



Prudence Crandall PTO September/October 2008

The Cougar Courier

www.orgsites.com/ct/crandallpto

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Email Address

CrandallPTO@cox.net

Thoughts from the President

Hello Everyone,

Welcome back to school! It is hard to believe that the summer is over and we are back into the swing of things here at Prudence Crandall. The PTO is looking forward to another year of helping to do great things for our kids. I would like to welcome all of our new kindergarten parents. I hope to meet many of you throughout the school year at our various events. We are always looking for new volunteers and helping out with PTO events is a great way to get to know your child's school environment and the staff here at Crandall.

Our fall fundraisers are well underway. We hope that we have offered a little something for everyone. Whether you choose to participate in the gift wrap fundraiser, Display My Art, Pies and Cookie Dough or perhaps you are a home based business sponsor, your support is greatly appreciated. All of the money raised by the PTO goes back to our children by helping to fund field trips, cultural events, classroom extras and student rewards. We are looking forward to the Fall Book Fair, the Ice Cream Social and celebrating the upcoming season with our Holiday Bazaar. We are always looking for donations for the Holiday Bazaar raffle. If anyone has any new, used or handmade items that they would like us to raffle off, please let us know.

I would like to thank everyone who has already volunteered to help in some way. Being a part of the PTO does not need to take up a lot of time or be a huge commitment. Something as simple as helping to hand out flyers to classrooms or helping us paint rocks at Family Fun Day all adds to our common goal each year. We do it all for our kids!

I would like to remind everyone that this school year is also an election year for the new PTO board. If you have ever considered being a part of the PTO, please come to our meetings to see what we do and what we are all about. Nominations for elections for the 2009-2010 school year will be held in March. A new PTO board means new and fresh ideas. Let's work together to make Prudence Crandall the best it can possibly be!

Lynn Bemont



Thoughts from the Principal

Dear Prudence Crandall School Families,

As the leaves begin to turn their beautiful colors of fall, it reminds us all of how quickly time passes. We have been back to school a month already and our students are learning SO many new concepts and skills. Our school community is continuing to promote and model our school goals of KINDNESS, RESPECT, and RESPONSIBILITY. When you have a minute, stop by and read our monthly good character bulletin board that is currently displaying many acts of student kindness that have been observed in our school this month.

Our Back to School Night on September 10th was outstanding with over 300 parents attending. It was great to see you all! Your new ideas, questions, and support are always welcome! The Crandall teachers look forward to your partnership in meeting your child's learning needs. Keep in touch!

The READ EVERY DAY signs in the school building are displaying the district-wide reading theme. Please remember to encourage reading for enjoyment at home, to practice your child's skills and increase their knowledge. We have many resource materials, booklists, and ideas for you, if you would like to access them.

Our MATH SKILLS are continuing to grow, as well. The students are encouraged to practice those basic facts, tell time, find measurement opportunities and think math in their everyday lives.

I am very proud to share with you that 200 students returned their summer reading logs and math work. These students received a certificate and free meal coupon to Red Robin Restaurant (our new business partnership). Additionally, a thank you goes to the Crandall PTO for sponsoring an assembly, READING AND HISTORY on October 6th for all our students to celebrate.

The Prudence Crandall Community is very glad to have three business partners this year. These partnerships have helped us to build learning resources at our school, as well as provide volunteers, incentive certificates, and the kindergarten BOOK BUDDIES PROGRAM in our school that supports literacy. Thank you to AW Hastings Company, 360 Federal Credit Union, and Red Robin Restaurant. Additionally, we welcome back our community friends, Mrs. Joyce Hall, our Board of Education liaison and Mrs. Clemence Dumont, our Town Council liaison.

In closing, we welcome you to volunteer, join the PTO, help out with a class project, chaperone a field trip or enjoy an assembly program when you have any extra time. Remember our children are our greatest natural resources (Walt Disney), we need to work together to help them reach their lifelong learning goals!

I look forward to seeing you at our school.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Mazzoli





Library



The library would like to thank all of the volunteers who signed up to help out during the day. We have many new faces that are volunteering for the first time. It is a great way to get to know the staff at the school as well as give a helping hand. The library would not be able to run as smoothly as it does without all of the wonderful helpers. We also have many student helpers that

come down at various times during the day. We have lunch-time helpers as well as students at the start and end of the day. Thank you to all of the student volunteers also. The library is computerized now so all the books are scanned in as well as out-just like at the town library. If your child has a book that is more than 1 week overdue, a notice will be printed and sent home. Stu-

dents that have books that are very overdue will not be eligible to take out new books until the overdue books are returned. As with any computer system, we sometimes have glitches and books will be re-shelved that were not properly scanned in. If your child has an overdue that you believe was returned, please send in a note for the librarian, Mrs. Vivona. Thank you for your cooperation.

Third grade News



We are working on building vocabulary skills and improving comprehension. Please continue to practice the vocabulary words from our home-school connection sheet you receive weekly. Our students are

learning math strategies to help them quickly do their basic math facts. We continue to encourage them to practice these strategies instead of using their fingers. Go 3rd graders!

Manny of the 3rd grade students are working on a classification project in science. They will be creating a leaf collection booklet. Some are also learning about the life of "Johnny Appleseed."

Fourth Grade News

The fourth graders have been working very hard on using their reading strategies to help them comprehend and respond to stories they

have read. In social studies, the children are studying the constitution. Our math focus has been on place value, addition, subtraction, rounding

and estimation. Please encourage your child to practice their math facts on a daily basis. Read! Read! Read!



News You Can Use

Remember to save your Box Tops for Education and submit them to school. We have a special box in the office for the box tops. Last year Prudence Crandall received \$582.51 from this program. Check out www.boxtops4education.com for more details and a list of products offering the box tops. Thank you for your support. We would also like to thank Polly Martin for chairing this worthwhile program for many years. She will be working with new volunteers this year, Shelby Marquardt and Gena Christie.

Absences: Parents please remember to call in your child's absence for the day by using the main school phone number of 253-6464 and leaving a message on the absence line. Thank you for your cooperation.

Target-Take Charge of Education

Prudence Crandall school just received a check in the amount of \$175.94 which will be used for various school projects, teacher materials and field trip assistance. To participate in this program you will need a REDCard, Target Visa Credit Card, Target Credit Card or Target Check Card. See more details at Target.com/tcoe. Target donates up to 1% of your purchases to the school you designate.

Jack-O-Lantern Festival

It has come to our attention that the Jack-O-Lantern Festival will be held this year!! It will be held on the town green. As we get more information, we will pass it on to you.



the Jack-O-Lantern Festival will be held on Sat. Oct. 18th, 2008 on the town green. As we get more information about it, we will pass it on to you.



Energy Assistance Program

Neighborhood services is taking applications for the 2008-09 Energy Assistance Program. Enfield residents who are eligible include those who heat with oil, gas, propane, electric, wood and even those whose heat is included in their rent. To be eligible, applicants must first meet income guidelines. For a single person household, the income limit is \$29,272. For a 2 person household, the limit is \$38,279. For a 3 person household, the limit is \$47,286. There are also asset limits. For more information, call Neighborhood Services at 253-6396. The first day fuel is to be delivered is November 3rd. Applications will be taken until May 1, 2009.



Student Handbooks

The office has sent out the Student Handbooks (one per family) for this year. If you did not receive one or need another, please ask in the school office.

Important reminder: If your home phone, work phone or daycare information (etc.) changes during the school year, please remember to notify the office. You may send a note to the classroom teacher and they will notify the office and the nurse. Thank you for your cooperation.

Wellness Policy

Special monthly parties: As a precaution for the protection of students who have a variety of allergies, we would request that if you send in food for a birthday party that it be prepackaged so the ingredients may be checked. A suggestion would be to substitute birthday cupcakes/cookies with a non-food item such as stickers, pencils eraser, etc. Thank you!



Kindergarten News



Thank you to the parents who were able to attend Open House. Students have adjusted well to their new Kindergarten. We are off to a good start! We have been evaluating children in language arts and math and we are looking forward to learning more letters and math concepts. We will be going apple picking on October 22nd.

Second Grade News

The second grades are working hard on basic math facts. We have mastered adding +0, +1, +2, +3 's and are all under one minute! We are also working on place value, adding 10 more, expanded notation and renaming tens and ones. We are reading about characters and their friends, like Frog & Toad and Henry & Mudge. We are noticing setting and character feelings.



First Grade News

In reading we have been reviewing the Kindergarten concepts and sight words. We have reviewed letters and their sounds. Recently, we have introduced short vowels. We have begun our reading program. Our theme this month is Look At Me Now. Our stories focus on friendships, working together, and the many things we can

do. In math we have worked on sorting and classifying. We have reviewed number words and ordinal concepts. We are currently learning patterns and will begin counting and identifying numbers up to 100. We will also begin addition! In social studies we have been discussing neighborhoods and communities. We discussed who works

in our community, why it is important to know our address and phone number, and what a community and neighborhood are. In science we have been covering our weather unit. We discuss the weather daily and will begin to look at the seasons. We will cover the pattern of seasons and what happens when the seasons change.

Art News

The visual arts present a problem solving element to the educational experience in which creativity, the elements of art, and principles of design are used as tools to arrive at a variety of solutions. The Enfield Visual Art Curriculum aligns with the National and State Standards of Art Education, while actively encourag-

ing the integration of all disciplines cross-curriculum. Many projects your child will bring home this year will focus on themes they are learning in their classroom. The goal of the Visual Arts Department is to enhance the connection between each learner and his or her own experiences and to build a bridge between

verbal and nonverbal comprehension. Most importantly, the children have a creative environment to relax and have fun while learning!

Thank you for your support!





Grade Five News

“Looking Inside Oneself” is the theme for the reading stories that we are studying. The 5th graders have selected their own realistic fiction books and we are sharing how the characters and lessons are similar to the stories we’ve read and to their own lives. The children have enjoyed working in cen-

ters engaging in hands -on activities using their reading skills. After finishing a unit on place value, the children are discovering how fractions work in our world. They know about factors, multiples, equivalent fractions, etc. We are just beginning to learn a computerized program called Accelerated

Math. We are all looking forward to using this program. The 5th graders enjoyed designing a landform. They used many varied materials and creatively constructed their land formation. What a fantastic job they did! We also enjoyed sharing them with each other! We will find ourselves traveling into the



Reading Room

This year our district’s theme for Reading is Read Every Day. Check out our bulletin board that showcases what our teachers are

currently reading. As a school community we are making book recommendations over the intercom to promote reading. TLC has

started with first graders and we welcome our newest tutor, Kathleen Mayers.

Music Room

Mrs. Turcotte is excited to once again be at Crandall sharing Music with her students. During classes, we have all been working on National Standard 1 which is “Singing alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.” To accomplish this goal, the primary grades have been learning warm-up chants and movements to reinforce steady beat and singing echo patterns. Our standards of “The Wheels

on the Bus” and the “Itsy Bitsy Spider” can be heard coming from the voices of our kindergarten students. In October, we will focus on performing on percussion instruments such as the rhythm sticks, maracas, tambourines, triangles and drums. The students who are in grades 2, 3, and 5, that I see will be using music textbooks. It is always a joy to work alongside my music colleague, Mr.

Whinnem who teaches general music and the instrumental program at Crandall. We are off to a great start in Music.



Sixth Grade News

The sixth grade students are in full swing with switching classes. Mr. Nuccio's students have just finished Literature Circles reading the book *The Best School Year Ever* and are now reading and comparing it with the reading book's version. We are creating a Top Ten List of the Most Devilish Antics of the Herdsmans Ms. Song's class is continuing in the reading book and have just finished reading *Knots in My Yo Yo String*. Mr. Bacon's class has completed *The Best*

School Year Ever and Yang the Eldest. In writing, the students are working on an essay about their best and worst days. They are also working on complete subjects and predicates of a sentence, and revising end marks. In science, Mr. Nuccio's class is working on an Ocean Sea Creature project. Ms. Song's class has just finished a unit on maps in social studies. For math, Mr. Nuccio's class is working on fractions, fractions, fractions. Place value and pic-

torial representations have been assessed for Mr. Bacon's students as well as time tests for multiplication and division. Ms. Song's students have completed place value and are currently working on computation with adding, subtracting and multiplication.



Public Roundtable Meeting

There will be two roundtable discussions where the public is invited to talk with the Board of Education in regards to the 2009-2010 proposed school

budget. The meetings will be held on November 6th, 2008 at Enfield High School at 7 PM and on November 17, 2008 at John F Kennedy Middle School

also at 7pm. Everyone is invited to come out and attend these meetings.

Election Day Bake Sale



The PTO will be holding a bake sale on Tuesday, November 4th during the voting. A notice will be going home if you would like to sign up to volunteer to bake something or to help out during the sale. We wouldn't be able to do this without the help of our volunteers, so all and any help will be appreciated!!

