

The Cove Connection

November 2009

Cove Elementary School
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On Saturday, October 17th, a group of students, staff and families came to the Cove School for the Fall Kick-Off Celebration in the Children's Garden. Everyone spent time enjoying the fresh air as they dug, raked, planted and decorated pumpkins and terra cotta pots. I would like to thank the following students, families, and staff for taking time to come and support the development of this wonderful space: Martha Callaghan, Abby Rand, Kendra Huth, Lexi Sutyak, Alexis Alli, Collin Carbone, Devan Reeves, Michaela Shabarekh, Melanie Kirsch, Britney New, Emily Baumel Hackett, William Baumel Hackett, Rory Devlin, Natasha Devlin, Isabella Giardina, Michael Giardina, Ava Gallagher, Mrs. Roy, Mrs. Kumar, The Hackett Family, The Devlin Family, and The Gallagher Family.

Please take the time to visit the garden and see the progress that has been made. The staff and students look forward to spring when the flowers will begin to bloom!

This is the time of year when we begin to see more children getting sick. At the Cove School we have had reports of students with flu-like symptoms, colds, and other seasonal illnesses. We are taking precautions to prevent the spread of illness by insuring that desk surfaces are cleaned often and that students are washing their hands on a regular basis. Hand sanitizer is available in the classrooms as well as the cafeteria, main office, Nurse's office and gymnasium. Staff have been teaching and reminding students to cover their mouths when coughing and/or sneezing. Students are encouraged to use a tissue or the bend of

their elbow to cough or sneeze into, not their bare hands, to prevent the spread of germs.

H1N1 is in our community and our schools. Please take extra precautions when considering sending your child to school if he/she exhibits flu-like symptoms including fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, and fatigue. Should your child exhibit these symptoms, please do not send him/her to school.

Please refer to the Beverly Public Schools website (www.beverlyschools.org, go to the Health Services Link) for further information regarding school district policies and procedures regarding returning your child to school as well as additional information on both the seasonal flu and H1N1.

During the month of November the Cove School will be practicing safety drills including a secure building/lockdown, under the guidance of Officer Russo from the Beverly Police Department.

We would like to thank the PTO for sponsoring the Tanglewood Marionettes' performance of *The Dragon King*. The performance was enjoyed by staff and students.

Mrs. Conway's Counselor's Corner

Community Meetings

Mrs. Roy and I have coordinated our first two Cove Community Meetings. The purpose of the meetings is to foster a strong sense of community, review our Cove Community Code, share some special achievements and whole class work, acknowledge student and staff birthdays, sing our new Cove School song, and acknowledge our monthly STAR recipients. At our September meeting, the theme of Citizenship was introduced as well as what it means to be a good citizen of our Cove Community. Pictures of our Cove School Citizenship Tree are included in this newsletter. During the

following trimesters, we currently plan to introduce the themes of Kindness, Compassion and Responsibility. Some classrooms will have an opportunity to further discuss these concepts, especially while teaching the Second Step Curriculum. We are excited to bring all of the students and staff together for these special meetings.

STAR Student

A Recognition Program new this school year is the Cove STAR Student Program. Each month teachers will have the opportunity to nominate a maximum of two children per class as STAR students. A STAR student is one who is outstanding in his or her demonstration of Respect, Right Choices, and Responsibility. STAR Students will be announced and receive a certificate at our Cove Community Meetings. In addition, STAR Students will be treated to a special lunch with Mrs. Bucyk and will receive a Cove STAR Student water bottle during this time.

Second Step

Once again this year, Cove School will utilize the Second Step curriculum in all classrooms. Second Step is an award-winning, violence prevention program, which integrates academics with social and

emotional learning. Children from PreK-Grade 5 learn and practice vital social skills, such as empathy, emotion management, problem-solving, and cooperation. Ask your child about Second Step. It can be a great conversation starter!

Wellness Policy

Our district Wellness Policy dictates that only foods from approved kitchens can be served during school hours. Please do not send in homemade treats for your child's class. Treats that are brought in for your child's class must be delivered in the original packaging and must include an ingredients list. Home-baked goods cannot be brought into school for your child's class.

School Lunch Reminder

The cost for school lunch is \$2.50. If your child is just purchasing milk, the cost is \$.65

Dictionary Donations

Each year the Beverly Rotary Club donates dictionaries to each third grade student in Beverly. These dictionaries are for the students to keep and use as they move up in the grades. Rotarians came to the Cove School on Friday, October 30th, to speak with our third grade students and

personally hand-out the dictionaries.

Beverly Boot Straps Food Drive

The Preschool and Kindergarten classes will be collecting non-perishable food items for Beverly Boot Straps. They will collect from November 9th through November 20th. A drop-off box will be located in the D-Wing lobby.

Salvation Army Food Drive

A box will be located in the main lobby for donations of non-perishable food items for the Salvation Army. Food items will be collected now through November 19th.

Dates to Remember

- November 6th: Picture Retake Day
- November 10th: Veteran's Day Performance for Parents
- November 11th: No School, Veteran's Day
- November 18th: School Council, 6:30pm
- November 25th: Early Dismissal, 12pm, No Lunch Served
- November 26th: No School in

observance of Thanksgiving

- November 27th: No School
- December 4th: First Trimester Ends

Notice of Non-Discrimination

All educational and non-academic programs, activities and employment opportunities at Beverly Public Schools are offered without regard to race, color, sex, religion, ancestry, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, and any other class or characteristic protected by law.

Cove Community Code

- *In words and actions, show kindness and respect of people and property.
- *Walk and move safely.
- *Keep hands, feet, and all other objects to yourself.
- *Do your best!