

Cole Connection

June 14, 2010



Important Dates

Monday, June 14 3:30pm	Site Council meeting at Cole School
Tuesday, June 15 7:30pm	School committee meeting at Town Hall
Thursday, June 17	All library books are due
Friday, June 18	All cafeteria charges must be paid
Monday, June 21	Last Day of School. Early release at 1:15pm, lunch is served

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that this is the last Cole Connection letter for the 2009-2010 school year! My has the time passed quickly! I have so enjoyed each and every day watching your children grow academically, socially and emotionally. I want to thank all of the teachers at the Harry Lee Cole School who have worked each day to provide an outstanding education to our children. The obvious growth in our students is the results of their daily efforts. Thank you to all of the Cole School staff!

A special thank you to Mrs. Olansky who is retiring from 23 years of teaching. She is a very special teacher who has touched the hearts and minds of many students, staff and families over the years. Mrs. Olansky will be missed by all! I want to extend sincere appreciation to Mrs. Olansky for her contributions and dedication to teaching our young students.

Recently, we had the distinct pleasure of listening to Mrs. Monte's band performance and Mrs. Galardi's chorus concert. I am reminded at these events how fast and how much our children grow from year to year. We so enjoyed the talent and hard work of our Spofford friends. These concerts provide wonderful encouragement to our Cole students. Often, these events trigger the wonderful musical curiosity that

sparks a musical pursuit for many young children. I want to extend my sincerest gratitude and appreciation to the effort of Mrs. Monte and Mrs. Galardi at organizing these performances that are not only enjoyable, but inspirational! Many thanks to the Spofford children who shared their talent and love of music with us!

I do hope that you will have an enjoyable summer with your children! I am sure that you are as proud of them and their accomplishments as I. I wish you well and look forward to welcoming new and returning students in the Fall!

Have a safe and wonderful summer!
Sincerely,

Kathryn Nikas

Looking Ahead

Bus Routes – the Boxford Elementary Schools' bus routes will be published in late August on: www.tritownschoolunion.com, in the TriTown Transcript and will be posted on the front windows of Cole School.

First day of school for the 2010-2011 school year for Grades 1 – 6 is Tuesday, September 1. It is an Early Release at 1:15 pm. Lunch will be served. Kindergarten parents will receive start date

information in the July 1st placement mailing.

Main Office Summer Schedule

The Main Office will not be open beginning Monday, June 29th. However, we will continue to receive and process the mail and check voice mails weekly. The Office will officially reopen Monday, August 16th.

To Preschool Parents

As published in a May 20 letter that was sent home, we have established the following schedule of “last days” for our Preschool students:

Red (Rowen)
Thursday, June 17

Blue (Connery)
Friday, June 18

Yellow (Rowen)
Friday, June 18

Orange (Connery)
Monday, June 21st 9-11:30 am

Green (Rowen)
Monday, June 21st 9-11:30 am

Lunch Buddies Program
Friday, June 18

These “last days” do not impact the monthly tuition or Lunch Buddies charges already

established. ***ALL tuition and Lunch Buddies payments were due June 1st.*** If we haven't received your payments by June 17th, it will impact your kindergarten placement mailing and/or your spot in our preschool program. Please call the Main Office if you have any questions.

Music Notes

In the month of June, the kindergarten and first grade students are reviewing all of the songs and musical skills they learned over the past year. The second grade students will continue to prepare for their upcoming year at Spofford Pond and work on skills that will help them learn how to play the recorder in third grade.

Health Office

Dear Parents,

Thank you for all your efforts this year to keep our school community healthy! Even though it is the end of the year, we are still experiencing some illnesses such as strep throat and pneumonia. Please remember to pick up any medication your child has here by the last day of school, June 21. The state mandates we dispose of any remaining medications soon after school

ends. If your child has allergies, we will be sending home packets for next year. This allows you time over the summer to fill out the forms and get doctor's orders. If your child is moving to Spofford Pond School, you will need to return the information to the nurse's office there.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy summer!

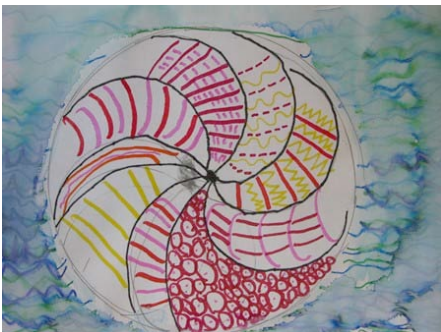
Lynne Nechtem and Betsy Mudgett

Important Year End Reminder

In order for us to send your child's report card home the last day of school, ***all library books must be returned by Thursday, June 17.*** Any lost or damaged books must be accounted for with the library. Also, any ***cafeteria charges must be settled by Friday, June 18.*** If there are any outstanding charges, you will receive a letter home in lieu of your child's report card. You may stop into the Main Office this week to “settle up” and pick up your child's report card.

Library News

What a fast year it has been! A big thank you goes out to many volunteers for the time and energy that they give to our library throughout the school year. Liz Baptista, Annmarie Benedetto, Laurie Brooke, Xanthe Cassell, Christine Eckert, Christine Hanson, Tracy August, Laura Barnard, Leslie Bisson, Denise Buckley, Andrea Collins, Lori Fahrner, Andrea Green, Katherine Bagshaw, Jen Barraclough, Michelle Boucher, Alicia Caron, Leah Dillon, Lori Dox, Karen



Flanagan, Jennifer Guarino, Suzanne Malach, Cassandra McMahon, Michele O'Toole, Monique Romito, Tammie Studley, Samantha Kosakowski, Katrina Mazzie, Leanne Mihalchik, Sarah Paine, Melissa Scheirey, Diane Winship, Tara Mahoney, Lesley McCormick, Liz Pool, Kathleen Sheridan, Cora Wong and Antigone Woodland.

A huge nod of gratitude also goes to Carolyn Miller for serving as the library volunteer coordinator for the past 4 years.

We are enjoying so many terrific new books thanks in part to all of our families who give so generously to the book donation program sponsored by our PTO, the Cole School Book Club. This year the Book Club received over \$3000 in donations for new library books!

Wishing you a joyful summer with your children!

Barbara Boulay
Librarian

Summer Math

Reinforcing math skills and concepts over the summer months is very important. I've listed some skills and concepts your child would benefit from practicing over the summer and some ideas on how to help them. Remember math is FUN and all around us!

Place Value

- Look for written large numbers in newspapers or magazines
- Read large numbers to your child (children say number with you or repeat after you)
- Find large number of things and count them our grouping them in

tens etc. (beans in a bag or pennies in a jar)

- Play games which involve counting large sums of "money". (Monopoly)
- Play computer games which utilize very large numbers for scores
- Identify things that come in tens, hundreds, thousands, millions etc.

Addition and Subtraction Concepts and Skills

- Practice addition and subtraction facts with flash cards
- Try to use the same math language that is used in school
- Look for situations where addition and subtraction operations can be practiced using actual objects
- When you need to add or subtract ask your child to help
- Use mental math activities as well as paper and pencil
- Counting by different multiples can help add fact memory. It also introduces the relationship between adding and subtracting. (2, 4, 6, 8,10, etc.)
- Use different topics for adding and subtracting such as time, temperature, dates, distances, length, weight, age etc.
- Look for tens when adding lists of numbers.



Problem Solving

- Help your child see the connection between arithmetic and problem solving
- Resist the temptation to tell your child which operation to use.
- (+, -, x, ÷)
- Mathematical problems exist everywhere. Be aware when they arise.
- Ask your child to help you solve them.
- Make the content of the problem meaningful.
- Shopping is a wonderful source for finding problems.
- Make it fun/interesting and meaningful.

Other

- Practice telling time on a analog clock
- Practice counting money
- Play board games that reinforce math concepts
- Play dice and card games

Grade 2 Online Math League Celebration

On June 3rd the students participating in the Online Math League had a special celebration to honor their participation. Each student received a certificate and special medals were awarded to Emily Hardy and Caitlin Bolzan for being the top two scorers on



the team. Congratulations to all students! A special thank you to all the parent volunteers! We are very fortunate to have wonderful teachers at Cole School. This accomplishment would not have been possible without their dedication to the students. Thank you!

Beth Yando
Math Instructional Support
Specialist

Book Club News

The Book Club has added 12 new members, bringing the total number of members for the year to 185. Our newest members are Sonia Scarfo, Joshua Gould, Trevor Nugent, Marisol Nugent, Alice Gould, Mia McKersie, Sophia Rosati, Tyler Malach, Lily McDonald, Madison Oakes, Charlotte Wise, and Tracy Weener. Thank you to their parents and to all who participated in the Book Club this year. Your contributions have allowed the library to expand its collection and offer new and exciting books to the children at Cole School. Your gifts are greatly appreciated!

Community Giving Tree Collects School Supplies

As you shop for school supplies over the summer, Community Giving Tree respectfully requests that you consider picking up a few extra items for local children in need. Every September, Giving Tree distributes over 300 backpacks loaded with supplies to struggling families in Essex County. To do this, we need

donations of new backpacks, pencils, paper, notebooks, glue sticks, etc. Collection bins will be at the schools in September. You can also drop items off during the summer at the new Giving Center at 570 Main Street in West Boxford (next to the Park House, behind the Second Congregational Church), and there will be a collection bin at the Boxford Summer Park Program (Spofford School playground) 10am-noon, Tues/Wed/Thurs from July 6 through August 5. Thank you in advance for your continuing generosity!

The PTO

PTO Variety Show-Cole School you've got talent!

Another wonderful Variety Show at Cole School! Thank you to all those children and parents who participated. It was a night to remember! Also, special thanks to Nancy Rohlfs who put the entire show together along with Stacey Ovanes and Tammie Studley who kept the acts flowing on to the performance stage. We are looking forward to next year!

PTO General Meeting

Wednesday, June 16
9:30AM Cole Cafeteria

The final PTO General Meeting for the 2009/2010 school year will be held Wednesday, June 16 at 9:30 AM in the Cole Cafeteria. We will be holding our PTO Board Elections, as well as a review of the year, and discussing any ideas or suggestions you may have for next year. Look forward to seeing you on the 16th.

Thank you to all Boxford Families from the PTO!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your dedication, support, and generous donations to the PTO this year. This has truly been a wonderful year for the PTO and thanks to you we are looking forward to a great 2010/2011 school year!

We thank all those Committee Leaders and volunteers, who without your help, we could not support all the programs and events that we provide to the community each year.

Have a wonderful summer! All the best, from your 2009/2010 PTO Board:

Karen Hussey Jen Dziadosz,
Heather Fecteau Stacey Ovanes,
Nancy Rohlfs Tammie Studley,
Deb Bargman Cassandra
McMahon, Bridget Kevorkian

Art Portfolio

Want to remember all the artwork your child made this year? Order a Portfolio Book from the Artsonia web site at www.artsonia.com.

Best of all, a portion of the money you spend is *donated back to the Harry Lee Cole School's art program.*

