

LINCOLN-ELIOT LEADER

RESPECT-RESPONSIBILITY-EXCELLENCE-LIFELONG LEARNING

June 2009

www.newtonpublicschools.com

www.newton.mec.edu/LincolnEliot/index.htm



Main Telephone Number: 617-559-9540

Call Back Number: 617-559-9560

Reflections from Katie

If we take the core value of developing an enthusiasm for life long learning seriously, summer vacation is not a break from learning in any way. In fact, it becomes the perfect opportunity to really practice being an independent, inspired, creative learner. During the summer, there are no teachers telling students what to learn or how to learn. This is their opportunity to explore in greater depth topics they may be interested in. During the school year supporting your child in learning means making sure that they have time and space to complete their homework, having regular communication with your child's teacher, etc. During the summer, it may look different. Here are some ideas that may help you support your child in learning during the summer:

- Continue to limit television and video games. During the school year, there are natural limits on these because there is not much time to watch television and play video games. During the summer, it requires some more vigilance to en-

courage your children to engage in other, more creative kinds of play.

- Where you do allow screen time for your children, encourage them to visit websites that can teach them about topics they are curious about or places they have never been. Ms. Kuhlman's math game website is another way to blend learning and fun.
- Choose a book to read together as a family and discuss it as you read.
- Encourage your 3rd-5th grader to chat with their friends on the Lincoln-Eliot Summer Reading Blog about books they are reading.
- Invite your children to help you solve dilemmas that you may encounter such as how to fit everything in the car for the camping trip or how to make a budget for the family vacation.
- Ask your children to help you make lists, write notes and do other kinds of functional writing.
- Can't make it to a zoo? Observe animal

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS



Thursday, June 18

Retirement Celebration
Breakfast , 7:45 - 9:00 am
L-E Cafeteria

Tuesday, June 23

Final Day of School
12:00 Dismissal

Monday, June 22

5th Grade Graduation
6 pm, L-E Gym

Tuesday, September 8

First Day of School
2009-2010 School Year

Reflections from Katie

(Continued from page 1)

habits and habitats using one of the many webcams broadcasting from zoos and aquariums around the United States and the world. (quoted from: http://www.readwritethink.org/beyondtheclassroom/summer/grades3_5/)

Many children enjoy reading cartoons in the newspaper or looking at comic books. Work together with a child and create new ones to enjoy and share! (quoted from: http://www.readwritethink.org/beyondtheclassroom/summer/grades3_5/)

I can't wait to hear about all you learn this summer. See you in September!

- Katie Charner-Laird, Principal

Interview with Stephanie Marcus and Dan O'Dell

by 5th Grader Everett Gilpin

EG: Describe your jobs at Lincoln-Eliot.

SM: Dan and I tutor in the morning, and work with art classes in the afternoon. We cycle through almost all the classes over a two-week period. I also do some subbing and afterschool work, and will work with English Language Learners starting this week.

SM & DO:

The reason we are here this year is that Ms. Katie initiated a grant-funded program under Title I. It

includes an Art Extension program as well as reading and math support for all grades. The Art Extension provides art classes over and above the regular art program that normally happens each year.

EG: How long have you been here?

SM: I've been here since September. At first I did student teaching with Ms. Sutherland. By the way, I want to add that I think Ms. Sutherland is awesome, fantastic and very talented!

(Continued on page 6)

Creative Arts and Sciences Committee: Come Join Us Next Year!

The Creative Arts and Sciences Committee is completely supported and funded by our Lincoln-Eliot PTO. Thirty percent of our PTO budget goes toward these excellent presentations. Our committee hires presenters to support our teachers with curriculum related presentations. We also fund and support the Concert Series which is a Newton City-wide

program. We are proud to announce that **The Tanglewood Marionettes** will visit our students, **November 4th, 2009** in a production of "**The Dragon King.**"

Our committee is made up of three members: Elaine Smith Purcell, Sherri Meek and Dow Brain. We are looking for other members to become part of this team which directly serves our

teachers and our children. Interested in knowing more about your child's curriculum? Would you like to help promote our programs by working on displays or newspaper write ups? We could use help with hospitality: greeting our visitors and writing thank you notes. Please contact co-chairs Elaine Smith Purcell, 617.939.3297 or Sherri Meek, sherrimeek@gmail.com.

Did you know? School Committee Meeting Agendas of upcoming meetings may be found on this website: <http://www.newton.k12.ma.us/schoolcommittee/index.html>. Meeting documents are posted by noon on the day of each Committee meeting. The Committee also publishes a summary of recent meetings by the Friday after each meeting.

Also, for ongoing **H1N1 Updates**, you can go to <http://www.newton.k12.ma.us/>.

Final Walk to School Friday

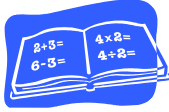
June 19



If you notice any trouble spots as you and your children are walking, such as sidewalks that are not shoveled after a snowstorm, a lack of crosswalks, obstructions or other dangerous/difficult spots, please notify me at MegaraB@verizon.net.

SCHOOL NEWS

It All Adds Up



Although summer is a time to relax, math facts have a way of slipping away if not revisited regularly. It is important that students start the school year being automatic in their benchmark facts - able to give an answer within two to three seconds, or answer 25 written problems in under a minute.

No student wants to start the fall with the burden of relearning forgotten facts and the handicap of not being able to keep up with the curriculum. Below you will find grade level expectations.

Incoming First Graders: Reading and writing numbers from 1 -110

Incoming Second Graders: Addition and subtraction facts to 6 ($2 + 4 = 6$, $6 - 4 = 2$)

Incoming Third Graders: Addition and subtraction facts to 12 ($5 + 7 = 12$, $12 - 5 = 7$)

Incoming Fourth Graders: Addition and subtraction facts to 18 ($11 + 7 = 18$, $18 - 7 = 11$) AND Multiplication facts to multiples of 10 ($10 \times 10 = 100$)

Incoming Fifth Graders: Addition and subtraction facts to 18 AND Multiplication and division facts to multiples of 12

Incoming Sixth Graders: All facts and their extensions ($8 \times 6 = 48$ so $80 \times 60 = 4,800$)

Students can practice their math facts orally, through a game, on a website,

or with paper and pencil. In this newsletter I have included directions to several easy-to-play math facts card games. My webpage is also available for working on math facts. You can access it by going to the LE website and clicking on the Math Specialist.

Elka Kuhlman
Math Coach, Title 1

http://www2.newton.k12.ma.us/~elka_kuhlman/

August 31 Deadline for Registration for Fourth Grade Instrumental Music Lessons

Students entering fourth grade in September may elect to participate in the **Instrumental Music Lesson Program** where they will learn how to play a band or orchestra instrument. This fee-based program (\$150) is a unique opportunity for students with little or no experience playing a musical instrument to receive a weekly 30-minute group lesson during the school day. For many children, this program marks the beginning of a lifelong endeavor as a musician in Newton Public Schools and beyond.

All of the information about this program is now posted on the district website including registration and financial assistance forms that can be downloaded. **The registration deadline is August 31st.** If you have questions about this program, please contact Richard P. King, Fine Arts Coordinator by June 23rd at 617-559-6149. Newton Public Schools website: www.newton.k12.ma.us.

Lincoln-Eliot School Library Fund Donation Program: A Great Way to Honor a Teacher



Our school library is enhanced by donations made in honor of teachers or children or others, to express gratitude, to mark a special occasion, or to celebrate a particular event such as a birthday. It is an excellent way to thank teachers at holiday time and at the school year's end.

These donations are used to purchase new books. Bookplates are then placed in the books to acknowledge the person honored.

In addition, a card is sent to the honoree to announce the donation and a card of thanks is sent to the donor.

If you would like to participate, please submit the following information to Ann Ritchie in the library.

- Donor Name(s)
- Address
- Name of person(s) honored
- Address (if applicable)
- Occasion

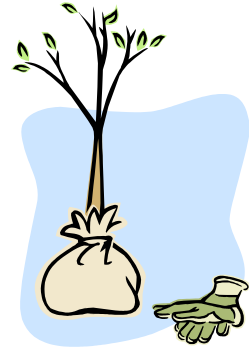
A suggested \$8-\$15 donation is suitable for a reinforced paperback selection or \$20-\$25 for a hardcover selection. Please make checks payable to: **Lincoln-Eliot PTO.**

Attention Those No Longer in Need of their Lunch Cards (Graduating Seniors, those moving away, those not intending to continue taking part in the lunch service at school). Here is the policy on refunding money left on your child's lunch card: You must put your request for a refund in writing and send it care of the Newton Public Schools Food Service, 100 Walnut Street, Newton, Ma. 02460. Be sure to include your child's name and grade, and the school s/he attends, as well as your name and address. Refunds will be mailed to you within 4 to 6 weeks.

As the end of the school year is approaching, parents and classrooms often like to remember special teachers in some way. **Newton Schools Foundation** is presently holding their **12th annual Honor Thy Teacher campaign**, which provides families and classes the opportunity to honor the Newton "no gift" policy and instead honor teachers by donating to the Honor Thy Teacher campaign through the Newton Schools Foundation website, www.newtonschoolsfoundation.org Individuals may donate, or class gifts may be made also. This is an opportunity to support both past grants awarded through the Foundation, and the 21st Century Classrooms fundraising for the future.

The **Lincoln-Eliot Class of 2009**, otherwise known as the 5th Graders, are planting a **new tree** on the playground in honor of the teachers, staff and students at Lincoln-Eliot. The tree will be an '**Aristocrat pear**' and will be planted with the assistance of **Hart Landscaping**.
(Thank you, Hart Landscaping!)

We hope this tree will provide beauty and shade for generations of students to come!



Mayoral Candidate Forum on Education

On **Tuesday, June 23** at 7 pm, the **Newton PTO Council** will host a forum for all four Mayoral candidates to address questions on education. The forum will be held in Room 210 of the Education Center, 100 Walnut Street - where the School Committee meets. NewTV will record the forum for later broadcast. Please come to the forum with questions you want addressed.

Candidates Ruth Balsler, Paul Coletti, Ken Parker, and Setti Warren will address questions from a live audience as well as questions collected by member PTOs beforehand.

The upcoming Mayoral election promises to be extremely important for education in Newton. Newton is facing major issues and potential changes in education, and the next Mayor will have a huge impact on them – through a seat on the School Committee as well as in the Mayor's office.





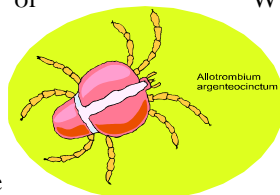
Nursing Notes *by Sue Schy, R.N.*

While mosquitoes fly and ticks merely crawl, the two creatures have a few things in common when it comes to preventing the diseases they cause. Read on to learn more about how to protect your family from diseases such as West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, Lyme disease, Babesiosis, Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis (also known as Human Granulocytic Ehrlichiosis).



- **Avoid exposure.** Mosquitoes are most active from dusk to dawn. Ticks can be found anywhere, even in your back yard. Ticks with Lyme and other diseases are now found throughout the state, not just on Cape Cod as in the past. Wearing long sleeves, long pants and socks will protect you from both ticks and mosquitoes. This may be difficult in hot weather, but it will protect you from both bugs, and make ticks easy to spot. Stay on cleared trails when walking or hiking to avoid the edge habitat where ticks are more likely to be found.

- **Use a bug repellent.** Different products work against different bugs. It's important to look at the "active ingredient" on the label. Products with DEET or permethrin are recommended for protection against both ticks and mosquitoes. Some



repellents, such as picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus, have been found to provide protection against mosquitoes, but have not been shown to work against ticks. DEET products may be applied to skin or clothing. Read label directions carefully and use as directed. Permethrin products are intended for use on clothing, shoes and outdoor gear and should not be applied directly to skin.

- **Take action.** Remove standing water around your house. Mosquitoes can breed in puddles and standing water that lasts more than four days. Check yourself and your pets carefully for ticks after you have been outside. Remove ticks promptly by pulling the head with tweezers.

- **Know the signs and symptoms.** Ticks can cause Lyme disease, among other tick-borne diseases. Lyme disease results in a bull's-eye rash in some people. Others have flu-like symptoms without the rash, sore muscles and joints, and swollen glands. If left untreated, the joints, nervous system and heart can be affected, resulting in serious complications. Early treatment is important to prevent chronic disease. Ticks can also cause Babesiosis and Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis (also known as Human Granulocytic Ehrlichiosis). Mosquitoes can cause West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). The first symptoms of EEE are fever (often 103° to 106°F), stiff neck,

headache, and lack of energy. These symptoms show up three to ten days after a bite from an infected mosquito. Inflammation and swelling of the brain, called encephalitis, is the most dangerous and frequent serious complication. EEE is a rare disease, but it does occur in Massachusetts. West Nile Virus (WNV) is more common than EEE in this state. The majority of people who are infected with WNV (approximately 80%) will have no symptoms. A smaller number of people who become infected (~ 20%) will have symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting, and sometimes swollen lymph glands. They may also develop a skin rash on the chest, stomach and back. Less than 1% of people infected with WNV will develop severe illness, including encephalitis or meningitis. Seek medical treatment if you are concerned about exposure to or symptoms of any of these diseases.

For more information about ticks, mosquitoes, and the diseases they cause, visit the Massachusetts Department of Public Health website at www.mass.gov/dph. Click on "Public Health Fact Sheets" on the right side of the page and choose the topic you are interested in learning more about.

Enjoy the sun (wear your sunscreen) and have fun this summer. See you in the fall.

Stay healthy,

Sue



Are you looking to make a difference in your children's elementary school experience? There is no better way to show your kids how much you value education than by getting involved with their school. And the PTO is one excellent way to do this.

The PTO is looking for a few enthusiastic parents to take on several leadership roles. No experience

The PTO Needs You!

necessary! We will train you and support you.

We are looking for:

- one or two co-presidents to help current co-president Agi Sardi lead the organization next year
- an organizer for our fall yard sale event. Three parents have already signed up to be "vice organizers."
- a czar for our smaller fundraisers like spiritwear and rewards programs

- an organizer for our spring family portrait event (we'll bring a photographer to the school to take family portraits)

For more information, please contact Agi Sardi at agi.sardi@gmail.com or 617-678-4491.

PTO Meeting Minutes and lots of other great information can be found at our website: www.lepto.org.

Everett's Interview *(Continued from page 2)*

DO: I started in March. I came here from Florida, where I was getting my Masters in Art Education from the University of Florida.

EG: What did you do before you came here?

DO: As an undergrad, I studied Studio Art, and got my masters in Art Education, as I just mentioned. I've also done custom framing, substitute teaching, taught art at a community center and did a mural with kids in Bolivia.

SM: I studied history originally. I lived in Italy for a while. I've worked with kids in a number of settings, afterschool programs, camps, art programs.

EG: Tell us a little bit about your family.

SM: I have two brothers who are good friends. My little brother is a filmmaker in Miami.

EG: I want to be a filmmaker some day!

SM: He really likes it, but he isn't famous or anything. My other brother travels around the world and speaks a lot of languages.

DO: I'm the 3rd of 4 children. My parents are retired and live in Orlando. All of my siblings are actually teachers. We grew up in Orlando – Disney World was practically in our backyard. Two of my siblings still live there.

EG: Our class has really enjoyed you both. What do you like about Lincoln-Eliot?

DO: I love how diverse the population is. In even just one class there are kids from so many types of backgrounds.

Lunch Mothers, We Will Miss You!

Our best wishes to four of our fearless lunch mothers, who will not be returning to Lincoln-Eliot next fall because of budget cuts. Rose Girouard, Lisa Delicata, Grace Antonellis and Mary Tempesta are unsung heroes, acting like surrogate parents to our youngsters – keeping them safe, making sure they eat, cleaning up after them, and most importantly building friendships with them. A special thank you to Ms. Girouard, who has dedicated 38 years to the school, tending to several generations of L-E kids. And a grateful farewell to Ms. Delicata, who has served the school for 17 remarkable years. Ms. Antonellis (5 years of service) and Ms. Tempesta (3 years) will be sorely missed as well.

SM: I think the kids are smart and funny and nice, and the teachers really care.

EG: What will you do next?

DO: I'm looking for a full time teaching position. I'd prefer a public school position, in an elementary or a high school.

SM: I'm looking for an elementary teaching job in art. I just finished my Masters.

EG: Is there anything else you want to tell or ask us?

SM: So many kids will say to me "I'm bad at art," but it's really not true!

(Continued on page 7)



Thank You Notes from the PTO



First of all, we want to offer a heartfelt special thank you to “retiring” L-E Leader editor **Jan Gilpin**. For years, Jan (with help from her husband, **Rob**) has been one of the linchpins of school-parent communications, putting out a high quality monthly publication that is a must-read for so many of us. Jan, we are very grateful for your hard work all these years. And if editing the L-E Leader isn’t enough, Jan has also created this year’s fifth grade yearbook that the kids will treasure for years to come.

Many thanks to librarian **Ann Ritchie** for bringing the terrific book fair to Lincoln-Eliot and for spearheading the entire effort. Ann was helped by **Kate Mooney**, **Miriam Alandydy**, **Mark** and **Galina Frishman**, **Michele Kfour**i and **Vicki Ritterband**.

Gracias, merci, obrigada and shukriyaa and todah rabah to everyone who helped out at our stupendous International Night, especially organizers **Miriam Alandydy**, **Mairead Devlin**, and **Isabel Roeder**. Berets and sombreros off to all of the people who cooked, baked and made the delectable dishes for our international feast.

Thanks to those who created tables celebrating their countries of origin, including **Osnat Manos** and **Sharon Gilon**; **Mrs. Nunez**; **Olajumoke Agoro**; **Taya Frishman** and **Gleb Mikhaylovskiy**; the **Kfouris**; **Sherri Meek**; and the **Matos**, **Sayouty** and **Santos** families.

Our performers were fantastic. Thanks to **Nishi Manikandan**, **Chika Udemagwuna** (who also ran a game table) and her little sister, **Wendy Hao**; **Afanasy Prokhorov** and his brother and father; **Iris** and **Athena Wang**; and **Zach Brain**.

As always, it was terrific to see our names written in different languages. Many thanks to scribes **Riya Kapur**, **Nishi Manikandan**, **Taya Frishman**, **Roie Rozhansky** & **Yaron Perry**.





The night wouldn’t have been possible without the small army of volunteers who did everything from setting up to serving food to cleaning up. They include: **Ms. Shapiro**, **Mrs. Gueye**, **Ms. Nunez**, **Ms. Katie**, **Mr. Davan**, **Ms. Ritchie**, **Ms. Kremer**, **Mrs. Hole**, **Ms. Lew**, **Nurse Sue**, **Ms. Benbasset**, **Ms. Kuhlman**, **Ms. McDonald**, **Ms. Petrofsky**, **Anne Chang**, **Michele Kfour**i, **Alison Leary Mooradian**, **Kate Mooney**, **Alanya Bostwick**, **Josh Ramos' grandma & Nicole**, **Melissa Decina**, **Maria Vachon**, **Kate Mooney**, **Nancy Cairra**, **Nachammai Muthu**, **Tami Ireland**, **Stacey Horsik**, **Vicki Ritterband**, **Riya Kapur** and the **Varadys**, who donated the table cloths, paper goods and utensils.

As you know, the **Fifth Grade Committee** has been hard at work making sure that we all gain weight by eating the pretzels they sell every Tuesday afternoon. But seriously, thanks to **Kathy Hart** for managing the pretzel sales and the school store, and to **Melissa Decina** for heading up all of the fifth grade fundraising efforts. And hats off to **Sheryl Franks** for organizing the car wash and all of her car washers, including **Jan Gilpin**, **Maria Gentile-Vachon**, **Louis Pellegrini**, **Kathy Hart**, **Paul Decina**, **Renata Renner**, **Juana Rodriguez**, **Ron Vachon**, **Hope Straughan**, **Melissa Decina** and all the **fifth graders** who seemed to have a ball – albeit a very soggy one!

Finally, thanks to the parents who made the Teacher Appreciation Luncheon such a success. That includes organizers **Andrea Boucher**, **Michele Kfour**i and **Agi Sardi** and their helpers **Vicki Ritterband**, **Kate Mooney**, **Melanie Varady**, **Miriam Alandydy**, **Jenn Rogan**, **Stacey Horsik**, **Puja Kapur**, **Melissa Decina**, **Angela Cedrone**, and **Maria Vachon**.

Everett's Interview (Continued from page 6)

DO: You must appreciate your own style...

SM: Ms. Sutherland found some drawings that a student had thrown in the trash, because he wasn’t happy with them. But they were wonderful! She framed them and displayed them and we all thought they were amazing. And they were almost lost. You should not

be afraid to create, even when you do something and you don’t think it’s good, keep doing it. Be willing to be a beginner...the more you work at it the better you’ll get.

DO: This was my first experience in elementary school, and I was surprised at how much I enjoyed it! ☺

BEAUTIFICATION DAY A SUCCESS AT LAST!

After postponing our Beautification Day twice due to cold, rainy and raw weather, we had a glorious day of gardening and beautification on Monday, June 1st. Tireless students pitched in to move a pile of top soil and a mountain of mulch both of which were generously donated to our school by the City of Newton. raked leaves, picked up trash, dead-headed old blooms (1st graders snipped off dead flowers so that new buds will have the energy to blossom) and planted hundreds of spring bulbs.

A special thanks to **Principal Katie**, our **teachers** and our **staff: Ms. Paola** organized the schedule and helped with the flyer, **Donna** requested mulch and soil from the city. Thanks to all who lent tools and donated plants and gloves and especially to the **Winston Family of Winston Flowers** for donating plants for our courtyard planters. To the countless volunteers, too numerous to list here, thank you for digging, guiding our young gardeners and supporting our efforts. Many thanks to all those who participated in our beautification efforts.



Register Now for GCKS Fall Soccer

Garden City Kindergarten and Pre-K Fall Soccer registration begins June 15, 2009.

Children in Pre-K (4-5 years old) and students entering Kindergarten this fall are invited to participate. GCKS provides an introduction to the game of soccer; teaching a variety of basic skills in a fun, non-competitive environment. Team sizes are limited to 10 players in each group.

Registration is limited to 80 players per league. Fall session runs

from September 12 to November 7, 2009. Practice/games are 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. GCKS is a joint venture of Lincoln-Eliot & Franklin School's Parent Teacher Organizations.

Proceeds benefit both schools PTO programs. To register, email gardencitysoccer@gmail.com. Registration forms can also be downloaded at www.lepto.org or www.franklinpto.org. For more information, call L-E School parent Melanie Varady at 617-244-5773 or Franklin School parent Deb Rooney at (617) 630-8520. Registration deadline is August 14. Register early. Space is limited.



PTO President's Corner

As the end of my 1-year term quickly approaches, I wanted to be sure and formally thank everyone who helped make this year such a success—without you, the PTO's programs would not have been possible! Our children and the LE staff THANK YOU also!

My fellow PTO Officers: Co-President **Agi Sardi**, Secretary **Vicki Ritterband**, and Treasurer **Miriam Alandydy**. We did it ladies! THANK YOU so much for your incredible dedication and time during our maiden year!

Principal Katie and our Faculty Representatives, **Barbara Phelan** and **Lupe Gueye**: for attending all of our meetings, providing support and being our liaison to the staff overall.

All of the PTO's additional Board Members and Committee Chairs for their tireless efforts, dedication and enthusiasm: **Elaine Smith Purcell** and **Sherri Meek** (Creative Arts & Sciences); **Andrew Hargens** (Facility and Grounds); **Elaine Smith Purcell** and **Andrew Hargens** (Green Team); **Megara Bell** (Safe Routes to School and Directory); **Jan and Rob**

Gilpin (Newsletter Editors); **Russ Vanderpool** and **Beth Porter** (Technology); **Heather Kelly** (Spiritwear (and Box Tops)); **Melissa Fang** (Halloween Dance); **Melanie Varady** (Garden City Soccer); **Stacey Horsik** and **Brandy Cook** (Sally Foster Giftwrap Sale); **Maria Gentile-Vachon** and **Kathy Hart** (Spring Silent Auction); **Andrew Hargens** (Light Bulb Fundraiser and Newton Serves).

All of this year's **Room Parents** for providing support for their classroom teachers, as well as being invaluable resources for the PTO in terms of communicating information, recruiting volunteers and getting donations! **Jeanette Lee**, **Francine Marcello**, **Kim Cerone**, **Angela Cedrone**, **Mary Mooradian**, **Richa Mukherjee**, **Brenda Kronberg**, **Jenn Rogan**, **Victoria Bacanurschi**, **Alanya Bostwick**, **Kathy Hart**, **Alison Leary Mooradian**, **Christine Dyer**, **Stacey Horsik**, **Puja Kapur**, **Bonnie Silvia**, **Andrea Boucher**, **Melissa Decina**, **Anne Chang**, **Stacey Raczek-Hoffmann**, **Shannon Flint**, **Kate Mooney**, **Mimoza Mali**, **Cynthia Santiago**, **Shannon Bennett**, **Sherly Jean-**

Baptiste, **Jen Tambascia**, **Maria Gentile-Vachon**, and **Cindy McAuliffe**.

Donna McLoughlin, **Joanna Paola** and **Katie Arnold**. You do so much for the PTO on a daily basis that we cannot begin to thank you enough! We would've been lost without all of your help with PTO fliers, mail sorting, donation collection, event tracking, etc.

ALL of you parents who volunteered tirelessly throughout the year—you are what makes the PTO tick! We simply cannot do what we do without you!

Finally, I would like to thank **Andrea Boucher**, who served as PTO Co-President for the previous two years and who should've received public recognition a LONG time ago. Without her wise insights and input, this year would not have been possible! Andrea, THANK YOU for everything that you have done for Lincoln-Eliot—you were a great mentor—I could not have made it through this year without you!

I hope that all of you have a GREAT summer!

Regards, Michele Kfourir

Dr. Jeffrey Young is leaving the Newton Public Schools after over a decade of service as our Superintendent. We appreciate all that he has done for our system during his tenure and wish him well in his new position as the Superintendent of the Cambridge Public Schools.

The School Committee has asked Dr. V. James Marini to serve as our interim Superintendent during the 2009-2010 school year. Simultaneously, we have embarked on a search for a new Superintendent. We welcome and encourage your involvement in this process.

Sincerely,

Marc Laredo, School Committee Chair

Goodbye from the Editors...

When we started as Editors of the Lincoln-Eliot Leader, we had two children and only one was in elementary school, a first grader. A lot has happened in five years. For one, the Red Sox won the World Series twice. We now have three children and our oldest, Everett, is graduating this year. Our son Jeremy will be a fourth grader and little Toby will start preschool in the fall. In addition to becoming experts on Microsoft Publisher and exhausting its clip art, our job has required us to keep our finger on the pulse of the school, and has helped us stay connected to the Lincoln-Eliot community. We will miss getting to know the PTO officers each year, as well as our regular contributors. But we look forward to reading each future issue! Sincerely, Jan and Rob Gilpin

COMMUNITY NEWS

Ads will be printed at the editor's discretion. No attempt is made to verify ads by telephone.

Ads do not constitute P.T.O. endorsements of products or work.

UPCOMING EVENTS

School Committee Primary Debate at Bigelow on Thursday evening, **June 18, 6:30 - 9 pm.** The Ward 2 and Ward 8 seats are the only ones with a primary runoff. All Newton voters vote for all seats. Event sponsored by the Bigelow and Underwood PTOs, and is open to all Newton voters. All Newton candidates are welcome at the meet and greet, so you may also meet you next aldermen and mayor, as well as candidates for other school committee races! Come shape the conversation about where our schools are going.

Salute the Summer Solstice with Folktales and Music at the Arnold Arboretum June 19 and 20: Tree lore and solstice legends will be performed in the arboretum landscape by storyteller Diane Edgecomb and Celtic harpist Margot Chamberlain. Tales from around the world are spun, making the human connection with trees and the meanings of trees through the ages. A moveable feast of stories and music along the arboretum's tree-lined paths, culminating in the telling of a haunting Czech legend, the *Wild Woman of the Birch Grove*, amid the birches of Bussey Hill at sunset. Registration \$20. Appropriate for adults and children over age 10. 6:30-8:30 pm. Meet at the Hunnewell Building. Call 617-384-5209 or visit our website: www.arboretum.harvard.edu.

Newton Conservators Cutler/Millennium Park Hike - Sunday June 21 at 2 pm. Starting at Cutler Park, we will explore Cutler Park and Millennium Park and will complete the tour by the way of the Wells Avenue Charles River Pathway. These areas have been improved for recreation over the last several years and now



provide a wide variety of trails, river landings and playing fields. This approximately 5.5 mile hike will be steady but not fast, and participants should be in sufficiently good shape to keep up with the group. Hiking boots or heavy all weather shoes are recommended. Meet at the Cutler Park entrance, a quarter mile south of the Charles River Bridge on Kendrick Street in Needham, at 2 pm. Trip Leader is Henry Finch (617-964-4488).

Newton 20/20: Vision For Effective Government is hosting a forum with speaker **Somerville Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone** on **Wednesday, June 24** from 7-9 pm at the Scandinavian Living Center Nordic Hall, 206 Waltham St, Newton. The topic is *SomerStat: How Data-Driven Decisionmaking Has Improved Performance and Lowered Costs in Somerville - And What Newton Can Learn From It* For more information see www.newton2020.org.

Mark Your Calendars for Wed. July 22, 7-9 pm: Newton 20/20 is hosting a discussion of "Expanded Learning Time" with speaker **Chris Gabrieli**. Under the Massachusetts Expanded Learning Time (ELT) Initiative, participating schools are expanding school time to improve student outcomes in core academic subjects, broaden enrichment opportunities, and improve instruction by adding more planning and professional development time for teachers. Founded on the basic premise that the century-old school schedule is out of date, ELT seeks to free public schools from the shackles of a calendar designed to accommodate farm and factory schedules. The event is open to the public. More information at www.newton2020.org. Check back with the website later for meeting location.

SUMMER

NWLL Summer Baseball Program 7-9 yr olds.

Once again it is time for Summer Baseball. Newton West runs an intramural league for children 7 to 9 years olds (10 Yr olds who are new to baseball). This is a relaxed league for improving and having fun. All games are played weeknights (Mon. – Thurs.) and the season runs from July 6 through August 14. In order to form balanced teams, we will hold player evaluations at Franklin School on **Monday, June 22** (rain date: Tuesday, June 23). Times are staggered with 7-year-olds at 5:45 pm, 8-year-olds at 6:30, and 9-year-olds at 7:00. **Additional information and online registration is available at <http://www.newtonwestll.org>.**



Newton-wide Summer Little League Baseball: REGISTER DEADLINE/EVALUATIONS NOW. This program for 10-12 year olds is being run by Newton East Little League, but all are invited to take part. This league serves eligible boys and girls who were born on or between May 1, 1996 & April 30, 1999. All new applicants must reside in Newton OR attend the Newton Public Schools. The season begins in early July and runs through the middle of August. Player evaluations take place **Saturday June 20** from 10-noon at Jay Gordon Field. (rain date Sunday June 21, 3-5) Applications and program information at: <http://www.eteamz.com/newtoneastll/news/index.cfm?cat=267730>.

Boston College Softball Clinics for Girls age 5-18: Beginners, Advanced and Pitching/Catching. July 6-7, July 8-9. Sessions for girls age 5-11 and age 12-18. Info at www.bceagles.com/camps or questions to: karwoski@bc.edu.

COMMUNITY NEWS

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Worried about the Economy? Afraid to Commit to Summer Camp? Newton Community Service Center's Lakeside Summer Camp at Hale Reservation can help. NCSC is working with families during these challenging financial times by offering flexible registration options for Summer Day Camp. The options, which include flexible payment plans, multi-session discounts, and need-based refundable deposits, are offered to help ease the burden for families who must make tough choices during economic uncertainty. NCSC wants to be a resource for families. Parents need to feel good about making summertime plans and no child should be denied the joy of a camp experience. Summer camp provides an opportunity for children to re-unite with old friends, make new friends and enjoy all the summer activities that make a lifetime of memories. If your child typically attends camp each summer, maintaining that routine can offer additional benefits for the child and family. Keeping with routines gives children a sense of security and normalcy and can promote a feeling of overall well-being for the family. Go to: www.ncscweb.org or call 617-969-5906 ext. 299.

Summer Arts in Action at the New Art Center for students entering grades 1-5: Our vacation arts program provides students with the opportunity to try a variety of art mediums and develop new skills in a fun, safe, and supportive environment! Ten art-filled weeks available! June 29-Sept. 4, M-F, 9 am-3:30 pm. Register for 1 week, 2 weeks, or all 10! Call 617-964-3424 or visit us online at www.newartcenter.org.

EVENTS FROM THE NEWTON HISTORY MUSEUM AT THE JACKSON HOMESTEAD 527 Washington Street, Newton

Learn about the History of Newton's Boys and Girls Club. A new exhibit, **The Sons and Daughters of Dalby Street - The History of the Boys and Girls Club of Newton** features photos and artifacts from past Boys and Girls Club eras. **Now through Fall 2009.**

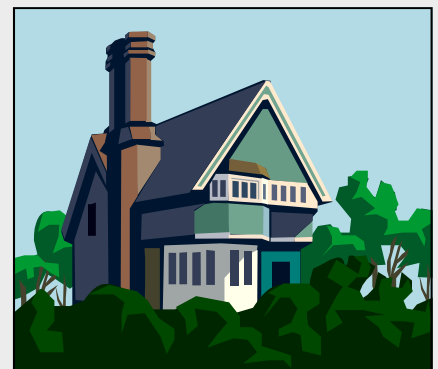
Thursday, June 18, 7 pm ANNUAL MEETING of the Newton Historical Society - Members and friends of the Historical Society are invited to attend this year's annual meeting. Our speaker will be Anita Walker, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the state's cultural agency that promotes excellence, access, education and diversity in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents. RSVP 617-796-1450.

Friday, June 19, 8 pm CONCERTS IN THE KITCHEN Brendan Hogan and Frank Morey Play the Blues - Come hear minimalist, down-tempo blues and earthy, blues-minded folk-rock in this double bill. Advanced reservations are strongly recommended. Suggested donation is \$7.50 with advance reservation to notlobreservations@comcast.net at least 24 hours in advance. Prices at the door: \$10 general admission, \$7.50 for seniors, students, and members with ID.

Sunday, June 28, 2 pm HISTORIC NEWTON WALKS Oak Hill Park - A "Local Utopia" - In 1995, architecture critic Robert Campbell

wrote, "The greenbelt system is what's unique about Oak Hill Park. There's nothing else like it in Massachusetts. And it's still intact. Even in today's privatized world, nobody has chopped the Oak Hill Park greenways into private, fenced barbecue patios." Join us on a walking tour of this little-known corner of Newton, a community built to house veterans after WWII. Discover what Campbell found so appealing about this close-knit neighborhood, and observe what's changed in the 14 years since Campbell wrote so compellingly of its charms. The tour will start and finish at the Shuman Center, 675 Sawmill Brook Parkway. Free.

Tuesday, June 30, 7:30 pm HISTORY BOOK CLUB - The book club will meet for its bimonthly discussion of a work of social history. This meeting's selection is *American Lion: Andrew Jackson in the White House* by Jon Meacham. In this book, Newsweek editor and bestselling author Meacham offers a lively take on the seventh president's White House years. The book club is free and new members are always welcome.



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Circus Smirkus, New England's internationally acclaimed traveling youth circus, takes its razzle-dazzling aerial, clowning, juggling and acrobatic act on the road this summer in "**Smirkus Ever After: A Big Top Fairytale**" with 70 shows in 15 locations. Circus Smirkus will be in **Wellesley July 17-19** for 6 shows at Elm Bank. For a complete schedule and to buy tickets on-line visit www.smirkus.org. If you are interested in being a home-stay host for two or more circus performers while they are in Wellesley please contact Robin Maltz robinm@comcast.net or 617-969-1554

"A Place to Spread Creative Wings," Kaleidoscope offers visual arts, drama, dance, music, science, swimming and sports in fully-equipped art studios, a professional stage, and indoor and outdoor fitness facilities at the Leventhal-Sidman JCC, 333 Nahanton Street, Newton. For grades K-8. Two, four and eight-week sessions are available. 2009 Camp Dates & Hours: June 29 - August 21, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm; Early drop-off and extended day, 8:00 am - 5:45 pm. See our website: www.kaleidoscopecamp.org or call or email: 617-558-6523; kaleidoscope@jccgb.org.

Newton Community Education and Language Express present **CHINESE, FRENCH & SPANISH Summer Language & Art Adventure** for Children entering grades 1 to 6. The Program will be offered for two weeks. Week one will be Aug. 17-21, M-F, 12:30 to 3:00 pm. Week two will be Aug. 24-28, M-F, 12:30 to 3:00 pm. Children can participate for either one or two weeks. Each week is self-contained with a unique curriculum. All classes will be held at Newton South High School. Tuition is \$195 per week for 12 1/2 hours of language. For information call Joanna Hooley at (617) 630-9450 or email mjehooley@aol.com.

Boston College Summer Soccer Clinic: BOYS Ages 6-12. Boston College Newton Campus July 27-30, 9:00 am-3:00 pm. For registration visit www.EaglesSoccerProgram.com or contact us at msoccer@bc.edu.

Energy Fitness & Gymnastics - Fun fitness for women, children, teens, and men. Now enrolling for Summer Camp and Fall Session Gymnastics. Visit www.energyfitnessgym.com for details. 617-795-7177. Thank you!

Keep those Math Skills in Top Form over the Summer. Flexible scheduling, four-day weekly sessions Monday through Thursday, make planning easy. Classes tailored to those entering 3rd, 4th or 5th grade in the fall. Each week students learn techniques and hone math-solving skills, enabling them to solve problems more easily, accurately and with greater speed. More info at: www.newtonmath.com or call 617-795-1557

SUMMER is a great time to catch up, keep up and get ahead in Math. Mathnasium Learning Center in Newton Highlands offers flexible math summer programs in a fun, relaxing environment. Schedule your 12 tutoring sessions (\$495) around your vacations and camps. (617) 340-3665 or www.mathsummer.com.

The **EnableMath 121 at home summer math program** is a "one to one" on-line program designed to ensure that your child is ready for school in September. It is available anytime and anywhere from your computer and is ideal for children in grades 3-8. To learn more about our Personal Learning Manager and the unique program that promotes student mastery of a topic through productive practice, visit our website at www.enablemath121.com.

Kids and Adults Summer Tennis. For Kids: Week-long 1/2 day sessions morning or afternoon, late day (after camp) classes from 5-6, Saturday mornings and advanced Junior tennis. For Adults: Cardio tennis, lots of clinic choices, Round Robin (meet new players), mornings and/or evenings to fit your schedule, some clay court possibilities. Sponsored by the City of Newton. Details and to register, go to www.newtontennis.com.

BC Lady Eagles Soccer School will be holding two sessions of summer clinics. Dates are June 29-July 2 and July 20-23. Cost is \$295 for each session and they will be held at the Newton Campus Soccer Complex from 9 am-3 pm each day. To register go to: <http://bceagles.cstv.com/camps/bc-w-soccer-camps2.html>. For questions contact Assistant Coach, Neel Bhattacharjee, at (617) 552-0982 or bhattachn@bc.edu.

All That Jazz Dance Studio is now accepting registrations for the fall, as well as for our summer session: June 22-July 31. We will also be offering dance camp intensive weeks in July. Exciting New Classes for the Fall Include: Fairy Princess Dance, BOYS ONLY BreakDance, and Ballroom Dance! Don't miss this opportunity to learn the salsa, tango, mambo, and more. We also offer classes in Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop, Musical Theater Dance, Funky Jazz, and Modern/Lyrical for ages 2-adult. Classes taught by experienced professionals who love children and believe in making dance fun. Please call Deb Vogel at 617-641-0784, email her at missdeb@allthatjazznewton.com or check out our website: www.allthatjazznewton.com to find out more information and to register. Don't forget to ask Miss Deb about having your birthday party at All That Jazz!

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TUTORS/LESSONS

Newton elementary school teacher available for tutoring, K-5. Please view my professional website www.jenniegoldenson.com and contact me with questions (617) 281.1848.

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. I am available before and after camp. Please contact me for a free consultation: Haralie Alpert, M.Ed., MS. (617) 630-0608; Haralie@gmail.com.

ActiveMinds Tutoring, LLC: Your source for in-home tutoring. Effective, Personalized and Convenient. All grades/all subjects, including test preparation (MCAS, SAT, SSAT...). Sign your child up for academic success and receive 1 free lesson! Summer tutoring available. Call: (617) 663-5700 during business hours, or (617) 227-2225 Eve Wknds. Please visit our web site at www.activemindstutoring.com.

Private English tutor for elementary age students and English Language Learners. Licensed ESL teacher with Masters in Education from Boston University will provide hourly lessons guaranteed to improve English language skills and/or provide assistance with homework as needed. Contact: Alexis at atochka29@gmail.com or 1-617-480-3659.

Clarice Ferolito (L-E '98) graduated from the College of the Holy Cross with High Honors in Math and is working towards a Master's degree in math at Boston College. Contact her about tutoring your child in math at 617-908-0372 or cefero09@gmail.com.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mason-Rice Alumni Available for Babysitting. Newton South High School graduate and currently local College student, Nikki, seeks baby sitting situations. School is now over for the summer, and so I am available anytime. I have had babysitting courses, Red Cross certification, and have been a camp counselor. I also have a car. If interested, please call: 617-584-7262; 617-965-0892, or nicole.forecast@yotes.collegeofidaho.edu.

The **Newton Corner Neighborhood Association (NCNA)** is working with the city to find a use for the closed **Newton Corner branch library**. One option is to re-open the library staffed with volunteers from the neighborhood. This is an option currently pursued in Waban for their branch library. The NCNA is looking for members of the community interested in organizing a volunteer branch library in Newton Corner. If you are interested please contact Richard Belkin: boylstonassociates@gmail.com or Jay Walter: entasis@rcn.com.

Know a High School Student who wants a job...or maybe an adult like you? Newton Community Education is hiring. NCE runs after-school classes for elementary and middle schoolers throughout the school year. We are planning our fall program now. We are looking for teachers for the following subjects: Math enrichment (games, puzzles, etc), Drama, Lego Robotics, Basic Electronics (small circuit building), crafts, and something new if you have your own idea. Please contact our children's program coordinator with your course ideas and availability for fall: Lisa Rucinski (email is best) lisa_rucinski@newton.k12.ma.us or 617-559-6715.

Will you have a child in Middle School next year? Open Houses For Highlands After School Program. The Newton Highlands After-School Program, just for middle school children, is hosting Open Houses for interested families on Tues., July 7 from 4:30-6:00 pm, and Wed., Aug. 19 from 7:00-8:30 pm at the Brigham House, 20 Hartford Street, Newton Highlands. There is limited space for the upcoming school year and this is a terrific opportunity for parents to learn more about the program as they plan for school in September. For more information contact: Rochelle Acker highlandsafterschool@gmail.com or 617-999-4617 or visit www.highlandsafterschool.org.

KIDS' KARATE: Free Trial Class Friday, Sept. 18, 4:45-5:45, or Sat., Sept. 19, 10-11 am. Girls and boys, entry ages 1st thru 5th grades. \$79 per 7 weeks at Trinity High School, Newton. For more information, please call (617) 527-8052 or see www.kids-karate.org.

Lice Aunties is Newton's very own new nitpicking business started by a Newton mom. Proven, non-toxic, process. In-home visits. Visit www.liceaunties.com for more information.

IES Language Clubs are an exciting and fun way to learn a new language through games, songs, rhymes and skits. Our methods are designed to create a natural learning environment. Books and CD's are provided for home reinforcement and serve as a bridge between classes. Look for a registration form and more information that will be sent home with students in the fall about a **Spanish Club at Lincoln-Eliot**. Contact Joanna Hooley at 617-630-9450/mjehooley@aol.com for information.

COMMUNITY NEWS

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The **Sunday School for Jewish Studies** is accepting registrations for grades K-7 for the 2009-2010 school year. The School provides a liberal, egalitarian approach to Jewish education in classes held Sunday mornings. Beginning Sept., 2009, the school will move to its new location at the Oak Hill School. Curriculum includes Hebrew, Jewish holidays, traditions, ethics, Bible stories, contemporary history and music. Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation is available but not required, and students may enter in any grade. Interfaith and nontraditional families are welcome. For additional information about the Sunday School for Jewish Studies, please call 617-264-8855 or visit www.sundayschoolforjewishstudies.org.

**HAVE A
 WONDERFUL
 SUMMER!**



July 4th in Newton

Following a 60 year tradition, the **July 4th festivities in Newton** will begin at 10 am 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 10 am 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.

Recorded music will be played from 6 - 9 pm for dancing.

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.



The *Lincoln-Eliot Leader* is a publication of the Lincoln-Eliot PTO. It is published monthly during the school year and is available online at www.lepto.org, where you can also find regular updates on PTO activities.

Community News submissions can be sent to the Lincoln-Eliot office. Please keep submissions brief and include contact information. Submissions deemed of interest to the Lincoln-Eliot community will be printed at the editor's discretion and do not constitute PTO endorsements of product or work.

PTO Officers, 2008-2009

Co-President: Michele Kfoury

Co-President: Agi Sardi

Secretary: Vicki Ritterband

Treasurer: Miriam Alandydy

PTO Newsletter Editors: Jan and Rob Gilpin

PTO Technology Chair: Russ Vanderpool

Math Facts Card Games

Playing math games is a great way to keep the facts at your student's fingertips. There is a Top-It card game for every operation. Top-It is very similar to the card game "War." Top-It requires a deck of number cards. You can make a deck of number cards from a regular deck of playing cards by making the Jacks zeros, the Aces ones, the Queens elevens and the Kings twelves.

Top It General Directions

1. Top it can be played for the highest number or the lowest number. Decide before each game which number will represent the winning number.
2. Shuffle the cards and place the deck number side down on the playing surface.
3. Each player takes the required number of cards listed in the game directions below and does the required operation. The winner takes the cards played that round.
4. In case of a tie, each player turns over another set of cards. The winner gets the cards from both rounds.

Number Top-It

Directions:

Each player takes 1 card and compares their numbers. The player with the largest (or smallest) number wins.

Advanced Version: Each player takes two cards and forms a 2-digit number. For example if a player has a 5 and 3 their number could be 53 or 35.

Addition Top-It

Directions:

Each player takes 2 cards and adds them together. The player with the largest (or smallest) sum wins.

Advanced Version: Each player takes 3 cards and adds them together.

Subtraction Top-It

Directions:

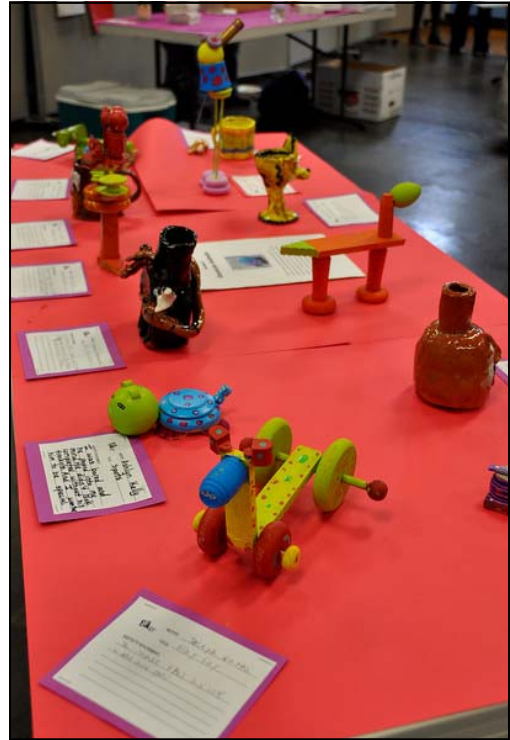
Each player takes 2 cards and subtracts the smaller number from the larger number. The player with the largest (or smallest) difference wins.

Advanced Version: Each player turns over 3 cards, adds two of the cards together then subtracts the third card from that total.

Multiplication Top-It

Directions:

Each player takes two cards and multiplies their numbers together. The player with the largest (or smallest) product wins.



Art Show



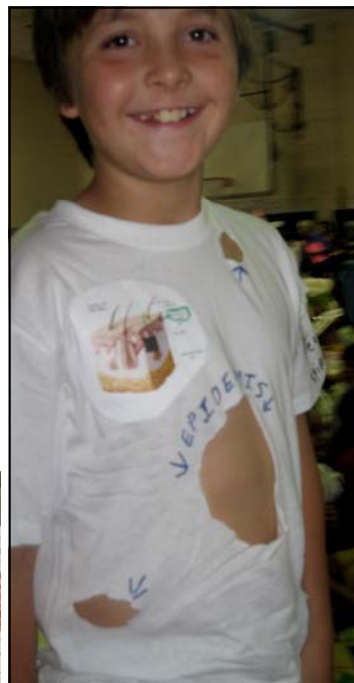
"We think Ms. Sutherland is awesome!" - Ms. Stephanie Marcus and Mr. Danny O'Dell, who worked closely with Lincoln-Eliot Art Teacher Ms. Sutherland and were interviewed this month (see page 2).

Picture Credits: Isabella Roeder (Art Show and Vocabulary Parade Classroom and Green Monster) Jan and Rob Gilpin (the rest). For best picture viewing, view the Lincoln-Eliot Leader online at www.lepto.org.



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Beautification Day

