



NEWSNOTES

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

September 24

From Mark's Desk

Every Tuesday

Pretzel Sales \$1.00
After school
Front/Back Lobbies

Friday, September 24

Wrapping Paper
Fundraiser

Monday, September 27

School Pictures

Monday, October 11

Columbus Day No School

Thursday, October 14

Morning Coffee with Mark
7:30 am

Thursday, October 22

All School Release
12:30 Dismissal

Sunday, October 24

Family Fun Run & Walk
Fall Fair

Next Edition: October 8

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Dear Horace Mann Families,

Welcome to the 2010-2011 edition of the Horace Mann NewsNotes. Approximately every two weeks, I will reach out to you to keep you informed about important events going on at school, as well as to celebrate the wonderful things that go on within classrooms every day. I hope you find these communications useful.

I want to thank the entire Horace Mann staff for the smooth transition into this new school year. Peter and Billy, our custodians, have worked tirelessly to get the building ready after the summer camp programs ended and amidst the facility improvements that have been going on since Labor Day. I can't say enough about how hard they work to make Horace Mann look great. I also want to recognize the teachers for the time and energy they have put into creating inviting spaces that encourage students to explore and learn. The hours spent constructing bulletin boards, making name tags, organizing book collections, etc. all demonstrate the warmth and dedication of the educators in this community. They set the tone for a wonderful year.

Now that the excitement of the first few days has dissipated, I have begun to roll out a transition plan that will enable me to learn as much as possible about Horace Mann and the community. To that end, I am reviewing many of the policies and protocols we have in place internally, and subsequently talking with staff about making changes where we feel they would be helpful. I also have begun to visit classrooms, providing me with a chance to converse with teachers about instruction and learning, as well as helping me to get to know the children. On the community side of things, I am working with the PTO to develop a series of information sessions geared toward educating parents about important topics that come up throughout the year. Topics will include literacy, math, progress reports, MCAS, and others. More details will follow. I look forward to spending the next few months learning as much as possible; I welcome your input, along with your support and patience in this process.

Curriculum Night: I was impressed by the strong turnout for curriculum night; the showing demonstrated the commitment on the part of parents to be informed about and involved in the academic and social development of our children. I know that teachers put a lot of time and energy into creating their presentations last night, and I hope that you came away feeling welcomed and better informed. Moving forward, I want to re-emphasize our message about courage to everyone. You can reinforce the message in your daily interactions with your children as they work to develop new skills, interact with peers, and take on new challenges. A little encouragement and positive energy can go a long way.

School Council Reminder: We are presently seeking one (1) parent representative to join the School Council. If you are interested in running for the current vacancy, please [e-mail me](#) a brief (one sided) explanation as to why you are interested; in addition, include any areas of expertise you would bring to the position. The due date for your statement is **Monday, October 4th**. Your submission will be published to the community and a ballot election will take place in October. Refer to the PTO website for this year's meeting dates, <http://horacemannpto.org/school-council.html>.

Mark Nardelli
Principal

Back-to-School BBQ



From the PTO Officers

Last Wednesday the Back-to-School BBQ went off without a hitch thanks to Noreen Grady and Lauren Patton. The turnout was great, and the weather was beautiful. Thank you to Magic Mark, our DJ, and Peter and Billy, our custodians, for all their hard work. Many parents also worked hard behind the scenes: Marcia Tabenkan, Kathy Baron, Leslie and Bob Mehrez, Sandy McCormack, Emily Norton, Amy Ryals, Diane Claflin, Jim Byne, Curtis Betts, Stephen Solari, Kevin Greene, Ruibao Ren, Liz Mansfield, Jeanette Leone, Christine Schaefer. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the BBQ such a success!

Gift Wrap FUNDRAISER Sept 24



Also from the PTO

Our fall fundraiser begins today!!! Be sure to look for your Innisbrook sales packet in your child's backpack today. Innisbrook is offering a beautiful selection of gift wrap as well as gift items, candy and magazines this year. There are more than 150 items in the catalog and more than 400 items available for purchase online at www.innisbrook.com. Remember our school earns 50% on everything you purchase! Online orders, please use our school number 105470. Check out the new student prize brochure. Don't wait . . . call those aunts, uncles and stop by to see your neighbors . . . everyone needs gift wrap! If you have any questions, please contact Pat Tobin at 617-527-6569 or at pstobin@mac.com.

School Pictures Sept 27



School Picture Day is Monday!!! Recently, you should have received a form with instructions on how to order your child's school pictures. Please return your order and check to your child's teacher no later than Monday 9/27/10 (School Picture Day). If you have any questions, problems or concerns, please contact Kim Daley at bkdaley@yahoo.com



STUDENT DIRECTORY 2010-2011

Please be on the lookout for an email from Liz Mansfield re: School Directory. You may choose one of the 3 options below to update and include your child's contact information:

1. Edit the class list that will be posted on each teacher's door (posted for one week).
2. Look at your own copy of last year's directory (green). If you have ANY changes (new phone #, new email address, etc.) please email any revisions to Liz Mansfield at lizmansfield@comcast.net. You can find two copies of last year's green directory on the PTO bulletin board in the front lobby and mark your edits there.
3. NEW KINDERGARTEN KIDS and NEW STUDENTS in grades 1-5 will receive a hardcopy of their directory information. If the info is correct, you can recycle the copy. If you have updates, please edit and return the copy to your child's teacher.

Family Fun Run & Walk



Fall Fair Oct 24

On Sunday, October 24th, we will be holding our 6th Annual Family Fun Run & Walk. This event includes a 5K Run, 5K Walk, 1 mile race, and Kids Dash. Register on the web at <http://horacemannpto.org/road-race.html>.

The Horace Mann Fall Fair 2010 also takes place on October 24th from 11:00am-2:00pm. Come and join us for a day of fun-filled events. Kids will have a blast on the gigantic slide, obstacle course and moon bounce! Adults can win a Capital Grille dinner for two, an overnight stay at Hotel Indigo with breakfast, a Best Buy Bundle basket or a Yoga basket full of goodies!!! Visit the PTO website <http://horacemannpto.org/> soon for more details.

NewsNotes Information

NEWSNOTES IS ON THE NEWLY LAUNCHED & REDESIGNED PTO WEBSITE at <http://horacemannpto.org/newsnotes.html>.

Community News and Classifieds (formerly part of NewsNotes) will be posted on the Horace Mann PTO website at <http://horacemannpto.org/community-news.html> and <http://horacemannpto.org/community-classifieds.html>. You can also check the PTO Bulletin Board for a posting of these online listings.

NewsNotes, Community News and Classifieds are published by the PTO bi-weekly. Please email items of interest to hmnewsnotes@lists.neighborhood.net. The next deadline for submissions is 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 5.

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Thank you to Brock
Dilworth for launching
our new website:
horacemannpto.org

