

Seven Hills Charter Public School Weekly Newsletter



May 14, 2010

INTEGRITY is our Core Value for May.

Save the Date:

May 18: Show Choir sings at the State House, SAC Mtg 6PM
May 18-19: MCAS Testing Grades 3-8
May 19: Gr 2 to Beauty and the Beast @ Mechanics Hall
May 20: Boston Cares Community Design Meeting 2PM,
STOMP at WorcesterTech 5PM
May 23: Stomp Performance at Crowne Plaza
May 24: Family Involvement Subcommittee Mtg 6PM
May 25,26: Green Team members to UNH
May 26: NJHS Induction Ceremony 8AM gym
May 31: No School
June 1: Board of Trustee Meeting 6PM
June 3: Special Education PAC Meeting 6PM

June 7: ShowChoir and STOMP Fieldtrip
June 8: Boys' and Girls' Day (Gr. 5-8), PA Author's Picnic
June 9: St. Peter Marion Field Day, Parent Guild Mtg 5PM
June 11: New Student Registration, Gr. 8 Field Trip
June 16: 8th Grade Dinner Dance, Leo's Restaurant 6pm
June 17: Field Day (Raindate: June 18)
June 18: 8th Grade Graduation
June 21: Slush Day
June 22: Step Up Day
June 23: Last Day of School

Be kind. Be safe. Be responsible.

Dear Families,

Our last round of **MCAS** testing is next week, all students in grades 5 & 8 will participate in the Science exam on May 18 and 19. Please reassure your child that standardized test are very important, encourage them to read all the directions slowly and carefully, read every question, answer every question and check their answers. Help your child to think positive, get a good night sleep and eat a healthy breakfast. The state requires doctor's notes for all absences on MCAS testing days!

Sincerely,

Krista Piazza, Superintendent

Grades 5 & 8 Science & Technology/Engineering MCAS

Tuesday May 18, 2010 1 morning session

Wednesday May 19, 2010 1 morning session

Thursday/Friday May 20th/21st, 2010- Science Technology/Engineering Make-up

Congratulations to Star Students Arianna Warren, Kayla Morales, Desai Jerry Jasely Janely, Tyra Jenkins, Anu Akibu and also Rainbow House Star Students. This week's PBIS raffle winners are Shakira Rodriguez, Francisco Vasquez, Elizabeth Correa, Illiana Albino, Vanessa Smith and Hazel Diaz. Thank you for being kind, safe and responsible! Our math challenge winners last week were Ginneta Abaidoo and Isaiah Ramos and Amari Pearson won this week's challenge. There is a list of half-two-dollar bill winners on Ms Piazza's door. Winners might want to seek each other out to 'find their other half', find me, and realize real cash, real soon! See if you can solve the problems too, answers are due in Mr. JB's mailbox on Monday by noon:

Last Week: How much is one-half of two-thirds of three-quarters of \$100?

This week: Which is greater: 10% of 55 or 55% of 10?

Next Week: If today is May 17 2010, what will the date be in 730 days?

Please join us at our next **SAC meeting this Tuesday, May 18th** at 6pm here at Seven Hills. SAC is currently working on setting up a back to school social for staff and parents with guest speakers from different backgrounds to talk about their own experiences with education systems in the US and abroad. All are welcome!

Boston Cares Community Design Meeting: Representatives from **Boston Cares** will be here on **May 20th** from 2:00-5:00 PM to meet with students, staff and parents about a summer technology or building maintenance project that would benefit our school. We need your input so we reap the benefits from this exciting partnership. Please contact Ms. Krackovic at x1123 if you are interested in being a part of this great event.

Kudos to our all of our students for their inspiring performance of **Beauty and the Beast, Jr.** A special thanks to the crew members, volunteers and parents for all their dedication and hard work!

On May 25 and May 26, our **Green Team Group** will be going to University of New Hampshire to present our "Recycle/Sing" project to students and teachers from around the nation. Green Team members are Chasia Bambo, Shanelle Burbo, Phoebe Echegaray, Marianna Minardi, Tess Blodgett and Alexa MacQuaye.

So You Think You've Got Talent! Dust off those dancin' shoes, dig out your guitar and strut your talent at our annual Seven Hills Talent Show! We're interested in all kinds of talent from students, staff or parents! You can all get up on that stage! Please contact Mrs. Holton before June 1 if you are interested.

Our first **Student Motivation Subcommittee** student video team has been formed (Arlene Aviles, Shakira Rodriguez, Carlos Robles, Tess Blodgett and Luke Okerlund) and will be working with Mr. Rosario to create a model video describing their "ideal learning situation." This video will serve as an example for other students so they can make their own videos to share their own visions. Once we know what excites students, we can look for ways to capture those ideals and infuse them within our own learning environment. Let's hear what the kids have to say!

Volunteer Opportunities: The Parent Guild is looking for volunteers to assist with the following events. Please contact Ms. Roy at x 1131 or email Ms. Okerlund at sdokerlund@msn.com or parentguild@sevenhillscharter.org to get involved. All volunteers must have a CORI on file, please contact our Business Service Office at x1066 for more information.

June 17 (Raindate June 18) Volunteers are needed for Field Day set up, clean up, and station help.

June 21 Help our kids keep cool on a hot June day by scooping and serve slushes to students in all grade levels.

Community Connections: Sunday, May 16 is the 25th Annual WALK for the Homeless, sponsored by The Central MA Housing Alliance. This 3 mile walk begins and ends at Elm Park, registration is at 1pm and the walk begins at 2pm. There will be entertainment and a BBQ after the walk. For more information or to volunteer please call Amy at 508-791-7265 x 31.

Thank you for ensuring high participation in the **School wide Homework Assignment** that went home last week. The next Family Involvement Subcommittee meeting will be held at 6:00PM on May 24th. Join us to review the results!

Come out to support our **STOMP** team as they perform for the Sixth Annual Worcester Youth Summit event on May 20th at Worcester Tech High School at 5:00pm. This FREE event is sponsored by the Worcester Police Department. The evening is targeted in helping families find opportunities available for teens this summer in Worcester. Have fun learning about Recreational Opportunities, Summer Job Information, Special Programs, Colleges and much more!

Thank you to everyone who participated in this week's STOMP tryouts. Congratulations to our NEW STOMP team members: **Yamile Gonzalez, Raisha Bonfont, Jazlynn Delestre, Tamara Tarwoe, Dajaisha Romeo, Patrick Mwangi, Tiana Felix, Katherine Segura, Raymond Rohena, Javier Torres, Vanessa Smith and Abrianna Archibald.**

Please join us at our next Special Education PAC meeting on Thursday, June 3, 2010 @ 6:00pm Guest Speaker: Dr. Jason Minow from Pediatric Behavior Health in West Boylston (Topic: Specific Disorder-ADHD)

HELP AT HOME from Ms. Dirsra

As parents we hope that our kids are learning some basic skills that will help them successfully navigate their social world. What exactly are social skills and why are they beneficial to our kids? Social skills are learned behaviors that people need in life to be able to get along with others, be socially accepted, make and keep friendships/relationships, communicate effectively, and so on. These skills are important because they will help our kids to develop healthy relationships and friendships, get and maintain a job, do well in school, have good manners, learn self-control, among other benefits.

How do you teach social skills to your child? By modeling and role playing, using social stories, teachable moments and practice, practice, practice! Here are some basic skills that you want to start teaching, if you haven't already:

- Manners (please, thank you, you're welcome, excuse me, how to give and receive compliments, apologize with sincerity on their own, introduce them self to others, phone manners, mealtime manners, offering help to those in need,)
- Verbal Communication Skills (join a conversation without disruption, keep a conversation going, ask relevant questions, ask for help, speak clearly, watch tone)
- Non-Verbal Communication Skills (face person, lean forward when appropriate, make eye contact, relaxed/open posture, watch facial expressions, read others body language and facial expressions, pay attention)
- Self-Control (take turns, wait, share, manage conflicts, compromise, be aware when getting angry, manage anger, control aggressive behaviors, be assertive, filter thoughts, refrain from touching others, interacting with others of different ages, delay impulsive decisions/actions-think before you act)
- Relationships (empathy, patience, creativity, fun to be around, flexibility, respect other's boundaries, tolerate other's differences, initiate invitations, have a small circle of close friends, and many acquaintances)
- Self-Care (appearance is neat and clean and appropriate for the situation, able to express feelings, self-esteem, sense of humor, ability to seek out help and know where to find it, positive outlook on the future/goals)
- Organizational skills (meet deadlines, be on time, remember special occasions, manage money, organize materials, follow through on what you agree to do, finish a project once started, check for understanding of what needs to be done)