

THE PIERCE SCHOOL BROADSHEET

Issue 18 - 5/14/09

PTO NEWS is also available online at <http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org>

The Pierce School Broadsheet

Dear (Contact First Name),

Welcome to the current issue of the Pierce School Broadsheet, published every other Thursday by the Pierce PTO. There is a Firm Deadline for submissions of Monday at 2:00 p.m. on the week of publication. The remaining publication dates for this school year are: 5/14/09, 5/28/09 & 6/11/09. Please drop notices in the Broadsheet box in the PTO/Outreach Office; mail to PTO Newsletter, Pierce School, 50 School St., Brookline 02446; or email (preferred!) to: Piercebroadsheet@gmail.com.

*PAPERLESS*

We hope that you will continue to enjoy our Paperless issues. If you know families who would like to be on our e-mail list, please mention that they can sign up on the Pierce web site at <http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org>.

Paper versions of the Broadsheet will be available outside the main office.

www.pierceschoolbrookline.org - Main # 617-730-2580 Please Recycle! You may want to include a personal greeting, a note or editorial written by the owner of your company. By including a photo, you can make your greeting even more personal.

Sincerely,

Felina Mucha-Cyr, Editor, Pierce Broadsheet
Pierce School PTO

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Save the Date

Thursday, May 14, 2009 **MCAS testing** Friday, May 15, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Monday, May 18, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Tuesday, May 19, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Wednesday, May 20, 2009 **MCAS testing** Thursday, May 21, 2009 **Community Breakfast** (8:00am)
Thursday, May 21, 2009 **MCAS testing**
Friday, May 22, 2009 **Memorial Day assembly, K-8**
Tuesday, May 26, 2009 **Pierce Book Fair** (2 - 7:30 pm) Pierce Auditorium
Tuesday, May 26, 2009 **Pajama Night - Grades K & 1** (6:30 pm) **Guest Reader: Mr. David Weinstein**
Wednesday, May 27, 2009 **Last Day of Pierce Early Morning Math Program for the School Year**
Wednesday, May 27, 2009 **Pierce Book Fair** (7:30 am - 6:30 pm) Pierce Auditorium
Wednesday, May 27, 2009 **Pajama Night - Grades 2, 3, 4** (6:30 pm) **Guest Reader: Ms. Ginny Carroll**
Thursday, May 28, 2009 **Last Day of Pierce Early Morning Reading Program for the School Year**
Thursday, May 28, 2009 **Pierce Book Fair** (7:30 am - 7:30 pm) Pierce Auditorium
Sunday, May 31, 2009 **Brookline Bikes Beacon Bicycle Parade** (12:30 Start at Amory Park)
Friday, June 5, 2009 **2nd Grade Sing** (8:30 - 9:00 a.m. in the Auditorium) All parents and community friends are invited Tuesday, June 9, **The Annual Pierce Picnic** (5:30-8 pm) Pierce Park
Wednesday, June 10, **Rain Date for The Annual Pierce Picnic** (5:30-8pm) Pierce Park



"Simply...Thank You!" Thank you to every member of the Pierce community who helped make the Simply Pierce Party & Auction a success. We had fun, raised money and celebrated our fabulous Pierce community in style. The classroom baskets raised an amazing \$4825!
Jackie Rossey and Blanka Bogdanovic

Community Potluck Breakfast

Come join other parents at the Pierce Community Potluck Breakfast on Thursday, May 21st from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. in the cafeteria.



Please bring something to share with others. Hope to see you there.

State Regional Science Fair

Two (2) Pierce 6th grade students won Honorable Mention awards at the Massachusetts Regional Science Fair this past weekend. They explored wind turbines as part of the competition. Both will now advance to the State Fair competition in June.

Pierce Student Wins 1st Place in Gadsby Art Awards. The 7th grade student won the 1st place art award for his collage piece. The collage will be framed and on display at the Brookline Arts Center in June.

On Pets and Safe Access at Pierce

Safe access in, out and between School Buildings is very important here at Pierce where outside space and pathways are limited. We need to work together to make sure that all children are able to get to their caregivers or afterschool activities as easily as possible. As the weather warms up, people understandably want to bring their pets to pick-up. We ask that dog owners refrain from bringing their dogs into the transition routes or tying their dogs in the pathway, especially near the entrances to the school buildings. This does create a safety concern.

We ask that if you bring your pets to pick up, please attach their leashes to a tree or other object that is away from the main pathway or carefully hold on to them at a distance from where the children are transitioning. This would ensure a safer, easier transition for our students to and from the school buildings at pick-up.

Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

Mr. Badger, Vice Principal
Dr. Smith-Mumford, Principal
Pierce Elementary School
Brookline, MA
(617) 730-2580
Fax (617) 264-6468

Pierce School Early Morning Math and Early Morning Reading

The last day for early morning math will be, Wednesday, May 27, 2009
The last day for early morning reading will be, Thursday, May 28, 2009

As of Monday, June 1, 2009, please make sure that if your child arrives to school early that he/she goes to the cafeteria and not the pit.

Thank you to all of the teachers who volunteered their time to make this program possible.

We look forward to seeing your children again next year.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Susan Leipman at susan_leipman@brookline.k12.ma.us.

****THE PIERCE BOOK FAIR****

MAY 26-28

Pierce Auditorium

Tuesday, May 26th: 2pm - 7:30pm

Wednesday, May 27th: 7:30am - 7:30pm

Thursday, May 28th: 7:30am - 6:30pm



No need to go to a book store, buy your books at the Pierce Book Fair and support Pierce School at the same time!

The Pierce Book Fair features...

- * New books from the Book Fair Company; Pierce receives 20% of these sales.
- * \$1 Used books; Pierce receives 100% of these sales.
- * Brookline Required Summer ReadingList Books.
- * Teacher Wish Lists: Purchase a book selected by your Pierce teachers; we will deliver it, wrapped with a book plate.

Of course, whether or not you are interested in purchasing anything, your Used Books are always welcome. Please donate books by dropping them in the barrel below the stairs between the main office and the cafeteria.

Please volunteer to help during this worthwhile event, contact: Jessica - jessroland@gmail.com - 617-739-9022.

Please sign up by clicking on this link: <http://spreadsheets.google.com/cc?key=r9rf1j6orkV1pBbJHLU4AyQ>. Thank you for your support.

****PIERCE BOOK FAIR EVENTS ****

* Grades K & 1 PAJAMA NIGHT--Tuesday, May 26th- 6:30 pm — Guest reader: Mr. David Weinstein

* Grade 2, 3, 4 PAJAMA NIGHT - Wednesday, May 27th 6:30 pm — Guest reader: Ms. Ginny Carroll

The Pierce School Picnic The annual end of the year Pierce Picnic will be held on Tuesday June 9.



We will gather in the evening in Pierce Park, dine on food brought from home or bought at the picnic, enjoy ice cream sundaes, play games and enjoy being together as the year draws to a close. This event is organized by the parents through the PTO. Invaluable help also comes from the janitorial staff. Billy is famous for his organization of the games. We will need volunteers to help with set up, scooping sundaes, clean up, activities during the picnic and most importantly we need a D.J. Our wonderful D.J., Wes Narrone is no longer available. Is there someone out there with expertise and equipment who would be willing to step forward and fill in? If so please contact Adele Munger Mathieu at madelemm@gmail.com. Thank you and watch this space for more information.

The John Pierce School Walk for Hunger team has now reached \$14,430, and are currently ranked 5th in the state (behind Arbella, Autoparts International, and Trinity Church Boston, among fundraising teams, many of whom are big corporations!) 55 of us walked, and 50 finished the entire 20 mile course! What an amazing day. A huge thank you goes out to all of the many members of the Pierce Community who have sponsored our cause -- we could not have done this without each and every one of you.

If you would still like to donate, donations can still be made to the team online, through the end of this month. Please feel free to contact the team with questions about the Walk for Hunger or our team. Please visit <http://www.projectbread.org/goto/jamielyons>.

Jamie Lyons

7th Grade US History/English

The Pierce School -- Room 24

<http://www.mrslyonsonline.com>

A Request from The Pierce School Extended Day Program

Dear Pierce School Community,

The Pierce School Extended Day program is collecting gently used magazines for Kinderharvest. Kinderharvest (www.kinderharvest.org) is a non-profit organization that collects magazines and distributes them to early learning & low-income after-school centers, homeless & domestic violence shelters, and disaster relief programs. Popular kids magazines include: Highlights, High Five, Ranger Rick, Baby Bug, Sports Illustrated for Kids, National Geographic for Kids, Cricket, Jack and Jill, Ladybug, Time for Kids, Nick Jr., and Weekly Reader. We will also accept Women's magazines including Oprah, Better Homes and Gardens, House Beautiful, and Ladies Home Journal. The magazines will be sorted and privacy labels will be put on each.

There will be two collection sites at The Pierce School: one will be near the front office and the other will be outside the PSED office in the Historic Building.

Take the opportunity to do some spring cleaning and help others at the same time!

Sincerely,
The Pierce School Extended Day

Save the Date!

Brookline Bikes Beacon Bicycle Parade
Sunday, May 31
Amory Park
12:30 PM start

Free and safe community celebration for bicycle riders and spectators Two parades starting and finishing at the same place: A shorter one for younger children (grades 1-4) and their parents/guardians and a longer parade for bike riders 10 years old and older. Go to www.BrooklineBikes.org for more information.

Pierce Problem of the Week #16

Marbles Give-Away!

A fourth grader in 4L was giving away some marbles. He gave $\frac{1}{2}$ of them to a friend in 4S. Then he gave $\frac{2}{3}$ of the remaining ones to another friend in 4H. If he ended up with 10 marbles, how many did he have when he started?



Answer to the Pierce POW# 15

My Vacation Money

1 ten dollar bill
1 one dollar bill
7 quarters
1 dime
3 nickles

Brookline's TRACK + FIELD MEET is COMING!

5th + 6th Graders will be competing Wednesday May 27th (with a rain date of Thurs. 5/28)

7th + 8th Graders will be competing Friday May 29th (with a rain date of Mon. JUNE 1st)

It will be held at Downes/ Kraft Field from 9am to 2pm. The boys running events and girls field events will begin the day. After lunch, the boys will compete in the field events and the girls will run in the track events. So come cheer on your son or daughter or cheer on just Pierce!

It's a great time and a good way to show your Pierce Pride!

There will be track and field practices offered at Pierce after school for those competing. Have your son/ daughter look for the practice schedule in the gym.

Latest News

Upcoming SEPAC Meeting Out-of-District Parents' Gathering - Tuesday, May 19th from 7:30-9 pm at the home of Mary Ann McDonough and Lester Shoap, 164 Gardner Rd. Parents with children in out-of-district placements are invited for coffee, dessert, conversation and a chance to say goodbye to Vickie Charlton, out-of-district coordinator, who is retiring. Please rsvp to lestershoap@comcast.net if you wish to attend. Questions? Write emwalpert@gmail.com, lestershoap@comcast.net, or ddanning@rcn.com.

Treating Explosive Kids author to speak

When adults rethink challenging kids, amazing things can happen. Dr. Stuart Ablon, co-author of *Treating Explosive Kids*, the Collaborative, Problem-Solving Approach and Beth Edelstein, OT/L, bring expertise from their Think:Kids program at MGH to present *Through a Developmental Lens: A New Approach for Understanding and Helping the Child with Behavioral Challenges*. Learn about an innovative, collaborative approach to helping children with challenging behavior develop the skills they need to solve problems, handle frustration and be flexible. Monday, May 18, 7-9 pm, Heath School Auditorium, 100 Eliot St., Brookline. Approved for teacher professional development credit. Co-sponsored by the Brookline Education Foundation and Brookline Special Education Parents Advisory Council (SEPAC).

Welcome to the Pierce GREEN Corner:

TIP: It's great to conserve water. It saves energy and an important natural resource. Consider turning the water off while you brush your teeth.

The next GREEN Team meeting will be held on Thursday May 14th at 8am.

School menu—The school menu will no longer be distributed on paper. Check the website for this month's information: <http://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/NR/rdonlyres/F11BCF49-7AC4-4986-A1E8-2F775BDD205A/2797/May2009.pdf>

Join Our Mailing List <http://visitor.constantcontact.com/email.jsp?m=1102166646585>

Thank you for your interest and support!

Sincerely,

Felina

Felina-Marie Mucha-Cyr
Editor, The Pierce School Broadsheet
piercebroadsheet@gmail.com



Printing Current and Past Issues of the Broadsheet: Consider reducing paper and printing a more user friendly version of this broadsheet and any past issue by visiting: <http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org/Broadsheet.shtml>. Thank you for thinking GREEN.

Broadsheet Publication Dates for 2008-2009

09/11/08 * 09/25/08 * 10/09/08 * 10/23/08 * 11/06/08 * 11/20/08 * 12/04/08 * 12/18/08 *
01/08/09 * 01/22/09 * 02/05/09 * 02/19/09 * 03/05/09 * 03/19/09 * 04/02/09 * 04/16/09
04/30/09 * 05/14/09 05/28/09 06/11/09 * **Past Issues available online**

Welcome to the Pierce School Community Classified

Lots of folks in Brookline want to reach the Pierce School Community. We'd like to keep the Broadsheet focused on school news as much as possible, so occasionally we will send out the Pierce Community Classifieds as well. If you'd like to place your ad here, please email Felina Mucha-Cyr. A small fee may apply depending on the nature of your news or organization. Notices and ads are printed as space permits, without PTO endorsement. We reserve the right to edit all copy.

Brookline babysitter available between 2:30-5:30/6, four or five days a week. Has valid driver's license (no car) and can do after school pickup. Please contact Ingrid Holm at: 510-917-4348 (cell) or ingridenzian.holm@gmail.com.

Pierce parent/beginning drummer looking for other Pierce parents to play music with - maybe start a band! Ann Abrams ohvetshokolad@rcn.com

Find Space to Create!

Abeille offers a wide selection of gifts, rubber stamps, and jewelry making supplies.

Come learn how to make cool fashion jewelry using beads, origami, and recycled materials. Or take a sewing class to learn how to make stylish headbands. The opportunities are endless!

We're located at the gateway to Brookline Village, just steps from the Pierce School. Stop in for a visit!



45 Harvard Street • Brookline Village, MA 02445
+1.617.232.4343 • store@abeille.us • www.abeille.us



10% OFF

- beads
- findings
- tools
- rubber stamps
- papers

coupon expires July 31, 2009

League of Women Voters of Brookline: Now Conducting a Study to Learn More About the Experience of Public Elementary School Children Growing Up in Brookline

As part of the study, the League has designed a short survey for parents and middle school students to answer on line. **Why Should Parents Participate in the Survey?** The Town of Brookline, like all municipalities, is facing the need to make budget cuts. The survey, assuming that at least 10% of parents from each school respond, will provide important information regarding meeting the community needs of Brookline's young public school children. Answering just the 5 basic questions that make up the survey, can highlight which Town resources are being well-utilized by our kids....and where more money needs to be invested. The data could help set priorities in the Town's budget as future cuts are considered, and parents could add their voices to this decision-making process.

Responses from the survey can guide Brookline in equalizing the out-of-school recreational and other free-time resources for kids throughout the town.

5 Questions is All It Takes! The survey is quick to fill out (one for each child in the household in grades K-8). And, a second "detail" page offers parents the opportunity to add more comments. All responses will be aggregated by school, so that no individual data will be retained. This is a confidential survey.

The New Deadline is June 22nd. The survey has just been extended to the end of the current school year, June 22nd. Please go to the League of Women Voters of Brookline web site for the links to the survey: www.lwvbrookline.org. Thanks to the Many Parents Who Have Already Responded!

Janice Kahn, LWV Brookline jske514@aol.com

Brookline Village House for Sale Now's the time to move into the perfect neighborhood! Lovely house right next to Emerson Park in Brookline Village, a quick walk to schools, library and public transportation and fabulous neighbors! 2200 sf, 5BR, 2.5 BA, top floor has master bedroom with skylights, walk in closet and master bath, second floor has four bedrooms, first floor has LR, DR, sunroom and kitchen. Wonderful side garden for your evening summer barbecues and full sun for your tomatoes! Porch, dry basement, one parking. Price dropped to \$689K ! Contact Elie at elie3@mac.com or call 617-256-4727 for more information.

Brookline Music School Performs the Beatles' Abbey Road Album at Pine Manor College The Final Concert in the School's Beatles Concert Trilogy

Chestnut Hill, MA -- May 16 & 17, 2009 Following two outstanding 40th anniversary concerts of Beatles' albums, Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band in 2007 and White Album in 2008, Brookline Music School will complete their Beatles concert trilogy with Abbey Road.

Nearly 100 Brookline Music School students and faculty will perform exciting new arrangements of the songs from one of The Beatles' most successful and beloved albums, including Here Comes the Sun, Something, Golden Slumbers, and Octopus's Garden. The past two years' concerts were sold-out events, receiving rave press reviews. This final Beatles concert is not to be missed! The concept of performing The Beatles albums was the brainchild of the School's Jazz/Rock Ensemble Coordinator, John Purcell, who is again an integral part of this year's performance. Purcell had this to say about Abbey Road: "The Beatles were truly greater than the sum of their parts, and when they disbanded to pursue separate careers they left their best work behind them. They also left behind millions of people who loved their music so deeply that nothing would ever take its place. They understood this well enough, and wrote their own epitaph: "And, in the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make."

The event will take place at Pine Manor College's Ellsworth Theater (400 Heath Street, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467) on Saturday, May 16th at 7:30pm and Sunday, May 17th at 2:00pm.

Tickets are \$15 General Admission and \$30 Preferred Seating. Discounts are available for group tickets. Call 617-277-4593 or email tickets@bmsmusic.org, with "Beatles Tickets" in the heading. For more information, visit our website at www.bmsmusic.org.

About Brookline Music School:

Brookline Music School seeks to awaken and nurture musical interest, appreciation, and artistic excellence in a friendly and stimulating atmosphere; to offer a high standard of comprehensive music instruction to people of all ages and backgrounds from the local community; and to serve the community by teaching in multiple locations, offering generous tuition assistance, and sponsoring a full schedule of concerts and public performances throughout the year.

Pierce teacher available for tutoring. 10 years teaching experience, certified English and history, experienced tutoring students in grades 6-12. Excellent references available. Areas of expertise include English (reading and writing skills through college level), math (remedial through 10th grade), science (through 8th grade), social studies (through college level), Spanish (1st and 2nd year), organization skills, summer reading and math, SAT/ACT prep, college application support and more. Now taking on new students (entering grades 6, 8, or 9-12) for limited spring slots, or a wide range of summer slots. Contact Jamie Lyons at jamie_d26@mac.com for more information, rates, or to schedule a free consultation session.

Jamie Lyons
7th Grade US History/English
The Pierce School -- Room 24
<http://www.mrslyonsonline.com>

Please donate to the Walk for Hunger and support the Pierce Team! Visit <http://www.projectbread.org/goto/jamielyons>

Tutoring now and over the summer

Reading Specialist/Learning Support Teacher with many years supporting children in reading, writing and study skills. Master's in Education, Reading Recovery Certification (early intervention reading/writing program), and many years' experience including school administration. I can provide academic assessments and also evaluations to understand your child's learning style.

Excellent results. Reasonable rates.

Please call Maxene at 781-956-2805 or send an email to: Maxenelorroway@comcast.net

ActiveMinds Tutoring, LLC: Your source for in-home tutoring. Effective, Personalized and Convenient. All grades/all subjects, including test preparation (MCAS, SAT, SSAT...). Sign your child up for academic success and receive 1 free lesson by May 15. Call: (617) 663-5700 during business hours, or (617) 227-2225 Eve/Wknds. Please visit our web site at www.activemindstutoring.com.

Brookline Grammar School Carnival (Sunday May 17th, 3-5 pm): Don't miss this one! Please make time in your family's calendar to spend this Sunday afternoon with us for our 1st annual Grammar School Carnival @ Waldstein Park. The entire NETRESULTS summer instructional team will be on hand to provide free lessons and clinics for your enjoyment. We will also have food and refreshments provided by Boston Pita Pit and Smartwater. HEAD/Penn will provide you the opportunity to test out all the newest technology in HEAD frames and will provide gifts and prizes. Last year's popular addition to the party was Brookline's very own Henry Santoro who along with WFNX, will be providing the tunes and will MC the event.

Summer Piano Lessons Available Have you been thinking about trying piano lessons for your child (or yourself!) but aren't quite sure you're ready to commit? Summer is the perfect time to explore the piano without the pressures of homework and after school sports. Piano teacher with years of experience and a degree in Music from Berklee is offering "Exploring Piano" lesson packages this summer. All package options at a discounted summer price, including thirty minute lessons at a rate of 4 for \$200, 6 for \$280, or 8 for \$350. Forty five minute lesson packages also available. Now accepting students age 5 to adult.

Contact Gregory Lyons with questions or to schedule via email at gregory_lyons@parkschool.org

Piano Instruction - about 1 mile from Pierce Learn Jazz/Blues/Classical, theory, sightreading from a Berklee & New England Conservatory graduate with 25+ years teaching experience. Build a high quality musical foundation with a patient, caring instructor. Beginners welcome. Gloria Jasinski, phone: 617-566-9704, email: piano566@comcast.net.

The Sunday School for Jewish Studies is now accepting registrations for grades K-7 for the 2009-2010 school year. The Sunday School provides a liberal, egalitarian approach to Jewish education in classes held Sunday mornings. Beginning September, 2009, the school will move to its new location at the OakHillSchool in Newton. The curriculum includes Hebrew, Jewish holidays, traditions, ethics, Bible stories, contemporary history and music. Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation is available but not required, and students may enter in any grade. Interfaith and nontraditional families are welcome. For additional information about the Sunday School for Jewish Studies, please call 617-264-8855 or visit www.sundayschoolforjewishstudies.org

Registration for 2009-2010 School Year: Brookline Music School is accepting returning student registrations now! Register early for the best selection of days and times. Families will hear from the school over the summer to arrange the details of the lesson placement. New students may register in July. Sign up for a Summer Arts program, dance class, beginning instrument, theory or technology class, or private instruction. For a schedule of Summer Programs visit www.bmsmusic.org. **Private Instruction** Summer is the perfect time to learn a new instrument or to get a head start on the upcoming school year. Scheduling is flexible - sign up for as few or as many lessons as you'd like. Lessons are offered all summer and are taught at Kennard House. Instruction available for: Accordion, Baritone/Euphonium, Banjo, Bassoon, Cello, Clarinet, Composition, Flute, French Horn, Guitar and Bass Guitar, Harp, Harpsichord, Marimba, Music Technology, Oboe, Percussion, Piano, Recorder, Saxophone, Theory, Trombone, Trumpet, Ukelele, Vibraphone, Viola, Violin, and Voice. **Private Tuition Rates** Please call for Private Tuition rates. Lesson duration may be 30, 45 or 60 minutes in length. There are no registration fees in the summer.

First Parish in Brookline Hosts Art for the Planet Fun(D)raising Party in Celebration of the Earth

Call for Artists: Historic First Parish, active as a community center for concerts, classes, rehearsals and meetings, in addition to Unitarian Universalist worship, invites all area artists -- professional and amateur alike -- to be part of the upcoming ART FOR THE PLANET. This festive community exhibit/party June 6 will raise funds to support First Parish's commitment to "go green." In the fun spirit of an old-fashioned Yankee Swap, everyone who attends will have the opportunity to go home with one of the art works, which will be awarded by lottery. Donated pieces of art reflecting in some way your connection to our planet should be no larger than 6 x 8 inches in size in any two-dimensional medium and be signed on the back. Contributing artists admitted to the June 6 party FREE! Please call Nick Peterson at 617.232.2004 for more specific information. Deadline for drop off at First Parish, 382 Walnut St., is May 17, 2009.

Brookline Solo Parents Group Meeting - Saturday May 16th, 4:00-5:30 pm at 20 Harvard Place (Pierce parent Pablo Alvarez's home - off Harvard Street, across from Walgreens, up from Pierce School playground). Phone number is 617-734-0456. Come share, laugh, talk, and enjoy other Brookline families like yours! Whether solo by divorce, single parent by choice, death, separation, never married, or other circumstance, please join the fun! Come with kids or without! If you are interested, but can't make the meeting, please let us know if you'd like to be on our email list. We chip in for childcare. Our meeting dates for the remainder of 2008-2009 will be: Sat May 16 from 4 to 5:30 and Sun Jun 7 from 6 to 7:30. RSVP/Questions: Luisa Raposo (Pierce 2nd grade parent) at lmr2001@yahoo.com or Lisa Geiger (Pierce 1st grade parent) at 617-566-2001 or chirilisa@yahoo.com, or join us online at the website for The Brookline Solo Parent Families Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/brooklinesp>.

CELEBRATE SPRING at the Driscoll School SPRING FAIR!! WEDNESDAY MAY 20, 5-8pm (rain date: next day). Families from across Brookline and beyond are welcome to come share the FUN with carnival rides, games, prizes, raffle, music, entertainment, face painting, balloon making and more! Local food provided by Anna's Taqueira, b.good, Cafe Nicholas, Pino's Pizza, and Herrell's Ice Cream! Location: Washington Street in Washington Square between the C and B Green Lines. Check our website for weather updates as we get closer to the Fair www.driscollpto.org

Discount Ticket Offer Don't miss the last weekend of Elmer and the Elder Tree, an acclaimed Dance-Clown-Theatre Nature Fable for Family Audiences

What people say: www.ptco.org/elmer

What the press says: www.ptco.org/articles

May 15 - 17, Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Ave.

"The whole audience . . . become[s] part of the action . . . dressed in colorful costumes, the theater duo from Shelburne Falls dance, leap, joke, and clown their way through this original story about a city dweller who loses his job and heads to the country only to find his imagined paradise is a desert. But planting one tree leads to more and more . . . Jonathan Mirin . . . brings mirth to the show, and Swiss dancer Godeliève Richard adds whimsical choreography." - Denise Taylor, The Boston Globe

Appropriate for ages 3 and up (all the way up). Audience receives seeds to plant, art/theatre workshops after matinees.

Spring Seeds Gala on May 16th! Includes Show, Food, Silent Auction (with Red Sox tix), entertainment, children decorate their own pot to take home : www.ptco.org/gala

Attend the gala for 1/2 price with promo code SPRING! - Fri. @ 7, Sat. @ 6 (show + gala), Sun. @ 2

Regular prices: 14 & Under: \$8, Students/Senior: \$10, General Admission: \$12; 5/16 Gala: \$16 - \$28

For advance purchase with promo code: www.ptco.org or call 1-866-811-4111

Directions/easy parking info: www.bu.edu/bpt

Summer Nature Camps at the Brookline Recreation Department

Nature Explorations - All explorers ages 2-5 are invited to discover nature through stories, crafts, activities and hikes in Brookline's parks and sanctuaries! Each class will meet at a different location in Brookline and focus on seasonal nature themes such as seeds, habitats, ponds, animal sounds, and much more. Nature Explorations aims to increase your budding naturalist's appreciation for science and the outdoors while developing his/ her skills in observation, classification, counting and investigation. This is a great opportunity to expose your child and yourself to some of the amazing natural places in Brookline. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Backpack babies are welcome to attend at no additional cost. Directions and locations will be mailed after registration is complete. Fee: \$100.00 - 06/22-06/26 - 9:00 am-11:00 am

Little Acorns - Ages 5-6. Fee: \$500.00 - 07/06-07/17 - 8:30 am-3:00 pm

Sprouts -. Ages 7-8. Fee: \$500.00 - 07/20-07/31 - 8:30 am-4:00 pm

Junior Rangers - Ages 9-10. Fee: \$500.00 - 08/03-08/14 - 8:30 am-4:00 pm

Adventurers - Ages 10-13. Fee: \$350.00 - 08/17-08/21 - 8:30 am-4:00 pm

The location for the last four events is: Location: Brookline Environmental Education Center, 654 Hammond Street. For more information and/or a description of each event, please call 617.730.2069 or visit us online at www.brooklinerec.com.