



Nelson Place School Parent Teacher Organization October, 2011



Welcome to our new families at Nelson Place School! Every parent is a member of the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). Our organization strives to complement the work of the dedicated NP staff and gives parents an opportunity to play an important role in their child's school experience. With your help, our PTO provides enrichment programs, library volunteers, family nights, school busses for field trips and much more! If you didn't have a chance to sign up for a committee at our September meeting, signup sheets for committees still in need of assistance will be available prior to the October meeting. Committee chairs and their contact information are available at www.nelsonplactpto.org if you have questions at any time. I look forward to working with each of you to make our children's experience the very best it can be at Nelson Place. Beth Proko, President

Update on School Building

At our PTO meeting on Monday, October 17 at 7pm, a representative from school plant will be on hand to discuss the status of Nelson Place School. While there may not be news on replacing the school, we feel it is important to know what WPS is doing to keep our students and staff safe and answer any questions in regards to the school's physical condition. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.

12th Annual Pumpkin Night

"Come one, come all to our 12th Annual Pumpkin Night!!! Pumpkin Night is Friday October 21, 2011, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. There will be music, food and plenty of pumpkins to decorate. We are currently looking for baskets to be donated in order to raffle them off that night. Past basket themes include: movie night, Halloween, beach, winter, reading, etc. We could also use more volunteers to help make this fun night a success. Please feel free to email Lori Rauktis at hikingmountains@hotmail.com or call 508-425-1548 to make a donation or volunteer. Thank you in advance for any help you may be able to offer. Here's to a FUN night!!!

Be on the look out! Coming in January we will have a Family Night at the Worcester Sharks. Look for the flyer to come home to reserve your tickets.

Books and Beyond and TRRIP

Thank you to those parents who volunteered to be classroom bookkeepers this year. We still need a volunteer for each of the following classes: Early, Robichaud and Emery. If you have a child in any of these classes, and would like to volunteer, please contact Jill, Colleen, or Lea at jill@androsfamily.com, colleenfisher@verizon.net or lcarnes9665@charter.net.

Student Highlights

Miss Quitadamo was recently informed that 16 of her former students have been selected for publication in the Summer, 2011 edition of a "Celebration of Poets." Those very talented poets include Grace Andros, Aaron Berry, Jahcere Bradshaw, Sydney Connole, Ryan Connor, Abigail Evers, Natalie Harris, Caitriona Houston, Ryan Le, Daniel Lemieux, Jamie O'Donnell, Annyelle Pego, Isabelle Perez, Arthemis Shqina, Karlie Sunden, and Elizabeth Zementowski. Congratulations!

Hole In The Wall Gang Update:

Late last June, five hospital Outreach Specialists visited and brought the spirit of the Camp to our school. Many of our students enjoyed playing ladder ball, writing mad-libs, and making bracelets. In return, our Nelson Place students were able to give these specialists 3 cartons of children's books, 3 cartons of arts and craft supplies, a \$1,000 check generously donated by one of our families, and the \$1,100 raised by our used book sale!

In the words of Karen Van Cleef: "Our Outreach Specialists have raving reviews of the Nelson Place students and school. As the person who unpacks and sorts generous donations like yours, I can confidently say the supplies and funds you raised will go to great use with the kids in the hospitals." It is indeed heartwarming to know that when one of our own students was recently a patient at Boston's Children Hospital, she was visited by the Outreach Specialist and had fun making projects with our donated supplies!



Upcoming Events

Friday, October 7th

No School: Staff Development

Monday, October 10th

No School: Columbus Day

Monday, October 17th

PTO Meeting: 7:00 p.m

Friday, October 21st

Pumpkin Night 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 27th

Parent/Teacher Conference
Students dismissed at 12:00

Friday, October 28th

Halloween Parade 1:00 pm
Grades K-1

Library Volunteers Needed!

The library is in need of volunteers to help out with library visits for the classes below. Please contact Peggi Harris at chaz@charter.net or at 508-853-2112 if you can help. Thank you!

Mrs. Meagher	Monday	11:20-11:50
Mr. Robichaud	Monday	12:40-1:10
Mrs. Friend	Tuesday	1:15-1:45
Ms. Ciociolo	Tuesday	2:00-2:30
Mrs. Snow	Wednesday	9:30-10:00
Mrs. Buffone	Wednesday	10:40-11:10 (am class), 12:40-1:10 (pm class)
Ms. Earley	Wednesday	2:00-12:30
Ms. Fowler	Wednesday	1:15-1:45
Mrs. Borus	Thursday	2:00-2:30
Ms. DeCiccio	Friday	11:20-11:50
Mrs. Cataldo	Friday	12:00-12:30
Mrs. Deacon	Friday	1:15-1:45
Mrs. Litwinowich	Friday	2:00-2:30

Assumption Neighbors Help Nelson Place

A week before the 2011-2012 school year began, NP was abuzz with activity as over 70 volunteers from Assumption College's Residential Life Program joined NP families and Mayor Joe O'Brien in a huge effort to clean up the school grounds in preparation for the arrival of students. Volunteers pulled weeds, spread clay on the baseball field, rototilled the playground base material and much, much more! Recently the Worcester Tree Initiative planted trees where the bushes were pulled from the driveway entrance. Thank you to all who helped make this day possible!

Enrichment

Once again this year, Books & Beyond, TRRIP (T-Rex Reading Incentive Program) and Enrichment have joined forces to present an exciting kick-off for this year's reading programs! Amelia Earhart will be visiting Nelson Place on Monday, October 24. Grades 1-3 will enjoy her presentation at 9:15 AM, followed by grades 4-6 beginning at 10:15 AM. The children will be encouraged to read about interesting people like Earhart, and to use the library to discover biographies for all reading levels. As part of the kick-off program, we will pick two names (one representing grades 1-3 and one representing grades 4-6) out of a hat and the lucky winners will each receive a biography of Amelia Earhart at their reading level. The raffled books are provided by the Steigman and Switzer families.

The Enrichment Committee has lots of ideas and energy to bring in fabulous presentations for our students. We are exploring programs that range from science to math to health/fitness. We always welcome new ideas or volunteers to present programs. Please send any ideas to Gretchen Switzer, Enrichment Chair at Switzers4@verizon.net. Thanks to the Nelson Place Community for your continued support. Gretchen

Fall Fundraiser a great Success!

Thank you to all who have participated in our fall fundraising activities! All proceeds will go in the PTO general fund which supports programs such as enrichment, fieldtrips, family events, and student supplies, just to mention a few. Yankee Candle Products will be delivered to the school mid-November, more info to follow. Entertainment books are still available to purchase! They are the one purchase that will pay for itself. Please contact Deb Steigman at 753-6419 or Dsteigo@verizon.net; or Tara Prentiss at 978-549-2275 or taraprentiss@gmail.com with any questions.

***If you would not like to purchase any products, but would like to support the good works of the PTO, please feel free to send in cash or check donation made out to the Nelson Place PTO.**

Operation Turkey

Every year before Thanksgiving, we collect canned goods, non-perishable food items, and monetary donations to be given to families in need within the Nelson Place Community so they can have a bountiful Thanksgiving feast. This year, we will begin collecting food and donations on Monday, November 7, and will accept contributions for two weeks. Please keep your eyes open for further instructions as Operation Turkey time draws near. Thank you. Kristina McGrath & Gretchen Switzer, co-chairs.

2011/2012 PTO OFFICERS

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