

June 1, 2010

A newsletter

from the Lawrence School Parent-Teacher Organization

Calendar

1 June (Tuesday)

- School Council Meeting 8 am, 2nd floor conf room
- PTO Book Fairs
New: 7:45 am–7 pm library
Used: 7:45 am–3:30 pm lobby
- Town-wide 7/8 Band/Jazz Band 7 pm, Pine Manor

2 June (Wednesday)

- *Kindergarten Visitation Day* 12:00 noon early release [K ONLY]
- Gr. 8 Academic Exhibitions
Gr. 7 Specialists Exhibitions 8 am, 3rd floor classrooms
- PTO Book Fairs
New: 7:45 am–7 pm library
Used: 7:45 am–3:30 pm lobby
- Town-wide Chorus/Orchestra 7 pm, Pine Manor

3 June (Thursday)

- PTO Book Fair
- Gr 4 Chorus and Band
- Gr 8 NYC Trip

4 June (Friday)

- Gr 8 NYC Trip

8 June (Tuesday)

- PTO Meeting 8 am library
- Gr 5/6 Chorus 10:30 am & 7 pm

10 June (Thursday)

- Farewell Reception 5–6:30pm library
- Spring Picnic 6 pm

11 June (Friday)

- Field Day

14 June (Monday)

- Field Day Rain Date

15 June (Tuesday)

- Spring Picnic Rain Date

22 June (Tuesday)

- LAST DAY OF SCHOOL



Welcome Incoming Kindergarten Students & Families!

With this edition of the *PTO Paper*, we extend a warm welcome to the new students and their families who are entering Kindergarten next year—the high school graduating class of 2023! Kindergarten Visitation Day is Wednesday, June 2. *Please note that this year's Kindergarten classes will dismiss at 12:00 noon on that day.*

We are pleased that you and your child will be joining our vibrant learning community. Lawrence is safe, just, and caring community in which we work to create a strong sense of belonging for each child. This is a school that respects and values diversity, in terms of race, culture, language, learning needs, and social needs.

Our school has high expectations for excellence. We strive to create a life-long love of learning and develop the habits of mind to promote continuous learning. We differentiate in order to meet the needs of individual students.

PTOver & Out

Tuesday, June 8th at 8 a.m. is the last PTO meeting of the year! Join us for coffee and muffins— come bring us ideas and take advantage of your last chance to hear a formal update from Rick Rogers before school year ends...

Families are valued as partners and play a very active role in the school. *HERE ARE SOME WAYS TO STAY INFORMED AND BE INVOLVED:*

- **Refer to the PTO Summer Mailing & Calendar** (sent home in July).
- **Read the *PTO Paper* on Tuesdays:** Published every week. Look for the goldenrod paper copy sent home with the youngest child in the family or the electronic version sent to your email.
- **Attend PTO Meetings** held each month (a mix of mornings and evenings) and focused on a topic of interest to parents.
- **Attend Principal's Forums** held several times during the year at 8:00 a.m. (with coffee provided). These usually begin with a focus topic, but always include time for informal Q&A.
- **Volunteer:** Refer to the *Parent Volunteer Opportunities* in the summer mailing to sign-up.
- **Support the PTO:** There are many ways that parents enhance the school by providing resources, programs, and other opportunities for students, staff, and parents which would not otherwise exist. I urge you to join and support the PTO this year.

We hope you and your child enjoy your visit

—Rick Rogers

Mark Your Calendars!

Please join the Lawrence community at a farewell reception honoring Carol Macey, Jeanne Chin, Christine Thompson, Ginger Watkins, and all departing teachers and staff on Thursday, June 10, 2010 from 5–6:30 p.m. in the Lawrence School Library. Help us show them how much we've appreciated their efforts on behalf of Lawrence students and families by giving them a warm send-off!

Lawrence Special Education Chat

On Monday, June 7, from 8:00–9:00 a.m., Brookline SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Council) will host a coffee get-together in the Lawrence library. Whether you have a child with an IEP, a 504, if you have an evaluation approaching, or if you're just curious, this is a great chance to chat with principal Rick Rogers, building team facilitator Amy Nevis, and other parents about special education services at Lawrence and the district as a whole. Having a child with special needs can be a challenge for everyone in the entire family—this is a chance to get to know other parents who are facing similar issues. For more information, contact Lawrence SEPAC liaison Patrick Gabridge (pat@gabridge.com or 617-959-1437).

SEPAC Meeting & Election

Parents of children receiving special education services and others interested in the education of children with special needs in Brookline are invited to Brookline SEPAC's final event of the 2009–10 school year on Wed., June 9, 7–8:30 p.m. at BATV, located on the top floor of the BHS. Unified Arts Building, 46 Tappan St. We will recognize the service of our many volunteer liaisons, hold elections for officers for 2010–2011, brainstorm plans for next year, and have plenty of time for refreshments and networking. A selection of informative films will be shown in the mini-theatre and a "web resource fair" held in the media rooms. Please bring a dessert, fruit, or beverage to share and join us for refreshments, an opportunity to socialize, and a chance, as well, to view pieces on display at BATV from the Museum of Bad Art!

Brookline SEPAC represents and advocates for families with children with special needs in the Brookline school system, including public and private placements. For more information please visit www.brooklinesepac.org or write to brooklinesepac@gmail.com.

School Committee Meeting Honoring Jay Sugarman

The School Committee will hold its penultimate meeting for the school year on Thursday, June 3, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the James F. Walsh School Committee Room, 5th Floor Town Hall, 333 Washington Street. In addition to the regular docket, we will be recognizing Runkle School teacher Jay Sugarman for his 30 years of service with the public schools of Brookline. Please RSVP 617-730-2430 or robin_coyne@brookline.k12.ma.us

Summer Fun Still Available

Still looking for summer activities for your child? Brookline Adult Ed is hosting an array of exciting enrichment programs for children in grades K–5. Full and half-day programs run for one to six weeks, from July 2 through August 13, 2010. Programs include Cybersummer, for kids who'd like to improve their web and animation skills; Theater arts; Creative arts featuring pottery and painting; Basketball; Activities and team-building; Bringing books to life; and Culinary Creations, for students who want to have fun in the kitchen. For more details or to reserve a spot, please call 617-730-2700, ext. zero or visit www.brooklineadulted.org.

A HEART-Y THANK YOU

Thank you to the friends and families of the following students for donating to our K–5 Jump Rope for Heart event in April. Your contributions help the American Heart Association in their work towards keeping families healthy.

Yana Lazarova-Weng
Melissa Bu
Brent Lacey
Kartik Jayachandran
Sonia Wiecek
Maddie Nagler
Nicholas Partan
Talia Vos
Mark Manuel
Zoe Mendoza
Casey McNamara

Thank You!

A big thank you to Kim Swartz for organizing this year's Staff Appreciation Luncheon!

Extreme Makeover: Parks Edition

The Brookline Parks & Open Space Division invites you to join in celebrating two recent park renovations: Come tour Dana Park, located on Hammond St. near Woodland Rd., on Saturday, June 5, 2010 from 1–2:30 p.m. and admire this special wooded park's newly added native plantings, the new walking circuit uniting the two areas of the park, and a handicap-accessible loop. At the re-opening of the Juniper Playground, located at the end of Juniper Street off Rte. 9, on Sunday, June 13, 2010, 3–4:30 p.m., children are invited to try out the park's new play equipment for younger and older children, alongside new furniture for picnicking. Light refreshments will be provided at both. For more information please call 617-730-2088.

Host Family Wanted in July

An 18-year-old Italian student would like to visit Brookline for three or four weeks this July. He comes to us through the International Projects and Student Exchange Program at Liceo Scientifico "G.Ferrari," which has sent several students to Brookline in the last few years. Lorenzo is at the top of his class and is fluent in English. He would like to baby-sit children and possibly teach them Italian in exchange for accommodation. According to his program coordinator, he is a very mature, good-mannered, responsible boy who often looks after his younger brother. Families interested in hosting Lorenzo should contact Paola Crevola at Liceo Scientifico "G.Ferrari" (myjpc@tele2.it).