John Eliot School
135 Wellesley Avenue, Ext.
Needham, MA 02494
February 5, 2010
Principal, Suzanne Wilcox
Editor, Susan Rains
Phone #781-455-0452 & FAX #781-455-0852
Bulletin #12-2009-2010

**Dates to Remember**

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<th>FEBRUARY</th>
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<td>6 Sat.</td>
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| 9 Tues. | Early Dismissal Day - 12:05 p.m.  
No P.M. Kindergarten and No P.M. KASE |
| 12 Fri. | Valentine’s Walk-to-School Day |
| 15-19 M-F | No School - February Recess |
| 22 Mon. | School resumes |
| 23 Tues. | PTC Meeting - Media Center - 9 a.m. |

**Reminder:**
Do not park in the staff lot at the end of the day. You must use the car line or park off campus and walk to the school. If there are special circumstances, contact the office. Please be sure your day care provider is aware of.

**Eliot Art-In is Saturday, February 6th**

The Eliot Art-In is this Saturday, February 6th, from 10-2. Come enjoy a day full of arts and crafts. Some of the old favorites will be there, decorating piggy banks, decorate a cupcake, and sew a pillow. We also have some new projects like CD spin art and designing tiles. Tickets are 25 cents each and projects range from 25 cents to $2. Come build, design and create! Bring your own reusable bag to carry home your projects in and receive a free 25 cent ticket.

**Parent Survey**

Don't forget to complete the Needham Public Schools’ Parent Survey. To date about 15% of our Needham families have completed the survey, and we would like to see at least 20% contribute their perspective and ideas. It is important that we hear from as many parents as possible so that our educational planning can reflect the input of a variety of constituents in Needham. The results of the survey will be shared at an upcoming School Committee meeting and in the annual Performance Report.

Your feedback is important to us and we thank you in advance for taking the time to share your opinions and comments. Please submit your survey by February 8. You can access the survey at the following URL:
http://www.elisten.com/web30/surveys/77E0127C2182442795D5278E341E805F

**Pennies for Haiti**

THANK YOU to everyone for their generous donations to the Pennies for Haiti drive. As of February 4 we have collected $592.00 that we will be donating to Partners in Health. The drive will continue until February 12.
Eliot Art-In
Saturday, February 6th
10-2

Don't spend a wintry day at home.
Come make your own pillow,
decorate a cupcake, build a birdhouse,
hammer and create.

135 Wellesley Ave, Needham
**PTC News**

For the latest PTC news, please go to the following webpage:
http://web.me.com/bloomeanie/The_John_Eliot_Newsletter/Feb_5th,_2010.html

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**Eliot School News**

**Walk or Bike to School!**

Biking or walking to school is healthy, safe, fun and free! Many Eliot students already walk or bike to school. Think you know them all? The Walkers of the Week are brothers (4th grade and kindergarten) and sister (2nd grade) who like spending time with their mom or dad and their dog as they walk. Can you guess who it is? Check in the school lobby to find out if you were correct, and to learn more about our Walkers of the Week.

Interested in organizing a neighborhood walking group or looking for more information on walking or biking to school? Contact Caroline Sabin for some helpful Safe Routes to Schools tips (csabin@rcn.com or 781-453-0558).

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**Valentine's Walk-to-School Day: Friday, February 12**

We'll celebrate Valentine's Day by showing a little love to all those people who help us get to school safely. Do your neighbors keep their sidewalks free of snow? Drop a valentine in the mailbox on your way to school. Do the crossing guards help you get across the street? Give them a valentine and brighten their day. The more people who walk on February 12, the more love they'll feel!

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**Title 1 parent presentation huge success!**

On February 1, Needham’s Title 1 program sponsored a parent evening for both the Eliot and Hillside Schools. During the evening, Eliot’s Schools Title 1 reading teacher, Juliet Slotnick and Hillside School’s Title 1 reading teacher, Jeanne Conley, joined with other literacy specialists to share multiple ways to connect school strategies with take home reading. Parents learned many new strategies for reading a book with beginning readers while encouraging, praising and supporting their children as they learn to read.

Children of the parents who attended the presentation, were treated to pizza, games, and babysitting.

Thank you:
Title 1 for funding,
Literacy specialists and teachers for presenting,
Parents for attending,
and
Children for having fun!

Barbara Laites Collins, NPS Elementary Literacy Curriculum Instructional Leader, 781-455-0400 ext. 227
From Our Media Specialist, Mrs. Mullin

The following books were donated to the Eliot Media Center during January 2010:

*Purplicious* was donated by Niamh Curry in honor of her 10th birthday, December 9.

*The Snow Day* was donated by Amy Lim in honor of her 8th birthday, December 16.

*March On!* was donated by Sabrina Glaser in honor of her 7th birthday, December 26.

*Faith, Hope and Ivy June* was donated by Kim Manning in honor of her 11th birthday, December 31.

*Make and Eat Bread & Pizzas* was donated by Zachary Dangel in honor of his 7th birthday, January 1.

*Star Wars Revenge of the Sith* was donated by Aaron Theodore Montgomery in honor of his 8th birthday January 3rd.

*No Easy Way* was donated by Liam Woodman in honor of his 9th birthday, January 3rd.

*Button Up!* was donated by Eleanor Cheng Streeper in honor of her 6th birthday, January 5th.

*Calvin Coconut: Trouble Magnet* was donated by Phillip Nikolayev in honor of his 9th birthday, January 6th.

*Chicken Cheeks* was donated by Jack Queler in honor of his 7th birthday, January 7th.

*A Friend Like You* was donated by Emma Curry in honor of her 7th birthday, January 7.

*Chicken Little* was donated by John Curry in honor of his 7th birthday, January 7.

*Leprechaun in Late Winter* was donated by Avery Mathias in honor of her 8th birthday, January 9.

*Princess Hyacinth* was donated by Anna McConchie in honor of her 8th birthday, January 11th.

*Leprechaun in Late Winter* was donated by Olivia Rosengard in honor of her 7th birthday, January 12.

*So Many Days* was donated by Maggie Masterson in honor of her 9th birthday, January 12.

*Goldilicious* was donated by Justin Robert Mok in honor of his 6th birthday, January 13.

*The Seer of Shadows* was donated by Scott Eric Selland in honor of his 11th birthday, January 14th.

*The Islands of the Blessed* was donated by Miranda Brown in honor of her 11th birthday, January 15.

*Testing the Ice* was donated by Ari B. Shniderson in honor of his 6th birthday, January 20.

*Doomwyte* was donated by Joshua Lees in honor of his 11th birthday, January 21.

*It's Hard to be Five* was donated by Hailey Queler in honor of her 7th birthday, January 22.

*Anything but Typical* was donated by Lily Esteghamati in honor of her 10th birthday, January 24.

*Fanny & Annabelle* was donated by Hadley Smith Winslow in honor of her 7th birthday, January 24.

*Princess Pig* was donated by Eve Melychev in honor of her 6th birthday, January 28.
Needham Public School News

Science Center's 3rd Annual Family Science Night

The Needham Science Center’s 3rd Annual Family Science Night, Techno Triumphs, will be held at Newman School on Thursday, March 11, 2010, 6-8pm. Admission is free to this celebration of engineering. Pizza and salad are for sale. Due to limited spaces at Newman parking permits are issued beginning February 23rd at each elementary school office or at the Science Center. For more information or to volunteer, contact Science Center Manager Mary Rizzuto (781) 455-0475, Mary_Rizzuto@Needham.K12.MA.US or see our web site http://rwd1.needham.k12.ma.us/Science_Center.

Needham's Art in Bloom 2010

Don’t miss Needham’s Art in Bloom 2010, featuring talented Needham High School student art with accompanying floral interpretations by members of the Beth Shalom Garden Club. This exhibit is free of charge and funded with a grant by Dedham Savings. A few of these creative pieces will be on display Fri., March 5 from 12-4pm at the High School lobby & the Senior Center. The entire exhibit can be seen at the library on Sat. March 6 & Sun. March 7 during regular library hours. For more information and photos from last year visit, NeedArts.org

Effective Communication with your IEP Team

February 8th 7:00-9:00 pm
Broadmeadow School Media Center

All are welcome to attend a free presentation on techniques to improve IEP (Individual Education Program) Team Communication, presented by Cynthia Moore from the Federation for Children with Special Needs, which will offer communication skill building and conflict resolution techniques for parents as members of the IEP Team. The meeting takes place on February 8th at 7:00 (refreshments 7 – 7:30; presentation begins at 7:30) at the Broadmeadow School Media Center, 120 Broadmeadow Road, Needham.

For more information, please visit www.needhamsepac.org and to be placed on our e-mail list, please contact Tee Stock (444.4528) or Maureen Callahan (449.4023) or send an email to needhamsepac@yahoo.com.

Needham News

Girls Soccer League

There are still openings in the Needham Young Girls Soccer League which runs for 10 weeks on Sundays starting April 18th. Please visit our Website www.NYGLS.org for the registration form. This league is for 1st and 2nd grade girls and the cost is $50, we are looking forward to another great season!
NEDP Applications
Needham Extended Day Program (NEDP) will begin accepting applications from new families for the 2010-2011 school year on March 1. If you are interested in receiving information or an application please email your name, address and phone number to nedpkids@gmail.com, or call 781-444-3333. Thank You.

“Sustainable Harvest: Local Food Initiatives in Needham”
The Needham Lyceum at First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, 23 Dedham Ave., presents “Sustainable Harvest: Local Food Initiatives in Needham” at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 21. The program will include information about local farms and exciting food initiatives in Needham, plus a viewing of the inspiring documentary “Eating Local in Somerville” with Needham filmmaker Wendy Blom. A discussion will follow about how some of Somerville’s best-practices can be duplicated in Needham. Free admission. Co-sponsored by Green Needham Collaborative and the Needham Community Farm.

The Needham Park and Recreation FEBRUARY VACATION BASKETBALL CLINIC, YOUTH CROSS COUNTRY SKI LESSONS and WACKY OLYMPICS still have space available!!

** Due to the Town Hall move this February to the new Public Services Administration Building at 500 Dedham Avenue, the deadline for registering for remaining vacation programs will be WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10th this year (or until they are full!), so SIGN UP NOW and TELL YOUR FRIENDS because the spaces left are going to go FAST! **

Registrations for Park and Recreation programs are taken ONLINE (preferred method) at www.needhamma.gov/parkandrecreation (Just select online program registration!), by mail and in person at the Park and Recreation Office.

Please contact Nicole DiCicco at 781-455-7521 or ndicicco@needhamma.gov with any registration questions!

And remember to come visit us in our new office on Dedham Avenue starting February 17th; we can’t wait to see you there!

Needham Empty Bowls Community Dinner
Thursday, March 4th 5-8 p.m. - Needham High School Cafeteria
A fundraiser to help support the Needham Community Council Food Pantry, co-sponsored by the Grace Lutheran Church, Needham High School Visual Arts Department, The Potters Shop & School and the Community Council. Minimum donation $10 per person. Tickets available from the Community Council at 781-444-2415. Visit the Council website at www.needhamcommunitycouncil.org and click on Empty Bowls.

Girl’s Softball Sign Ups
Needham Girl’s Softball will be holding “in person” sign ups at the Pollard Cafeteria on Thursday evening February 25 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Girl’s Softball is open to all Needham students in the 3rd through 8th grade - all are welcome and no experience is necessary. For a “MAIL IN” REGISTRATION FORM or more information visit our website www.needhamsoftball.com email us at al@needhamsoftball.com or call Al Shapiro at 781-455-0736.
From the Eliot Office

Spring Testing
MEPA & MCAS

MEPA (for English Language Learners)
March 3-17
Gr. K-2 - Reading and Writing
Gr. 3-5 - Reading and Writing

MCAS Tests
March 22 - April 12
GRADES 3, 4 & 5 - ELA Reading Comprehension
GRADE 4 - ELA Long Composition - March 23
Make-Up April 7

May 2010
MCAS Tests
May 10-May 27
GRADES 3, 4 and 5 - Mathematics
GRADE 5 Science and Technology/Engineering (STE)

Kindergarten - September 2010
If you have a child who will be five years of age by August 31st, he/she is eligible to enroll in our September 2010 Kindergarten program. If you have not yet received a letter from the Needham Public Schools informing you of this news, please call the school office at: 781-455-0452. We'll put your child's name on our enrollment list and send you an invitation to our Kindergarten orientation.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION @ Eliot School
For parents/guardians of incoming kindergarten students
Thursday, March 4th - 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.- Performance Center

Our next bulletin will be posted on: Friday, February 26th.
Please see the following flyer: Pennies for Haiti

Respect and Dignity
for all
Penny Drive for Haiti

John Eliot School

You get more than you give when you show you care

Collection Jars will be in the Front Office from January 19 - February 12, 2010