



The Cleveland Comet
News From Your Neighborhood School
May 2010 Volume 1, Issue 9



Principal's Corner

Greetings from Cleveland!

Welcome back from April vacation! I hope everyone had a chance to relax, unwind, and recuperate.

Whether families stayed home or traveled far away, the importance of family time together cannot be underestimated.

We are now into the final home stretch for the 2009-2010 school year. Before the festivities of June and end of the school year activities begin, I would like to remind Cleveland students and families of the importance of the upcoming MCAS Math and Science tests. Testing dates are as follows:

Monday, May 10th: Grade Five Science

Tuesday, May 11th: Grade Four Math

Wednesday, May 12th: Grade Three Math

Thursday, May 13th: Grade Five Science

Friday, May 14th: MCAS Make Up Day

Monday, May 17th: Grade Five Math

Tuesday, May 18th: Grade Four Math

Wednesday, May 19th: Grade Three Math

Thursday, May 20th: Grade Five Math

Friday, May 21st: Make Up Day

I would also like to emphasize the importance of the following when preparing for success with the MCAS tests:

- Get a good night's sleep the night before the test.
- Eat a healthy breakfast the morning of the test.
- Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated before and during the MCAS sessions.

Children should not miss school during these testing periods, due to vacations or family trips. As always, your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

On Friday, April 16th at 12:00, the Cleveland School staff and students had the pleasure of watching my head being shaved on stage in the cafeteria! In recognition of literacy month, I challenged Cleveland students that if they read 3,000 books I would shave my head! Not only did they meet this goal, but they exceeded it by a milestone! A promise is a promise, and Superintendent Granatino was on duty to perform barbershop duties. It was quite a spectacular event, that both staff and students enjoyed—at my expense! I am so proud of Cleveland students for reading so many books, and it is my hope that this will continue beyond the annual event of literacy month. There were many photographs taken of this amazing spectacle!

I hope you are able to enjoy this wonderful time of year. I thank you for your continued support, and I hope to see you soon in the halls of Cleveland School.

Scott Williams, Principal

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



News From Nurse Canniff

I usually keep a supply of clothing for emergencies in school. I am out of sweat or athletic pants for boy's sizes 8-12. If your son has out grown a pair, I would appreciate having it.

Ticks have made their spring time appearance and are abundant. Tick bites are usually harmless but they may carry diseases including Lyme Disease. Protect yourself and your children from tick bites:

- Thoroughly check yourself and your children for ticks after outdoor activities and vacations
- Always wear shoes
- Wear long pants tucked into socks while in the woods and long grass
- Use a EPA approved tick repellent and follow the directions before and after using
- If you do have to remove a tick, watch the bite site and call your doctor if you notice anything unusual about it
- Sites for more information on ticks and removal: <http://www.healthsquare.com/mc/fgmc1408.htm>

Poison Ivy, sumac and poison oak are all plants that can cause a reaction -- an unpleasant rash on the skin -- when people touch them. The American Academy of Dermatology lists these suggestions to help prevent exposure:

- Learn how to identify these plants.
 - Keep skin covered with gloves, boots, long pants and long-sleeved shirts when you're working outdoors.
 - Don't burn these plants.
 - Don't touch any animal, person or object that could have come into contact with these plants, including gardening equipment or sports equipment
- For more information and treatment see: http://www.aad.org/public/publications/pamphlets/skin_poison.html

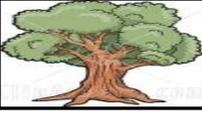
Mosquitoes and other biting insects are common this time of year and throughout the summer. Consider using a repellent and wearing a protective clothing when outside.

Sunscreen: don't forget to use it!

Cleveland School Important Dates

- May 4th: 5th Grade visit to Coakley Middle School.
- May 4th: Staff Meeting, 3:15; PTA Meeting 7:00
- May 6th: Instrumental Concert, 6:00 PM, Coakley Middle School.
- May 7th: Computer Club (after school)
- May 10th—21st: MCAS Math and Science, Grades 3, 4, and 5.
- May 11th: Cleveland School Council Meeting, 3:30.
- May 14th—Early Release. Professional Development for Teachers.
- May 18th—Parent visit to Coakley Middle School, 7:00, Auditorium.
- May 21st: Computer Club (after school).
- May 28th: Third Grade Field Trip, Boston Duck Tours.
- May 28th: Computer Club (after school).
- May 31st: No School, Memorial Day.





How to Help your Child Develop a Positive Esteem

Mrs. Bonnie Laudon, Cleveland School Psychologist

A positive self-esteem is a key to success in life. It is extremely important to our children's happiness. Moms, Dads, brothers, sisters, grandparents, teachers and coaches are all important people who impact how our children feel about themselves. Parents, more than anyone else can promote their child's self-esteem. Here are some suggestions to keep in mind.

- When you feel good about your child, mention it to him. "Great job! You have worked hard."
- Teach your child about decision-making and recognize when he has made a good decision. Give them opportunities to develop this skill by giving them choices that you can live with. "It's going to be cold outside today, so you will need to wear a sweatshirt. Which sweatshirt do you want to wear?" (Younger children might do best picking one from a choice of two).
- Show interest in each child's activities, projects, or problems. For example, say, "I'm sorry you are feeling sad...." Or "You seem so happy today. What happened?"
- Tell children what to do, instead of what not to do. Model acceptable behaviors, such as kindness, safety, manners and sharing.
- Let them know that mistakes are a natural part of growing up. Everyone, including adults, make them. "Oh look, I spilled the milk. That's okay. I'll just pour another one."
- Show appreciation when children cooperate, help you, say kind words to other children, obey the rules and do other positive kind things. Children have difficulty waiting, but can be supported while they wait. "In five more minutes dinner will be ready. I know you can wait that long. Nice job waiting."
- Provide them with opportunities to experience success. Exposing them to sports, art, music, dance, etc. may allow them to have fun, develop confidence and build positive social experiences.

You can have fun too, while building your child's self-esteem. Watch their friendships grow, show enthusiasm for new activities, cooperate and follow rules and be happy, and full of positive energy.

Literacy Events At Cleveland

Mark down **Wednesday, May 26th** for the **Cleveland School's Fourth Annual Drop Everything and Read Day!** This is an opportunity to sit with your child and read for a half hour. Details will be sent home about specific times for each grade.

In June, we will be holding our **Annual Vocabulary Parade**. Students will design a poster board illustrating and defining their word. We want students at school and at home to be noticing and using words that are new or interesting.

Art News From Mrs. Trede

Congratulations to Zena Wafta (Grade 3), and Victoria Hixon (Grade 4). Their artwork has been selected to represent the Cleveland School during the month of May in the children's section of the Morrill Memorial Library. It is located at 33 Walpole Street in Norwood. This exhibit illustrates the artistic accomplishments of the students from first grade to seniors in high school.

Cleveland School Instrumental Concert

The Cleveland School Instrumental Concert will be held on **Thursday, May 6, at 6:00 pm.** This performance takes place at the Coakley Middle School and includes the Advanced and Beginner Bands, the Orchestra, and all students in the 3rd grade. The children have been working very hard and are excited to show family and friends the musical skills. Looking forward to seeing you!

Team Spot Light: Fourth Grade

Ms Pelaggi grew up here in Norwood; she went to the Cleveland School for two years. Ms Pelaggi attended Providence College where she received a BA in Elementary and Special Education. Next, Nicole headed to New York City. While in New York, Ms Pelaggi went to Teachers College, Columbia University for a master's degree in Dance Education. She also taught in the South Bronx. In addition to elementary school, Ms Pelaggi teaches dance and yoga after school at the Norwood Recreation Department. She is looking forward to this year's dance recital on May 22nd.

Team Spot Light: Fourth Grade (Continued)

Mrs. Wesley:

I attended Bentley College (aka Bentley University) and worked in the field of Marketing and Advertising. It was an exciting field to work in – always busy - a very fast paced environment. I really enjoyed this work and thought that it would always be part of my professional life.

When my daughter, Sarah, was born my husband and I were fortunate enough that I was able to be a “stay at home mom.” I was very involved in community activities. When Sarah attended the Callahan Elementary School, I was a very active P.T.A. member and found myself at the Callahan many, many hours each week. I began substituting at the Callahan, and eventually found myself working at all five of Norwood’s elementary schools as a substitute teacher in grades K-5.

I found that I enjoyed working with children very much and was offered a two week assignment as a fifth grade teacher at the Oldham. That two week assignment turned into eight! I was encouraged to pursue teaching and attended Framingham State College and the rest as they say, is history.

My teaching philosophy is that children should be challenged to do the best work that they are able to achieve, while being given the necessary support and guidance to do so. I also feel that it is important for children to enjoy school and to realize that learning is a journey, not a destination. It is because of this that I play music every day and try to incorporate interactive learning experiences that match our fourth grade curriculum. I have enjoyed teaching at the Cleveland School for the past nine years teaching both fourth and fifth grade.

Mrs. Nichols:

I have been teaching at the Cleveland School for the past eleven years. I was born in Charlotte, NC where I lived for 10 years, and then moved to Greenville, SC. I then returned to Winston Salem to attend Salem College in NC. After graduation, I taught 2nd and 3rd grades in Lewisville, NC for three years. My parents were living in Scotland during this time, so I was able to go spend two summers overseas and tour around the British Isles, Ireland, France and Italy with my parents and two sisters and parents. We had many great adventures together!

I then moved to Mashpee on Cape Cod with my husband, David, who has worked for the U.S. Geological Survey in Woods Hole, MA, over the past 30 years as a Marine Seismics Engineer doing ocean floor mapping and other types of marine research. Here, we raised our daughter, Laura, who is 26, and our son, Alex who is 22. Laura, who lives in Florida with her husband Shane, has just blessed our family with a grandson, Brody, and they have made becoming grandparents an absolute joy! My son, Alex, works as a Marine Technician in Morehead City, NC doing the same type of survey work as his father.

After taking time to raise my family, I returned to Bridgewater State College to earn my Masters in Reading in 1999. I then began working for Norwood as a Reading Specialist for seven years. After that, I have been teaching in the fourth grade for four years and truly love this age group! It’s such a great time to be able to work with such eager and imaginative students!