



# Montclair News and Events

A supplement to the news and events of the monthly calendar

From Mrs. Lalumiere Malvesti

February 2, 2009

## 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.
- \* **February 2-11** ~ Pennies for Patients Collection for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
- \* **February 5** ~ Grade 2 Stranger Danger
- \* **February 9** ~ D.A.R.E. begins for Grade 5
- \* **February 10** ~ PTO Meeting at 8:30
- \* **February 11** ~ School Committee Meet @ 7:00 at City Hall
- \* **February 14** ~ Happy Valentine's Day
- \* **February 16-20** ~ February Recess—School Closed
- \* **February 23-26** ~ Pajama Drive for Cradles to Crayons
- \* **PLEASE NOTE:** Tuesday, March 31, 2009 is a full day of school.

## News and Events

**Safety Programs** ~ February is a busy month for safety programs! February 5th all second graders will participate in a Stranger Danger class led by Officer Detrimont, February 9th the fifth graders will begin weekly classes of D.A.R.E. led by Officer Sautter, and on February 13th all fourth and fifth grade students will participate in a Cyber Safety class led by Officer Bell.



**National School Counselors** ~ February 2-6 is National School Counseling Week 2009, "School Counselors: Making a Difference." This week helps to focus public attention on the unique contribution of professional school counselors within U.S. school systems. National School Counseling Week, sponsored by ASCA, highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success. I would like to thank Ms. Lam, our school counselor, and Ms. Chan, our school psychologist, for all of the work and assistance they provide to our students, families, and staff. Our school is a better place because of what you do.

**Kiwanis Club Winners** ~ Congratulations to Mikayla Kennedy from Mrs. Pettinelli's kindergarten class and Kyle Gates from Mrs. Wetherby's class. They will receive a Kiwanis' Junior Hero Award at a Junior Heroes Breakfast on Saturday, March 7.



**Save the Date!** ~ Quincy School ~ Community Partnership will present Stayin' Alive and AbbaMania on Friday, March 20, 2009 at 8:00pm at the Boston Marriot Quincy. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased at all Quincy Public Schools. For more information please call 617-984-8731. Join us for the ultimate tribute to the Bee Gees and Abba! Proceeds benefit Quincy Public Schools Teacher Mini-Grant initiative.

**Year of the Ox** ~ This year our Lunar New Year Celebration was held on Tuesday, January 27th. Our guest speaker, Mr. Jason Yuan, told the students about the history of the Lunar New Year. Students learned about the 12 Zodiac animals, the importance of the Red Envelope, and the significance of the Lion Dance. At the end of his presentation, Mr. Yuan allowed pairs of students from each grade take part in the Lion Dance. After the assembly students learned about the symbolisms associated with food and were treated to Chinese food donated by Cathay Pacific.



**Community Service Projects** ~ The Student Council will collect Pennies For Patients in memory of Evan Dwyer from January 28th through February 11. This school side fundraiser will support The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in its effort to find a cure for blood cancer in children. Please join us and have your child deposit your pennies in classroom boxes. Any donations are greatly appreciated. The Student Council will also hold a Pajama Drive from February 23-26. All donations will go to Cradles for Crayons.



# News and Events Continued...

**50th Anniversary** ~ Atlantic Middle School is celebrating its 50th Anniversary. Over the past five decades, Atlantic has been a very special part of the lives of many students, families, and staff members. The anniversary celebration will be held on Tuesday, February 10th at 7:00 in the Atlantic Middle School Auditorium.

**Kindergarten Registration** ~ Kindergarten registration for the 2009-2010 school year will be held on Tuesday, March 3rd from 9:00-2:00 in the gym for all students eligible to attend Montclair. Your child should be 5 years of age on or before August 31, 2009. More information will follow.



**ELA MCAS** ~ The state provides us with a window from March 30th to April 14th for the English Language Arts MCAS test for grades 3, 4, and 5. Grade 4 will also take 2 additional sessions of the ELA Long Composition on March 31st. We will schedule most of our sessions 1 per day. It is very important for students to be in school and not dismissed for appointments on test days.



**Full Day Tuesday** ~ On Tuesday, March 31 all fourth grade students will take the ELA Long Composition MCAS test. Therefore, **all students will have a full day of school** and lunch will be served.

## PTO Connection

Greetings from the Montclair PTO:

Thank you to everyone who attended last month's PTO meeting and also, the first May Festival Planning meeting. We had some wonderful ideas exchanged and are moving forward with our Spring Fund-raiser, starting with a T-shirt design contest. We have many talented art students here at Montclair School. We are looking forward to seeing the artwork of one of our very own Montclair students on T-shirts we will be selling later in the Spring!



We held our initial May Festival Planning meeting on the 27th. Thank you to the parents who brainstormed and volunteered for some of the behind the scenes activity that is needed for this to be a successful event, your efforts are key! We are always looking for inspiration - if you have an idea you think might work for the May Festival or know a business that might be able to help us out, please email us at [montclair\\_pto@yahoo.com](mailto:montclair_pto@yahoo.com). We will be having additional meetings throughout the Spring, as needed. If you are unable to make meetings but would still like to be part of the planning for what is sure to be, with your help, a wonderful 75th Annual Montclair May Festival, please email us with the re: line "Attn: May Festival Planning" and we can add you to the group list.

Next month the PTO will be holding a Scholastic Book Fair, March 3-5, in conjunction with Scholastic Book Week. We will have a guest storyteller/reader for a family event on the evening of March 3, parents will be able to preview and buy books after the presentation. Stay tuned for more information for what is sure to be a fun and educational family experience!



The next PTO meeting is on February 10, at 8:30 a.m. The items we will be discussing, will include the continued exchanging of ideas and progress reports for the May Festival planning, as well as updates on the T-shirt fundraiser and we will be available to answer any questions about the openings for next year's PTO Board. As always, children are welcome at all PTO meetings. We hope to see you there!

Happy Lunar New Year!  
The Montclair PTO

## Notes & Quotes

**Math Corner—Count on It!** ~ Get your child used to thinking about numbers and what they mean. Help your child practice counting with these ideas.



- Ask your child to count to 10 by finding numbers around the house.
- Encourage your child to count to 50 while bouncing a ball. He can swing his leg over the ball on every 5th number (5, 10, 15, etc.) to get the rhythm of counting by 5s.
- Skip Counting...2, 4, 6, 8,... Learning to "skip count" will help your child count faster and with more confidence.
- Teach your child about "elapsed time" by making a schedule. On poster board, list times and help him/her write in daily events. Use the poster to ask questions. Example: "You get home at 5:00 and dinner is at 6:00. How much time do you have to play?"

**Worth Quoting** ~ "For Africa to me... is more than a glamorous fact. It is a historical truth. No man can know where he is going unless he knows exactly where he has been and exactly how he arrived at his present place. ~ Maya Angelou February is Black History Month. It is a time to remember and celebrate individuals who have made significant and positive historical contributions.

## Just for Fun ~

Q: What did the stamp say to the envelope on Valentine's Day?

A: *I'm stuck on you!*

