THE PTO PAPER

March 3, 2009

A newsletter from the Lawrence School Parent-Teacher Organization

Calendar

3 March (Tuesday)
Parenting Workshop
"Setting Limits with Love"
7:00 pm–8:30 pm Library

4 March (Wednesday)
LSA registration deadline

5 March (Thursday)
PTO Meeting
8 am NOTE MORNING TIME

Suzie Talukdar, Town METCO coordinator, will talk about METCO cuts and the rally on March 18. The PTO board will also propose updates to the PTO By-Laws.

Eighth Grade Family
BHS Orientation, Part 2:
Freshmen Electives
6:30 pm BHS

6 March (Friday)
Lawrence International Dinner
6:00pm–8:30pm

8 March (Sunday)
Daylight Saving Time begins
(set clocks AHEAD one hour)

10 March (Tuesday)
School Council Meeting
8 am 2nd floor conf. room

12 March (Thursday)
• PTO Poetry Night
7 pm Library
• EARLY DISMISSAL
12:30 pm Grades K–8
After-school movie

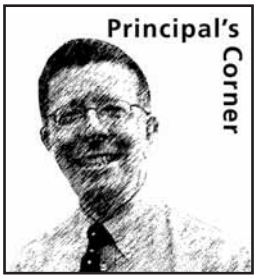
19 March (Thursday)
EARLY DISMISSAL
12:30 pm Grades K–6

20 March (Friday)
Bingo Night

24 March (Tuesday)
Principal's Forum
7:45 am Library

26 March (Thursday)
EARLY DISMISSAL
12:30 pm Grades K–6

Lawrence Communication Survey



The Lawrence School Council is conducting an assessment of the school's current communication strategies. We are asking parents to take 5–8 minutes to complete a survey intended to tell us which strategies are most effective and to elicit your suggestions for enhancing communication. As an added bonus, completing the survey will help parents learn about the many options already in place. After analyzing the survey results, the School Council will make recommendations to the PTO and me for enhancements and additions to existing practices. A hard copy of the survey is attached, but we encourage you complete it online at *http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/survey-intro.zgi?p=WEB228UWFKDHR3.*

International Night—Friday, March 6

International Night is coming! Families can enjoy games, music and food. A parade of flags is planned and families are encouraged to wear traditional dress reflecting their cultures. When I conducted my entry meetings with parents and staff, the diversity at Lawrence School was consistently cited as a strength that was deeply valued by the entire school community. I hope you can join us Friday night at this celebration of our rich and vibrant cultural tapestry! (The cost for dinner is $5 or $20 for a family of 4 or more.)

Rick Rogers, Principal

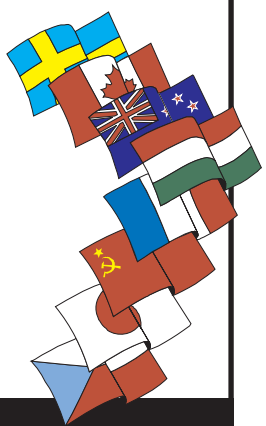
Next Year's Class Configurations

The following classroom sections are anticipated for next year:

K:	3 sections (same)	**Gr. 4:**	4 sections (up 2)
Gr. 1:	3 sections (same)	**Gr. 5:**	2 sections (down 1)
Gr. 2:	3 sections (down 1)	**Gr. 6:**	3 sections (same)
Gr. 3:	4 sections (same)	**Gr. 7:**	3 sections (up 1)

Teacher assignments will not be finalized until later in the spring. Mr. Rogers will outline the placement process at the March 5 PTO Meeting and in the March 10 PTO Paper.

Help Make International Dinner Night a Delight



Volunteers are needed for International Dinner Night, Friday, March 6, in the following time slots:

- 4:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m. Set up/decorations
- 5:30 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Raffle
- 5:45 p.m.–6:15 p.m. Door Sales
- 6:15 p.m.–7:15 p.m. Door Sales
- 8:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m. Clean up
- Anytime this week: Logistics

Please contact Mariana Merida *(617-953-0947)* or Teresa Martinez *(617-835-5150, teremar3000@aol.com)*

email your stories to newsletter@lawrencepto.org. by Friday 4 p.m.
To download a copy of this newsletter go to http://lawrencepto.weebly.com/

LSA Launches Spring Session

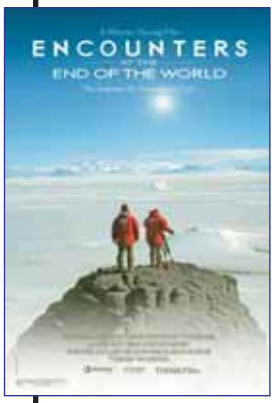
Deadline for Lottery Pushed Back To March 4,

New this year, LSA is offering classes in the Spring. Course catalogs have been distributed to all students and there are additional copies in the office. We have great offerings for grades K–8. Tennis is back and we have old favorites like Futsal, Mad Science, Lego and Chess. We also have terrific new classes, including: Finger Knitting; Make Your Own Ugly Doll or stuffed animal; Robotics; and Flamenco Dance. Classes will fill up quickly, so don't forget to bring in your registration by Wednesday, March 4 at 2:30 p.m. to be included in the lottery. Questions? Contact *Joanne Liautaud* at *joanneliautaud@hotmail.com* or *617-232-5690.*

Residents Needed for ad hoc Strategic Investment Committee

The Brookline School Committee is seeking two residents to serve on an ad hoc Strategic Investment Committee, from April 2009 to December 2009. Individuals with education management experience, particularly in financial management, will be particularly welcome to apply. Send resumes and letters of interest to the *School Committee Office, 333 Washington Street, Brookline, MA 02445* or by e-mail to *robin_coyne@brookline.k12.ma.us.* Submission deadline: March 6, 2009.

Encounters at the End of the World



In the early release movie on Thursday, March 12, documentary filmmaker Werner Herzog takes viewers on a journey to some of Antarctica's most remote and dangerous terrain. Rated: G. Registration forms will be sent via e-mail with your PTO e-Newsletter and will also be available in the front office. Parent volunteers are needed to help with registration and seating. Contact Jonas Bromberg *(jonas.benji@gmail.com)* to volunteer.

METCO Needs Your Support!

Due to the economic downturn, the METCO program's recently released funding formula has significant cuts slotted for the current fiscal year. These cuts may eventually mean discontinuation of the late bus for students pursuing extracurricular activities such as athletics and tutoring. Other programs could also be affected.

For info on how you can help (this could be as simple as sending an email or writing a letter) please contact one of Lawrence's METCO liaisons: Sydney Fuller Jones *(Sydney.Fuller-Jones@state.ma.us)* or Gina Edge *(eye911@hotmail.com).*

Ode to Poets and Poetry Night

By Rebecca Stone

Hail to those who write well in prose.
We envy your ease with the pen.
But others of us find long sentences tough
And so shorten them now and again.

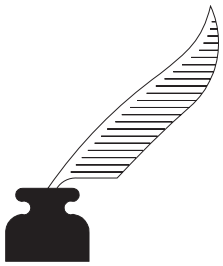
But don't call us lazy; the truth is more hazy.
For words, they hold us in thrall.
But when we get quizzical 'bout things metaphysical,
In stanzas our thoughts they do fall.

If this sounds like you, well, you know what to do.
Start penning those poems right away.
March 12th is the date, come at 7 (don't be late)
And share what your muse has to say.

Yes, **Poetry Night,** a Lawrence bright light,
Brings grown-ups together with youth,
To read poems well-worn, poems admired, those new born
And to wince, laugh and cry at their truth.

Don't miss this event (e'en if poems aren't your bent)
It's better than Reaper or LOST!
And, oh, one thing more, when you come to the door,
You'll find poetry free—there's no cost.

For more info, contact *tomr@rubecom.us.*



Honor Roll

Second Academic Quarter Honor Roll (nothing lower than B and 2)

Grade 6

Queen-Tiye Akamefula, Ishi Aron, Katherine Brumberg, Lakshmana Chavali, Suriyakrishnan Chavali, Cheyenne Daisy, Amelia Elliot, Olivia Ericsson, Carlotta Esposito, Nina Finkhouse, Dylan Flynn, Benjamin Gerber, Theodora Hobson, Lucas Howell Grimm, Nicholas Karnovsky, Yuta Kobayashi, Amanda Lacey *, Youngsang Lee, Quinn Lewis, Rachel Liu, Sara Luster, Brianna McFadden, Naoko Morishita, Zoe Mulford, Camille Newsom *, Eric O'Sullivan, Maya Piken, Danya Potter, Sophia Ramsey, Nicholas Rhodes, Nalthaniel Sandalow-Ash, Sarah Sato, Jacob Steinfield, Joonkyo Suh, Bryan Tow, Sophia Vos, Akane Wakai*, Kako Yamada, Yuxin Zheng

Grade 7

Jamileth Aguasvivas, Victor Brown, Nina Goodheart*, George Gordon, Mihiro Hibi, Jane Jurayj, Haeun Kim, Benjamin Knopf, Anna Lin-Schweitzer*, Simon Mairson, Robert Marcus, Daniel Mirny, Toko Numano, Sarah Olafsson, Annalivia Robinson, Tova Rubenoff*, Sophie Rubin, Joshua Schegolev, Mia Svirsky, Anna Tunik, Hannah Williams, Kimiko Yamasaki, Sophie Zhao

Grade 8

Jancarlos Aguasvivas Lacen, Ramesses Akamefula, Emma Aneshansley, Aden Brown, Cody Casey, Nicole Chin, Jonathan Eber, Chloe Fishman, Benjamin Fletcher *, Kira Gabridge, Julia Grimes, Caitlin Hickey, Kentaro Kaneki, Noah Krawitz, Myles Lafrance, Joon-Yeop Lee, Kimihiro Nakamura, Ashley Olafsson, August Ramos, Kate Rhodes *, Shun Sakai *, Mikhail Salnikov, Gabrielle St. Pierre, Katherine Walt, Risa Yasuda, Jonathan Yuan

* Honors with Distinction (nothing lower than B and 1)

Arts and Sports

Visit Agrabah

Artbarn's Duck Soup Troupe will present *Disney's Aladdin,* March 7 at 7:00 p.m. and March 8 at 4:30 p.m. at the Maliotis Cultural Center at Hellenic College, 50 Goddard Ave., Brookline. Tickets $8 in advance *(617-975-0050)* or at the door.