lunes, 15 de noviembre de 4-6 pm en la habitación 202 en Pastor Hill High School secundaria regional. Todos los padres de los estudiantes ELL están invitados.

Urdu

انگریزی زبان سیکھنے کا بنیادی ایڈوائزری کونسل کا پہلا اجلاس شیفرڈ ہل علاقائی ہائی سکول میں 202 کمرے میں 4-6 بجے شام سے پیر ، 15 نومبر جائے گا. ELL طلباء کے سب والدین کو مدعو کیا جاتا ہے.

shepherd Hill's
19th  **Annual**
Festival of Crafts
\$1 off our \$5 Admission
With this coupon

Saturday, November 20
9 am – 4 pm

Shepherd Hill Regional HS
68 Dudley-Oxford Road
Dudley, MA 01571
Sponsored by: Shepherd Hill
Music Parents Association

The Shepherd Hill Music Parents Association is proud to present its “19th Annual Festival of Crafts “ on Saturday, November 20, 2010 from 9AM to 4PM at Shepherd Hill Regional High School, located at 68 Dudley-Oxford Road, Dudley, MA.

Over 150 top quality crafters and artisans from all over New England and beyond are represented at this festival. It is a great opportunity to buy fine, hand-made holiday gifts at reasonable prices. Also available this year will be a raffle of items donations from our crafters, fresh food, home-baked desserts, our popular free package carry out service, free shuttle service from Dudley Middle School and Dudley-Oxford Road.