

Lincoln Elementary School Newsletter

September 2011
Volume 5, Issue 2



Contents

Principal's News	1
Upcoming Events	1
Early Release Days	2
Perfect Attendance	2
Support for the Jimmy Fund	2
Site Council Elections	3
Feeding Your Family Fit	4

Upcoming Events

- ◆ 9/9 – School Pictures
- ◆ 9/11 – Victorian Fair
- ◆ 9/15 – School Site Council mtg. 7:30 AM
- ◆ 9/20 – PTO Meeting 7PM
- ◆ 9/20 – 5th Gr. parent meeting 6:30 PM
- ◆ 9/20 – Site Council Elections – 7PM at PTO
- ◆ 10/5 – Feeding Your Family Fit Seminar 7PM at Lincoln Café
- ◆ 10/10 – Columbus Day – No School
- ◆ 10/14 – Picture Retakes
- ◆ 10/18 – PTO Meeting 7PM
- ◆ 10/19 – Dockside 5th Grade Fundraiser
- ◆ 10/21 – Fall Festival
- ◆ 10/25 – Early Release – Parent Conf. 12:30PM
- ◆ 10/25 – Bonaparte Program 12:30PM
- ◆ 10/26 – Early Release – Parent Conf. 12:30 PM
- ◆ 10/26 – Animal World Program 12:30 PM

Principal's News

Brent Conway, Principal

What a smooth start to the school year we had. The kids have been well behaved, already engaged in learning and they all seem to enjoy the technology in their classrooms.

Thank you to our PTO hospitality team who welcomed our new families and our kindergarten parents with a great Boo-Hoo Breakfast.

It was great to see so many parents at Open House on such a rainy night. There seemed to be even more excitement than I have seen in recent years. We have so many new things happening with technology, teaching techniques and learning opportunities, the teachers and I were truly thrilled to share so much of it with you.

We have some busy weeks ahead at Lincoln. I am looking forward to seeing many parents at our first PTO meeting on Tuesday the 20th. We will also be electing our new School Site Council Members at the PTO meeting. If you are interested in working on the Site Council, please see the third page of this newsletter for more information.

One of the things the Lincoln School Site Council does is sponsor or co-sponsor different events. We have been a strong supporter of the city wide International Welcoming Reception which we host and co-sponsor with the Human Right's Commission and Mayor Dolan. This year we are also co-sponsoring with the Horace Mann School a Feeding Your Family Fit Seminar. The October 5th seminar will be presented by Jenine Wright who is a Melrose Resident and well known Nutritional Education Specialist. We are looking forward to this event.

Hopefully by now you have

checked out our google calendar on our website. The calendar is a complete listing of the events that will occur throughout the entire school year. It will be updated as things are added or changed.

One change I want to draw your attention to is the Early Release day schedule. We did change one early release day in March. The two early release days will now be March 7th and 8th. The original March 6th early release day coincided with an election day. The early release day programming that was scheduled for the 6th will now be held on the 8th. Most registration forms have the change, but a few early versions and the original web version may be "out there."

Our after school programming has been going well. The Education Stations staff has been running well organized and engaging activities for the kids after school. Please check out their website on the MPS site to get registration information.

We have been posting some new information on the Lincoln Website too. Recently posted is a document that explains all the "easy" ways you can help raise funds for Lincoln. There are many businesses that send checks to Lincoln routinely based on your business. Please take a look because it extends well beyond just our Boxtops program.

Things should be in full swing this week with our first 5 day schedule. Please feel free to reach out to me or any of our teachers with questions. We are off to a great start and I am looking forward to sharing so many of the great things that happen each day at Lincoln School.

Some Technology Links

Here are some great websites and links for you and your kids at home:

- FOSS Science – www.fossweb.com
- Great Math Games – www.eduplace.com
- A Visual Thesaurus - <http://www.visualthesaurus.com/>
- National Geographic for kids - <http://www.mywonderfulworld.org/index.html>
- Student created news - <http://www.studentnewsaction.net/>

Early Release Days

We are very excited to again be able to offer special enrichment programming on the seven Early Release Days throughout the school year. The Early Release Day Enrichment programs are a separate program from the Melrose Public Schools after school programming, Education Stations. However, we will coordinate the two programs so children can attend the Early Release Day programs and then move onto the after school program. **Education Stations will not run programming on Early Release days until the normal starting time of 2:20 pm.**

Tuesday, October 25, 2011
 Wednesday, October 26, 2011
 Thursday, November 5, 2011
 Wednesday, February 5, 2012
 Wednesday, March 7, 2012
 Thursday, March 8, 2012
 Wednesday, May 30, 2012

Bonaparte The Magician
 Animal World Experience
 Gerwick Puppet Show
 Ed The Wizard
 Henry The Juggler
 Story Teller
 Campardy – Live Game Show

- \$20 for the first child for each Early Release Day Enrichment program
- \$15 for each additional sibling (Family Discount)
- \$120 for all 7 programs if pre-registered and paid by **Tuesday, October 18, 2011**. (A savings of \$20 – one free program) - \$100 for each additional sibling (Family Discount)

Please visit our website to download the registration form



*Citizenship * Acceptance
 Respect * Effort * Safety*

Perfect Attendance Award – sponsored by Horace Mann Companies

This will be the third year we will draw one name from the list of students with perfect attendance at the December break and at the end of the year. The winning name receives a bicycle provided by Horace Mann Companies. Since beginning this partnership with the Horace Mann Investment Companies, our attendance rate has increased each year. Perfect attendance is measured by those who have no unexcused absences. If a child is sick or has a fever, those are both considered an excused absence. Absences due to religious observances are also excused.

Teaming up with the Jimmy Fund

This year's Jimmy Fund walk will have a large Melrose presence. Over the summer a Middle School student from Melrose was diagnosed with cancer and is currently being treated at Dana-Farber.

A team from Melrose has created Team Abby, including our own Mrs. Joslin. They will be walking the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk next Sunday in her honor and are

trying to raise at least \$2,000 for the Jimmy Fund.

If you are interested in supporting Team Abby, donations can be made at:

<http://www.jimmyfund.org/2011/teamabby>.

Mrs. Joslin also has a donation jar in her classroom.

Lincoln School School Site Council Elections

Each public school in Massachusetts is required to have a School Site Council. The Site Council is an advisory group of teachers, administrators, parents and community members whose primary goal is to develop an annual school improvement plan. The 2010-2011 Site Council has completed their work on next year's School Improvement Plan and will meet one more time in September to review the MCAS results and any possible alterations to the School Improvement Plan for '11-'12. The current School Improvement Plan, which was approved by School Committee last spring, can be found online at the Lincoln website.

Parents are elected to positions on the Site Council with an annual election. Each term is a 2-year term. Next year Lincoln School will have three openings on the School Site Council. This year's election for a site council position for the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years will be held at our PTO meeting on September 20th at 7:00 PM in the Lincoln Library. The members are to include an equal number of staff and parent representatives.. There are no term limits and currently serving parent representatives may seek another 2-year term.

The 2010-2011 Site council members are listed below. Those who are listed as Year 2 have completed their term and those seats are open for election. Those individuals may run for another 2-year term:

Brent Conway	Principal/Co-Chair	Mike Oginski	Teacher
Sherryl Breda	Teacher	Ed Keenan	Teacher
Cynthia Santosuosso	Teacher	Jean O'Neil	Teacher
<i>Annalise Conti</i>	<i>Parent – Year 2</i>	Kathleen McGourthy	Parent – Year 1
<i>Linda Apple</i>	<i>Parent – Year 2</i>	Kristin Haggerty	Parent – Year 1
<i>Carol Nadeau</i>	<i>Moved on to M.S.</i>	Gretchen Sinnet	Parent – Year 1
Dr. Elizabeth Kerouack		Community Representative	

If you are interested in seeking a 2-year term with the Lincoln School Site council for the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years, please contact Principal, Brent Conway by September 12th to be placed on the ballot. The election is a paper/pencil secret election by those in attendance at the September 20th PTO meeting.

If you would like further information please contact Principal, Brent Conway through email or phone.



"Let food be thy medicine, thy medicine shall be thy food" - Hippocrates
Changing a few products on your shopping list may be your prevention against illness/disease, neurological disorders and obesity

Please Join Jenine Wright MA, Exercise Physiologist, Nutrition Educator Specialist

"Feeding Your Family Fit"

Co-Sponsored by

The Lincoln and Horace Mann Site Councils
When: Wednesday, October 5, 2011 7:00 PM
Where: Lincoln Elementary School Cafeteria,
West Wyoming Avenue Melrose, MA

- Are you providing healthy options for your family?
- Are you a slave to marketing and purchase a product because it makes you feel that you are providing your family with good nutrition?
- Are you concerned with health issues, disciplinary issues and diseases that could be affected by the food that you are eating?



Come find out why products such as "Nutra Grain" bars and "Gogurts" may not be providing your family with what you may think.



Eating habits are learned behaviors, so what you teach your children to eat early in life sticks with them well into adulthood. With the obesity epidemic in children, high rates of childhood diseases, allergies, disciplinary problems and developmental disorders it is time to educate yourself on what may help to prevent these serious issues.



With a strong belief that "you are what you eat" Jenine will discuss what you should look for when reading labels of your favorite foods. Learn the difference between buying organic and buying conventional and if there is a way to live a healthier lifestyle without going bankrupt. Tips on healthy snacks and lunch ideas and how to make even the not so good decisions a little better.

