

# THE



December 9, 2008

# PAPE

A newsletter

from the Lawrence School Parent-Teacher Organization

## Calendar

- 9 December (Tuesday)  
School Council Meeting  
8 am 2nd floor conf. room
- 10 December (Wednesday)  
Staff Appreciation Holiday Lunch
- 11 December (Thursday)  
• Gr. 4/5/6 Chorus Concert  
9 and 11 am  
• Gr. 5/6 Chorus only  
7 pm
- [Please note that the Principal's Forum scheduled for December 15 has been cancelled.]*
- 17 December (Wednesday)  
Grade 7/8 Play  
*You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*  
9 am and 6 pm
- 18 December (Thursday)  
Gr. 3 Chorus Concert  
8:30 am
- 23 December (Tuesday)  
• Gr. K/1 Winter Sing  
8:30 am  
• EARLY DISMISSAL  
12 NOON Gr. K-8
- 24 Dec-2 Jan (Wed-Fri)  
SCHOOL CLOSED  
*Winter Break*
- 5 January (Monday)  
LSA classes begin
- 6 January (Tuesday)  
School Council Meeting  
8 am 2nd floor conf. room
- 9 January (Friday)  
SET-J presentation by Ms. Frye
- 10 January (Saturday)  
Lawrence Family Skate  
6-8 pm Larz Anderson
- 12 January (Monday)  
PTO Meeting  
7 pm library
- 14 January (Wednesday)  
• Brookline Education Foundation breakfast, open to all  
8 am library  
• Town-wide 7/8 Winter Concert  
7 pm Pine Manor
- 19 January (Monday)  
SCHOOL CLOSED  
*Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*

## Lawrence Serving Others

The two weeks leading up to Thanksgiving saw two meaningful examples of how the Lawrence community models and nurtures the spirit of service to others.

### The Making of the Pies

When I began at Lawrence, I had heard a great deal about the longstanding tradition of making apple pies. As has been true with so many things in my first few months, I could not fully appreciate the power of this tradition until I experienced it first hand. Now I understand—and marvel.



Under the skillful leadership of Technology Specialist Kirsten Alper, our school made nearly 200 unbaked apple pies over two days. During the week prior, 41 students in grades 3-5 pre-measured spices. Six more students helped prep the crusts. Then after school on Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, 56 students working in self-selected teams peeled and sliced apples and assembled the pies. Nineteen staff members assisted, including a surprise visit on Tuesday by retired Vice Principal Morry Sapoznik.

Ninety pies were donated to the Brookline Food Pantry to be distributed with a Thanksgiving turkey. Another hundred or so were purchased by Lawrence families and staff. Some of the funds raised from the pie sale will be used to purchase gifts for Steps to Success, and some will be put toward scholarships for the eighth grade class trip to New York City in June. Thank you to all the families who supported the project by purchasing pies. Thank you to all the volunteers, as well as to math specialist Anu Advani and parents Alex Borns-Weil and Aliza Dash for their assistance organizing. And an extra “shout out” to Kirsten Alper for her extraordinary effort on this project.

### Food Drive

Meanwhile, in the lobby, large boxes rapidly filled with food donations, also for the Brookline Food Pantry. The project was initiated by Jennafir O'Connor, an aide in our special education program, and Stephanie Goodman, a student teacher from Emmanuel College working in 6C this fall. Together, they made a presentation at Lawrence Community Meeting to publicize the food drive. They involved students in tallying and organizing the donated items. Lawrence collected more than 1,300 food items! Thank you to all the Lawrence families who contributed so generously.

### A Final Thought

The call to teach “21st Century Skills” in school has garnered some recent media attention. I would make the case that service projects such as these help develop some of these important life skills, including *civic literacy, communication and collaboration, and leadership and responsibility*. Besides, it’s the right thing to do.

—Rick Rogers



email your stories to [newsletter@lawrencepto.org](mailto:newsletter@lawrencepto.org). by Friday 4 p.m.

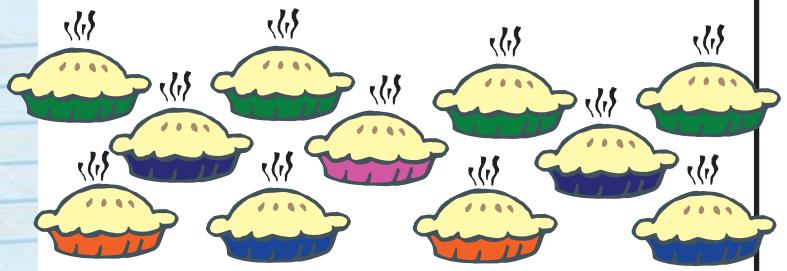
To download a copy of this newsletter go to <http://lawrencepto.weebly.com/>

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

We wanted to thank you for your generous donations to the Brookline Food Pantry. Your outreach made this food drive a great success. Together we surpassed our goal of 500 non-perishable goods; we collected 1,360 items, along with an endless supply of paper bags! Thank you so much for your assistance and support.

Thanks especially to the seventh and eighth graders for their assistance in counting the goods. Your donation of time ensured the success of this food drive. Many thanks!

—Jennafir O'Connor and Stephanie Goodman



## Pie Dough

This year's pie-making team was bigger than ever, including staff members, parents and students too numerous to list here. We made 199 pies, 90 of which went to the Brookline Food Pantry. A whopping \$800 of the money raised will go to Steps to Success in the form of gifts that will be purchased over the next few weeks. Two hundred dollars will go toward sponsoring one student for the eighth grade NYC trip in the spring.

Special thanks to Sabrina Feltz, Lise Ford, Pat Clark and Paul Kirby, and to the businesses whose generous donations helped make it happen: Johnnie's Fresh Market (pie crusts and three boxes of apples); Allandale Farm (five boxes of apples); Tougas Farms, Northboro (300 apples); Russell Orchards, Ipswich (40 pounds of apples); Star Market/Shaws, Brookline (\$25); Star Market/Shaws, Allston (\$25). Thanks to all team members for a phenomenal effort, and to the Lawrence community for supporting this tradition!

## Performing Arts Council Bears Gifts

The internationally acclaimed Cashore Marionettes performed for grades K-6 on Monday, December 8. Their program, *Simple Gifts*, consisted of a series of character portrayals and scenes from everyday life set to stunning music by such composers as Vivaldi, Strauss, Beethoven and Copland. Special thanks to all the Lawrence parents for supporting the PTO and enabling our children to experience quality performances.

## After Hours U

Is your child interested in joining After Hours University? Students do homework (with two teachers available to help), explore interesting subjects, do projects, go on field trips, make friends and have fun! AHU is open to fifth and sixth graders and runs every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Next semester begins immediately after December break. Upcoming units include paper airplanes and gliders, soda bottle science, crime solving, community service and visiting Simmons College to learn about different areas of study, careers and opportunities. For more information contact Susan Fermin ([susan\\_fermin@brookline.k12.edu.ma](mailto:susan_fermin@brookline.k12.edu.ma)) or leave a message in Lower Learning Center mailbox in the office.

## Third Floor News and Views: Walk/Run Results

Congratulations to Team Lawrence for completing the 21st Century Fund 5K Walk/Run over Thanksgiving weekend. The first Lawrence runner to cross the finish line was social studies teacher Jon Greiner, who ran the course in just over 19 minutes. Rick Rogers followed at just under 22 minutes, and the rest of the team was not far behind. Our hats off to Emma Aneshansley, Francesca Bass, Chloe Bowden, Cody Casey, Jonathan Eber, Chloe Fishman, Ben Fletcher, Kira Gabridge, Marshall Greene, Sakura Kodama, August Ramos, Kate Rhodes and Katie Walt. The team showed great spirit and raised \$1,995 to support the eighth grade trip to New York City. Special thanks to team leader Karen Aneshansley. It wouldn't have happened without you!

## Meetings and Resources for Parents

If you have a child in or entering pre-K or Kindergarten, Brookline SEPAC invites you to an Early Childhood Education meeting on Thursday, December 11, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Old Lincoln School. Candace McCann (Assistant Superintendent for Student Services) and Vicki Milstein (Principal of Early Childhood Education) will be present to answer questions. If you would like to suggest an agenda topic, or cannot attend the meeting but have specific questions for Candace or Vicki, please contact SEPAC co-chair Ben Norton ([brndakine1@yahoo.com](mailto:brndakine1@yahoo.com)).

## Arts and Sports

**BHS Freshman Play:** Imagine walking into your classroom and discovering that your teacher has been replaced by a mysterious talking box! This year's freshman play at Brookline High, *A Brief Unit on Interdimensional Heroism*, takes you on a wild, wacky interdimensional adventure in which a group of kids learn the future of the world rests on their shoulders! December 10 at 3:30; December 11, 12, & 13 at 7:30; December 13 at 3:30 in the BHS Black Box. Tickets are \$5; FREE for teachers and eighth graders. *For more information call 617-713-5216.*