



# Montclair News and Events

A supplement to the news and events of the monthly calendar

From Mrs. Lalumiere-Malvesti

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Montclair School  
8 Belmont Street  
N. Quincy, MA  
02171

617-984-8708  
rlalumiere@quincy.k12.ma.us

## Mark Your Calendar



- \* **Early Release Days** ~ Every Tuesday students are dismissed at 11:55.
- \* **December 3** ~ Woodward School visits Gr. 5
- \* **December 3-5** ~ PTO Sponsored Secret Santa
- \* **December 4** ~ PTO Sponsored Ornament Night
- \* **December 8** ~ Gr. 2 Field Trip to Museum of Science
- \* **December 9** ~ Montclair on the Town & Tis' the Season Symphony & Song
- \* **December 10** ~ School Committee Meeting
- \* **December 17** ~ Holiday Concert @ 1:00 in gym
- \* **December 22** ~ Happy Hanukkah!
- \* **December 23** ~ Holiday Break Begins at 11:55
- \* **December 24-January 2** ~ Vacation
- \* **January 5** ~ Return to School!

## News and Events

**Tis the Season...Symphony and Song!** ~ Quincy School Community Partnership is again sponsoring *Tis the Season...Symphony & Song!* Celebrate the sounds of the holiday season with the Quincy Symphony Orchestra and Quincy Public School Combined High School Choral Group on Tuesday, December 9 at 8:00 at the Boston Marriott in Quincy. There will be strolling carolers, a gift bazaar, and a silent auction beginning at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$25 and are available in the school office until the morning of Friday, December 5. Proceeds will benefit Quincy Public Schools music department.



**Montclair on the Town** ~ Join us for dinner and a show as we celebrate the holiday season and enjoy a night out on the town! The evening of the show, students and/or parents attending will be welcomed to join us in the Montclair Café for dinner before the show. Then, we will provide transportation to and from the Quincy Marriot. If you are interested in joining us for the first ever "***Montclair on the Town,***" please contact the school office as soon as possible!

**Community Service Breakfast** ~ Thursday, November 20th was the Quincy Public Schools 12th Annual Celebration of Students and Staff Serving Our Community. The students who represented Montclair were Jia Li Zheng and Alan Chen. Thank you to Mrs. Ronayne and Mrs. Joyce for accompanying us to this event. It was a true celebration for all those involved in providing service learning opportunities to our students.

**Canned Food Drive** ~ The Student Council ran a canned food drive from November 7 to the 20. The students brought in over 780 non-perishable food items to be donated to those in need this holiday season. All donations were given to the Quincy Crisis Center. Thank you for your support and congratulations to Room 17 for collecting the most items!



**Visit from NQHS** ~ French teacher Aliza Schneller, from North Quincy High School, visited our fourth grade classrooms with NQHS students on November 12th. The French students had terrific small group activities planned for our fourth graders. The students played BINGO and listened to stories in French. They even learned numbers, animals, and body parts in French.


**Holiday Concert** ~ The Montclair holiday concert will be held on December 17 at 1:00 in the gym. Please come and celebrate the season with our students as they share their gift of music.

**Art in the Classroom with Ms. O'Brien** ~ The arts allow us to understand, think creatively, make connections, use our imagination, and respond to experiences of the past and present. The arts reflect human behavior and help us to understand ourselves, and the world we live in. Using a variety of ways to explore the students demonstrate the process one goes through in producing a work of art. This term the students interpreted and explored the themes of natural environments of our world and ourselves... the ocean: fish, shells, creatures and seaweed; the environment: trees, leaves and houses; proportion skills: human body, self and expressing emotions through portraits. Also, the fun art activities of Halloween in landscapes, masks, mobiles, and collage were used to inspire and develop personal expressions and organize knowledge of skills in a work of art. In the future, Thanksgiving themes of harvest-ing, food, family, and fantasy will be studied in an art experience to create meaning.



# December Events Continued...

**Toys for Tots** ~ The Student Council is sponsoring a toy drive this holiday season. The toy drive will begin on December 4 and will run through December 18. All toys will be donated to Toys for Tots.

 **Thanks, Wishes, and Holiday Greetings** ~ The Student Council will also send student made greeting cards to soldiers who are away from their loved ones during this holiday season. Teachers and students will work together to create the cards and the students council will make sure they are mailed.

**Museum of Science** ~ Grade 2 will be traveling to the Museum of Science on December 8th. They will visit the planetarium to view the show Winterlight: Stars and Symbols of the Solstice. This seasonal program introduces the legends and lore of the winter solstice.

**Happy Holidays** ~ I would like to extend our best wishes to all Montclair families at this special time of year. May your holiday be filled with much happiness, good health and peace.



## PTO Connection

Seasons Greetings!

The holidays are fast approaching and with it, the Montclair Schools' Annual Secret Santa Workshop! This year, Secret Santa Workshop will be held December 3rd and December 4th. Class notices have been sent home with your child's specific shopping date and time. This event is open to all children who want to participate - it is not required! For those who wish to participate, gifts for family members can be purchased for as little as 25 cents, with most gifts costing between \$1 and \$2, with a maximum cost of \$3. This is a good opportunity to discuss the value of money with your child. When you prepare a list with your child, include what you think your child should spend for each gift on his/her list.



Ornament Night will be held on December 4th from 6 to 8 pm. This family fun event is for all Montclair families to come together to decorate ornaments, and relax with a nice hot chocolate and a snack. Each Montclair student will receive a notice with form to bring to ornament night for a complementary ornament and cocoa and snack - parents and non-Montclair students are \$2.00 at the door, \$1 for each additional ornament. Any remaining Secret Santa Workshop merchandise will be on sale during Ornament Night. Volunteers will be needed for both events. We hope to see you there!

Remember to start your online shopping at [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com). Register and pick Montclair School before you start shopping and Montclair School PTO receives a percentage of each sale. It is a easy, no-cost way to contribute to the Montclair School PTO year round!

There is no December PTO meeting. Our next PTO meeting is January 13th at 8:30 AM. Children are always invited. PTO meetings are open to all parents or guardians who will like to get involved with their child's school. If you have any comments or ideas you may e-mail us at [montclair\\_pto@yahoo.com](mailto:montclair_pto@yahoo.com) or leave a message at the school, we value your ideas and opinions.



Happy Holidays Everyone!

Sincerely,

The Montclair PTO



## Notes & Quotes

### Parents Are Teachers, Too!

From the day children are born until they graduate from high school, they spend about 15 percent of their waking hours in school. The other 85 percent is spent outside school— and most of that time is spent at home.

That means you are your child's most influential teacher. Fortunately, children are naturally curious and love to learn. Below are some ideas you can use at home to make the most of the important educational influence you have.

\*Experts say that encouraging children to read may be the most important thing parents can do to ensure their children's school success.

\*Play learning games. Family time is a great time for learning.

\*Show your child that you care. Children need to know that they are loved, that you are proud of them and pleased by their accomplishments.

**Worth Quoting** ~ "Blessed be the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love." Hamilton Wright Mabie

### Just for Fun ~



Q: What do elves learn in school?

A: The Elf-abet!!