



Montclair News and Events

A supplement to the news and events of the monthly calendar

From Mrs. Lalumiere Malvesti

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News and Events

Read Across America ~ In March we opened our doors to 55 visitors who helped us celebrate Read Across America Week, Literacy, and Dr. Seuss's Birthday. Guest readers included, Mayor Thomas Koch, School Committee Member Anne Mahoney, Representative Stephen Tobin, and Superintendent De-Cristofaro. Parents, Quincy school officials, employees from Boston Financial, retired teachers, Rotary Club members, police officers, and fire personnel also made time in their schedules to join in reading to the students. Another highlight of the week included a special visit from professional storyteller Sharon Kennedy, sponsored by the PTO. Other activities of the week included a PTO sponsored Book Fair, a dress up as your favorite book character day, special Book Buddy activities, and a Dr. Seuss Assembly. The assembly concluded the fun-filled week with a school wide rendition of "Green Eggs and Ham" and "Oh, The Things You Can Think!" as well as a tribute to Dr. Seuss by the fifth graders. Thank you to all who made this a memorable week for our students.



Read-A-Thon ~ The Read-A-Thon was a very successful fundraiser! Because of your help, we raised \$3600.15 which will be used to complete our new computer lab. Ms. Colura's class won a pizza party for raising the most money. Thank you to all who participated and congratulations to the following students who received awards for raising the highest amount for their grade: Kindergarten ~ Vanessa Tsang, Grade 1 ~ Jacob Vegnani, Grade 2 ~ Maeve Walsh, Grade 3 ~ Jonathan Lee, Grade 4 ~ Amanda Ngo, and Grade 5 ~ Robert Fitzgerald. We would also like to congratulate Alexis Healey, Jack Nelson, Adam Nelson, Cameron Moore, Adriana Daignault, Joseph Zingg, and Kaylin Silva for receiving Honorable Mention Awards for outstanding participation in the Read-A-Thon.



Target® Take Charge of Education ~ Thank you to our families and staff who participate in the Target® "Take Charge of Education" Program. Our school received a donation of \$29.98 for the month of March. Please remember that when parents, teachers, and other school supports use their REDCard, Target donates up to 1% of their purchase to their designated K-12 school. It's that easy! If you have a REDCard, please designate Montclair School as your "Take Charge of Education" school.

MCAS Update ~ The end of March and beginning of April was a busy MCAS testing time for our third, fourth, and fifth grade students. The teachers and I are proud of how well the students worked each day. We had very few absences and students came to school ready to perform. Our students in grade K-2 were very patient with the changes to the schedules and were extremely quite in the hallways. The next round of MCAS tests will be administered in May. The Math MCAS will be administered to third, fourth, and fifth graders. Students in fifth grade are also required to take the Science and Technology MCAS in May. After April vacation be on the look out for a letter outlining the specific dates that each grade will test. If you have any questions regarding the MCAS, please do not hesitate to call the school.



Spring Break ~ School will be closed from April 20-24 for April Vacation. School will re-open on Monday, April 27. Have a safe and relaxing vacation!



Mark Your Calendar



- * **Early Release Days** ~ Every Tuesday students are dismissed at 11:55.
- * **April 1-8** ~ ELA MCAS Testing for Grades 3, 4, & 5
- * **April 7** ~ Bus Evacuation Drill
- * **April 9** ~ Quincy Historical Society Visits Grade 3
- * **April 10** ~ No School—Good Friday
- * **April 12** ~ Happy Easter!
- * **April 14** ~ Crazy Hair Day
- * **April 14** ~ PTO Meeting at 8:30 AM
- * **April 15** ~ 5th Grade D.A.R.E. Night for Parents and Students from 6:30-8:30 in the gym
- * **April 20-24** ~ April Vacation—No School
- * **April 22** ~ Earth Day

News and Events Continued...

Quincy Beaches and Costal Commission Winner ~ Congratulations to our very own Alan Chen, a fifth grader in Mrs. Joyce's class. He is the city wide winner of the Quincy Beach Guide Cover Contest. His drawing received the most votes at the Earth Day event held on Saturday, April 4. Thank you to all of our students for their art work and preparing such beautiful drawings to enter.



Report Card Conferences & Curriculum Newsletter ~ The second term report card conferences were held on March 24. I would like to thank you for your continued support in your child's education. Usually with report cards we distribute the Curriculum Newsletter. However, we are "going green" and trying to conserve paper, so the Curriculum Newsletter has been posted on our website, http://www.quincypublicschools.com/schools/montclair/main_page.shtml. Please call the office if you would like a paper copy of the newsletter and we will be happy to send one home with your child.



PTO Connection

Greetings from the PTO:

Thank you to all of the families who participated in our Scholastic Book Fair and Family Reading Night in March. A special thank you to Deb MacDonald who volunteered at the book fair from set-up to finish - Deb's and our other parent volunteer's hard work paid off, we sold just over \$3,500 in books which provided a \$90 book credit to the literacy classroom, the media center, the ELL classroom and every teacher! The Media Center also received an additional \$125 from discretionary credits that the PTO received from Scholastic.

Congratulations to Kathy Wong of Ms. Ronayne's class for winning the Montclair T-shirt design contest. Thank you to all of the other wonderful Montclair artists who participated in the contest. Order forms for these shirts will be going home with students this week and orders will be taken through Thursday April 16th. These shirts will be a great way for students and their families to show their school spirit!

The 75th Annual May Festival is fast approaching and our May Festival Committee has been hard at work for the past few months to ensure that this years event is the most successful one yet. MANY volunteers will be needed for this day long event and we hope every family finds a way to participate. Letters will be going home with students later in the month requesting raffle items to be donated, as well as, volunteers to work at the May Festival. While the May Festival is our biggest fundraising event of the year, it is also the most fun and our students look forward to the third Saturday in May all year long!

Also in early May, the PTO will be hosting the annual Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, Ellen Hussey is running this event and anyone who would like to give her a hand can email her through the PTO email, montclair_pto@yahoo.com Re: Teacher Appreciation Luncheon.

All current PTO Board positions are open this year. By rule, none of the current officers can remain in their positions for more than one term. Nomination forms will be going home with students the first week in April. Please consider volunteering to be on next years PTO Board, it is very rewarding!

Thank you and Happy Spring!

The Montclair PTO



Notes & Quotes

Celebrate Poetry! ~ April is National Poetry Month. Enjoy reading and sharing many different kinds of poems and keep one in your pocket to share with a friend!

Keep a Poem in Your Pocket

Keep a poem in your pocket
and a picture in your head
and you'll never feel lonely
at night when you're in bed.

The little poem will sing to you
the little picture will bring to you
a dozen dreams to dance to you
at night when you're in bed.

So—Keep a picture in your pocket
And a poem in your head
And you'll never feel lonely
At night when you're in bed.

Beatrice Schenk de Regniers
Poetry by Heart Collection

Worth Quoting ~ "April hath put a spirit of youth in everything." Shakespeare

Just for Fun ~

Q: When do monkeys fall from the sky?

A: *During Ape-ril showers!*

