

# Seven Hills Charter Public School

## Save the Date:

- Oct 21: LFF Scholarship Event at Maxwell Silverman's 7pm
- Oct 25: BOT Meeting 6pm
- Oct 26: 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament
- Oct 28: Parent Guild DDD \$1, Be Like Brit Assembly
- Nov 3: High School Gear Up Night 6 to 7:30pm
- Nov 8: Trimester I ends
- Nov 11: NO SCHOOL
- Nov 17: Family Literacy Night
- Nov 17-21; Scholastic Book Fair
- Nov 23-25: NO SCHOOL



*Be kind.  
Be safe.  
Be responsible.*

Dear Families,

Tomorrow night, the Learning First Foundation will sponsor a Parent's Night Out at Maxwell Silverman's from 6:30 - 8:30 PM. This goal of this event is to unveil the details of the new Higher Education Scholarship program designed to encourage students to start right in kindergarten building habits that will lead to life-long learning and accomplishment. Representatives from the foundation, as well as other Worcester higher education institutions will be there to meet with you and share about the opportunities they have available. Please join us.

The Seven Hills mission statement says that we aim to "prepare students for success as students, workers and citizens." We cannot do this without your help and support. As a parent, things like reading agenda books, checking grades online, reviewing nightly homework assignments, attending parent/teacher conferences and picking up MCAS scores all send messages to children that **SCHOOL IS IMPORTANT**. Please do your part in each of these ways. Feel free to ask for help if you need it. We are here for you!

Sincerely,

Krista Piazza

Superintendent

## Reminders

**Student Dismissals:** Please remember to schedule all student early dismissals before 3:45pm Monday thru Thursday and before 12noon on Fridays. It is very important we maintain a safe environment during dismissal.

**Parent Pick Up:** Parent pick up is at 4:30pm on Eastern Ave Monday thru Thursday and 12:50 on Fridays. All student who are not picked up on time will be put in our afterschool program for a \$10 fee.

Our grade 6 students sold **Yankee Candles** a few weeks ago and all orders went home with students today.

**AUTISM SPEAKS** An overview of the signs and symptoms of autism; scientific research being done into the causes, cures and treatments of autism; family services tool kits and programs aimed at improving the lives of those with autism; and advocacy and awareness initiatives. There will also be information about what Autism Speaks is working on locally and how you can get involved.

**Presented By:** Kelley Borer-Miller, Tuesday, November 1, 2011 from 12:00 P.M. - 1:15 P.M. at Y.O.U. Inc., 81 Plantation Street (1st Floor), Worcester, MA 01604

For questions contact Francine Winslow-Ramos at 508-849-5600 ext. 260 or

### Early Learning Academy–Ms. Cox

We have been learning about growing and changing, and exploring how our Cooperative Garden can positively impact our community. Congratulations to Gabriella San Inoncencio and Avari Chavis as our first place art contest winners! The artwork will be presented on the website and at the school—Check it soon!

As we continue to work hard reading and writing, kindergarten students are writing journals about things they've planted in class. We are seeing green! Things to think about: What do living things need? Tell using words and pictures!

We are constantly looking at real-life problems in math. In first grade, we are creating imaginary lands. What do we need in our land? What if we add three more rivers? What if we add seven more mountains? How many buildings in our city all together? Using authentic math language, we are solving every day problems. Great questions to ask around at home: What if we had \_ more? What if we had \_ less? How many more would make 10 of this?

### Primary Academy– Ms. Ambrose

Primary Academy students are learning comprehension strategies to better understand what they are reading. Each strategy is an effective way to engage students in discussing what they have read. Students should stop at the end of each page or paragraph and ask themselves "what strategy helped me to better understand what I read?" When students are reading at home please encourage them to use these strategies.

#### **Comprehension Strategies:**

- Picturing
- Connecting
- Wondering
- Guessing
- Noticing
- Figuring Out



**Math @Home**

**Simply Symmetrical #2**  
A shape is symmetrical when two halves of it are exactly alike. For example, a heart and a butterfly are symmetrical because, when folded in half, their left sides mirror their right sides. Cut out a magazine picture that is symmetrical. Cut it along the line of symmetry. Paste one half of the picture on the paper. Have your child draw the missing half.

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**Parent Pointers** Encouraging Children to Read

- ▶ Introduce reluctant readers to nonfiction how-to or fact books that relate to their interests. You might include books about how to draw or how to make balloon animals and books about historical periods or other countries.
- ▶ Start your own private book club by reading the same book at the same time. Hold "meetings" to talk about the book.
- ▶ Use your child's favorite book or series as a theme for a birthday party or other gathering.

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Our Monthly Model Citizen Ceremony will be held on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. Students who met the criteria received an invitation in their agenda book this week. Please remember, students must complete homework, class work, and demonstrate the Core Values and Code of Conduct each day to earn a celebration invitation. Hope to see you all at this month's celebration, October Fest.

Are there things in books or magazines that are symmetrical? Try the activity listed below with your child. Think about all of the places in the things that you read that have symmetry.

Congratulations! Last week's Primary Academy Weekly Question Winner was Ethan Kabura!

Primary Academy Weekly Question:

Answer the following question, cut it out, and return it to the envelope located outside of Ms. Ambrose's office. Students who correctly answer the weekly question will be entered into a weekly drawing!

Read the sentence in the box below.

The children fell into formation—two on each side of her—and all took hands.

What does **formation** mean in the sentence?

the way the children are lined up

the speed the children are walking

the height of the edge of the road

### **Elementary Academy-Mrs. Nelson**

The following information is taken from the Keys To Literacy web site and was developed by Joan Sedita. Our academy is working hard to help students develop good organizational skills which are crucial to developing good study habits and maximizing time on learning. It's just as important for students to learn to organize their study space as home as it is their desks and other work areas at school. We hope the following tips from Keys To Literacy will help you support your child in organizing their study space at home.

"Where students study and do homework is almost as important as how they study, especially for students who are easily distracted. A good study space should include these elements:

- **A good light**
- **A comfortable yet supporting chair**
- **A clear work space free of visual distractions (such as posters or toys) and auditory distractions (such as TV, radio, conversations, or the sound of other children playing)**
- **A consistent place where the student always studies and, if possible, uses only for studying**
- **All necessary tools and supplies, such as a pencil sharpener, ruler, paper, calculator, and dictionary**

Depending on how long they are working, students should plan to take appropriate breaks to avoid becoming fatigued. They should complete one assignment at a time; all other work should be removed from the work surface so they do not become distracted or feel overwhelmed by the other assignments they have yet to complete.

In addition, students should identify one place in the home where they can assemble everything they will need for the next day of school. This "arrival and departing station" can be a corner on the floor near the front door, a book shelf in their room, or perhaps a shelf near the kitchen door. When they are finished with homework, that is a good time to assemble their work, books, and any special items they might need for the next day (e.g., gym clothes, show-and-tell item) and place them in this spot. Everything should be ready so the students walk out the door on time." © 1999 Sedita Learning Strategies

<http://keystoliteracy.com/>

We'll be working on additional comprehension strategies throughout the year. You can support your child's learning by asking them about the strategies they are learning to improve their reading. As always, thank you for your support!

## "THE COHEM CORNER WEEK 3"

The (LFF) Learning First Foundation Scholarship Gala (PARENTS ONLY).

**TOMORROW NIGHT!!!!**

**We will be giving the information on the Scholarship for all Seven Hills students.**

DATE: Friday October 21, 2011

LOCATION: Maxwell Silverman's 25 Union St. Worcester Mass.

TIME: 7:00-8:30pm

High School-Gear up Night (FOR 8<sup>TH</sup> Grade & Students ONLY)

DATE: November 3, 2011

LOCATION: Seven Hills Gym

TIME: 6:00pm-7:30pm

**Dates to remember are OPEN HOUSE DATES for Worcester High School's**

Notre Dame Academy - October 6, 2011 @ 7pm (508) 757-6200

St. Peter Marian - October 13, 2011 6pm-8pm (508) 852-5555

Holy Name C.C.H.S. - October 16, 2011 12pm-3pm (508) 753-6371

**\*Entrance Exam is Oct. 29, 2011 & Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011**

St. Johns H.S. - October 16, 2011 & Sunday October, 23 2011 @ 1pm (508) 842-8934

**\*Entrance Exam is Oct. 29, 2011**

St. Marks H.S. - October 22, 2011 & November 12, 2011 (508) 753-1170

Bancroft H.S. - (Admissions Reception) October 27, 2011 6:30-8:00 pm

Please contact the school for details (508)853-2640

Worcester Academy - October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 @ 1pm (508) 754-5302

Worcester Tech - November 16, 2011 6-8 pm (508) 799-1980

St. Mary's HS- October 23, 2011 11-1pm (508) 753-1170

**\*Entrance Exam is Oct. 29, 2011**

**For schools with entrance exams you should call some schools require pre-registration to take the exam for their school. \* Some entrance exams may require a fee.**

Contact for District Schools

Claremont Academy (508) 799-3020

North H. S. (508) 799-3020

Doherty H.S. (508)799-3270

Burncoat H.S. (508) 799-3300

South High H.S. (508) 799-3325

I encourage our 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents to attend as many open houses as you can to look at all the options for you student(s). A number of these schools will be in attendance for our HS night. I look forward to seeing all our 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents on high school night.

## Announcement from Seven Hills Charter Special Education Parent Advisory Council

October 16th - October 22nd is ADHD Awareness Week

ADHD is an often misunderstood diagnosis. As teachers and school staff it is imperative to have accurate information regarding ADHD behaviors and ideas for dealing with these behaviors. Although children with ADHD are known for behaviors that may cause issues in a school environment including hyperactivity, inattention, impulsivity, sensory sensitivity and other challenges, it is important to recognize all of their positive qualities and contributions including exuberance and excitement for learning, intelligence, creativity, ability to think outside the box, sensitivity to other's feelings, willingness to help and other fantastic gifts!

What will make the difference as these children move into adolescence and adulthood is how we, as the adults (parents/educators), treat them now. They need our assistance to channel that energy into positive activity and to promote/recognize their gifts. Another important role they need us to play is guiding them in a peer world that often finds their behaviors odd/annoying and as a result may reject them. ADHD children have so much to offer - they are very imaginative and they are loyal friends!

As a parent of a child with ADHD one faces many challenges including the stigma and lack of information out there. The best way for our children to be successful is to initiate and maintain a positive school partnership where we are working together.

Please feel free at anytime to contact this parent group if you are interested in more information, tools or other classroom assistance.  
[pac@sevenhillscharter.org](mailto:pac@sevenhillscharter.org)

If you have parents looking for any resources related to special education, IEPs/504 plans and other resources please make them aware of this group. Feel free to give them the email and/or website. Thanks!

### *Suggested books:*

**All Dogs Have ADHD** by Kathleen Hoopman  
Quick read that will make you laugh, cry and maybe have an AHA moment on the impact you have on these children's lives.

**Driven to Distraction** by Edward Hallowell, M.D.  
Great information

### *For more facts please visit:*

[http://www.adhdawarenessweek.org/content/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/ADHDAwareness\\_2011\\_FactPosters.pdf](http://www.adhdawarenessweek.org/content/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/ADHDAwareness_2011_FactPosters.pdf)

<http://www.additudemag.com/resources/advocacy.html>

### *For classroom ideas:*

[www.additudemag.com](http://www.additudemag.com) and click on School tab

For more information on the Special Education Parent Advisory Council please visit our website at [www.sevenhillssepac.webs.com](http://www.sevenhillssepac.webs.com)

Thank you for all of your hard work and daily dedication to our children!

Lee-Ann Johnson  
Parent Contact, SHCPS Special Education Parent Advisory Council

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