

THE CONNECTION

Published by the Franklin School PTO

June 1, 2007

Attendance Line 617-559-9509

PRINCIPAL'S PAD

As we prepare to close the current school year we are simultaneously working to establish the organization and staffing for our next school year. I can now update you regarding the following organization and staffing for classrooms K-5 for September as well as the REACH program in grades 3, 4 and 5.

K	Ms. Joseph
K	Ms. Lally
K	Ms. Vanaria
K-1	Ms. Keane
1	Ms. Boudreau
1	Ms. Scott
1	T.B.A
2	Ms. Devaney
2	Ms. Dischino
2	Ms. Maurer
2	Ms. Russillo
3	Ms. Galbraith
3	Mr. Kanode
3	Ms. Skolnick
4	Ms. D'Eath
4	Ms. Homer-Ayube
4	Ms. Fucci
5	Ms. Matteo
5	Ms. Yospin
5	Ms. Haywood /Ms Sullivan
3	Ms. Georgian-Cohen REACH
4	Ms. Lufkin - REACH
5	T.B.A. - REACH

As you can see most assignments are staying the same except as noted below:

- Geri Russillo will be moving from grade 1 to grade 2.
- A new hire (TBA) for grade 1 as we received increased staffing from 19 classrooms (K-5) to 20.
- The hiring of a new 4th grade teacher, Kara Fucci who will be taking over for Ilana Bebchick.
- Ms. Bebchick is taking leave of absence for 2007-2008 to join her fiancé in Seattle. There will be more information regarding Kara and Ilana from them and myself at a later date.
- The REACH Program will be hiring a new grade 5 REACH teacher as Heather Kroll has decided to seek other options within our school system.

Many thanks to each and every parent and staff members who has been involved with year end activities. We could not do it without your in-put, time and effort. The quality of your efforts are truly remarkable!

An appropriate thought to accompany the above:

"May the strongest and sweetest songs yet remain to be sung."

Walt Whitman

Cam Larson

NEWS FROM THE PTO

With just a little more than two weeks left of school remaining, the activities of the PTO are winding down. After a year of a principal search, record breaking fundraisers, crowd-pleasing bashes and celebrations, Elizabeth and Kim want to thank all of you for your involvement and support. It was a fun and successful year because we did it as a community. Thank you everyone!

As we discussed in our final PTO Meeting this week, our student population is expanding and we are lucky to be adding an additional second-grade classroom in September to accommodate the growth. Next year, the Franklin PTO must be prepared for higher expenses for field trip funds, Creative Arts & Sciences fees, classroom technology, etc. Fortunately, this year's successful fundraisers put us on the right track to meet the school's needs. We hope your commitment to the PTO next year remains strong and enthusiastic.

June 7	Color Day
June 7	Early Release
June 13	End Of Year Picnic
June 14	5 th Grade concert 10 am & 7 pm
June 20	Last Day of School—ends at 12

But before we look too far ahead, we still have three more events going on right now!

Tomorrow, **Saturday, June 2nd** is the rescheduled **Franklin Tag Sale** from **9-1**. Drop off your "stuff" between 7 and 9 am, then come shop, shop, shop! There will be some great buys there - from toys and bikes to housewares and collectibles. Contact Nancy Mazzapica with any questions.

Color Day is Thursday, June 7th at the Franklin Playground. This parent-kid event involves a morning of activities, races, and contests that is pure fun. If you've done it before, you know how great it is. If you haven't, please join us! Your kids will love to have you there. For more information or to volunteer, please contact MaryBeth McIntyre or Shelli Adam.

The Franklin End-of-the-Year Picnic is Wednesday, June 13th at 6:00pm until dusk. This is a relaxed evening to hang out with other families. Adults, bring your baseball gloves - you are invited to play softball with the teachers and staff. Each family should bring dinner for themselves and a dessert to share. This event has been a Franklin favorite for years, so make plans to come!

Over the summer, the PTO Welcoming Committee will be hosting several playdates to help the incoming Kindergarteners get to know their new classmates and their new environment. If you have a child entering kindergarten in the fall, please participate in the Kindergarten Buddy program and try to attend one or more of the Playground Nights. You'll be helping make new families feel more at ease as they transition into Franklin. Scan the following pages for more information.

Enjoy these final days of school!

Kim and Elizabeth

FRANKLIN SCHOOL YARD SALE!

Rescheduled due to the lovely weather we have been experiencing

Saturday, June 2, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Drop off 7 a.m-9 a.m., in front of the school.
Volunteer for a hour or two, to help set up, clean up or to sell.

We need toys, kitchen items, bric-a-brac, books, sports equipment, games, baby items, furniture, jewelry, anything in good working condition. No clothing!
Any questions, call or email Nancy or Eleanor

Color Day is Coming June 7th!

If you haven't volunteered for Color Day before, reserve your calendar for Thursday, June 7th from 9am-12:30pm (this is an Early Release Thursday!). Think of it like your own personal play date. We have a lot of fun... you will help run games, serve water, line dance, run races and more. All ages, all grades, fun for all. We hope you can join in the excitement this year. The rain date will be Tuesday June 12th, same time, same place. Let Mary Beth McIntyre or Shelli Adam know if you are interested. You will need to have a valid CORI form to participate. Please check in with the office in advance, forms are on the website. Mark your calendars. Thank you!

First Meeting of the Franklin Playground Committee

Tuesday June 12, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.
Home of Susan Boyer

Please join us to discuss new playground(s) at Franklin School.

What is needed? How do we make it happen?
Bring your ideas and enthusiasm.

This committee is just forming and we will have roles big and small for everyone. We need a lot of help to create a wonderful outdoor play space for our children.

Please RSVP so I know how many people to expect (but come anyway -if you forget).
You can RSVP by email or phone



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: CHAIR(S) STILL NEEDED

That's right...still no Chair(s) to take over Family Movie Night next year which means that it may not happen! The good news is that it's not too late to sign up to Chair or Co-Chair this fun event...if interested, please e-mail Michelle Roover. Thank you!

CALLING ALL BOOKS!

All library books are now due in Franklin Library. Please return all of your books so we can repair books and put the library in order. Can't find your book? Call Mrs. Matera at 617-559-9500 or send in the replacement cost of the lost book (\$15.00 for hardcover and \$5.00 for paperback). THANK YOU!

Mrs. Matera, Library Teacher

5th GRADE VOLUNTEER LIBRARY AIDES CELEBRATION

All 5th grade library aides are cordially invited to a celebration on Wednesday, June 13th, at 8:15am.

All library volunteers are invited to an appreciation coffee on Wednesday, June 13th at 8:45am to kickoff putting the library in order for the end of the year.

Garden City Kindergarten Fall Soccer Registration begins June 11th

Registration for the Fall Session of Garden City Kindergarten Soccer begins Mon, Jun 11th. We have two programs, a K Soccer league for children enrolled in Kindergarten and a Pre-K Soccer league for children 4 to 5 years old. GCKS provides a great introduction to the game of soccer; teaching a variety of basic skills in a fun, non-competitive environment. Team sizes are small, with 10 players in each group. We will only enroll 80 children per league. This format allows each child optimal time for on-field practice and game rotations.

GCKS Spring Session runs from Sept 8- Nov 3rd. Practice/games will be held Saturdays from 9:30-10:30 am for the Kindergarten league and 10:45-11:45 am for the Pre-K league. Games are played on the field at Burr School, Pine Street in Auburndale. Volunteer parent coaches are needed. No experience is necessary and training will be provided.

Cost is \$60 per child for the season. GCKS is a joint venture of Franklin and Lincoln-Eliot School's Parent Teacher Organizations. Proceeds benefit both schools PTO programs. To obtain a registration form, send an email to bmrooney95@aol.com or call Franklin School parent Deb Rooney at (617) 630-8520. Space is limited. Registration deadline is Friday, August 17th.

INCOMING KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES

KINDERGARTEN BUDDIES: Do you have a child who will be entering kindergarten in the fall? If so, please sign them up for our buddy program so they can meet other new kindergarteners! If you already filled out the blue form at kindergarten registration or emailed in response to the notice put on the LIST SERV, then you are all set. Otherwise, please email or call Ellen Tanowitz.

PLAYGROUND NIGHTS: Attention families with a child entering kindergarten in September. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!** Please join us at the K-1 playground from 7:00 to dusk on July 10, July 18, July 26, August 1, August 7 and August 16. Come and meet your new classmates before school begins. Siblings are welcome. In the event of rain, watch for a posting on the LIST-SERVs or an email.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Learn Chinese 1 2 3 is a Mandarin-Chinese class that teaches beginners of all ages (children and adult). We are conveniently located in Babson College near Wellesley MA. Our curriculum is fun and easy to grasp for everyone! Call us at 857-498-2790, Email us at dzhu1@babson.edu or check us out online at LearnChinese123.com. Join today to start learning!

Newton Cultural Council Community Input Meeting
June 11, 7 pm, Newton Cultural Center, 225 Nevada St, Newton. Guest Speakers: Mayor Cohen, Rep. Kay Khan, Anita Walker, Executive Director MA Cultural Council. We Want your Input! Artists, Art organizations, Business Community and the general public are urged to attend the meeting. Your advice and suggestions are needed to make the Newton Council more responsive to the cultural needs of the community. For further information call Judith Anderson 617-796-1540.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR CHINESE EXCHANGE STUDENTS FALL 2007 Here is a great opportunity to participate in an enriching, diplomatic, generous, international experience and build better US-China relations--without leaving Newton! The Newton-China Exchange Program is seeking several north side and south side families to host Beijing Jingshan School students and teachers. Newton will host six to eight Chinese high school students and two teachers from our sister school in Beijing for a four month stay. The Jingshan School sends us their best and brightest and their English skills are remarkable. Host families are not obligated to serve as full-time tour guides: our Newton China Committee generously provides a variety of invitations and experiences. Health insurance and back-up accommodations are provided. Students and teachers quickly settle into a busy schedule of school, activities, and

family routines. A warm, welcoming family with children (of any ages) is the best place for our visitors to learn about America! If you're interested or have questions, please contact Donna Fong or Aaron Washburn by e-mail (donna_fong@newton.k12.ma.us or aaron_washburn@newton.k12.ma.us) or phone (617.559.6731) Please don't hesitate to ask friends, neighbors, and members of your school community if they are interested. Xie Xie! Thank you!

Humanistic Jewish Sunday School - Enroll your child now for the fall! The Sunday school at Kahal B'raira (KB), "Community of Choice", acquaints children with the history, traditions, beliefs and accomplishments of the Jewish people. The school emphasizes the humanistic rather than the theistic elements of that rich heritage. We want our children's connection to Humanistic Judaism to be meaningful and dynamic; something that will grow with them as they mature. The school includes a broad range of Jewish experiences and is welcoming to families with multiple heritages. Kahal B'raira Sunday School consists of small classes spanning Pre-K through seventh grade. Curriculum includes holidays, Bible stories, history, Jewish culture and traditions, literature, current events and ethics. The school meets on 15 Sundays during the academic year. Adult meetings are held at the same time to enable the whole family to participate. Kahal B'raira also has a Bar/Bat Mitzvah program that offers additional assistance in preparing for this important life event. For more information about the Kahal B'raira community or our Sunday school, please visit our website: www.kahalbraira.org or www.communityofchoice.org or call Shari Gelber at 617-969-4596.

July 4th in Newton Following a 50 year tradition, the July 4th festivities will begin at 10AM with "Kids Morning" at the Newton Centre playground. Children 12 and under are invited to participate in the Decorated Doll Carriage Promenade, the Decorated Bicycles, the Teddy Bear Parade the Grande Pet Parade and Foot Races. FREE candy and ice cream are sponsored in part by donations from the Newton Centre Women's Club and Cabot's Ice Cream. Master of Ceremonies will be Mayor David B. Cohen and Ruth Barnett, President of The Newton Pride Committee which sponsors the July 4th festivities. An "Open Air Market" featuring handmade and international crafts, service organizations and professional dealers will be available from 10AM to Dusk at the Russell J. Halloran Sports Complex on Albemarle Road off Watertown Street (Route 16) in Newtonville. Children's amusement rides and food vendors will be available all day. The Zaitchik Brothers will bring their high energy music to entertain and get everyone up and dancing from 6 - 9PM. Fantastic Fireworks by Newton's own Tony Gentile, Master of Fireworks will begin at approximately 9:00 PM. All July 4th activities are presented by The Mayor's Office for Cultural Affairs and the Newton Parks and Recreation Department and are underwritten by

The Newton Pride Committee, Ruth Barnett, President. For more information, please call 617 527-8283.

Newton Pride Visa Card raises \$\$ for PTOs! Did you know that there's a credit card you can use that donates a percentage of your purchases to four Newton non-profit organizations? Funds raised through the Newton Pride MasterCard are shared by PTO Council, the Newton Child Care Commission, the Senior Citizens Fund of Newton, Inc. and the Newton Pride Committee. All these organizations offer services, activities and enrichment to Newton residents. For example, in recent years the PTO Council has contributed hundreds of dollars to each middle school PTO for the Creative Arts and Sciences programs. Card holders also benefit because the card offers Worldpoints - you earn one Worldpoint for each dollar you spend and those points translate into cash and other awards. MasterCard donates a small percent of every purchase to us - but those small amounts add up quickly, so we want to encourage more people to become card holders. Please consider applying for a Newton Pride credit card - visit <http://www.newtonpride.org/creditCard.html>. For more information, please contact Janet Razulis, PTO Council member and director, Newton Pride Committee, at: creditcard@newtonpride.org.

SPORTS

Newton Youth Soccer registration is open for both the Intramural (IM) and Bay Area Youth Soccer (BAYS-travel) programs. Register at www.newtonsoccer.org. Tryouts will be held June 10th for BAYS. You must register in order to attend a tryout. If your child is not placed on a more competitive BAYS team, the registration will be moved to Intramural (IM). During the week prior to the tryout, you will receive email notification of the tryout time. Further info, including age groupings is available at www.newtonsoccer.org. Please direct questions to the appropriate BAYS age-group coordinator listed on the website.

Garden City Kindergarten Soccer—Franklin's Own KG & Pre-K Soccer program, see info above!!

Newton Kindergarten Soccer - Registration now open for Fall 2007! Girls and boys entering kindergarten in Newton in fall 2007 can join the program that has been introducing children to soccer since 1993. Kindergarten Soccer focuses on fun and building confidence. Teams are typically organized by school which makes this a great opportunity to meet families from your neighborhood and to help your child develop friendships at the start of kindergarten. Kindergarten Soccer meets on 7 Saturday mornings, September 15 - November 3 (except Sept 22) at Richardson Field on Beethoven Ave in Waban. All teams play from 9:30 to 10:30. The fee is \$60. Scholarships are available. The registration deadline is August 1. To register or for more

information, visit www.kindergartensoccer.org or email ksoccer@kindergartensoccer.org

SUMMER CAMPS

Creative Arts at Park, a multi arts program for young people ages 8-15, has spaces available for it's 5 week summer session June 25th to July 27th. For further information call 617-274-6065 or email www.parkschool.org/caap

CLASSIFIED

Ads do not constitute PTO endorsement of products or services.

YOUR CHILD DESERVES TO READ GRADE

LEVEL+ Certified Experienced Reading Tutor available for ages 5-16. Summer is a critical time for skills building! Now accepting summer students. Brookline resident and specialist. Debra Stewart, M.Ed.:SpEd:LD 617-731-0941 or debthetutor@gmail.com BROOKLINE AND NEWTON

TUTORING AVAILABLE Would you like your child to strengthen his or her academic skills in a fun and nurturing environment? I am an experienced teacher and tutor seeking new clients for this summer and upcoming school year. I work with children entering grades 3-7 in the areas of reading (comprehension and higher-level critical thinking skills, helping children become more avid and enthusiastic readers), writing (organizing and developing ideas, sentence/word variation, revising and editing) and math (building on number sense, addition & subtraction, multiplication & division, fractions/decimals/percents, word problems, etc.). I send a detailed report of each tutoring session's activities to parents (via email) within 48 hours of the appointment so you know the exact progress your child is making with each session. Excellent references available upon request. Please contact me at: jeanstehleroy@gmail.com

Sign up now for violin and viola lessons! We are conservatory-trained, experienced teachers of violin and viola offering instruction to students from kindergarten through high school, sharing our life-long love of music in an encouraging environment. Our modified Suzuki program includes private lessons, group classes, and exciting performing opportunities. We are accepting new students of all levels starting in the summer or fall. For more information, please visit www.briosostrings.com or contact Betsy Sellers and Emily Rome by e-mailing briosostrings@gmail.com or calling (617) 680-2512.

TUTOR-Experienced tutor available this SUMMER!

Elementary level: Reading, Written Expression, Math, Study Skills. I work in the Wellesley Public Schools and live and tutor in Newton. My approach is motivating and highly interesting for your child. Please contact me for a free consultation: Haralie Alpert, M.Ed., MS. (617) 630-0608; Haralie@gmail.com . References available.

The next Connection will be published on June 15th. To submit something, send by email or leave it in the Connection mailbox in the school office. The deadline is Monday, June 11th, NOON, but feel free to send it to me early. Ads are only printed as space allows, so meeting the deadline is not a guarantee of ad placement.

Franklin Office 617-559-9500