



The Cleveland Comet
News From Your Neighborhood School
October 2011 Volume 3 Issue 2



Principal's Corner

Hello to all our of our Cleveland friends and families! It is hard to believe that October is now upon us. We have been very busy at Cleveland School, settling into our routines and practicing healthy school habits, which include:

- Getting plenty of rest at night (8 hours of sleep is optimal).
- Eating fruits, vegetables, whole grains and drinking plenty of water to stay hydrated.
- Scheduling time for play and exercise!
- Setting aside homework time, every night.

I am very proud and pleased to report that Cleveland School has been officially recognized by the *Department of Elementary and Secondary Education* as a "Commendable School For Narrowing Proficiency Gaps, Exhibiting High Growth and Exiting NCLB Accountability Status" for the 2011 Spring MCAS testing sessions! Cleveland staff and students should be congratulated on meeting A.Y.P (Annual Yearly Progress) in Mathematics and ELA, in all

Aggregate and Sub-Groups, in grades three, four, and five—**for the second year in a row! We have been recognized by Governor Deval Patrick and DESE Commissioner Chester as one of only eighteen schools in Massachusetts to have achieved this.** I am so pleased and proud of all Cleveland students and staff. We did so much during the 2010—2011 school year to prepare for this success, including:

- Instituting our weekly MCAS Boot Camps at grades three, four and five, in Math and ELA.
- Our Norwood High School tutors visiting our classrooms on a weekly basis to provide additional tutoring services to our children.
- Our MCAS Rally, with Cleveland School staff dancing, singing, and performing!

As the Cleveland School principal, I am proud and truly able to exclaim:

- MIGHTY
- CLEVELAND
- ACHIEVING
- STUDENTS

Please be sure to check on page two's upcoming important events at Cleveland. Our Parent Teacher Association works very hard, every week, to sponsor programs and activities for all Cleveland Children.

I would like to thank the following individuals for serving on the 2011-2012 Cleveland School Council:

- Nora Galvin, Teacher
- Cindy Campagna, Teacher
- Paula McMullen, Teacher
- Denise Kiley, Parent
- Michele Hsu, Parent

We are in need of another representative. Please contact me if interested.

Special thanks to Judy Fiola for our staff bulletin board now on display in our main lobby! We appreciate Judy lending her professional photography talents to Cleveland School.

Mr. Williams

Important Phone Numbers

Cleveland School	781-762-6522
Cleveland Fax	781-255-7317
Mr. Williams	781-440-5951
Mrs. Hankey	781-440-5952
Mrs. Canniff	781-440-5953
Mrs. O'Hear	781-440-5957

Loop Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures: A Reminder

The safety of all Cleveland children is our highest priority. We would like to remind parents:

Drop Off

Drive around the outer edge of the parking lot (the Loop), stop at the Oklahoma Memorial Rock just before the front entrance, let your child(ren) out of the car, drive off. Please remember: **one point of drop off for ALL of your children!** Please do not park on the grass in front of the building, or reverse direction—this presents a safety issue for our children.

Pick Up

Line up around the outer edge of the parking lot (the Loop), approximately 7 cars will be in front of the building, children will exit the building and enter the car. These 7 cars will drive out of the Loop and the next 7 cars drive up – the procedure is repeated. Even on the busiest day, the entire Loop is cleared out in less than 10 minutes. We discourage parents from parking along the inner circle and walking their child(ren) into the building – the loop works very smoothly for both Drop Off and Pick Up.

Dismissal Procedure Reminders

Parents, for the safety of all children at Cleveland School: no verbal changes by phone will be accepted after 2:15, unless it is an emergency. Parents **MUST** write a note and send it in with their child (for the teacher) if the dismissal process changes for your child. Cleveland School must be notified in writing. It is our goal to keep all children safe during and after school. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

Rainy Day Drop Off Procedures

Just to clarify for our first grade parents: on rainy days, all first grade “loop” children go through the front entrance lobby to the cafeteria. All first grade “bus” children will go through the gym into the cafeteria. There has been some confusion in regards to how/where children should be sent to during inclement weather. We are also going to be assigning fifth grade “Safety Deputies” to assist our first graders during morning drop off. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

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Important Dates at Cleveland School

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming October events at Cleveland:

- October 4th—Cleveland School Staff Meeting; Ice Cream Social—Open House
- Wednesday, October 5th : Picture Day; Book Fair; Dr. Stone at Cleveland
- Thursday, October 6th: Book Fair
- Friday, October 7th: Walk to School Day; Dr. Stone at Cleveland.
- Monday, October 10th: No School, Columbus Day.
- Wednesday, October 12th: Dr. Stone at Cleveland.
- October 18th—No School, Professional Development for teachers.
- October 21st—Monster Mash!
- October 25th: School Council, 4:00; PTA 7:00
- October 26th: Fourth Grade Planet Walk.
- October 31st—Happy Halloween





Trick or Treating Safety

Officer Paul Murphy of the Norwood Police Department offers the following safety procedures for Halloween trick or treating. We would like to remind all Cleveland School students that the following precautionary measures should be taken:

- Try to trick or treat when it is still light outside.
- Go trick or treating with a grown up or a trusted adult who will be responsible for your safety.
- Carry a flashlight so that you can see and be seen.
- Wear a costume that makes it easier for you to walk, see, and be seen.
- If you must go out at night, make sure your costume is light in color.
- Use retro-reflective tape or strips on your costume so that drivers can see you.
- Cross only at corners. Never cross between parked cars or mid-block.
- Before you cross the street, look and listen both ways.
- Always stay on the sidewalk. If there aren't any sidewalks, walk in the direction facing traffic.
- Always WALK—do not run.

News From Mrs. McMullen and The Cleveland School Library

Mrs. Kelly Unsworth, children's librarian at the Morrill Memorial Library, visited the Cleveland School on Thursday, September 22 to share in the summer reading celebration. Students who participated in the Summer Reading Program received personalized certificates, book marks that doubled as coupons for a free Kids Meal at Friendly's, a skateboard eraser, and a free book provided by the Cleveland School PTA. Representing the PTA, Mrs. Anne Marie Wagner and Ms. Jennifer Bradley were on hand to help with the festivities and take pictures of the boys and girls. During this past summer of 2011, we had 134 Cleveland students who completed the Morrill Memorial Library summer reading program. This represents a substantial increase over the 2010 summer participant number of 90 students. Research shows that participation in a formal summer reading program makes a big difference in student reading abilities in the fall. I would like to thank the parents and family members who help Cleveland students sign up, navigate the online book log, and find books to meet their goal. Your commitment shows your child how important summer reading is to you. We hope this annual program shows your child how much fun summer reading can be!

Mrs. McMullen, Library Teacher

Cleveland Odds and Ends

A friendly reminder that all volunteers that come to Cleveland School MUST complete a CORI form. This is a policy of Norwood Public Schools—all employees and volunteers must adhere to this. Please contact the office to see if your CORI is still active or to obtain a form for completion. We appreciate our parent volunteers very, very much.

Also, for sanitary reasons (and safety reasons) no dogs are allowed on the Cleveland School grounds. Cleveland children are playing on the playgrounds throughout the morning and the afternoon – we do not want to run the risk of children coming into contact with dogs, potentially being bitten or coming into contact with dog waste. Your cooperation is appreciated!



MCAS Boot Camp at Cleveland

Teachers, staff, and students are gearing up for “MCAS Ultimate Boot Camp!” This important initiative is beginning on October 3rd, at the third, fourth, and fifth grade levels. Our students will be having focused instruction once a week in their classrooms, with specific emphasis on multiple choice test taking strategies (re-reading text, highlighting key words, citing evidence in passages), cracking the “open response” question and answer format, and long composition writing at the fourth grade level. Both English Language Arts and Mathematics content will be reviewed and addressed. Authentic MCAS sample questions will be used and practiced with students, and classroom teachers will be identifying areas for reinforcement of instruction by assessing student performance. By having our students experience a simulated, “real” MCAS experience they will be much more prepared when the actual MCAS assessments occur in the spring. These on-going workshops will continue from October to May. We would like to thank ***Babel’s Paint and Decorating*** in Norwood for donating painters caps to our students to wear during their “Boot Camp” experience! When we put on our thinking caps, we will be prepared—and ready—to conquer MCAS!

News From Nurse Canniff

Hearing and Vision screening has begun in the school and will continue for the next few weeks. You will receive a letter by mail if your child requires further testing. Dr. Stone will begin dental screenings on Oct 5th and continue on the 7th and 12th. The Board of Health will mail letters home with recommendations for care. If you wish your child to attend the dental clinic for sealants or cleaning, please return the completed form to me.

It is not too early to consult with your health care provider and obtain a seasonal flu vaccination for you and your children. The CDC recommends that everyone over 6 months of age receive the flu vaccination. The schools will not be having a flu clinic. In addition, to prevent flu or any disease from spreading in our school community, encourage your children to wash their hands several times during the school day. 4th grade Physical Exams are now past due. If you have a child in 4th grade and have not sent in the Doctor’s Certificate of Physical Examination, please do so immediately.

I have a few new bicycle helmets that were donated by the Police Department. If you need a helmet for your child please come to my office. Remember the Massachusetts Helmet Law: Wearing a Bicycle Helmet is MANDATORY for Children up to age 16 years old. Wear your helmet and encourage your child to wear their helmets too. For more information see: http://www.norwoodma.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=165&Itemid=501&limitstart=5. For more health information please visit the Nurses’ monthly memo on the web site at http://www.sites.norwood.k12.ma.us/nurses/monthly_memo.htm.



Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program, October 7th–March 29th, 2012

Earn money for the Cleveland School by shopping at *Stop & Shop*. Register your card online—it takes only minutes to do. Points accrue with each purchase. At the end of each month a cash total will be awarded to the Cleveland School’s account.

How to register:

- Have your Stop and Shop card available.
- Go to www.stopandshop.com
- Click on Our Stores, you will see the A+ icon on the right, under that click on register your card. Follow the prompts to register. More than one school can be on the same card.

Fourth Grade Happenings!

If you happen to be in the fourth grade wing on Wednesday mornings during the month of October, you might hear much laughter and see some strange things. The fourth graders will be celebrating Observation Month with their teachers. As part of our Language Arts writing program, we focus on creative writing and the use of descriptive language. To help the children with this skill, every Wednesday morning the fourth grade teachers will alter their appearance. The children will observe their teachers and, using the Friendly Letter Format, will write a two-paragraph letter to their teacher. The children also get the opportunity to illustrate what their teacher looked like on that particular Wednesday. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to work on their creative writing, grammar skills, and of course, their artistic skills as well. We look forward to reading some wonderful letters! The fourth grade students will also be doing a mini-research project on one of the planets. The project will culminate in a planet walk activity. This is meant to help students grasp the concept of the massive size of our solar system. If the Earth were the size of a peppercorn, how many steps would it take to walk to Pluto? This interesting, engaging science project emphasizes the importance of the planetary system that we reside in. Students will be physically and intellectually challenged, while gaining further knowledge about our solar system. Happy planet touring!

Going Green At Cleveland

In an effort to reduce paper and to conserve energy and time, we are considering only posting this monthly publication online on our website and discontinuing hard copy production. If you prefer a paper copy of “The Cleveland Comet” to be sent home with your child, please complete the following and return to Mrs. Hankey in the front office:

Student Name: _____ Classroom Teacher: _____