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April 13, 2010

A newsletter

from the Lawrence School Parent-Teacher Organization

Calendar

- 14 April – 15 April (Wed–Thu)
Grade 5-6 play
9 am and 6 pm, auditorium
- 15 April (Thursday)
SEPAC Program Review
6:30 - 8:30 pm, School
Committee Room, Town Hall
- 19 April – 23 April (Mon– Fri)
NO SCHOOL
April Vacation
- 26 April - 30 April (Mon-Fri)
Spring Greening Clothing
Drive
- 29 April (Thursday)
PTO Poetry Night
7 pm, library
- 1 May (Saturday)
Cradles to Crayons Family
Volunteer Sorting Day
Chestnut Hill School,
9 am - 1 pm
- 4 May (Tuesday)
School Council Meeting
8 am, 2nd floor conf room
- 6 May (Thursday)
Japanese Fun Fair
- 11 May (Tuesday)
PTO Meeting
7 pm, library
- 19 May (Wednesday)
 - Staff Appreciation Luncheon
 - Grade 2-4 play
9 am and 6 pm, auditorium



Lawrence Celebrates Earth Day



Principal's



Corner

On Friday, April 30, our entire school (PK-8) will gather outside for a special Lawrence Community Meeting in honor of Earth Day. Students will also be able to engage in special Earth Day activities at recess.

This year, our school has participated in *ThinkEARTHursday*, a Brookline initiative to raise students' awareness of how to help the environment. Parent volunteer Kathleen Scanlon did an excellent job coordinating the program, which involved sending home a monthly list of suggestions for actions students can take. We have not yet reached our school goal of earning 3,000 points (about 5 actions per student). Help us reach our goal (1 point for each piece of artwork and 1 point for each essay or poem submitted):

Go Green ! Art, Poem or Essay: In order to spread the message about your journey for the planet, answer the question **What Do You Like Best About the World?** by writing an essay or poem. Create a piece of 8.5" x 11" artwork (drawing, painting, collage, a relief piece) that also speaks to this theme. You can submit **up to 10 points** of any combination of artwork and essays (please use PAPERCLIPS to attach all sheets to this form and be sure to write your name and class on the back of all attached pages). Look for your submissions to be displayed on the walls of Lawrence school during the month of April. The Brookline Public Library has titled the upcoming summer reading program for the Brookline Public Schools "Go Green!" and will be hosting related events at the library, including an artwork exhibit consisting of the submissions from this activity. Do your best to communicate your message and perhaps your writing and artwork will be on exhibit to share with the rest of Brookline!

Last Call for OPTIONAL Parent Placement Forms (Due Monday, April 12)



Our placement process includes an opportunity for parents to provide information or share unusual circumstances that you feel are important or which you believe we may not know. Forms were due April 12, but I will accept them through April 15. You can send in the form or email your responses to these two questions directly to me:

1. Please describe the conditions under which your child learns best. What factors contributed most to your child's success in previous classrooms?
 2. Please describe any special circumstances or other information (strengths, area of needs, special interests, etc.) related to your child that you feel should be considered as part of the placement process.
- Rick Rogers

email your stories by Friday 4 p.m. to newsletter@lawrencepto.org
To download a copy of this newsletter visit <http://www.lawrencepto.org>

JUMP IN! K-5 Jump Rope for Heart Week is Here, April 12-16

Everybody got pumped last week at Community Meeting when the double dutch team (AND some teachers) showcased their skills. The fun continues this week where K-5 students will jump during P.E. classes and learn about heart health. In addition, grades 3- 4 will join millions of other children across the country in the **American Heart Association's Jump Rope For Heart** fundraiser. Donations will be accepted April 28-29, or online at american-heart.org/jump. See Ms. Uyenoyama for details.



Lawrence Green Team Fundraiser

The Lawrence green team will be having its first fundraiser to raise "seed money" for the new Lawrence classroom garden. We will be selling reusable shopping bags with our new thinkEARTHursday logo in the front lobby on April 14 at 2:30 pm & April 15 at 7:45 am and 2:30 pm. The bags will sell for \$10 each and they make great gifts. Carry one in the car or purse and never need another plastic bag again!

Alice in Wonderland

Lose yourself in a fantasy land where rabbits tell time, caterpillars give advice, and nothing ever makes sense as the 5-6 grade students give a musical performance of Lewis Carroll's literary classic. Showtimes are Wednesday, April 14 at 9:00 a.m., and Thursday, April 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the Lawrence School Auditorium. A \$5 dollar ticket donation is suggested for the evening performance to offset cost of this production.



A Sad Farewell from Carol Macey



Dear Lawrence Families,

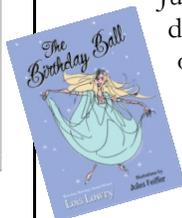
It is with much ambivalence that I inform you of my intention to retire from the Brookline Schools as of June 30, 2010. The 21 years that I have worked at Lawrence have been so rewarding both professionally and personally.

This is a unique community and I have always felt the warmth and support that is such an integral piece of Lawrence School. I will truly miss working with all of you and I will especially miss your special, wonderful children. Thank you so much for this amazing opportunity. I wish you all the best.

Carol

Lois Lowry Tuesday, April 27 3:30pm Brookline Main Library

Lois Lowry, the Newbery Medal winning author of *The Giver* and *Number the Stars*, will be talking about her latest book, *The Birthday Ball*, in which Princess Patricia Priscilla is required to choose a husband at her 16th birthday ball. Lively illustrations by Jules Feiffer add sparkle to this tale of a determined young woman who knows her own mind and doesn't let protocol stand in the way of her future happiness. Come enjoy a lovely afternoon with this delightful author. Ages 9 and up



Spring Greening: Celebrate Earth Day by Recycling Your Clothing, April 26-30

As part of our Earth Day observance, Lawrence will be participating in a **town-wide clothing drive** to benefit Cradles to Crayons, an organization that distributes donated items to disadvantaged children in Massachusetts. The "Spring Greening" campaign introduces kids to the idea that recycling their clothing helps the planet as well as the recipients of their outgrown or underused items—it's a great way to keep those items out of landfills!

Between April 26 and 30, kids can drop donations in a collection box in the lobby, and earn one thinkEARTHursday point for each item they bring in. Please see the flyers around school for details on what donations are accepted.

The drive will culminate in a **family volunteer day at the Chestnut Hill School on May 1**, where all items will be sorted and boxed for delivery to Cradles to Crayons. We hope to have a strong showing of Lawrence families. Please consider signing up for a two-hour shift—it's a great way to get kids involved in giving. To sign up go to <http://tiny.cc/brooklineC2Cmay1>. **For more information contact Jessica Eber** djeber@rcn.com or **Jordan Shaughnessy** jordanshaughnessy@verizon.net.