

# ESTABROOK UPDATE

Estabrook Elementary School, 117 Grove Street, Lexington, MA 02420

(781) 861-2520

Principal: Martha Batten Volume 2 Number 30

Friday, May 23, 2008

**A Principal Notes**... Although some would say that the school year is winding down, these few weeks feel more like winding up as 500 children and staff and countless parents are flooded with a range of strong emotions. Anticipation, anxiety, loss, excitement...As teachers, we have learned to expect some of the extreme feelings from children and even sometimes in ourselves.

In school, we react by adding gentle structure, projects, culminating events, and celebration. The third and fourth grade concert, International Games Day, classroom events like a biography report sharing, and the new Run of the Mill race represent the very best of celebration and culmination. The participation of so many positive and energetic parents is fantastic. I want to share this very moving letter I received this morning from Wei Yang:

*Dear All,*

*My family moved to Lexington about 5 years ago and immediately fell in love with this extremely friendly and generous community. We proudly call here our second hometown.*

*Today as I was watching my son and his classmates happily playing games from the "International Game Day" my eyes filled with tears. I could not help thinking about thousands of kids buried by the collapsed school buildings during the recent earthquake striking my home town Sichuan province in China.*

*Please let your kids know how lucky they are and cherish their lives more. If you would like to help with the earthquake relief, I will leave some information at the school office or you can contact me.*

*Thank you very much.*

*Wei Yang*

**Kindergarten parents:** I know that you are invited to your children's classrooms on either Wednesday or Thursday this week. I will be available at 9:20 both mornings for an informal meeting to talk about the kindergarten experience and the transition to first grade. Please join me if you can. -Ms. Batten

**Personnel News:** Mrs. Taddeo begins maternity leave on June 3. Mr. Bill Hayner will be substituting for the rest of the year. Roberta Jaffer, an Instructional Assistant, has transferred from the Fiske School. Jennifer Harrington and Sandra Mastrullo, Special Class Assistants, have recently joined the Care Room.

## **Thank you to the Volunteers that made the Book Fair a success!**

During April, Estabrook held its annual Book Fair which was a great success. The Library sold over \$10,000 in books and received \$2,600 in funds to purchase appropriate children's books. The Library also received numerous gift books from many generous families. Did you know that the annual Book

Fair is really the only meaningful funding the Estabrook Library gets to purchase books? It is a great benefit to the students to have newer exciting titles simulating their love of reading.

The PTA would like to thank Elaine Garnache, acting Estabrook Librarian, for doing such a fabulous job managing this year's event. Elaine's knowledge of children's literature and the Library was a great benefit to the children during the Fair. Also, many thanks to Jen Kuhn who got us started before she went on maternity leave by hand picking all of the gift book selections and the many titles offered to the children.

The Book Fair happens over a 4 day period and requires numerous volunteers. We would like to thank the following parents who gave of their time: Kim Coburn, Leann Olsen, Suzie Barry, Maureen Arliss, Nancy Bartlett, Lisa Paolillo, Libby Berman, Kristine Mozes, Joan DeCoste, Sarah Kuli, Robin Spencer, Leda Zimmerman, Michele Weisberg, Meg Bonnell-Bradley, Elizabeth Walsh, Sarah Arnholz, Helen Galanopoulos, Rejini Santhanam, Liz Watson, Terre Oram, Pam Hoffman, Anne Kim, Pamela Tames, Beth Davenport, Sharon Anderson, Monique Holley, Margaret Counts-Klebe, Lisa Nordman,

In addition we would like to thank several Lexington High Schoolers, especially Taylor Rowe and Julie Hogan, for volunteering their time to assist at the Book Fair while our Family Fun / Bingo night was in full swing. Their efforts and good spirits were appreciated. Finally, many thanks to our co-chairs Bonnie Brown, Tricia Rowe and Liz Foley who organized our efforts.

## **Calendar**

### **May**

- 26 **No School**-Memorial Day
- 27 **MCAS-Grade 5 History**
- 29 Spring Concert (Band, Strings, Gr. 5 Chorus), 7:15 PM
- 30 Biography Party, Barker/Speros, 9 AM

### **June**

- 2 \_ day visit to Diamond MS for Gr. 5  
Summer Reading visit from Cary Library, 9:15 AM  
BBY-Berenson, 9 AM
- 3 PTA Pizza Picnic, 5:30-7:30 PM
- 4-6 Nature's Classroom, Grade 5
- 5 Family Friends  
Colonial Crafts, Gr. 3, 9-10:50 AM  
Incoming Kindergarten Visit, afternoon  
Bound Book Party, Chechile, 8:30 AM  
SPED PAC Meeting, LHS, 7:30 PM
- 6-7 Barnes & Noble Fundraiser
- 6 Whipple Hill, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Shelter Ramble/Wilson (or 6/13)  
House Ramble/Quebec, 2 PM  
Neighborhood Ramble/Kramer, 1 PM  
2<sup>ND</sup> Grade-Pedestrian Training in the Gym, 12:30 PM
- 9 AntiBias Meeting, 6 PM

- 10 PTA Volunteer Breakfast, 8:15 AM, Front Patio  
1<sup>st</sup> Gr. Science Beach Trip, 9 AM-2PM  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade BBQ, 6-8 PM
- 11 Gr. 3 to Lowell Nat'l Hist. Park, 8:50 AM-2:15 PM  
Site Council, 4-5 PM
- 12 Staff Appreciation Lunch, 12:45 PM  
Bound Bks. & Shelters/Wilson, 8:30 AM  
Bound Book Party/Lam, 8:30 AM  
End of Year Celebration/Lee, 11:05 AM
- 13 Library Volunteer Tea, 9-9:45 AM  
Bound Book Sharing/Quebec & Kramer, 8:30 AM  
Portfolio Sharing/Durkin, 8 AM  
Last PTA Meeting for 07/08, 9:45 AM  
Kindergarten Fun Day Activities, 10 AM  
Kindergarten Lunch, 11 AM  
Shelter Ramble/Wilson, 12:45 PM
- 16 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Moving Up Ceremony, 9 AM  
Kineen Park/Kramer & Quebec, 10 AM-2 PM  
Kineen Park/Wilson, 11:30 AM-2 PM
- 17 Last Day of School, \_ Day  
Bound Book Party-McDonald, 8:30 AM

### **August**

- 26 First Day of School, \_ Day, K-5

### **From the Cary Library**

**Summer Kick-Off Program** "Wingmasters". Ages 5+. Learn about birds of prey, such as eagles, hawks, falcons, and owls. Five live birds will be there!

Tues., June 24 4 PM & 7 PM. Free tickets available in the Children's Rm. beginning Mon., June 16, at 7 PM. Telephone reservations will be accepted beginning at 7:30 PM.

**Family Crafts** All ages. Stop by and get crafty. Stay for half an hour or the entire hour and a half; you can make your craft as simple or as complicated as you want.

Thursdays: July 3, 10, 24, August 7, 21 2:30-4 PM

**Picnic @ The Movies** Bring your own picnic dinner, spread out a blanket, and enjoy a family movie. Here's a clue to the name of the movie: in this Disney favorite, Simba the lion cub longs to become King of the jungle.

July 8th. Doors will open at 6:15PM, and the movie will begin at 6:30 PM. No registration is necessary.

**Wild about Knitting, with Phyllis** Children entering grades 4-8.

Whether you're working on an unfinished knitting project, or looking for something new to try, you'll have fun. You must already know how to do the knit stitch. Wednesdays, July 9, 16, and 30, 4-5:30 PM  
Registration begins Mon., June 30, at 7PM.

**Dance Dance Revolution!** Children entering grades 4-6. Dance up a storm to this popular music video game. Other games will also be available. Saturdays, July 12 and Aug. 9, 10:30-noon. Completed permission slips are required when registering. Permission slips will be available online at [www.caryllibrary.org](http://www.caryllibrary.org) or in the Children's Rm.

**Beat the Heat!** Children entering grades 3-5.

Enjoy a cool hour making electricity-free ice cream, while listening to summery stories and poems. Tues., July 15, 4-5 PM Registration will begin on Mon. evening, June 30 at 7 PM.

**Kidstock Presents** Ages 3-8 & their families. Winchester's Kidstock Creative Theater presents original musicals performed by middle school students. Free tickets available in the Children's Rm. beginning at 7 PM on the dates listed below. Telephone reservations will be accepted beginning at 7:30 PM.

Thurs., July 17 show, 2:30 PM ("A Congo Line"), tickets available July 14.

Thurs., July 31 show, 2:30 PM ("The Emperor's New Kangaroo"), tickets available July 28.

Thurs., Aug. 14 show, 2:30 PM ("Surfing Beauty"), tickets available Aug. 11.

**Wild Treasure Hunt** Children entering grades 3-5.

Find hidden treasure at the Library! Participants will be divided into teams, and will follow clues to find the treasure. One first prize will be awarded, but everyone will bring home some treasure. Tues., July 22, 4:30-5:30 PM. No registration is necessary.

**Games for 1 or 2** Children entering grades 2-5.

Come and learn about games you can play by yourself, or with just one friend. Tues., July 29, 4-5 PM Sign up in the Children's Rm. beginning Mon., June 30, at 7 PM.

**Animal World Experience** Ages 5-8 and their families.

A hands-on and close-up experience with live animals.

Wed.: July 30 11 AM & 1 PM Free tickets available in the Children's Rm. beginning Mon., July 21, at 7 PM. Telephone reservations accepted beginning at 7:30 PM.

**Beginner's Knitting, with Robin** Children entering grades 4-8. Learn the basics of knitting. Please come to the first class with size 9 bamboo needles and worsted weight yarn in a light color. Tuesdays: Aug. 5, 12, and 19, 4-5:30 PM. Registration begins at 7 PM, on Mon., July 28.

**Creative Writing Workshops**. Children entering grades 4-6. To allow more children to participate, each child may register for 1 session, but may add his/her name to the waiting list for one or both of the other two sessions.

Wednesdays, 3:30-5 PM, on Aug. 6 ("Fractured Fairy Tales"), Aug. 13 ("Whoppers, Porch Lies, & Tall Tales"), and Aug. 20 ("Writing Pourquoi Tales"). Registration begins Mon., July 28, at 7 PM.

**Jungle Encounters' Introduction to Wildlife Show**

Animal lovers are invited to see and learn from Jungle Encounters' "animal ambassadors" as they teach about wild habitats and conservation.

Wed., Aug. 20 (ages 3-5) 11 AM

Wed., Aug. 20 (ages 6 and up) 1:30 PM

Free tickets available in the Children's Rm. beginning Mon., Aug. 11, at 7 PM Telephone reservations accepted beginning at 7:30 PM

**4th ANNUAL FAMILY ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

All ages, on the lawn across Clarke St. from the library. Everyone's invited to the Library's fourth annual Ice Cream Social, sponsored by Rancatore's Ice Cream, to wrap up our 2008 Summer Reading Program. In case of rain, the event will be held in the Library's Meeting Rm.

Mon., Aug. 25, 3-4 PM. The 2008 Children's Summer Reading Programs have been generously underwritten by the Friends of Cary Memorial Library. For more information, please call the Children's Rm. at (781) 862-6288, ext. 170, or check the Library's website:

[www.caryllibrary.org](http://www.caryllibrary.org).