

# Deer Hill School News

## November 14, 2014

### Important Dates:

Nov. 15	10:00 – 4:00 pm PSO Holiday Boutique
Nov. 16	CEF Spelling Bee, CMHS Auditorium
Nov. 23	METCO Program Pizza Bowl, 3:00 – 5:00
Nov. 26	Early release (12:40)
Nov. 27	Thanksgiving, No School
Nov. 28	No School
Dec. 1 – 5	Circus Week
Dec. 5	Circus Performance, 5 <sup>th</sup> grade, 7:00 pm

### Advance Sales to the Deer Hill Circus

Tickets to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade Deer Hill Circus will be available to **families of fifth grade students only** in the school office during the week of December 1<sup>st</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$5 each. Tickets will be sold at the door on the night of the 5<sup>th</sup> if there is leftover capacity.

### Come to the Cohasset METCO Host Family \$ Friends Bowling Pizza Party!

Sunday, November 23, 2014

South Shore Country Club,  
274 South Street, Hingham, MA

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

All Cohasset METCO families, host families and all Deer Hill families are invited to attend!

\$20.00 per Family

Please RSVP to Ms. Aleisa at (781) 383-2804 by November 19, 2014



### DEER HILL PSO

#### PSO Holiday Boutique

Bring your gift list, your wallet, and your neighbor this Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> from 10am-4pm in the Deer Hill Gymnasium. We will have many wonderful vendors on hand to jump start your holiday shopping. Stop by the PSO Bake Sale and don't forget to buy raffle tickets for the fabulous door prize donations from our vendors. Visit the Cohasset PSO Facebook page and browse the vendor spotlights. Hope to see you there!

#### PSO Fruit Fundraiser

Thank you to all who participated in the fruit sale! Please keep an eye out for an email with delivery dates and times for fruit pick up. We are scheduled for an early December delivery!

#### PSO Deer Hill Playground Renovation

**Thank you to our Girl Scouts!** On Veterans Day, three of Cohasset's Girl Scout and Brownie troops joined together to further improve our brand new playground. They painted a four square, hopscotch and six line-up lines. A big thank you to the Deer Hill students and graduates who participated: Caroline Brinzey, Claire Harvey, Madeline Synnestvedt, Ainsley Allen, Logan Finn, Holiday Host, Becca

Palmer, Molly Naples, Peyton  
Lord, Abigail Fish, Lidia  
Jeffers, Charlotte Ivimey, Tess St. John,  
Whilhelmina St. John, Natasha Arnold,  
Eimer Casey, Ava Fusco, Lauren  
Belefontaine, Julia Gallagher and  
Anastasia St. John.

### **Fifth Grade Fundraiser**

Just a friendly reminder to fifth grade families...Only a couple more days to sell! Kinnealey Meat orders are due Monday, November 17th. Please be sure to submit your checks (made out to *Cohasset Middle School*) along with the Student Summary Sheet. Keep the student portion of the order form for reference when delivering your orders. If you have any questions please let us know!

Thank you,  
Stacy Heinlein & Beth Mullaly

### **A message from Dr. deChiara,**

At the last PSO meeting, I explained a change to one of the Massachusetts General Laws that relates overall to school discipline. Many of the changes do not pertain to the majority of students at Deer Hill School, but there is one change many of you may notice.

In an effort to reduce truancy throughout the state, school principals are now required to send a letter to parents and guardians of students who have accumulated five or more unexcused absences, explaining that attendance is crucial to learning and unexcused absences are detrimental to students' achievement. Principals have always been required to send such notices home

after a large number of absences, but this is the first time "unexcused absences" has been defined to include days when the family is away from school on vacation. The number (5) is a lesser number of absences that must "trigger" than before as well. The letter must be filed in the students' cumulative file. The law does not change for "excused absences" which includes days when children are sick or bereaved.

Please know that I do respect parents' and guardian's prerogative in taking their children out of school for a special occasion, but also that it is the responsibility of all educators to promote consistent attendance and to point out the potential adverse impact on children's learning if there are too many unexcused absences. I have always felt it my responsibility to send this as a clear message, but because of the change to the law, I have no discretion in the matter.

*Reminder: Students should arrive at school between 8:20 and 8:30 am. We are not able to provide supervision prior to that time period.*

*If you've not already done so, please send in a picture of your child for the picture board in Dr. deChiara's office.*