



# Harwich Elementary School Principal's Newsletter

Vol. 4, #9 May, 2010

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## Respect and Citizenship - Themes for the month

On behalf of all the children of Harwich, we want to extend our gratitude for your continued support at Town Meeting last evening. We are committed to providing our students with skills they will need to succeed in our global society. Together, we will continue to work tirelessly to enhance the educational opportunities for the students of Harwich to attain academic excellence.

When we define **citizenship** to our students, we describe individuals who:

- do their share to make our community a better place .
- are good neighbors .
- obey laws/rules and authority.
- protect the environment
- stay informed and **vote**.

Modeling good citizenship daily for our youngsters is the best strategy we can implement to teach them to become good citizens.

During our last school wide assembly in June, we plan to acknowledge and honor our military families who have someone who has or is currently serving our country.

## National Teacher Appreciation Week—May 3rd—May 7th

Thank you to our PTA for making this week extra special for our teachers and staff members. Your time, effort and gifts are truly appreciated by all.

It is appropriate at this time to recognize and publicly thank the following staff members: **Sally Andreola (5th Grade Teacher)** and **Patricia Boyle (Food Service)** who have formally indicated their intention to end their service at Harwich at the end of this school year. Their gift of service to the children and community over the years is one that we will always be thankful for. We wish them the very best in their retirement!

## MCAS TESTING THIS MONTH

### "2nd Half" (Mathematics, Science & Technology)

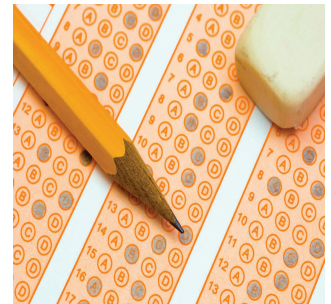
**3rd and 5th graders** will have Section 1 & 2 of their **Mathematics MCAS** administered on **Tuesday, May 11th & Thursday, May 13th.**

**4th graders** will complete two **Mathematics** sections on **Tuesday, May 18th & Thursday, May 20th.**

**5th grade** will have Section 1 & 2 of their **Science/Technology MCAS** administered on **Monday, May 24th & Tuesday, May 25th.**

The May MCAS Schedule will be posted on the website and reminders sent home by the teachers.

As on any school day, we ask for your support by having all students be present and on time.



## "Pennies for Pals"

Once again , we will be sending a team of students from Harwich to participate and compete in the **Special Olympics at Mashpee High School on May 28th.** A container has been placed in the main lobby at HES for donations of "loose change or spare coins". All donations will be tabulated on a daily basis by the Special Olympians and will be presented to the Cape Cod Special Olympics in the form of a single donation on May 28th. This donation will be used for Cape Cod special needs only. Your support is greatly appreciated...**GO TEAM GO!!**

## **SHOW TIME...**

The **Harwich Middle School Drama Club** is presenting Disney Jr.'s **Beauty and the Beast.** Performances will be held on **Thursday, May 20th at 6:30 p.m.** and matinee showings on **Saturday, May 22nd and Sunday, May 23rd at 2:00 p.m.**

Senior's and children's tickets are \$5.00, adults are \$7.00 and families are \$20.00. We hope that you will **"be our guest"** and join us for this fun and fabulous production at the Harwich Middle School auditorium.



## **HARWICH HIGH FIVE!**

To the entire 4th grade. The Cape Cod Museum of Art invited all future 4th grade students to participate in a test pilot art appreciation program in the fall. This is in recognition of their exceptional good manners, respectful nature and insightful questioning during their visits. Way to go Harwich students - you are a model for other students to follow!

# 'PTA' - Update



The PTA Scholastic "Spring Book Fair" is scheduled for **Monday, May 10th - Friday, May 14th** in the HES Activity Room during the hours of 9:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m. **Wednesday, May 12th** is **FAMILY NIGHT—6:00—8:00 p.m.** Please come support our PTA for a night of story reading, snacks, and fun!!

**Volunteers are needed for the Book Fair**, this is one of the biggest fund raisers of the year! If you can spare even an hour of your time to help, it would be greatly appreciated! A sign up sheet is posted in the main office, or you can contact Danielle McKenna at danimckenna@comcast.net or Beth Potter at bethmpotter@gmail.com. Your ongoing support is appreciated.

## Volunteers are also needed for:

**K-4 Field Day (Thursday, June 10th—rain date Friday, June 11th) volunteers should sign up in the office or contact Donna Smith at (508) 430-7216 ext. 4043.**

Members of the *Chatham/Harwich Regional School District Planning Board* shared a summary of their findings to date and took questions from parents at the last PTA meeting. A strong argument was made in favor of regionalization in light of the financial challenges both communities face and the need to sustain while expanding on the strong programs currently offered. Future meetings with all constituents will be scheduled to address and solicit questions/concerns yet to be answered. The recommendation and development of a formal plan for regionalization will need the support of both Harwich and Chatham residents at Town meetings. A website has been created to inform all residents and can be accessed at [www.chathamharwich.org](http://www.chathamharwich.org)

The next **PTA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the HES Library**. Our PTA leadership has begun to make preparations in transitioning to a new year and is in need of volunteers to come forward and take on leadership roles. If anyone is interested in taking on a leadership role or being more involved directly with the PTA, please attend the next few PTA meetings. Many events and ideas will need to be planned in advance and your time, effort and support will be greatly appreciated. Without the support of the PTA, many events, field trips and fun opportunities would not be possible for our students.

## 4th & 5th Grade transition to the Middle School - September 2010 - UPDATE

Our next monthly '*transition task force*' meeting for parents and staff will meet on **Wednesday, May 12th (6-7pm)** in the Middle School auditorium. It is open to all who are interested in better understanding this transition process or have any lingering questions. These meetings continue to offer us an opportunity to update you on monthly developments, share your concerns and present upcoming events in preparation for the students transition to 5th grade and 6th grade at the Middle School in September.

### Important MAY Dates to Remember

**Mon., May 3 - Fri., May 7 - Teacher Appreciation Week**

**Wed., May 5 - 5A/B - Muddy Creek - 11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.**

**Thurs., May 6 - 5D/H/P - Muddy Creek - 11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.**

**Thurs., May 6 - Early Childhood Meeting - Community Center - 7:15 p.m.**

**Sat., May 8 - MWFK - Yard Sale - Harwich Community Center - 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

**Sun., May 9 - Mother's Day**

**Mon., May 10 - School Council Meeting - 3:15 p.m. - HES Professional Library**

**Mon., May 10 - Fri., May 14 - PTA Scholastic Book Fair**

**9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. - HES Activity Room**

**Tues., May 11 - Math MCAS - Grade 3/5**

**Wed., May 12 - 4th and 5th Grade Transition Task Force - HMS - 6:00 p.m.**

**Wed., May 12 - School Committee Meeting - HHS - 7:00 p.m.**

**Wed., May 12 - Scholastic Family Night - HES Library 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.**

**Thurs., May 13 - Math MCAS - Grade 3/5**

**Tues., May 18 - Math MCAS - Grade 4**

**Thurs., May 20 - Math MCAS - Grade 4**

**Fri., May 21 - 2Be/F to Food Pantry**

**Mon., May 24 - Science/Technology Engineering MCAS - Grade 5**

**Tues., May 25 - Science/Technology Engineering MCAS - Grade 5**

**Wed., May 26 - School Committee Meeting - 7:00 p.m. - HMS**

**Mon., May 31 - Memorial Day - NO SCHOOL**

**Thurs., June 3 - JUMP FOR HEART - HES Gym after school—details to follow**