



## November 2008 NEWSLETTER

### Key Dates to Remember

- Nov 8:** DSEF Gala
- Nov 11:** No school - Veteran's Day
- Nov 14:** Dads, Donuts & Drop-off 8:00-8:30am
- Nov 15:** WIZARDS GAME! 1:00pm
- Nov 27-28:** Thanksgiving recess
- Dec 1:** No school - Teacher Professional Day

This holiday season, as we contemplate all that we are thankful for, let's not forget Chickering's talented and caring teachers and staff. Their dedication to our children should be an inspiration to us all.

Each year, the PTO helps support our teachers by giving them funds to buy supplies and books for their classrooms. We are beginning our grant cycle this month so that we may fund any larger needs the teachers may have.

In addition to teacher grants, a large portion of the money raised by the Dover PTO funds a curriculum enrichment program. Through this program, our kids meet authors, illustrators, pets and scientists who work within the curriculum to bring learning to life. Just last month, Ted Scheu, "that poetry guy," spent three days visiting the fourth grade classrooms teaching the children all about the world of poetry. His humor and enthusiasm got the kids "revved up" about writing through poetry, and hopefully inspired them to want to write their own poems. This was Ted's sixth year visiting Chickering, and the teachers continue to ask to have him return. Late this month, grade 3 will visit Plimoth Plantation and the Wompanoag Indians, also part of our Curriculum Enrichment program.

### WIZARDS UPDATE

It's a slam dunk! The Harlem Wizards will be on center court on Saturday, November 15th at DSHS for our big fall fundraising event. We are anticipating an afternoon of awe-inspiring entertainment to a packed house. No one wants to miss the antics of the Wizards, or the wizardry of our teachers. The enthusiasm is mounting as The Chickering Pride, with the likes of Mr. Downing, Mr. Harte, Ms. Riordan and others, join Dover parents for an exciting and challenging game. Plus, photo opps, halftime show, Wizard's gear, food and more. Our kids will be really pumped when they get the pre-game chance to meet a few of the Wizard team players during school on Friday, November 14th. So, don't be surprised if they come home and try twirling the dinner dishes! We are looking forward to a very successful afternoon and appreciate all the hard work that has gone into planning and coordinating this community event.

### Ticket Pick-Up

All tickets, regardless of purchase method, need to be claimed at the Will Call table starting at 12:00pm at DSHS. No one, including volunteers, will be admitted without a ticket. Hold on to them too. You'll need them to get back in after halftime. Please remember elementary school kids must be accompanied by a parent or older sibling.

### Volunteers Needed!

We still need many hands for the day of the event. Time commitment runs 12:30-3:30pm. Please contact: [nancy.simms@comcast.net](mailto:nancy.simms@comcast.net).

*MANY THANKS to our corporate sponsors for their support of our hometown team!*

- Corcoran & Havlin Insurance Group
- Dover Mobil
- Insource Services, Inc.
- Dr. Paul Johnson, DMD
- Keene Construction, Inc.
- Petrini Corporation
- Pro Ambitions Hockey, Inc.

### **Extra Halloween Candy?**

We are collecting candy for the Southern Norfolk Association of Retarded Citizens. They will then redistribute candy throughout the area. Any and all donations would be welcome! A donation box will be in the Chickering Office near the Star Jar through November 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Dads, Donuts & Drop-off / NEW DATE!**

Okay Dads, this is for you! Skip the bus and drive your kids to school. Drop in for coffee, donuts and talk with Kirk Downing, Dr. Deb Reinemann (Curriculum Coordinator), Michelle Worth (Literacy Specialist) and other staff. Connect with Chickering. Don't forget to bring the kids! See you at 8:00am on Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>!

### **Chickering Directories**

We hope you are enjoying your 2008-2009 School Directory! We have a limited supply of directories for sale in the office for \$15. Very special thanks to Amy Piemonte, Christophe Oliver, Laura Wood, Phuong Tang-Tso and Paula Lordi for putting in *many* long hours to make this happen. We'd also like to thank our corporate sponsors listed on the inside cover for underwriting our production costs.

### **Curriculum Enrichment**

Scheduled for November, Grade 3 will visit Plimoth Plantation and the Wompanoag Indians.

### **Chickering's Class of 2009!**

Planning is underway for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade graduation activities. 43 parents have volunteered to make this a memorable year for the graduates. If you'd like to join in, it's not too late! Simply contact one of the committee chairs or Loretta Borghi.

*Yearbook Committee:* Heidi Heiland & Kelly Worrell

*Slogan, Logo, T-Shirt Committee:* Jane Ounanian

*Class Gift Committee:* Paula Niziak

*Year End Luncheon Committees*

*Food:* Suzanne Tibbetts

*Decorations:* Ruth Mallett & Patty Gallagher

*Historical DVD:* Laura & Wistar Wood

*Communications:* Sara Muckstadt

*Finance & Accounting:* Lisa Blanchard & Jennifer Friesen

### **America Recycles Day**

#### **Waste-Free Lunch on Friday, 11/14!**

From brown-paper lunch bags to plastic wraps and baggies to the unnecessary packaging of single-serving foods, our addiction to fast and "convenient" lunch products adds BILLIONS of tons of trash to landfills each year. This is an enormous waste of money and natural resources required to produce and dispose of packaging.

In honor of America Recycles Day, Chickering School will participate in a Waste-Free Lunch. Students, Staff and Teachers are encouraged to participate this day by bringing lunch-related reusables to school on Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. This effort will help reduce our trash, save our environment, and eliminate money spent on single-serve items, disposable bags, wraps and containers.

#### **Tips for Packing Waste-Free Lunches**

Do Pack:

- Reusable lunch bags
- Sandwiches in reusable containers
- Drinks & soups in reusable bottles or a Thermos
- Snacks purchased in bulk and packed in reusable containers
- Whole fruits without packaging
- Cloth napkins
- Stainless steel or reusable utensils

Other Tips:

- Eliminate single-serve portions! This includes salty snacks, yogurt, applesauce, pudding, etc.
- Buy in bulk, then pack in small containers for the lunch bag
- Purchase (or make your own) large quantities of beverages and soups, then pack in reusable bottles or Thermos

For more kid-friendly facts about how to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, at lunchtime and otherwise, click on the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences website at <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/recycle.htm>. Thanks for your cooperation to reduce, reuse and recycle - on November 14<sup>th</sup> and every day!