

# Seven Hills Charter Public School Weekly Newsletter



April 30, 2010

**RESPECT is our Core Value for April.**

## Save the Date:

May 1: STOMP performance, Spring uniforms start  
 May 3: Gr. 8 Science/History Tour of Boston; Family Involvement Survey Homework Assignment (TBA)  
 May 4: Board of Trustee's Meeting 5:00 - 9:00 PM, United Bank 9:30-10:30

May 3-7: Spring Book Fair BOGO  
 May 7: Half Day for students  
 May 7,8: Beauty and the Best Production 7:00PM Q. College  
 May 10-May 27: MCAS testing window

*Be kind. Be safe. Be responsible.*

Dear Families,

Sincerely,  
 Krista Piazza, Superintendent

**Congratulations** to Star Students ---- and also to, ---our Rainbow House Star Students. This week's PBIS raffle winners are Timmy Akibu, Zoe Ford, Julliette Garcia, Jackilyn Rivera, Tahtyanna Mallad and Kenneth Cintron. Thank you for being kind, safe and responsible!

**Junior Academy Science Fair** participants will be attending the Worcester Tornadoes' "Baseball in Education Day" on June 9th. They will leave school at 9:30 and return at 2:30pm. Students will watch the opening game and be among other schools participating in educational games. There will be various activities throughout the day, students will need to bring a lunch.

**The Scholastic Book Fair:** Our annual Buy One Get One Free Scholastic Spring Book Fair is here. All K-5 classes will visit the bookfair next week and fliers went home with students last week. Parents are welcome to come M-F 7:30-4pm. We will encourage students to purchase books before miscellaneous items. All JA students can schedule a time to visit the bookfair with their homeroom teacher.

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
7:55	Ey	Caporale	Ossorio	Keith
10:15	Ambroise	Underwood	Wright	Cranham
10:50	Adams			Chamberlain
12:20	Fogarty	Artim	Heath	Vickers
12:55	Belhumeur			Slarsky
2:20	Cotto		Santora	

**Beauty and the Beast, Jr. Musical:** Our K-8 students (57 cast members) have been working so hard learning their lines and practicing their dances. Please show your support by joining them at the Hebert Auditorium at Quinsigamond College for our Production of Beauty and the Beast, Jr. on Friday, May 7th, or Saturday, May 8, 2010. Tickets in advance are \$3.00 for students/seniors and \$6.00 for adults. Tickets at the door are \$8.00 each. Show starts at 7:00pm with doors opening at 6:15pm. Hope to see you there! Ticket Order Form attached. Thank you in advance, the Beauty and the Beast Cast, Crew and Production Team.

**The Board of Trustees Family Involvement Subcommittee** Family Involvement Surveys are going home with all students on Monday, May 3. This is their homeroom assignment, please help your student complete this interview survey. Homework surveys are due on Tuesday, May 4. The next BOT Family Involvement Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for May 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm here at SHCPS.

**Spring Pictures!** Student picture are HERE! Please stop by the main office to view and purchase your child's pictures. The entire package is \$42.00, or you can purchase a sheet for \$13.00 each.

### Community Connections

**KIDS FEST:** Our STOMP team is performing at the Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Cathedral Family Center Groundbreaking Weekend Celebration (102 Russell Street, Worcester) this Saturday, May 1 at 12:30pm. This Kids Fest is FREE and includes activities tables, games, face painting and much more!

**United Bank** representatives will be here on Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-10:30am to collect passports. Please stop in to open a new account and receive \$25.00!

### Help at Home from Ms. Dirsa What to do if your child is bullying other children...

We often focus on what we can do if our children are being bullied, but guess what? Our kids are being bullied by each other! Mean or unkind words, excluding someone from a game at recess, or a stare down that seems like nothing to us at the time, can have a devastating effect for the intended targets. Let us focus for a minute on how we can teach our kids NOT TO BE BULLIES! Every one of our kids, yours and mine included, is guilty of once in their life being mean to someone and when they are, they run the risk of being accused of bullying. I have seen even the nicest of kids whisper about someone else and stare at them so they know they are being talked about, start a rumor, hit someone's books out of their arms in the hall, make a comment about another's hair, etc... No one is immune to the bullying disease.

So what can we do about it? If you are informed your child has bullied a peer:

- Now that you know it is happening, do not ignore it. If you do it is like saying the behavior is OK, or that you don't care. Try to understand why your child is bullying. Do not let your child place blame on others, encourage them to take ownership and responsibility for their actions. Do so in a supportive way. Tell them you want to understand and help them, not criticize them.
- Help your child recognize signs of escalating anger (tense muscles, feeling hot, rapid breathing) and teach anger management strategies (deep breathing, visual imagery, journaling, walks, sports, self talk). If your child has an angry temperament this may require some sort of anger management group. Your PCP may have referrals for you, if not the school can provide a list of outside agencies.
- One golden rule we often teach the kids is to think before you speak: "Is what I am about to say going to help, or hurt, the person" If it is going to hurt then DON'T SAY IT!
- Spend more time with your child and find healthy outlets for the things they enjoy doing. Your child needs positive social skills and role models. You always need to know where they are and who they are with. When they are hanging out with negative influences they are more likely to take on those attitudes to fit in.
- Practice positive social interactions and manners within the family. How often do we remember to say "please" and "thank you" and compliment the members of our own family? We teach our kids to be on their "best behavior" when around people we want them to impress, but not around each other. Do not bully or talk down to each other at home, no insults, no name calling, not even joking around. We teach the kids here that if they say it, or intend it, as a joke it doesn't matter, what matters is how it is received!
- Work with the school, not against them! It is not easy for us to get bad news about our kids. Try not to become defensive with the messenger. We automatically want to jump to the defense of our kids when we hear something bad that they may have done, but the truth is, we are all going to get those phone calls once in a while, and our kids are watching how we handle it! If you choose to argue with school staff and challenge authority, so won't your kids. Administrators are not against your kids. They are in the field to work with kids because they love kids and want to help shape their future. But when they do something wrong, they must be called on it and we all need to work together to support everyone, bully, victim, and bystander. We all need to model appropriate ways to communicate with each other and handle our own anger. Also, remember not to ask about what consequences other children may have received. Your focus is on your child alone when you meet with school personnel. They wouldn't share information about your child with other parents, this is a violation of privacy laws!
- Teach them exactly what bullying looks like, feels like, sounds like. We all assume that our kids know what bullying is, and we teach it in guidance classes here every year, but too much education is not a bad thing!
- Help teach your child the skill of EMPATHY! Very young children will not be able to comprehend this, but as kids get older they need to understand how their behavior affects others and how it makes them feel. Talk about what hurts their feelings, what hurts your feelings. How people have hurt you in the past. Things that kids have said to you when you were in school that have stuck with you over the years. How their words and actions can seriously affect someone so much that they may not want to come to school any more, or worse...

We have such great kids here at Seven Hills, we can work together to stop bullying!

*Ticket Orders Must Be Received by Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – After that: “At the Door”*

**Seven Hills Charter Public School Presents**

**“Beauty and the Beast Junior”**

**Directed by: Donna Lemoyne**

Music by: Kathy Holton

**Choreographer: Tiana Mangual**

**Costume Designer: Beth Gillis**

**Set Designers: Maria Rice & Robin Roy**

**Stage Managers: Tisha Ambrose, Amber Lemoyne, Katie Restuccia & Kim Riordan**

**Friday, May 7, 2010**

Doors open at 6:15pm / Show starts at 7:00pm

**Saturday, May 8, 2010**

Doors open at 6:15pm / Show starts at 7:00pm

**Herbert Auditorium @ Quinsigamond College**

**670 West Boylston Street, Worcester**

*Reserved Seating*

**Send in your order form & payment to Donna Lemoyne: (Checks payable to: SHCPS)**

**Student Name / HR: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Students/Seniors \$3.00**

**Adults \$6.00**

**At the Door \$8.00**

**Friday, May 7, 2010:**

**Students/Seniors:**

**Qty \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Adults:**

**Qty \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Saturday, May 8, 2010:**

**Students/Seniors:**

**Qty \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Adults:**

**Qty \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**50/50 Raffle:**

1 Ticket for \$1.00, 3 Tickets for \$2.00 or 12 Tickets for \$5.00

Winner will be pulled during Intermission at Saturday night's show.

NO 50/50 tickets can or will be sold during either show.

# of 50/50 Raffle Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Bouquets of flowers will be sold at both shows. Cost will be approximately \$7.00. All proceeds will go towards our SHCPS Drama Productions. Please purchase your flowers for your “stars” at the show.

Thank you in advance, The Beauty and the Beast Junior Cast