

November Newsletter

MASON ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2010/11

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Theodora Dono

On Tuesday, November 16th, Family Literacy Night was held for our first grade students and their parents. Miss Teczar, our Reading Specialist, along with the first grade teachers prepared a spectacular evening. What a fabulous turnout! I thank all of you for attending and for your strong support of literacy. Many thanks to our Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Sean Gilrein and Mrs. Pamela Boyle, MRS Team Chairperson for dressing in costume for the reading of Leo the Late Bloomer!

On Tuesday, November 23rd, the Kindergarten students gathered for their annual Thanksgiving Feast. They proudly arrived in their costumes singing joyfully about this wonderful holiday. In preparation, not only did they design and decorate their costumes, but they made corn bread, butter, popcorn, and many delicious traditional foods and beautiful centerpieces.

At the conclusion of the feast, the students sang about the many things that they are thankful for – their families, school, teachers, friends, and country. The Thanksgiving Feast was delightful from beginning to end!

Many invited guests joined in for the celebration. The list included Superintendent Gilrein, Chief Wojnar, School Committee Members and other administrators. I especially want to thank our teachers, assistants, and parents who worked tirelessly to make this happen!

In closing, Happy Holidays to all of our Mason Road School families. I look forward to seeing you at the student holiday shows that the children have been preparing for. Please check the calendar that follows for the dates and times.

~

Please note that Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, December 2nd from 1:00-3:00 p.m. and 5:00-8:00 p.m. Students attend school in the morning and will be dismissed at 12:15 p.m. I look forward to seeing you in the afternoon and evening.

Thank you for a wonderful start to the year! Your support and commitment is sincerely appreciated.

~

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

December 1 – Commerce Banking Day

December 1 – Progress Reports to Parents

December 2 – Parent Teacher Conferences – 1:00-3:00 & 5:00-8:00 p.m. Early Release Day!

December 3– Mrs. Dono’s Lunch & Reading Club

December 6 – Literacy Night – Kindergarten , Mason Road School- 6:00-7:15 p.m.

December 7- P.T.O. Meeting at Dudley Elementary School – 6:30 p.m.

December 8– School Committee Meeting at Shepherd Hill at 7:00 p.m.

December 9 - Mrs. Dono’s Reading Club

December 10 – Mrs. Dono’s Lunch Club

December 15 – Commerce Banking Day

December 15 - Holiday Shows- Kindergarten at 9:15 a.m. & at 10:30 a.m. (Snowdate – December 22th)

December 16–Holiday Shows- Grade One at 9:15 a.m. & at 10:30 a.m. (Snowdate – December 23th)

December 16 - Mrs. Dono’s Reading Club (2:00-2:30 p.m.)

December 17 – Mrs. Dono’s Lunch Club

December 21 - Winter Begins

December 21 - Kindergarten & Grade 1 visits Shepherd Hill for the “Holiday Concert:”

December 24– January 2– School Vacation

Happy Holidays!

A Message from Preschool

In preschool, we have been learning about families. The preschoolers have engaged in discussions about activities that they like to do with their families. A child's primary connection to the outside world is through a child's family. Children's first teachers are their family members. Children learn to communicate and develop social skills by observing and interacting with their families. They learn about cooperation, family values, and morals by being active participants in a family unit. Children benefit from spending time with immediate and extended family members.

There are many activities that families can do together. Families should spend time at meals together talking about their daily experiences. Children benefit from reading stories and playing games (Candyland, HiHo Cherrio, Chutes and Ladders, etc.) with their families. Children often enjoy helping with household chores such as sorting laundry, feeding pets, etc. A wonderful family activity that involves cooperation is cooking and baking together. There are many more activities families can do together. Young children enjoy spending time with their family members. The most important people in their lives are their family members.

We have also been learning about thankfulness. The children have had many opportunities to share what they are thankful for. On November 24th and 25st, we had our Harvest Feasts. The children made corn muffins, butter, and popcorn for our feast. Thank you for the donations of your time and various items. The preschool staff and children

appreciate your support. Happy Thanksgiving!!!!

A Message from Kindergarten

November has been a busy month in kindergarten. In science, we have studied the senses, the food pyramid, and families. The children used their sense of hearing with sound boxes. They used their sense of touch to feel for shapes and objects in the feely box. The children were delighted with their sense of smell as they identified various scents in the scent jars. We all used our sense of sight as we walked through our school to see the children's beautiful work on the bulletin boards. Thank you for helping your child learn more about their families through our Family Tree project. They are on display and are a sight to see!

The *Houghton Mifflin* Reading Program focused on two very important themes: "Family" and "Friendship." These themes accompany our social studies focus of Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving. Veteran's Day was celebrated through different activities such as making red poppies, hats, banners, and parades to make the learning about the men and women who served this country.

As we began our Thanksgiving unit, students learned about the Pilgrims and Native Americans and the story of the first Thanksgiving. Students sang songs, listened to stories, made woven placemats, costumes and necklaces, and shared stories about how they celebrate the holiday. We shared a fantastic feast. We made cornbread, butter, popcorn and Pilgrim Punch. Students dressed in

Pilgrim and Native American costumes as they sat down together to enjoy a meal and depict the first Thanksgiving. Thank you to all who donated items for the feast. It made our special day, even more special! We wish all of our students and their families a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving!

Please remember as the weather becomes colder that students should come to school dressed for the season with winter coats, hats, and mittens. We do take the children out to recess as often as weather permits, even if it is cooler. We look forward to seeing you at Parent Conferences in December.



A Message from First Grade

Well, another month has quickly come and gone and the children have settled nicely into their new roles as first graders. First and foremost, we would like to thank the parents and guardians who were able to attend the Grade One literacy Night held on November 16th. It seemed like everyone had a great time. It was also a nice opportunity to talk with you about what a typical week looks like in your child's classroom during our language arts block.

We have been reading stories in Theme 3 entitled, "Let's Look Around!" We have read about the seasons, plants, ice cream, a hen named "Hilda", and a trip to the aquarium. We continue to

practice word families with short vowel sounds, possessive nouns, plural words, verbs with -s, -ed, and -ing endings, clusters with "r", and contractions. The children now have a spelling test every Friday, receiving the words to practice prior to the test. Please practice spelling these words with your child on a daily basis. We have just started Theme 4, "Family and Friends", a perfect theme for this time of the year.

In Math, we continue to reinforce taught concepts such as addition and subtraction, counting and trading pennies/nickels/dimes, counting up and back on a number line/hundred grid, telling time to the hour/half hour, and completing frames-and-arrows problems. Some new concepts the children are learning include daily math messages, reading a thermometer, measuring with standard and nonstandard units, and measuring to the nearest inch.

November has been a month to honor heroes...our Veterans. We also spent much of this month learning about the Pilgrims arriving on the Mayflower, Native Americans, and their very first Thanksgiving together. We hope you all had a wonderful holiday. As always, we thank you for your cooperation and support.

A Message from the Music Teacher- Julie Winans

The holiday shows are quickly approaching and the students are gearing up to make them wonderful! For your planning, here are the dates:
Kindergarten will perform on Wednesday, December 15th (snow date Wednesday, December 22nd) at 9:15AM and 10:30AM.

Family and friends of students in Mrs. Maglione's class, Miss Abysalh's class and Mrs. Lundquist's class are invited to the 9:15AM show. Family and friends of students in Mrs. Gould's class, Mrs. Penniman's class and Mrs. Hooper's class are invited to the 10:30AM show.

Grade One will perform on Thursday, December 16th (snow date Thursday, December 23rd) at 9:15AM and 10:30 AM.

Family and friends of students in Mrs. Marrier's class, Mrs. Stefanik's class and Mrs. Swenson's class are invited to the 9:15AM show. Family and friends of students in Mrs. Alden's class, Mrs. Brogna's class and Mrs. Faubert's class are invited to the 10:30AM show.

Please note that, due to parking constraints, we ask that you try your best to attend the show that is "assigned." We thank you for your cooperation.

ALL students should wear a plain, white shirt (no designs or writing) and dark colored pants (dark skirts and tights are fine for girls) for their show.

I look forward to seeing you soon!! Please note that I will be available for Parent-Teacher conferences from 1:00PM-3:00PM on Thursday, December 2.

A Message from the Reading Specialist- Laura Teczar

Let's Make Reading Fun...

Here are some fun strategies to use with your child when reading at home.

Read to Them

Kids love being read aloud to. Cuddling up on the couch with a good book is a

wonderful way to spend time with your child. Even older children like to be read to so be sure to include siblings when reading aloud. (Don't forget to put these minutes on your Monthly Reading Calendar.)

Have a Hide Away

Make a reading corner in your house. Fix up a cozy corner with beanbag chairs, or a large overstuffed pillow, a small bookcase. Change the books often and this may become the most popular spot in the house!

Scatter Books Around the House

Leave books lying around. Place books in the bathroom, on their nightstands, in the living room and even in the kitchen. When they are bored they will pick them up out of curiosity.

Get a Library Card

Get them their own library card. Children love having their own library cards and checking out books they choose, on their own.

Go to the Library Often

Visit the library often. (The Pearle Crawford Library, located on 40 Schofield Avenue, had its grand opening in July. It is a great resource you may want to check out--for hours and more information go to www.dudleyma.gov/library). Schedule a regular library day, and just let your child sit and read for a while. Library programs like "story time" may help capture your child's interest in books.

Throw Out Book Teasers

Drop tantalizing hints about a book. Start reading one yourself that your children might like and "share" some tempting tidbits. When they want to

know what happens - say , "Oh maybe we can read it together so you can help me to find out what will happen next!"

Add Some Fun Extras

Extend the book. Add fun activities that go beyond a book. When reading "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie" make some cookies to share with friends and perhaps you could even pretend to be the animal characters in the book.

Pull Out the DVD

Watch the movie version of a book. Then say, "I wonder how close that was to the book? Maybe we should read that and find out."

Make Your Own Books

Let them make their own books. Younger children especially love this. Something as simple as plain paper stapled together becomes a timeless treasure when they write their own stories. Let younger children tell you the story while you write it out and then they can illustrate it.

Set An Example

You cannot expect your children to like something you don't. If you want your kids to be readers you have to be one too. It can be books, magazines, or even big coffee table books full of pictures. Just let them see you reading and encourage them to join you.

(Ideas adapted from the National Education Association-NEA-website)

**I want to thank the grade one teachers, parents and students for making our Literacy Night such a success on November 16. The kindergarten Literacy Night will be held on Monday, December 6 from 6:00-7:15PM. Please

turn in your reservation form if you have not already done so.**

Literacy Quote for the Month:

"Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers." ~Charles W. Eliot



A Message from the Physical Education/Health Teacher – Janet Strazzullo

One of the activities kindergarten and grade one students worked on was stations. Many of these develop hand-eye coordination, strength, and balance. Hoops were used to climb through and hurdles to jump over. Some activities included ring toss, juggling scarves and hop scotch. Concepts such as next to and behind were also used. Working in stations the students must take turns with addition to sharing equipment. Running and tagging games were also played. When many students are moving at once spatial awareness is essential. This only increases the safety in the gym. Skills such as following directions, listening, cooperation, and taking turns are essential to every class. These are incorporated weekly. Your help reinforcing these at home is always appreciated.

Happy Thanksgiving greetings to all!

**A Message from the Art Teacher –
Catherine Dube**

Art projects for November focused around the First Thanksgiving long ago celebrated by the Pilgrims and the Indians and Thanksgiving celebrated today with our families and friends.

Kindergarten students traced their hands and created a turkey and added a crayon-drawn background. Horizon line and perspective were introduced. Next, kindergartners created a crayon resist Native American shirt and decorated with crayons and watercolor. Drawing with geometric shape, line, shape, pattern and the warm and cool colors were reviewed.

First grade children created beautiful, woven turkeys with feathers made of all the primary and secondary colors. The art of weaving was introduced. Students learned the names of the tools a weaver uses to create their wares: warp, weft and loom.

All lessons are done one step at a time to ensure that all students understand the art concepts presented. Individual assistance is always provided so that all children feel a sense of success.

Parents, Please know you are welcome to come to class during your child's art class to assist your little one.

**A Message from the Team
Chairperson Pamela Boyle**

What Can I Do If I Suspect My Child Has a Learning Disability?

With early recognition and targeted intervention, children with learning disabilities can be helped so that they can achieve as well as other youngsters do. If you suspect that your child has a learning disability, don't despair. The following steps recommend some of the important things that parents can do to help.

Collect information about your child's performance

Gathering and organizing information about your child's academic and social development will help you to effectively monitor progress over time. Meet with your child's teachers and other school personnel and develop a keen awareness of your child's ability to study, do class work/homework and finish the tasks that are assigned by teachers as well as those that are part of routines at home. In addition to keeping your own informal notes, be sure to maintain a file of all school-generated materials, including any standardized test results, report cards, progress reports and any descriptive summaries or notes from teachers. Also keep a record of your impressions at different points in your child's school career as well as what kinds of discussions you have had with school personnel and other professionals. (Hint: making sure to date this information can be very valuable in planning for your child.)

Talk with your child's teacher.

Share your concerns with your child's teacher and ask about her observations of your child's performance, interactions with his peers, etc. Together you may come up with strategies to try in the classroom and at home to support your child's learning and behavioral needs.

Honest and open communication, together with some creative thinking and flexibility in planning, can go a long way toward discovering how best to address your child's unique needs. Working hand in hand with you, your child's teacher can help you identify available school resources and, if needed, provide much-valued information should you choose to have your child undergo a comprehensive educational evaluation.

Find ways to help
Changes can be made in classroom routines to help children with learning disabilities. Talk to your child's teachers about these ideas: reading aloud, allowing extra time on quizzes/tests, taping lessons and using assistive technology.

Know your child's strengths
Children with learning disabilities, just like their non-disabled peers, are often leaders in some areas and followers in others. In contrast to their sometimes severe weaknesses in areas like reading and math, some children with LD are outstanding athletes, or excel in creative areas like music, painting or sculpture. And some children, despite their learning disabilities in reading and spelling, are extraordinary authors. Focus on your child's strengths and help him or her overcome or circumvent difficulties. Participation in after-school activities and clubs are good ways for children develop their interests and talents, not to mention the social and emotional benefits they can reap from this stress-free time away from formal academics.

Work with your child at home
Help your child do homework by establishing a regular time and a specific place for it, and give lots of

encouragement. Praise your child for work well done and help him or her practice good school behaviors at home.

Adapted from the work of Coordinated Campaign for Learning Disabilities.

A Message from the Title 1 Teacher – Michelle Gray

November has been a very busy month! It was so nice to see so many of our first grade students at DES's Math Night. We also had a great time at the First grade Literacy Night held at Mason Road on November 16th . I look forward to meeting parents at Parent-Teacher Conferences on December 2nd to discuss your child's progress and development.

In Language Arts, we have continued 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 as well as Leveled Readers, which are both part of our Houghton Mifflin reading program. We use PALS drills and the Moose game for repeated practice of sight words and high frequency words. We will continue to work on developing comprehension skills. Please continue to read regularly with your child at home. Continuous reading and listening to your child read is one of the most significant activities that you can do to help your child grow as a reader.

In our classrooms, we have been busy learning new math concepts and practicing previously introduced concepts and skills. We introduced the dime and have had lots of practice counting pennies, nickels and dimes and

finding different ways to show the same amount of money. We have learned about frames and arrows and figuring out, "What's my Rule?" Children need to determine if the numbers are going up or down and then figure out by how much. It is like solving a puzzle! We have been working on telling time to the half-hour, exploring temperature and plotting data on line plots. We have also learned about odd and even numbers. Continued practice at home including using a number grid and counting by 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s will help to prepare children for more complex concepts as we progress through the year.

**A Message from the Speech
Pathologist— Jessica Davis**

How can you make mealtimes work for your family? Consider these tips that can engage your family in fun and meaningful mealtime conversations that foster your child's language and literacy development.

- **Find the time.** Mealtimes aren't just about eating. Mealtimes provide a time for families to share their ideas, their experiences, and their feelings. Finding time when the whole family can eat together is often the greatest challenge. Be sure to set aside at least a few nights a week for family mealtimes. When you cannot eat together as family, be sure to sit with your child while she eats, so you have time to talk and share together.
- **Remove distractions.** To encourage meaningful talk, remove distractions. Turn off the TV. Turn down the radio. If possible, put the answering machine on, so you can talk to each other--not to a

friend or colleague. Also try to have everything ready on the table **before** you sit down so you don't have to keep popping up to get the milk or the juice or the napkins. When possible, involve your child in the preparation. By creating a relaxing setting, you and your family will have the time to share and laugh together.

- **Include everyone in the conversation and practice turn-taking.** Family mealtime is not just a time for adult conversation. Instead, it should include everyone. By involving everyone, your child will learn about the give and take of conversation. For example, some children may just want to blurt out their thoughts and ideas, interrupting whomever may be talking. By patiently saying, "Hold onto that thought. Zayde is talking now," you can help your child learn about and practice the give and take of conversation.
- **Talk and share.** Mealtime can be a special time for parents and their children, offering them opportunities to talk about things that they think and wonder about. This time allows young and old family members alike to "tell the story" of their days and all the interesting, puzzling, or even frustrating things that happen. Children may also delight in hearing stories about when they (and their parents) were little.
- **Ask genuine questions about your child's daily activities and experiences.** Genuine questions, those to which you don't already know the answer, encourage genuine responses. Sometimes though, very open-ended questions might not lead very far. Parents might ask, "How was camp?" and simply get "good" as the answer. Focusing on specific topics, however, can help generate more meaningful conversation. For example, questions

such as, "What did you do in the pool?" or "What books did you read at the library?" might lead to lots of sharing.

- **Be a facilitator, not a director.** If your child initiates conversation about a topic that interests him, follow his lead, rather than trying to engage him in a different topic. For example, if your child mentions a book that he read at share time, you might ask, "What was it about?", "What did you like about it?", "Who was your favorite character?" You might also help him to think about what happened in the story or link the story to his own life by asking, "Does the Nanna in the story remind you of your Nanna? How?" By following your child's lead, you can help your child develop his interests, while deepening his appreciation of stories, words, and new ideas.

- **Eat and play.** Play while you eat. For example, you can invite your child to think about different categories by taking turns playing this game. Name four objects, three of which are in the same category and one object that is different. Then ask your child to name the object that's different from the rest. Other children enjoy solving simple word problems. For example, you might say, "You had three potatoes and Hannah gave you three more. How many do you have now?" Make the problems more challenging as your child gets older. Games such as these can help build your child's listening and problem-solving skills.

- **Plan a picnic.** One way to support your child's interest in the world is to plan family picnics around town or far from home. A picnic at the local playground can become an opportunity to observe and discuss people, animals, or nature. A box lunch at the circus can become an opportunity for your child to

learn unique vocabulary words such as "ringmaster," "aerial," and "fierce." By using new words and talking about words, you broaden your child's vocabulary and help her to understand stories and information she hears read aloud.

For more information please visit:
http://www.pbs.org/parents/readinglanguage/articles/tabletalk/ychild_kgartner_tabletalk.html

A Message from the Technology Teacher – Kelly Frederico

The Kindergarten classes have really been advancing in their computer abilities. They have been working on their drawing skills and also working on their colors by sorting rubber stamps by color in KidPix. They were very proud of the work they did on these! We also learned how to use the Paint Bucket and created a special Thanksgiving surprise for the grown-ups at home.

The First Grade worked in KidPix to create turkeys for Thanksgiving. They had three different levels to choose from. They really did a wonderful job. We also worked on creating self-portraits using KidPix. This is part one of a project that we will not be finishing until the end of the year, so you will all have to wait to see this great project!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving!

A Message from the School Psychologist – Theresa Veilleux

The importance of sleep. Sleep is important to everybody. When

we sleep, we rest and gain energy for a new day. But sleep does more than that. When we dream, we process all the events of our daily life.

After a night without enough sleep, one feels exhausted and irritable. But after a good night's sleep, one feels rested, refreshed and full of energy. No wonder that it is so important to parents that their child sleeps through the night. It influences the entire family's life and well-being.

How much sleep does my child need?

- Sleep is important for the child's well-being.
- At night, the body produces more of the hormone that stimulates growth. So sleep is important for your child's development as well.
- Newborn babies sleep up to 16 hours per day. At first, they wake up every two or three hours to feed.
- From four months old, babies often start to sleep for longer periods of time.
- From six months old and up to one year, they often sleep five to six hours continuously.
- Children between one year and five years old sleep up to 12 hours each day.
- A pre-school child may still need to sleep 10 to 12 hours each day.
- A schoolchild sleeps about 10 hours each day.

- It is important to remember that each child's sleeping pattern is different. If a child is one year old and sleeps 10 hours each day, it is perfectly OK, as long as the child is happy and healthy.

Before parents start to worry about the amount of time their child sleeps, it is a good idea to look at the sleeping patterns of other family members. There might be a connection.

If your child has a difficult time falling asleep, start your bedtime routine earlier. Try soothing strategies such as a warm bath before bed, relaxing music, etc. Good sleep is essential to your child's emotional, behavioral, and academic well-being. Keeping with a routine on a regular basis will help to alleviate sleep problems and provide your child with consistency and security.

A Message from the School Nurse – Maureen Gagnon

Did you know that head lice is the second most communicable disease among school aged children behind the common cold? In fact, more than 5 million children catch lice every year. If this happens to you and your family, **DON'T PANIC!!**

Anyone can get head lice. It has nothing to do with cleanliness, nor does it reflect on you as a parent. Following the guidelines below can eliminate it.

1. Examine your child's head to be sure you know what the nits look like. They are tiny grayish-white eggs attached to the hair near the scalp, especially behind the ears and at the nape of the neck.

2. Check all other family members to see if they are infested.
3. Use an effective head lice treatment.
4. Remove all nits (lice eggs). This can be very time consuming. Our school has a no nit policy.
5. Wash all clothes, bed linens and towels in hot water and dry in hot cycle for at least 20 minutes. Items that can't be safely washed, such as stuffed animals, should be dry clean or stored in plastic bags for at least two weeks.
6. Clean combs and brushes in hot, soapy water. A good idea is to soak them for at least 10 minutes in water at 130 F.
7. Vacuum everywhere to make sure your home is free of lice. This includes carpets, mattresses, upholstered furniture, and anything else that might hold lice.
8. Comb and inspect the hair daily for the next two weeks. Repeat with the anti lice shampoo in 10 to 14 days.

Remember that lice survive only on humans and do not affect family pets. However, the literature stated that they can survive several hours off their human host. To eliminate head lice and nits from your home and child, following these instructions should help. Doing a thorough job will prevent their spread in the neighborhood and school. One more point to remember is to always inform your child's school nurse so that she may address the problem in

school. Together, we can stay on top of this problem.

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

The students have settled in nicely to our library routine. They come to library class each week eager to check out a new book. I am quickly getting to know their interests!! Some students are drawn to the same subjects each week. It is wonderful to see how excited they are to take books out of the library. Please remember that if your child forgets his or her library book they will have to wait until they bring that book back before they can check out another book. So please try to help your child remember his or her book each week.

As always, if you have any books at home that you are looking to donate, we always welcome donations! If they are age appropriate (K-1), we would love to have them. You can bring donations in any time and leave them at the office with my name on them. The children love seeing new books in the library!!

Remember, reading to your child at home is time well spent. This will help foster their love of reading. I see it here first-hand how much these kids enjoy reading their books so please take the time to read that book with them at home!!

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

In the coming months our department will be once again participating in a worthwhile program designed to save lives and prevent tragedies. As in past

years, we will seek a grant from the Governors Highway Safety Bureau to fund high visibility traffic patrols, with an emphasis on seatbelt regulations and other traffic laws. The term “click it or ticket” appears on television and in other places and it refers to a program such as this. These patrols will take place throughout the year during specified periods. The purpose is to encourage everyone to drive safely and use their safety belts. Thousands of children and adults are injured or killed every year in automobile accidents. Many of these injuries could have been prevented if people took a moment to use seatbelts.

Parents have spoken to me or my officers about children who unbuckle themselves in cars. From an early age, parents must stress the fact the car does not move until the seatbelt is fastened. If this is a consistent practice, it will not be an issue and children may be quick to acknowledge the fact they are not buckled. The laws are not in place to punish people. They are there to encourage people to comply with rules in order to prevent accidents and save lives. All children must be aware of the importance of wearing seatbelts at all times when traveling in a car. Should parents need assistance in properly attaching car seats or with other matters of this nature, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thanks again.

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

The Holiday season is here and its time for celebration and happiness. It is this time of year that we issue the seasonal reminders in an attempt to prevent

needless tragedies with additional home hazards.

If you follow these important holiday fire safety rules you will help prevent fire losses. As we decorate our homes remember to use lights and other electric decorations that are listed by an approved testing agency such as “UL”. Always use electric decorations which they are appropriate for. For example, do not use lights on the exterior which are not approved for outdoor use. Use only fire retardant decorations. Unplug all lighting before leaving the house or when your family is sleeping. Do not use open flame candles for decorations. Never overload outlets with the use of extension cords. If you have a cut tree be sure to water daily. Dispose of your tree properly soon after the holiday before the needles dry out. It only takes about 15 seconds for a dried tree to be consumed by fire and this can produce enough heat energy to ignite an entire room within 2 minutes.

The membership of the Dudley Fire and Emergency Services extends to you and your families a happy and safe holiday season!

A Message from the Dudley PTO

Dudley PTO News – November

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

Upcoming/Current Events

Holiday Shop! December 11, 8am –12pm. Raffle tickets for the DSi and American Girl doll can be purchased at

the holiday shop. Please remember to retain the CASH envelope and bring it on the day of the Holiday Shop to shop with, do NOT return it to the school. Also, please note that this year we are at Shepherd Hill High School in conjunction with the Lions Club, please support them by having breakfast first and then shop! One Stop eat and shop this year!

Teacher Holiday breakfasts to be held on Tuesday the 21, watch for flyers to make this a great gift to our teachers and staff for the holidays!

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, January 4, 2011 at Mason Road School Library