The Horace Mann School PTO Newsletter

HM PTO NEWSNOTES

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

November 5, 2010

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

Thursday, November 11
Veteran's Day
No School

Monday, November 15
Picture Retake Day

November 16-20
Book Fair

Wednesday, November 17
Flu Clinic

Thursday, November 18
Coffee with Mr. Nardelli

November 24
School Closes 12:00
Thanksgiving Break

Next Edition: Nov. 19

NewsNotes Editor:
Susannah Wardly

Website Manager:
Brock Dilworth
www.horacemannpto.org

From Mark's Desk

Dear Horace Mann Families,

Fall Fair: An enormous thank you to everyone who helped make the fall fair another successful event. The time and energy that went into the day allowed all of us to enjoy ourselves while doing something positive for Horace Mann. There were over 125 dedicated runners on the 5k course, a large group of children running the pumpkin dash, and a suspenseful duck race in the Cheesecake Brook. These events, and the games, bouncy rides, haunted house, food and entertainment made for a great community day. I know my girls had a great time. The funds we raised will help with our technology initiative this year.

In the Classroom: If you stopped by classrooms last week, you saw the creative work of our students on display. 1st graders brought in their unique monster creations, built entirely out of recycled materials. The variety and creativity of each design was something to behold. 2nd graders celebrated the fall season with leaf rubbings, paintings and pumpkin estimation activities. Somehow, one group managed to trick me into sticking my hand in the pulp. In 3rd grade, students displayed the results of their work on heroic and important historical figures. They dressed pumpkins in all sorts of ways, and articulately explained all they had learned about their subjects. I never knew so much could be done with a pumpkin.

Ready, Set, Go! Day: Mr. Tynes celebrated the fall season with the annual Ready, Set, Go! event. During this day, 1st through 5th graders spend an hour with Mr. Tynes engaging in non-competitive group activities that stress teamwork, commitment, and inclusiveness. For example, students worked in teams to jump a spinning sock as many times as possible without getting caught in the rope. In another example, individual students used a rope to scale over a 10 foot wall. It was powerful to see the kids cheering one another on as they attempted to climb. In recognition for his efforts both here and in Cambridge, Mr. Tynes was recently nominated as a finalist for the Your Town Coach of the Year. We anxiously await the results and know full well that this is certainly a well deserved honor!

New School Council Member: Balloting ended last Friday for the open school council position. I am pleased to announce that the newest member of the school council is Susan Tuozzolo. Susan has a Kindergartner and a 3rd grader here at Horace Mann, and has been active in various events supporting the Horace Mann community. I look forward to welcoming her to the school council. Our first meeting is on November 17 @ 7pm.

Your dues and donation dollars at work: This week we received our die cast machine, courtesy of the PTO. Teachers now have the ability to create sets of block letters for use in the classroom on bulletin boards and other creative uses. They were thrilled to see this tool arrive and began using it right away. We all truly appreciate the generosity that the PTO and the HM community continue to show. Thank you!

Surprise Visit: A "few" years back, Matt LeBlanc of *Friends* fame, was lucky enough to have Kathy Dregalla as his music teacher. More recently, Matt spoke about Kathy and her influence on his education and career and decided to return the favor. On Monday, he made a surprise visit to see Kathy and take a photo. It was great to see her enthusiasm and appreciation for this recognition of her efforts with children over the years.

Thanks, Mark Nardelli

From the PTO Officers

Fall Fair:
Thank you for a successful and fun event!

Bake Sale

On October 24, Horace Mann school participated in the 6th Annual Family Fun Run and Fall Fair. As you may know, **both events were spectacular**. It was wonderful to see so many HM families enjoying the brisk fall day. Without the efforts of the McCabes, the McCormicks, the Lavalles, and the Schaefers, as well as many volunteers and teachers, this event could not have run so well. The funds raised from both events help to support our school's technology and Fitness For Life. **We are looking for volunteers** to chair the Fall Fair and the Road Race next year. Both events come with detailed instructions and support from the PTO. Please consider volunteering so we can keep these important community building events in our school.

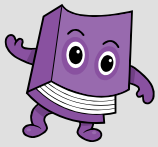
Also, a big thank you to Sharon Russo and all the volunteers who helped make the **Election Day Bake sale a huge success**. The sale raised almost $600 for our school!

Also from the PTO

Clothing Drive

As the cold weather approaches, **Cradles to Crayons** has seen a sharp increase in requests for winter essentials, and our clothing supply is running dangerously low. We are in need of boys' and girls' winter clothes, especially **pants sizes 2T through adult sizes.** To help local children stay safe and warm this winter, **we need your help!** Support this worthy cause by donating new and gently used children's clothing to Horace Mann front and back Lobby from November 8-17. Thank you!

Barnes and Noble Book Fair



November 16-20

This year, our Fall Book Fair will be held at the **Barnes and Noble Bookstore** on Boylston Street in Chestnut Hill, November 16 AND online on from November 16-20. Please join us at the store from **9:30-11am for preschool story hour and crafts** and from **3-6pm for face painting and a student art show**. More art show details to follow next week. For every $20 spend, you will be entered into a drawing to win the Barnes and Noble 3G Nook! HM Teachers have created wish lists for their classrooms. These books will be displayed at the store for your shopping ease. If you are unable to go to the store event, please be sure to tell your family, friends, co-workers and anyone you can think of to shop online at www.barnesandnoble.com\bookfairs and enter Bookfair ID: 10343739.

A PTO Reminder

We would like each and every Horace Mann family to make their **dues contribution by Thanksgiving**. If each family contributes, it supports many enrichment programs for all of our children. If you have not submitted your payment, please do so at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your support—it does make an important difference!

From the Nurse's Desk

Flu Clinic November 17

Seasonal flu vaccine will be offered during the school day to all students in Kindergarten through Grade 12 at no cost to families. Parents may choose the flu shot or the nasal spray flu vaccine for their child. More information, including dates and consent forms, is available at **www.newtonma.gov/flu** or from the school nurse. Our clinic will be held Wednesday, November 17, 2010, starting at 8:30am. Forms are due Monday, November 15.

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.
The next deadline for submissions is 12:30pm on Tuesday, November 16.

Horace Mann School 687 Watertown Street, Newton, MA 02460 www.newton.k12.ma.us/horacemann/

Main Office
(617) 559-9510
Call Back Line
(617) 559-9530

Mark's Email
Mark_nardelli@newton.k12.ma.us
NewsNotes Submission Email
hmnewsnotes@lists.neighborhood.net

We're on the Web!
horacemannpto.org