

# Deer Hill School News

## October 17, 2014

### Important Dates:

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|---------|--|
| Oct. 20 | Fifth grade field trip to Museum of Science                  |
| Oct. 22 | Early Release Day, 12:40 (Conferences)                       |
| Oct. 23 | Early Release Day, 12:40 (Conferences)                       |
| Oct. 31 | Third grade field trip to Plimouth Plantation                |
| Nov. 4  | SEPAC meeting and speaker                                    |
| Nov. 5  | Early Release for Prof. Development (12:40)                  |
| Nov. 7  | Veteran's Day Ceremony (students, staff, and Veteran's only) |
| Nov. 11 | Veteran's Day (no school)                                    |

### EMC Fall Program

Students began the fall session of EMC ("Enrich, Motivate, Challenge") on October 15<sup>th</sup>. In this schoolwide enrichment program, all teachers create their own programs based on their interests. Many of the classes are multi-grade. One benefit of the program is that students get to know other students outside of their classrooms and different teachers outside their grade level. In this way it's a great community builder! Fifth graders are guaranteed their first choice at least for one session. (There is a fall session and a spring session, each lasting 10 classes.) Some classes are reserved for third graders only, in order to ensure our third graders are not always pushed out of their first choice.



### Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) EVENTS

#### ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURIES

November 4, 2014

7:00 – 8:30 pm

Paul Pratt Library, Community Room

Presented by Dr. Janet Kent, founding director of South Shore Impact Clinic and Marissa Frank, DPT. As a parent you are expected to take a class on Concussions when you sign up your child for sports. Come and learn in depth the cause, signs and treatments of concussions and other Acquired Brain Injuries. A student with an ABI may receive assistance and educational accommodations from the Student Service Department while healing, in the form of an IEP or 504 plan.

For more information regarding Cohasset SEPAC, please visit our website at [www.CohassetSEPAC.org](http://www.CohassetSEPAC.org). As always, the meeting is free and open to the public.

### Safe Drop Off

AM drop off should occur in the back of the building, at the door next to the gymnasium. That door is open and supervised from 8:20 to 8:30, and then locked again at 8:30. If you need to drop off your child at the front of the building before 8:30, **please park your car and walk your child across the bus lane.** It is **too dangerous to let**

**students cross through the buses** without parental supervision and cars are not allowed in the bus lane before 8:30.

### **It is Box Top collection time!**

If we could encourage every student to bring in boxtops **every month** (ask grandparents, aunts, uncles, empty nesters and neighbors) they do add up!

Wouldn't it be great if each child felt ownership of the process, by donating boxtops? Have your child look for the boxtops on products at home, ask them to cut them out or tear them off, and turn them in.

There is a receptacle in each classroom set up for boxtop collection. Each month a rotating trophy goes to the classroom turning in the most boxtops. Our next big deadline is **October 24**. We appreciate and all benefit by **turned in** boxtops. Don't let them go out with the trash!

### **Public Health in the News**

The following memo came to schools from Mitchell Chester, Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education for Massachusetts:

“As you are likely aware, the United States has been experiencing a nationwide outbreak of enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) associated with severe respiratory illness that has been especially harmful to children.

At the same time, you and your communities may also have questions about the Ebola virus. To address both public health concerns, the U.S. Department of Education and our federal health partners have a number of informational resources to share with you.”

**What Parents Need to Know about Enterovirus D68:** Informational Website from Center for Disease Control

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/evd68/>

“Almost all of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-confirmed cases this year of EV-D68 infection have been among children. Many of the children had asthma or a history of wheezing. Many parents continue to be worried about the outbreak and want information about what they can do to prevent illness and protect themselves and their families. The CDC has developed information and resources for parents about EV-D68.”

“Yesterday, the CDC issued a [press release](#) sharing news about a new lab test developed by CDC for EV-D68 which will allow more rapid testing of specimens. Because of this new test, confirmed cases of EV-D68 will appear to rise rapidly over the next 7-10 days as specimen testing accelerates. However, changes in case counts won't represent a real-time influx of new cases.”

“Remember too, as enterovirus season is expected to taper off, flu activity usually begins to increase in October. While there is not a vaccine to prevent illness from enteroviruses, the single best way to protect against the flu is to get vaccinated each year. Many resources for parents and others can be found on the [CDC flu website](#). CDC recommends that **ALL** children 6 months old or older get a flu vaccine.”

### **Mrs. Costa's Chronicles**

I am excited to announce that starting this year each newsletter will include a small section with new and exciting information from the Counselor's office!

Impressive things are happening here already! There is a new parent board in the main office containing up to date parenting articles and a small but helpful parent library in my lunch room. Looking for something in particular, let me know. Drop by and check them out!

Helpful links:

Looking for an outside provider?  
Check out these new resources offered on  
the South Shore!

<http://bit.ly/interfacesouthshore>

6 Life Skills Kids Need for the Future!

<http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/thinking-skills-learning-styles/6-life-skills-kids-need-future>

The Halloween Candy Decoder

<http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/parent-child/halloween-candy-decoder>

Please feel free to contact me at any point  
with questions or concerns.

[rcosta@cohassetk12.org](mailto:rcosta@cohassetk12.org) or at  
781.383.6115.

Robyn Lotspeich-Costa, M.A., LMHC, E.T.  
School Adjustment Counselor

## **PSO**

**Fundraising:** We have an exciting new fruit fundraiser beginning next Friday, 10/24. The sale will run from 1024 through 11/10. Flyers and order forms will be sent home in backpacks. The fruit will be arriving just in time for the holidays, (date to be announced, but in the first week or two in December.) The fruit will all be delivered to the school where it can be picked up at designated times. We are really excited about this new sale and hope your families are too!

Also, we have a few outstanding coupon books that have not been returned or paid for. If you still have one, please send it back in with your child to give to his or her teacher (boxes are in the main office) or send in payment of \$25 (check payable to Cohasset PSO). It's not too late to purchase

if you want an additional book for a gift or family member.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding fundraisers, please don't hesitate to contact Sue Shepherd at [stafrate@aol.com](mailto:stafrate@aol.com).

## **The Bee is Back!! 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Cohasset Education Spelling Bee**

The Cohasset Education Foundation is excited to host its 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Spelling Bee on Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, at the Middle School/High School Auditorium. All children in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to participate in this fun community event. Register your speller on-line at [www.cohasseteducation.org](http://www.cohasseteducation.org) for the Bee. There will be tee-shirts and ribbons for all who spell and trophies to the teams that spell most well!! There is a \$25 fee per speller which is a tax-deductible donation to the Cohasset Education Foundation. Please join in the fun and help promote excellence in Cohasset's public education.

*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.*