



# NEWSNOTES

Care & Respect ~ Effort & Hard Work ~ Critical Thinking ~ Risk Taking

September 30, 2011



Every Tuesday  
Pretzel Sales \$1.00  
After school  
Front/Back Lobbies

**Wednesday, Oct 5**  
Walk to School with Wally  
at 8AM

**Wednesday, Oct 5**  
School Council Meeting at  
7PM

**Thursday, Oct 6**  
All School Early Release  
12:30 Dismissal

**Saturday, Oct 8**  
Gift Wrap Fundraiser  
Kickoff

**Sunday, Oct 23**  
Family Fun Run & Walk

**Saturday, Nov 5**  
Mystery Dinner

Next Edition:  
October 14, 2011

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## From Mark's Desk

Thank you to all who turned out for last week's Back to School Night. We had a good turnout and lots of positive feedback about the teacher presentations. Thanks also to those of you who pledged to volunteer for upcoming events at Horace Mann. If you haven't done so, there is still time! It is your effort that makes Horace Mann special.

**4th Grade Update:** I am pleased to announce that we have hired Alison Derito as a full time teaching assistant in Ms. Oldmixon's 4th grade class. Ms. Derito had been working as an inclusion assistant at Horace Mann, spending portions of her day working in Ms. Oldmixon's class. Alison is a licensed teacher and has experience in 4th grade, working last year at the Cabot School. Ms. Derito and Ms. Oldmixon have begun to make some decisions about how to create small group learning opportunities using the empty spaces that are available throughout the week. After letting them settle into a routine for the next few weeks, I will update you again and try to provide you with a snapshot of what the 4th grade day looks like in Ms. Oldmixon's class.

**Lunch:** We have been working with Whitman's (our food service contractor) to smooth out some early glitches around lunch. To prevent shortages (particularly on pizza day) I have requested that a surplus of food be ordered for the next few weeks until we can more accurately gauge how many lunches we need on a given day. I appreciate your patience while we work through this. Our lunch manager Maria Rahall has put in a tremendous amount of effort to manage a new system and to make sure that the children don't go hungry!

**Modular Classroom Update:** The company that was awarded the city contract to install the modular classrooms came to visit the Horace Mann site last week. Over the next several weeks, the contractor will return to prepare the site and hopefully, work will begin in earnest sometime in late October. The timetable for completing the project is roughly 6 weeks. I will keep you posted.

**Executive Assistant Hiring:** A committee of volunteers met on Tuesday of this week to review resumes and select candidates for the opening in our executive assistant position. We will be conducting a first round of interviews next week, and hope to complete the hiring process by the third week in October at the latest. Of course, it will be hard to say goodbye to a Horace Mann icon, and it won't be easy to fill her shoes. Please take some time this month to express your best wishes to Ms. Coffey before she enters the next chapter in her life.

Have a great week!

Mark Nardelli  
Principal

**THANK  
YOU**

**School Directory  
2011-2012**

**Family Fun Run  
& Walk  
Sunday, Oct 23**

**MYSTERY  
DINNER**

**The School  
Council  
First Meeting  
Wednesday,  
Oct. 5, at 7PM**

**CAP  
Volunteers  
Needed**

## From the PTO Officers

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! We collected over \$4000 on Curriculum Night in dues from approximately 17% of our families. We would like everyone to participate in our dues campaign. More information, including an envelope, is in your child's backpack today.

The deadline for changing or adding your information to our school directory is September 30th. If your information has changed from last year or if you are new to the school, please email your information to Liz Mansfield at [lizmansfield@comcast.net](mailto:lizmansfield@comcast.net).

Mark your calendars for the Road Race on October 23rd. Races include 5K, 1 Mile and Kids' Pumpkin Dash. Registration is open at [www.horacemannpto.org/register.html](http://www.horacemannpto.org/register.html). Sign up now: The first 100 registrants get a free t-shirt! The proceeds from this race will help finance the school's annual "Fitness for Life Celebration". "Fitness for Life" is a unique health and fitness promoting event where children, teachers and parents come together at a local park in the spring for a day filled with physical fitness activities, lots of fun, and a barbecue lunch.

The Mystery Dinner will take place on Saturday, November 5th. Everyone meets for cocktails, splits up for dinner, and meets up again for dessert. This fun adult-only event needs people to host the dinner parties. If you would like to host a dinner for 6-10 people in your home, please contact Sue Sung ([tbc1132@yahoo.com](mailto:tbc1132@yahoo.com)) or Susannah Wardly ([susannah@wardly.com](mailto:susannah@wardly.com)) ASAP.

## From The School Council

Please join the Horace Mann School Council next Wed, Oct 5th, at 7PM in the library for our first meeting. We will be discussing updates to the School Improvement Plan and our priorities for the year, including home-school connection. School Council is a place where the voices of parents and teachers may be heard. In other words, if you have specific questions regarding the direction of the Horace Mann School, or questions relating to any other policy matter, you should come to a meeting or contact a member of the School Council to voice your question or comment.

Our School Council is a group of Horace Mann community members: the Principal, three teachers, four parents, a community representative and PTO representative. School Council assists and advises the Principal on school policies and "bigger picture issues", including school climate, class size, professional development, school building budget and the development and implementation of a School Improvement Plan. This Plan, which every school must create, sets forth the educational goals for Horace Mann and how these goals will be achieved during the coming year.

Current members of the School Council are:  
Maureen Berardi ([Maureen\\_Berardi@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:Maureen_Berardi@newton.k12.ma.us))  
Bob/Kim Daley ([bkdaley@yahoo.com](mailto:bkdaley@yahoo.com))  
Diane Erba ([Diane\\_Erba@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:Diane_Erba@newton.k12.ma.us))  
Nancy Hamill ([Nancy\\_Hamill@newton.k12.newton.us](mailto:Nancy_Hamill@newton.k12.newton.us))  
Louise Martin ([Louise\\_Martin@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:Louise_Martin@newton.k12.ma.us))  
Julie Minkin ([jminkin@yahoo.com](mailto:jminkin@yahoo.com))  
Mark Nardelli ([Mark\\_Nardelli@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:Mark_Nardelli@newton.k12.ma.us))  
Susan Tuozzolo ([tuozzolo4@comcast.net](mailto:tuozzolo4@comcast.net))

Please visit the PTO website at <http://horacemannpto.org/school-council.html> for more information on the School Council.

## From The Community

**The Child Assault Prevention Program (CAP)**  
Volunteers needed for the school year! New training begins October 12th. The training has been revised to more easily fit with busy schedules. For more information and an application visit our website [www.ncscweb.org](http://www.ncscweb.org), or email Gail Sommer at [gsommer@ncscweb.org](mailto:gsommer@ncscweb.org).

### Shop & Earn Money for Newton Schools

#### Shop Whole Foods October 4 and Support Newton Schools

On Tuesday October 4, Whole Foods Markets at 647 Washington Street in Newtonville and 916 Beacon Street at Four Corners will donate 5 percent of the day's net sales to the Newton Schools Foundation. Do your grocery shopping for the week, prepare for the Yom Kippur break-fast, or get your fall pie ingredients on that day to help NSF support the Newton Public Schools' efforts to integrate technology throughout the learning and teaching environment.

### The Newton Pumpkin Patch

The United Parish of Auburndale is hosting its fifth annual **Pumpkin Patch**, from Saturday, October 8th through Monday, October 31st. The proceeds help the UPA support a number of programs in the New England area. Don't miss this fun family outing! Pumpkin Patch hours are weekdays, 10am-6pm and weekends, 9am-5pm.

The UPA is located at the corner of Woodland Road and Grove Street near Williams Elementary in Auburndale. For more information, please contact the UPA at [617-964-8516](tel:617-964-8516).

### Parent Group Series: Navigating the Rocky Road of Adolescence

FREE four session starting 11/2/11, for parents of teens, led by licensed psychologist Deborah Weinstock-Savoy, Ph.D. This group series will explore the many changes that occur during adolescence, and how they affect relationships at home and school. Sponsored by the Friedman Center for Child and Family Development and The Newton Partnership. Held at the Newton Cultural Center, 225 Nevada St.. Newtonville for four Wednesday evening sessions (11/2, 11/9, 11/16 and 11/30) from 7:00-8:30 PM. Groups fill up quickly. Pre-registration required: at <http://freedman.mspp.edu> or 617-244-INFO.

### The League of Women Voters Newton

The **League of Women Voters Newton** is participating in a national League education study on **The Role of the Federal Government in Public Education**. An informational meeting will be held on **Monday, October 3 from 7:00-9:30 p.m. in the Newton City Hall cafeteria**. The study includes questions on *Common Core Standards* and *Equity and Funding*. The meeting is open to the public, especially potential League members. For reference, click on this link: [The Role of the Federal Government in Public Education Consensus questions](#).

### Newton North Little League

**Newton North Little League** is celebrating 60 years of baseball with a gala event featuring food, raffle & live auction, Little League memorabilia, live band & dancing, and lots of celebration. Please join us on Friday, October 14th, 7pm - midnight at the American Legion Post 440, 295 California Street, Newton. Tickets: \$35 per person, \$60 per couple, \$300 per table of 10. Youth (13-18) alumni tickets \$20, no children under 13. Music provided by Axminster, food catered by The Chateau, enjoyment provided by NNLL! Tickets for dinner must be purchased in advance and can be ordered at <http://newtonnorthlittleleague.org> or send a check to Newton North Little League, P.O. Box 600412, Newtonville, MA, 02460. Can't make dinner? Stop by after 9pm for a donation of \$10 as the celebration continues with Axminster.

### Destination ImagiNation Informational Meeting

The informational meeting will be held Tuesday, October 4th, 2011 @ 7:00PM at Memorial Spaulding Library.

Destination ImagiNation (DI) is an educational program in which student teams solve open-ended Challenges and present their solutions at Tournaments. Teams choose challenges that are focused in either robotics, performing arts, engineering and/or design. There is also a non-competitive Rising Stars! Challenge designed for students in pre-school through 2nd grade that introduces students to teamwork and creative thinking. If you are unable to attend or if you have any questions, please email Matthew Miller at [mmiller942@gmail.com](mailto:mmiller942@gmail.com).

### Historic Newton The Jackson Homestead

**HOMESTEAD HAYFEST:** Saturday, October 1, noon-5:00 PM.

Travel back in time to the 19th century: learn to weave wool into cloth, make your own butter, press your own cider, dip candles, and more! Learn through hands-on activities how Newton families lived in the 1800s. *Rain date Sunday October 2*. Free.

**NEWTON COMMUNITY WEEKEND:** Saturday and Sunday, October 1 and 2, noon-5:00PM. Newton residents are invited to enjoy free admission to the museum.

**HISTORIC NEWTON AT THE NEWTON HARVEST FAIR:** Sunday, October 16, 11:00 AM-5:00PM. Stop by our table at the Harvest Fair on the Newton Centre Green to learn how to make dyes from plants and common foods as they would have in the colonial era. *At Langley and Center Streets*. Free.

## Brookline Music School

Brookline Music School hosts an Open House & Instrument Petting Zoo, Student and Faculty Performances During Pumpkinfest at the Lincoln School Sunday, October 16, 2011. The Open House & Instrument Petting Zoo will take place at Brookline Music School's Kennard House, 25 Kennard Road, Brookline, MA 02445 on Sunday, October 16, 2011 from 1:00 to 3:00pm. Student and faculty performances will take place during Pumpkinfest at Lincoln School, 19 Kennard Road, Brookline, MA 02445 on Sunday, October 16, 2011 from noon to 4:00pm. The Open House and Pumpkinfest are both FREE and all ages are welcome! For more information visit [www.bmsmusic.org](http://www.bmsmusic.org) or call BMS at (617) 277-4593.

## Classifieds

**ActiveMinds Tutoring, LLC:** Your source for in-home tutoring. Effective, Personalized and Convenient. All grades/all subjects, including test preparation (MCAS, SSAT, ISEE, SAT...). Sign your child up today for academic success! Call: (617) 663-5700 during business hours, or (617) 227-2225 Eve/Wknds. Please visit our web site at [www.activemindstutoring.com](http://www.activemindstutoring.com).

**PIANO LESSONS:** Established teacher with forty years of experience teaching Newton students of all ages and levels. Serious, basic foundation yet sensitive to different learning styles. Year end recital. Call Jane Wanger at 617-965-2305 or write [thewangers@prodigy.net](mailto:thewangers@prodigy.net) for more info.

**Flute Lessons:** Nurturing, goal oriented FLUTE TEACHER welcomes new students of all ages and levels. Professional Flute Studio in Newton. First lesson is complimentary. Please email [Barbara@newtonfluteteacher.com](mailto:Barbara@newtonfluteteacher.com) or call Barbara Nakazawa at (617)527-4413 for more info.

**Private Occupational Therapy/Academic Tutoring:** Winnie Ebb, MS, OTR/L is expanding her private practice in Newton Center and has openings for new students. She brings 30 years of experience to her private work with children. Services provided include Occupational Therapy, Homework Support, Organizational Strategies and Academic Tutoring in all subject areas. If interested please contact Winnie Ebb at [fourebb@comcast.net](mailto:fourebb@comcast.net) or 617-965-3870.

READ NEWSNOTES, COMMUNITY NEWS AND CLASSIFIEDS ON THE NEWLY LAUNCHED & REDESIGNED PTO WEBSITE:

<http://horacemannpto.org/newsnotes.html>, <http://horacemannpto.org/community-news.html>, <http://horacemannpto.org/community-classifieds.html>.

NewsNotes, Community News and Classifieds are published by the PTO bi-weekly. Please email items of interest to [hmnewsnotes@lists.neighborhood.net](mailto:hmnewsnotes@lists.neighborhood.net).  
The next deadline for submissions is 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 11.

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We're on the Web!  
[horacemannpto.org](http://horacemannpto.org)