

## ESTABROOK UPDATE

Joseph Estabrook Elementary School, 117 Grove Street, Lexington, MA

(781) 861-2520

Principal: Martha Batten

Volume 2 Number 20

Monday, February 4, 2008

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### A Principal Notes...

As a school, we have been working on the skill of writing. Many teachers have focused on this subject area for their PLCs. I would like to share a quality writing piece from a third grader:

#### The Weighty Word Book by Leah Strohmeier

Hi, my name is Leah Strohmeier and I will be reporting a story about The Weighty Word Book. My class and I have learned a lot of words like abasement, bifurcate, coruscate, dogmatic, expedient, felicity, geriatrics, heresy, ingratiate, juxtapose, kleptomaniac, laxity, and misdemeanor. We learn a new word almost every day and the class loves the stories that help us remember a word.

My favorite story is about "ingratiate". Henrietta invited Horatio over for dinner. She wanted to wear her nice new red dress, but he did not like it. She wore her nice blue dress and he didn't like that either. She kept trying on dresses but they didn't work for him. Finally her last dress in the closet was a gray, raggedy dress. She tried the gray dress and he liked it. So, in gray she ate dinner. "In gray she ate", sounds like "ingratiate", which means to try to please someone.

An Assistant Principal Notes... On Friday, the students and staff practiced a scheduled "Code Red" drill. This means the students and the staff stayed in their classrooms or offices and locked the door. Then the teachers took attendance. Following the drill, the teachers spoke to their classes about the practice and provided an opportunity for the students to share thoughts and ask questions. We will be having another drill in the next few weeks.

To assist us with afternoon dismissal, we are asking that parents that come before 3:10 to park. We need to keep the rotary free of cars until the children are outside for dismissal. Thank you for helping us.

The Winter Weather: For the safety of our students, we follow certain safety guidelines when it comes to the weather during the winter months. If the temperature or wind chill fall below 18 degrees all children remain indoors. We have a weather watch on our office computer that tracks the weather up to the minute. We check the temperature starting at 7:30 A.M. and prior to all recesses and lunch times. This same protocol is followed in all elementary schools in Lexington.

At Estabrook, classroom teachers periodically take their students out for a quick 3-5 minute run around outside when the conditions are too cold for a 15-minute recess. This is usually the equivalent of walking from an exit at the mall to the furthest parking space.

Regardless of the temperature predictions, all students must come to school with a winter coat, gloves or mittens, and a head covering. At times there are situations, which could require school evacuations, and it is prudent to be

prepared.

Strep Update from the nurse We are beginning to see a number of children who are being diagnosed with strep despite not having a classical sore throat. Strep can sometimes present with a persistent tummy ache, malaise and low grade temp or even a red skin rash. It is still diagnosed by a throat culture. If your child has these symptoms for more than a few days, it would be a good idea to ask your child's pediatrician to do such a culture.

New Chartwells Website We are pleased to announce the launching of our new website for Chartwells School Lunch in Lexington.

<http://www.chartwellsschooldining.com/lpsma>

We encourage you to browse the site and take a look at the information. All the menus for all the schools are posted there. A link to the site will also be added to the Estabrook School website.

Upcoming Family Math Nights Family Math Night is a parent-run program that gets parents and kids together for a night of fun and games. If you are interested in helping, please contact Mary Rose Scozzafava (781-863-2317 or [mr.scozzafava@wilmerhale.com](mailto:mr.scozzafava@wilmerhale.com)) or Nathaniel McIntosh (781-274-7358 or [nathaniel\\_mcintosh@hp.com](mailto:nathaniel_mcintosh@hp.com))  
Coming up – **Wed., Feb. 6 – 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Grade** Family Math Night. New date for **4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grades is Wed., Feb. 13.**

Flatbread Pizza Night for Estabrook – Tues., 2/12 5-9pm!!! Please come and enjoy Flatbread Pizza on Tues., Feb. 12, 2008 anytime from 5:00 to 9:00 P.M. at Flatbread Pizza, 213 Burlington Rd., Bedford, MA; (781) 275-8200. Part of the proceeds from each pizza sold will be donated to the Estabrook PTA. You can dine in or take the pizza to go! Come out for a night of great food, company, and support of our local school! Tell your friends to come and enjoy!

**RAFFLE RAFFLE RAFFLE!!!!** We will also be having a raffle for an iPod Shuffle!!! The winner will be drawn at the Flatbread event. You can purchase tickets at the event and also look for tickets in your child's backpack in the coming days!! Thank you for all your support.

Box Tops Winter Contest has raised \$90 by the end of the second week:

Estabrook's 5th grade is leading the Box Tops contest with 350 submitted by the end of the second week. We have a couple more weeks so send them in soon!! – Contest ends Fri., Feb. 15. Here are the results to date:

5th grade - 350 Box Tops	4th grade - 130
Kindergarten – 86	1st grade - 65
2nd grade – 53	3rd grade – 27

**Big Backyard News** Many of the K, 1, and 2 classrooms have completed their winter BBY walks, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade walks will be scheduled soon. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who have helped with the winter BBY program.

If you have volunteered or would like to, please fill out a CORI form in the office as soon as possible, as these may take a few weeks to process and must be approved before you lead your child's walk.

The late winter walk for 4<sup>th</sup> grade will be coming up in March. The walk involves winter twig identification, and the training for the walk will be on Thurs., Feb. 28 at 9 A.M. with Linda Arnow. Mrs. Bourret's, Mrs. Lee's, and Mrs. Catalfano's classrooms are very much in need of additional parent volunteers, and volunteers for all 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes are always welcome. If you would like to volunteer, please let us know. This is a fun way to be involved in your child's class, and a great way to foster an appreciation for nature!

The dates for the individual 4<sup>th</sup> grade winter classroom walks will be available at the following website as they are scheduled: <http://calendar.yahoo.com/estabrookbby>. The winter and spring training dates can also be viewed at the website, and spring dates for individual classrooms will also be added as they are scheduled. The next BBY walk for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will be a ponding walk in the spring.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please feel free to email us at [estabrookbby@yahoo.com](mailto:estabrookbby@yahoo.com), call either of us - Jennifer Breen (781 274-0702) and Maria Cue (508 641-7433), or leave a note in the BBY mailbox on the left-hand side of the PTA mailboxes in the lobby.

**Lost and Found** All items in the Lost and Found will be laid out for parents to inspect before February Vacation. The dates and times are:

Tues., Feb 12 8-9 A.M.  
Wed., Feb 13 3-3:30 P.M.  
Thurs., Feb 14 8-9 A.M.

All clothes will be donated to Goodwill after Thursday 2/14 -- so please check!

### **Corrections to 2007-2008 School Directory**

Please note the following corrections/additions to your Estabrook Directory. Any further changes will be included in next year's directory. To submit changes for the 2008-2009 directory, please fill out the directory form, which will be sent in the summer packet from the school.

#### 1st grade - Mrs. Ray

**Add** - Child: Aujinai Noyes, Parent: Deidre Noyes,  
Phone: 617-909-1665  
Address: 26 Crawford St. Boston 02121

#### 3rd grade - Mrs. Barker

**Correction**- Child: Carol Zhu, Phone: 781-538-6231,  
email: [yun\\_wan@hotmail.com](mailto:yun_wan@hotmail.com)

#### 4th Grade - Ms. Bourret

**Correction** - Child: Murray Lu, Phone: 781-836-0360,  
email: [juxi228@gmail.com](mailto:juxi228@gmail.com)

### **Estabrook 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball League Schedule (Jan. – Mar. 2008)**

1/31 Team #2 vs. Team #4, 6:00 P.M.  
Team #1 vs. Team #3, 7:00 P.M.  
2/7 Team #2 vs. Team #3, 6:00 P.M.  
Team #4 vs. Team #1, 7:00 P.M.  
2/14 Team #2 vs. Team #1, 6:00 P.M.  
Team #3 vs. Team #4, 7:00 P.M.

### **Calendar**

#### **February**

4 AntiBias Meeting, 6-7 P.M.  
Orchestra Night, 7:30-8:30 P.M., Gr. 4 & 5  
Strings- All Town Elem. Orchestra  
African American Read-In  
5 Presidential Primary, 7 A.M.-8 P.M.  
6 Tales from Greek Mythology, 9-11 A.M.  
2nd & 3rd Gr. Family Math Night, 6:30-8 P.M.  
7 Family Friends  
5th Gr. Basketball, 5:45-8:15 P.M.  
8 Y.E.S., 3:15-4:15 P.M.  
11 Snow Date for Orchestra Night, 7:30 P.M.  
12 Flat Bread Fundraiser, 5-9 P.M.  
13 Site Council Meeting, 4-5 P.M.  
4th & 5th Grade Family Math Night, 6:30-8 P.M.  
14 5th Gr. Basketball, 5:45-8:15 P.M.  
15 Y.E.S., 3:15-4:15 P.M.  
18 NO SCHOOL-PRESIDENTS DAY  
19-22 February Vacation

5th Gr. Math Olympiads every Tuesday at 8 A.M.

4th Gr. Math Olympiads every Thursday at 8 A.M.

**MCAS DATES** can be found on the Estabrook School website, <http://estabrook.ci.lexington.ma.us>.