

February 11, 2010

Hardy Herald



CALENDAR

**Feb.15-19: School
Vacation- No School**

See the full calendar
on the Hardy website:
www.HardySchool.com

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Deborah D'Amico
Principal
Linda Garrity,
Secretary
781-316-3782

Claire Lewkowicz,
Nurse
781-316-3788

Todd Morse, HASP
781-316-3734

Safe Arrivals
Call 781-316-3780
or
e-mail:
Safe@HardySchool.com

*to report your child's
absence, tardiness or
dismissals before 8:30
a.m.*

Message from the principal

"Hope is not a naive, sunny view of life. It is the capacity not to panic in tight situations, to find ways and resources to address difficult problems."

- Michael Fullan

I have returned to this quote by Michael Fullan many times in recent days. Recognized as a worldwide authority on educational reform, Dr. Fullan has spent his career studying and evaluating change projects around the world. His writings on supporting what matters in schools are inspiring. So, when he speaks of "hope", I listen.

As we sort through the difficult budget situation in Arlington, it is easy to lose hope. However, as I walk the halls of Hardy, dropping into classrooms and witnessing adults and children at work, I see hope in action. Despite the uncertainty of what the future may bring, our teaching staff remains focused and confident and our children are happy and engaged. We love our work and it shows.

Evidence of authentic, joyful learning is everywhere:

- Second graders transition into a 40 minute Literacy Block with confidence as they gather materials needed, confer quietly with a friend, and settle in to do their best work.
- Kindergarteners wave eagerly to the audience as they prepare to perform in their very first Winter Concert.
- Third graders who have never threaded a needle work with growing skill on a quilt that will illustrate Hardy's Core Values.
- First graders huddle over 6 x 6 grid, puzzling together to complete a challenging Sudoku pattern.
- The entire school works together to raise over \$800.00 in earthquake relief for Haiti.

Because we are clear about what we value and what is important in our school, we know that, whatever comes our way, we will figure out how to support each other and use our resources to continue the work as best we can. We are grateful to our parent community for the support you have shown us. Your concern, your presence at meetings, your questions and offers of help mean more than we can say. With your support, we hold onto hope as we navigate these tight times together.

The Hardy Herald is published every other week on Thursday, taking vacations into consideration. The deadline for submitting articles is Tuesday, two days before publication. The Herald will be distributed via Hardy Parents e-mail group AND available on the Hardy website.

Please submit your article in the text of an e-mail to: Herald@hardyschool.com If you don't get a reply that it's been received, please re-submit!

Next Deadline:
Tuesday, February 23

IMPORTANT DATES

Find the entire APS 2009/2010 school calendar at:
http://www.arlington.k12.ma.us/news/09-10schoolcalendar_redirect.asp

NEW

The 2010/2011 APS calendar has been posted online:
http://www.arlington.k12.ma.us/news/10-11schoolcalendar_redirect.asp

Open Circle – 2d session

Parents who could not get into the first session have asked that we run a second session of the OPEN CIRCLE Parent Workshops (See Parent Forum Flyer for details)
If you are interested here is the information:

DATES: March 1, 8, (Mon.) and Tues March 16

WHERE: Whittemore-Robbins House; 670R Mass. Ave., Arlington

TIME: 7-9p.m.

RESERVATIONS NEEDED: Please call or e-mail Carlene Newell at 781-316-3571 or e-mail her at cnewell@arlington.k12.ma.us Please leave your e-mail address if calling and phone number if e-mailing.

There will be a \$25 charge for course materials. Checks may be made out to Town of Arlington and mailed to Carlene at AHS -Collomb House; 869 Mass. Ave., 02476

Calling all Box Tops!

Please get your Box Tops in by the end of February so we can make a Big Impact with our next turn-in which is March 1st! We've collected \$500 so far this year... let's shoot for at Least another \$500!

Box Tops can be put in baggies or envelopes, taped in groups of 10 to paper or submitted on the Box Tops Collection Sheet found as an attachment to this newsletter as well as in the wall holders outside the office in the main lobby. They can be turned in to the Box Tops Mailbox located outside the Nurse's Office in the Main Lobby or returned to your child's classroom.

Everyone who turns in Box Tops will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 Staples gift card!!! So please remember to include student's name, grade and teacher so they may be entered to win!!!

Thank you so much!
Sandy Jones
Box Tops Coordinator

*Overheard in a Kindergarten on "Hats for Haiti Day":
"Who is Haiti and why do we have to give her our hats?"*

Wilson Farm Shop Day to Support Hardy School

Thursday, February 25, 2010

Shop at Wilson Farm on Thursday, February 25th all day and help support the Hardy School. Just present the attached Flyer at check-out and 20% of your purchase total will be donated to Hardy by Wilson Farm! Don't forget to bring the flyer and share them with your family, friends and neighbors!

Flyers are also available on the Hardy School Web site: <http://www.hardyschool.com/> and may be picked up in the wall holders outside the office in the main lobby.

Parent Forum

“TODAY’S PRESSURE COOKER AND GIRLS’ MENTAL HEALTH

For parents of girls, grades 4-12

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Stratton School 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Girls are facing increasing pressures with friendships, peers, cliques, popularity, school, puberty, sex and sexuality and the numerous transitions that take place from ages 9-17. These pressures are contributing to mental health risks for girls at the edge of adolescence and depression is increasing in girls along with anxiety and issues of low self esteem and negative body image. Often, the subtle signs of depression and anxiety are mistaken for typical mood swings, or typical “tween” and teen angst. If we know and notice the circumstances, the risks, signals and symptoms specific for girls’ depression, we can help prevent mental health problems. This talk, for parents, teachers, and counselors, will provide valuable insight into the lives of girls in grades 4-12, the risk factors for depression as well as prevention and intervention strategies for adults to help recognize signals of distress along with strategies to help girls cope and develop resilience.

Presenter Dr. Lisa Machoian, Ed.M., Ed.D. is a Harvard trained developmental psychologist and psychotherapist and author of *The Disappearing Girl: Learning the Language of Teenage Depression*. She is a national expert on child and adolescent mental health. She was on the faculty at Harvard University Graduate School of Education where she taught courses on risk and resilience in girls’ and boys’ psychosocial development. She lectures and conducts workshops locally and nationally on girls’ development, child and adolescent development, and consults to schools, organizations and parents. She has appeared on television and radio and has been interviewed for Seventeen, Cosmopolitan, and Family Circle magazines as well as by many newspapers. Dr. Machoian is on the expert panel for the Beacon Street Girls/B’tween Productions Book Series and for Parenting Teens Online where she answers questions from parents. She has a private practice in Wellesley, Massachusetts. She holds a doctorate and master’s degree from Harvard University and lives in Cambridge.

