



October 2008 NEWSLETTER

Key Dates

Oct 9: No School / Yom Kippur
Oct 13: No School / Columbus Day
Oct 17: Janelle Madden 8:30am
Oct 27: Original Works Due
Nov 6: Picture Day Retakes
Nov 7: Dads & Donuts 8:00-8:30am
Nov 8: DSEF Gala
Nov 15: Harlem Wizards 1pm

A Message from the PTO

School is in full swing and we hope your children are happy to be back!

We want to thank everyone who volunteered at Dover Days this year with a special thanks to Denise Linden for organizing this wonderful community event. The PTO is proud to be a part of this rich Dover tradition. We hope your children enjoyed the day.

Thanks to everyone who has sent in their yellow form for volunteer opportunities. We have had a great response and once again the Chickering parents are showing their commitment to our school and the children. Thank you!

We hope you find this newsletter a useful resource for everything Chickering. In addition to this, remember all the information you need can be found on our website at www.doverpto.org.

The WIZARDS are coming to town!

On Saturday, November 15, 2008 at 1:00pm, the town of Dover is in for a huge treat. The Dover PTO has arranged to have the one and only *Harlem Wizards* entertain us New York City style here in the comfort of our own community. These fabulous athletes will take on our hometown team in a basketball game that will change forever the way you think about basketball! Come see Chickering parents and teachers try to keep up with the antics of this Harlem Globetrotter-inspired team. Volunteers are currently being solicited to help out with all aspects of the show, including pre-event publicity, ticket sales, raffle sales, and concession donations; as well as day of event needs including ticket collection, concession sales, Wizards merchandise sales, and general crowd control. Please contact Nancy Simms at nancy.simms@comcast.net to get in on the organizing action. Check out the Wizards' website at www.harlemwizards.com.

Chickering Directory

It takes so many hours and an incredible level of detail to produce the Chickering Directory. We want to recognize a group of parents who have worked tirelessly through the summer and the past month. Thank you to the committee led by Amy Piemonte and the team of Christophe Oliver, Laura Wood, Paula Lordi, Phuong Tang-Tso and Laura Rinaldi. And, our congratulations to this year's Chickering Directory cover winners! Artwork by to Kerry Gallagher, Elizabeth Qian-Wang, Olivia Johnson, Brett Piemonte and Priscilla Tso will grace the front and back covers of the directory. View the winning entries and take a peak at the new cover at www.doverpto.org. Directories will be sent home in your child's backpack mid-October.

Fundraising Update

Each year the Dover PTO funds programs that impact and enhance your child's experiences at Chickering. Approximately 50% of the PTO budget is used toward curriculum enrichment, another 40% toward classroom and teacher support, and the balance toward enhancing the Chickering community through spirit events, speaker series and outreach efforts. In addition to the Wizards event and an upcoming check writing campaign, we have planned one more fundraising initiative this year to complement our mission to celebrate Chickering Pride.

Original Works

This year's product sale is Original Works, the leading art-based program in the country. You will have the opportunity to have your children's artwork reproduced onto a number of professional, full color products. These products are wonderful to have as keepsakes or gifts. Kindergarteners are creating their artwork at home under the supervision of a parent. Grades 1-5 are creating their artwork in art class at Chickering. Artwork for grades 1-5 will be sent home over the next few weeks for review by a parent. **For all of those interested in participating, artwork must be returned with an order form and check made payable to the Dover PTO by October 27th.** All of the finished products will be available for pick up at Chickering by December 10th, in plenty of time for the holidays. While this fundraiser is completely voluntary, we are hoping to have as much student body participation as possible. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kathy Sveen at ksveen@comcast.net.

Curriculum Enrichment Update

Here's what's happening this month: Poet Ted Scheu will be at Chickering October 14, 16 & 17 to run a "poetry workshop" in each of the 4th grade classrooms. Bay Colony Educators will meet with 5th grade to teach about colonial times.

Dover Sherborn Education Fund Gala

Save the date for this great event! November 8th at 6:30pm is the 2008 Gala at Charles River Country Club in Newton. Please plan to attend this annual DSEF fundraiser and party. Thanks to you, DSEF funds grants to Chickering and all schools in the Dover-Sherborn district. At Chickering, DSEF focuses on grants to support Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment for our students. In 2007-08, this included professional development for Balanced Literacy and DIBLES (ELA assessment program) as well as 5 Interactive White Boards. These whiteboards are an important visual learning tool for our classrooms.

School Pictures

The weather cooperated and Picture Day ran smoothly thanks to our many volunteers! If you ordered a package, they are due later this month. For students who were absent, retake day will be Thursday, November 6, when we will also take a 5th grade class photo.

What's for lunch?

On Friday, October 17 at 8:30am, Janelle Madden, our food services director, will be available to talk to parents about our school lunch program. Come learn about the ways she is incorporating more healthy choices at lunchtime.