

HUSKIES' HEADLINES

November Newsletter 🍊

North Street School
133 North St.
Tewksbury, MA 01876
978-640-7875
Pauline King, Principal

Principal's Pages

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Clocks have been turned back, Halloween is over for another year and the Holidays are facing us straight on. What a great time of year!

Once again I would ask that you be aware of the time of year you plan your vacation. Daily attendance is important for successful academic achievement. Students are encouraged to maintain the best attendance record possible. It is important that students develop good attendance habits early in their lives, as this is the cornerstone of their future.

Please remember that you **MUST** sign in at the office when coming into the school. If you would like to speak to your child's teacher you may call and speak to her or make an appointment. As with anything to do with children, I do realize there are emergencies and this may be impossible. I appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

November 4th is Election Day. Please exercise your right to Vote. This is a privilege not all have and many have suffered to insure that we do.

Marks close for the first marking term on October 31. Report cards will be issued on November 14th.

Do remember that Tuesday, November 11th is the **Veteran's Day Holiday--NO SCHOOL.**

American Education Week begins on Monday, November 17th. **Visitations** to the school will be on Tuesday and Wednesday (November 18th and 19th) from 9.30 to 11.00.

Thursday evening, November 18th will be **conference night** with individual conferences by appointment with your child's teacher. Appointment slips will be sent home closer to that date.

Also this Month will be the celebration of Family Literacy Month in Massachusetts. We are asking that each family choose a night during the week of November 17th to **“Turn off TV and turn on to Reading!”** Families are encouraged to read together and not watch television that evening. Hopefully, we will enlist the entire school community as we read our favorite books!

So you can see we have planned many different activities during American Education Week. Please join us in as many of these activities as you can.

Some helpful information regarding reading:

- Reading is a skill and gets better with practice. The more you read the better you get!
- Read aloud to your child. The art of listening is an acquired one.
- Plan a book swap with friends.
- Limit the amount of TV.
- Help your child get the Library habit. Don't forget to check out a book for yourself. Set an example and ENJOY!
- **The category game:** Here is a fun activity that will help develop your child's vocabulary. Think of five categories, such as sports, machines, cars, flowers, and books. Write the categories on a piece of paper. Then, draw five blank lines under each one. Next, ask your child to write down five words or pictures that are related to each category. *Example:* For sports, she could list baseball, basketball, hockey, rollerblading, and football. If she struggles to come up with a word, give hints. *Example:* “What's the name of the flower Grandma showed you in her yard last week?”
- What is your youngster studying in school; the planets, types of rocks, or famous people in Jamestown? Play the game using categories like these, and your child won't realize she's studying for her next quiz!

Understanding Stories

Does your child listen actively when you read aloud? It's a key to understanding what's happening in the story. Try these simple tips to build listening skills:

Ask your child to retell small parts of the story to you. Or, ask her questions while you read. *Examples:* “What will happen next?” “Why do you think he did that?”

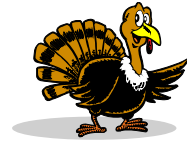
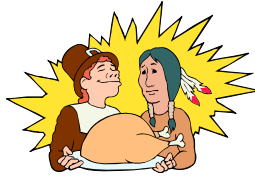
Find the answers to the questions together. Look back in the story. It's important and OK to look back.

Make-up day for School Pictures will be Monday, November 17th.

LOST and FOUND

There are many, many articles of clothing in the LOST and FOUND box with no names on them. These are expensive articles of clothing. PLEASE label your child's clothing with his/her name and room number. Volunteers try to return them but we cannot find out to whom they belong.

At the end of this Month we will celebrate one of our most treasured and beloved holidays. During this Thanksgiving season, we at the North Street School count our school community among the many blessings for which we are thankful. We wish you and yours every blessing for this Holiday. I especially am thankful for the opportunity to work with such a generous group. Not many have the opportunity to work with exceptional people more than once in their lifetime. Again I have been blessed!



Notes from the Nurse

The weather is getting frosty in the mornings now. Please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. We have children coming to school wearing only T-shirts.

I have finished eyes and ears screening for the entire school. Any child who failed the screening, their parents were notified by phone and a referral letter went home.

For safety sake, PLEASE remember to call the school if your child is going to be absent.

We are having our **Annual Christmas Sharing Program** for the Patients living at the Tewksbury State Hospital. I have found it easier to assign things needed to various grade levels as follows:

Kindergarten/Ext K – Adult socks

Grade One – Writing paper, pens, pencils, crossword puzzles, books, cards, board games, large calendars

Grade Two – Hankies, facecloths, lipstick, chap stick, Emery boards, barrettes, cosmetic bags

Grade Three – Powder, soap, lotions, soap containers, toothbrushes, tooth paste

Grade Four – Denture cups, denture cleaner, shaving cream, deodorant.

If you would like to donate any gently used sweaters, sweatshirts, books, afghans, or lap blankets, they will be greatly appreciated.

Is your child missing a coat? Our Lost & Found located in the cafeteria is FULL!

*As Always thank you,
Monica M. McBaine RN CSN*



PAC News

2 HOUR POWER - thanks to all who have sent their pledges in. This is our second year using this volunteer program, which asks for just 2 hours of a parent/guardians time throughout the school year. Not only does research show that kids whose parents are involved in their school life are more successful in school but its rewarding for you as well. Come on take the challenge!!! It's always great to see some new faces along with the more familiar ones!! The more parents we have involved the more opportunities we have for the kids. Visit our website to find out more of what suits you.

School Directory- we are working on creating a school directory for use by parents of North St students only. This Directory helps us send out weekly communications to keep everyone as informed as possible. We can use your 2 hour power sign up for this purpose as well if you check off the box. For those that completed the form last year; we can use that info again this year. If you do not want us to or your info has changed please contact Sharon Pierce.

Search for new principal- quite a few applications were received for the principal position. Preliminary interviews have been conducted and recommendations made to the Superintendent. She will select the final candidate and we may know who our new principal will be sometime between Thanksgiving and the winter break.

Arts and Enrichment- Our next school wide program will be **November 10th**. It is called **Tin Cup** and is an interactive history program. We will be contacting people to help out w/this using the 2 hour power sheets. If you would like to get involved please send in your sheet; you may write "Tin Cup" across the top if you like. Contact Leigh Leslie or Sharon Pierce for more info. Each grade does have its own Arts and Enrichment program and we have another school wide as well. Please refer to the calendar on our website for more information.

Shoppers Night- Get a head start on your Holiday shopping!! Come to North St's annual Shoppers Night on **November 13th**. If you are a vendor or know of someone who wants to participate as a vendor please contact Sharon Pierce.
(A big "Thank You" to The Self Defense Institute for their generous \$100 donation to North Street School. Self Defense Institute will be at North Street School Shoppers Night, and in addition to their \$100 donation they will also donate \$10 to North Street School per each new student that signs up from North Street before 12/31/08.)

Children Helping Children - Each year, for the past few, the North Street school has aspired to get the children involved in a spirit of giving program. This program involves the children, with parent permission, to donate an age appropriate gift to a child less fortunate. Notices will be going out in the next few days with more details.

PAC meeting- Our next PAC meeting will be November 6th. As always childcare will be provided.

Suggestions/Ideas? Please submit any suggestions or ideas via email to any of the PAC chairs or via the PAC chairperson mailbox.

Thanks to all and Happy Halloween
Nancy Cappiello, Sharon Pierce and Ellen Roane
PAC co chairs

SPED PAC News

The Tewksbury Special Education PAC will be meeting on Monday, November 17th from 7:30-9:00 in the Ryan School Library.

Thank you, Kelly Preble, Special Education PAC Rep



Ongoing Fundraising Opportunities

Ongoing Fundraising Opportunities that benefit the North Street School

Box Tops for Education

Check out the [Box tops Website](#) to sign up to become a Booster Club Member. The web site will allow you to track our progress, enter Contests, and get coupons, recipes and more. Your child will come home with Collection sheets to turn in; you can have friends and family join the Box tops Booster Club and save their Box tops too. There is a complete listing of participating products with Box tops on the website. You can also shop at the BOXTOPS Marketplace and a percentage of your purchases will be credited to our school.

Campbell's Labels For Education: The *Labels for Education™* program is a great way to get FREE merchandise for our school and it's even better this year. With your help, the North Street can make this year the best ever! Participating in the program is easy — simply save proofs of purchase from participating Campbell products and send them to our school. For a list of eligible products visit www.labelsforeducation.com

Cartridges for Kids: Help us earn cash by bringing in your old cell phones and empty ink jet cartridges for recycling. Remember you can collect these items from work, friends and neighbors.

Tyson Project A+: All we have to do to participate in the Tyson A+ program is clip and save the entire **Project A+™** label from participating Tyson products. Each label we collect is worth 24¢ for our school. A collection site has been set up at the school where your child can drop off your redemption labels. Let's support our school! Clip and save **Tyson Project A+™** labels today. For more information about the **Tyson Project A+™** program, visit www.projectAPlus.tyson.com

School PAX – Use your key tag to shop either online or at participating stores. Our school will earn between 2.5% - 8% of your sales at Travelocity, Footlocker, or 1-800-flowers. We also earn a \$ amount of your sales from Subway & Verizon Wireless. Please use our school **code VR22** when shopping. www.schoolpax.org

Target: School supporters enroll in Take Charge of Education and designate North Street School Target will donate up to 1% of every purchase made with your REDcard to our school. For more information or to enroll visit www.target.com/tcoe or 1-800-316-6142

Hannaford helps Schools: Purchase participating products from September 4th to December 4th, 2008 at Hannaford's and earn school cash that we can use to purchase art supplies, sports equipment, books and more. Get 3 school dollars for each 4 participating products purchased. Bring school dollars directly to school or place in collection towers in store.

Pull-tabs for Shriners: Shriners Hospitals for Children in Boston have been collecting pull-tabs or "pop-tops" from beverage cans since 1989, recycling them, and putting the money toward programs that directly benefit children. Since its inception, about a half-million pounds of aluminum tabs have been collected and recycled.

Simon Mall Evening of Giving:

Rockingham Mall Salem, N.H. Sunday November 23rd, 2008. It's a great way to kick off the holiday season. Simon Malls Evening of Giving takes place from 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm, during the event; participants can take advantage of special sales and promotions for only those who purchase tickets to the event. Tickets are \$10.00 - \$7.00 of which goes directly to the North Street School, the remaining \$3.00 benefits the Simon Youth Foundation. Your ticket includes festive holiday entertainment, door prizes, silent auctions, food sampling and, of course, shopping! A few examples from last year include, Sears, JC Penney, Champs, Macys, American Eagle & Aeropostle.



Tickets are limited and available now! Please make your check payable to North Street PAC – include # of tickets, your child's name, teacher & room #. Tickets will be sent home with your child via backpack.

Any questions please contact Nancy Cappiello at cappy5668@comcast.net or 978-455-0003.



North Street School Dine – Out Nights

A great big thank you to all who attend our first dine-out night at Chuck E. Cheese. Chuck E. Cheese donated 15% of all sales that night raising \$232.80 for the North Street. Watch for details on future dine-out nights coming soon!

Cafeteria Corner

Karen Chanaki, Food Service Director, Tewksbury Public Schools

During the summer, staff attended workshops at The John Stalker Institute, which is part of Framingham State College. The focus was "Customer Service". The session information energized the food service staff, and lunch lines across the district are now sporting a more attractive appearance and food presentation has been enhanced.

An exciting development is the Farm to School initiative, which is geared toward purchasing from local farmers. We've partnered with a local produce vendor. So far we have purchased plums as well as fresh green beans for our menu (first/second week of Sept).

There is substantial training and care put into delivering high quality, nutritional, cost-effective and appealing food choices for our children. Input is always welcomed and the staff embraces a continuous improvement model. Even though we have a bit smaller staff in the '08-'09 school year, we remain committed to providing the best quality service we can and bringing innovative concepts to our program.

Newsletter Submissions

Let's strive to make the **North Street Husky Newsletter** the place to go for information about our school



Please feel free to send us questions, concerns, and/or suggestions at any time. If you would like to submit articles, announcements, and/or news, please submit to Karen Nordstrom at kenordstr@comcast.net by the 20th of each month.



Happy Thanksgiving