

## ESTABROOK UPDATE

Joseph Estabrook Elementary School, 117 Grove Street, Lexington, MA (781)  
861-2520 Principal: Martha Batten Volume 2 Number 10

Friday, November 9, 2007

**A Principal Notes...** every year the Elks donate a personal dictionary to every third grader in Lexington.

Here is Josiah's thank you letter to the Elks.

Dear Lexington Lodge of Elks,

In the dictionary it says words have power and they do. M.LK proved it by speaking up and telling people that it's not fair so if I want to change something I am going to speak out loud and fight with my words and not my fist. Thank you for my dictionary.

From: Josiah White

**Cold Weather: Brrr!** Remember to send children with cold weather clothing even when they assure you that they do not get cold!

**Good News!** Ms. Matthews and her husband welcomed a baby boy on Wednesday, November 7. His name is Theo Christopher Buckridge. Mom, Dad, and Theo are all doing great!

### **Pie Sale - Extended to Monday, Nov. 12!**

The Estabrook PTA along with Wilson Farms would like to make your holiday less hectic. Order your Thanksgiving pies now and pick them up at Estabrook School on Monday, November 19th from 3-6pm. Your child should have brought home an order form from school with a selection of four delicious pies: Apple, Pumpkin, Chocolate Cream or Southern Pecan pies for \$11 each. Simply detach the form, attach a check payable to the Estabrook PTA and send it to school with your child or put it in the drop box in the school lobby before November 12th! If you have any questions or need another order form, please contact Kim Reynolds at 781-862-6780 or kiminlux@yahoo.com.

### **4th Graders Seen "Having Fun With Pyramids and Pharaohs"**

On Nov. 1st the fourth graders enjoyed a unique, interactive educational program, "Having Fun With Pyramids and Pharaohs". The program was presented by Paulette Morin, who gave a dynamic, multimedia presentation using PowerPoint and storytelling to explore ancient Egyptian life. Paulette's fast-paced, lively program allowed the students to examine jewelry, clothing, wigs, and a museum collection of Egyptian artifact reproductions. The boys and girls had fun modeling jewelry and headpieces as they tested and expanded their knowledge from their current studies. The program ended with some Egyptian legends . . . and some untraditional dancing! "Having Fun With Pyramids and Pharaohs" is the first event of the year sponsored by the PTA-funded ACT Program, a committee that brings interactive curriculum-based programs that explore arts, history, and culture to Estabrook students. As one 4th grader described it, "it was fantawesomool! Fantastic, awesome and cool."

### **National Children's Book Week**

Next week, November 12 -17 is National Children's Book Week. Ask your children what Estabrook is doing to celebrate.

### **Estabrook and the Safe Routes to School Program**

How do Estabrook's 429 students travel to school? Do they:

- \* Take the bus
- \* Walk or bike
- \* Carpool
- \* Drive only with their family

SR2S is just as the name implies - determining the safest way for your child to arrive and depart from school regardless of their mode of transportation. Concentrating on safety, exercise, and fostering a sense of community, Lexington's SR2S program has been effective in increasing the number of students who walk, bike, bus, or carpool and in decreasing the number of cars driving through and/or idling at our elementary schools.

This program does not offer a quick fix of our town's sidewalks and walkways, but is a start for identifying frequented areas that need attention. The Sidewalk Committee will be working with the DPW and other town groups to address problem areas flagged by students and parents in these various school neighborhoods.

SR2S DOES work with neighborhoods to address issues such as overgrown vegetation, 'walking buses,' crosswalk location and painting, sidewalk and bus stop snow removal, bus stop behavior, bicycle safety, and sidewalk/walkway conditions while highlighting safety, exercise, and the environment.

SR2S DOES NOT deal with school or local traffic patterns.

Town-wide, the first Wednesday of most months has been designated as Walking Wednesday. Now it's time for the program to take off at Estabrook!

Neighborhood by neighborhood, together we can make our sidewalks and bikeways a safer, more attractive transportation option for our students.

Interested in volunteering? Contact Suzie Barry at [mrbarry@rcn.com](mailto:mrbarry@rcn.com)

### **November Half Day Reminders!**

Please note that November 14, and 21 are half days. On these days, kindergarten students will be dropped off at their Thursday bus stops. Also note that there is no school on Wednesday, November 28.

### **Dyslexia Walk Raised \$400!**

Thank you to the Estabrook Community for supporting the Walk for Dyslexia this past Oct. 7th! We were able to raise about \$400 for the Masonic Learning Center, which provides free tutoring for children who are struggling with reading. But most importantly, 21 people walked with us! Thank you to the following: Liz, Patrick and Matthew Foley; Bonnie, Garrett, Jonathan and Douglas Brown; Kate, Drew and Megan Lepore; Megan Lepore's Girl Scout Troop-

Claire & Bruce Jackan, Alice Zhao, Maya & Mary Rose Ron, Michelle & Catherine Hellinger; Cole & Clay Oshiro-Leavitt, Dana Oshiro & Will Leavitt.

**Heartfelt Thanks To:**

--Cub Scout Den 8 for replanting the flowerbed near the kindergarten wing with, among other things, a beautiful Montauk Daisy bush. The scouts transplanted some of the herb plants from this bed to a raised bed by the greenhouse so that they could be used for school projects.

--Gretchen Reisig and Margaret Counts-Klebe for photographing the teachers and staff and creating the bulletin board in the main lobby.

--Skott Klebe and all of the proofreaders for creating this year's Estabrook Directory.

--Jesse Richardson, Rachel Quebec and Rachel Cortez as co-chairs of the Anti-Bias committee and Meeta Kansara and Anshu Mittal as co-chairs of the International Heritage Potluck and the many volunteers who helped make such a wonderful community event.

--Jen Geller for organizing our fall Spirit Wear sale. If you missed this sale there will be another in the spring.

--Kelly Flaherty for organizing the Barnes and Noble Book Fair to support Estabrook held earlier this week and to Ms. Batten and all the children who helped her read a Halloween story at this fun event.

--Lisa and Mark Cincotta and Estabrook support staff Sandy Pike and Jean Wright for painting the Scully game in the back playground.

--Sarah Kuli for running the Trick or Treat for UNICEF program this year.

Cary Library Children's Room presents "Pig Out on Reading" with Daisy the Pot-Belly Pig. Meet Daisy, a real live pig that loves listening to stories. Farmer Minor will read to Daisy, and share stories about her with the audience. Wednesday, Nov. 28, 11:00 A.M. & 1:00 P.M., in the Cary Library Meeting Room, for children in grades K-5. Free tickets will be given out in the Cary Library Children's Room, beginning Monday evening, Nov. 19th, at 7:00 P.M. Telephone reservations will be accepted starting at 7:30 P.M.

**Calendar**

**November**

- 12 SCHOOL CLOSED-VETERAN'S DAY  
NO LEXTENDED DAY TODAY
- 13-16 National Children's Book Week Quiz
- 13 Voting, 7 A.M.-8 P.M.  
4th Grade to MFA
- 14 Conferences, 1/2 Day  
THERE WILL BE LEXTENDED DAY TODAY.
- 16 2nd Grade Wingmaster performance, 9 A.M.,  
Lextended Day Room
- 19 Antibias Meeting, 6 P.M.
- 21 NO LEXTENDED DAY TODAY!  
1/2 Day for students & staff
- 22-23 NO SCHOOL-THANKSGIVING

BREAK

- 27 Picture retake
- 28 NO SCHOOL- Professional Development.
- NO LEXTENDED DAY TODAY!
- 29 5th Grade Science Fair, 7-8 P.M.
- 30 Elementary Term Closes

**December**

- 3 Antibias Meeting, 7 P.M.
- 5 Site Council Meeting, 4-5 P.M.
- 14 Report Cards Go Home
- 5th Gr. Math Olympiads every Tues. at 8 A.M.
- 4th Gr. Math Olympiads every Thurs. at 8 A.M.

**MCAS TESTING SCHEDULE 2007-2008**

**MARCH 24 - APRIL 4**

- March 25 Tuesday Gr.4 Long Composition
- March 26 Wednesday Gr. 3 Reading Gr. 4 ELA
- March 27 Thursday Gr. 3 Reading Gr. 4 ELA
- March 28 Friday Gr. 3 Reading Gr. 4 ELA
- March 3 Monday Gr. 5 ELA
- April 1 Tuesday Gr. 5 ELA
- April 2 Wednesday Gr. 5 ELA Gr. 4 Long Comp Make-up

**MAY 12 - MAY 29**

- May 13 Tuesday Gr. 5 Math
- May 14 Wednesday Gr.5 Math
- May 15 Thursday Gr. 3 Math Gr. 5 Science
- May 16 Friday Gr. 3 Math Gr. 5 Science
- May 20 Tuesday Gr. 4 Math
- May 21 Wednesday Gr. 4 Math
- May 23 Friday Gr.5 History
- May 27 Tuesday Gr. 5 History