

THE PIERCE SCHOOL BROADSHEET

Issue 9 - 1/08/09

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

The Pierce School Broadsheet

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. 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!

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Upcoming Events

Community Potluck Breakfast

Thursday, January 15th
8-9am in the Pierce Cafeteria



Principal's Forum, Wednesday, January 14th, 2009, 7-8:15 pm, Library Please join us for the second Principal's Forum next Wednesday. We will continue the discussion of the home school partnership which began at the November Community Breakfast.

The theme is "How do we continue to develop a unified adult voice as we raise and educate our children?" The discussion will be facilitated by social worker, Anne Robinson from the Brookline Center. Child care will be provided.

Save the Date

Friday, January 9, 2009

Science Education in Grades K-2 (8:15 am)

Friday, January 9, 2009

Annie, Jr. Audition Workshop (2:30-3:30 pm)

Monday, January 12, 2009

Annie Jr Auditions for 5th & 6th Graders

Wednesday, January 14, 2009

PTO/Principal's Forum (7:00 pm)

Thursday, January 15, 2009

Community Potluck Breakfast (8:00 am)

Thursday, January 15, 2009 *Energy Tour of Pierce School How the Building is Ventilated & Cooled* (2:45 pm)

Monday, January 19, 2009

Dr Martin Luther King Jr Holiday (No School)

Friday, January 23, 2009

Dr Martin Luther King Jr Assembly (8:30 am)

Sunday, January 25, 2009 *K.I.D.S. (Kids Involved in Summer) Brookline's Summer Opportunities Fair* (12-3 pm) Tappan Street Gym, BHS

Friday, January 30, 2009

Skate Night @ Larz Anderson Skating Rink (5:15 pm - 7:30 pm)

Upcoming Events

The 3rd - 6th Grade Musical is Here!!!



*** Come one come all!! There are many fun and challenging female and male roles, big and small, including Mr. Warbucks, The Scheming "Rooster," mean Ms. Hannigan and most likely a co-ed orphanage. Also, we will be adding some fantastic vintage "commercial" segments to allow the 4th graders in the chorus a chance to act as well. ***

Annie, Jr., is quickly gearing up, with auditions and rehearsals right around the corner!! Registration will open this week on the Pierce website (<http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org/>).

Show dates: Thursday, March 26th; Friday, March 27th; and Saturday, March 28th. Rehearsals commence Tuesday, January 20th. It is expected there will be NO rehearsals on Wednesdays in January and February.

ACTORS

Auditions for 5th and 6th graders will be held on Monday, January 12th, with an optional audition workshop on Friday, January 9th from 2:30 - 3:30. Audition sign ups will be available in the cafeteria after school on Wednesday, January 7th.

(Actor registration fee is \$95)

CHORUS

The 3rd and 4th grade chorus will begin its rehearsals on Thursday, January 22nd right after school. The 3rd & 4th grade regular Chorus rehearsal ends at 3:30pm. Auditions for 4th graders participating in the vintage "commercials" will take place after the first regular Chorus rehearsal on Thursday, January 22nd from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Rehearsals for this extra piece will take place weekly after Chorus rehearsal, from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Please stay tuned for more information regarding the unique acting opportunity available to this year's 4th graders.

(Chorus registration fee is \$75)

SET DESIGN

Available to 4th, 5th and 6th graders interested in the creative, behind-the-scenes process of developing the sets for the show. The Set Design crew will meet once per week during the rehearsal period of the show.

(Set Design registration fee is \$75)

TECH CREW

Available to 5th and 6th graders interested in the lighting and sound that takes place during the performances. Tech Crew will be meeting during the dress rehearsals of the show (in March), and will run the lights during the performances.

(Tech Crew registration fee is \$75)

(If you cannot afford the registration fee, scholarships are available - contact Suzanne Elovecky at 617-283-9152 or suzanne.elovecky@gmail.com).

Please remember that the Pierce Play is a parent-run event, and we really rely on the community to make the production work. Any time you can give is much appreciated, and much needed!! Volunteers are needed to assist with costume design, set design, and rehearsals (chorus as well as actors). Please contact Suzanne Elovecky with your availability and interests (617-283-9152 or suzanne.elovecky@gmail.com).

Elementary World Language is on the Way!

On Jan 21, 2009 at 8:00am, Spanish instruction begins and Mandarin instruction continues as Brookline implements its district wide Elementary World Language Program!

In the seven schools teaching Spanish K-6, the Spanish teachers will be speaking exclusively Spanish in class, using lots of visual supports, gestures, repetition, songs and chants to engage students in learning this new language. Students will start by getting comfortable hearing a flurry of language they don't yet understand, and move toward limited expression in controlled, familiar situations. We are very excited to begin this world language program.

Dawn Carney
Dawn_carney@brookline.k12.ma.us
K-8 World Language Coordinator

Upcoming Events

Enrichment Winter 2009 Session – Pierce School Enrichment classes begin on Tuesday, January 20. Final class lists and room assignments will be posted near the main office and PSED office a few days before classes begin. We encourage you to check the list to confirm enrollment.

The Pierce School Enrichment Program is looking for older students to help out with classes. Please contact Abbie at pierceenrichment@gmail.com or call 627-413-8389.

Volunteer Program, Grades 4-8

The enrichment program is looking for students in grades 4 through 8 to help assist instructors with classes. Please fill out registration form and write that you are interested in volunteering for a specific class (it needs to be a class for children in grade K-3). You will need to pick up a full brochure by the main office to view choices for younger children's classes. Movie passes are given to students who complete the 8 week class. The enrichment coordinator will call you to set up a time to discuss this program.

The Pierce School Enrichment Program has a few openings in enrichment classes for the winter session.

Openings are in the following classes:

Mondays	Move and Groove, Grades K, 1 Chinese Language and Culture, Grades 1, 2
Tuesdays	Computer Game Design, Grades 2, 3, 4, 5, 6* Drawing, Grades K, 1, 2, 3
Wednesdays	Crafts and Books, Grade K, 1
Thursdays	Bodyworks, Grades 2, 3, 4, 5, 6* Checkmate, Grades 1, 2
Fridays	Clay Creations (3:20-4:15) Grades 2, 3, 4 Puppets, Grades K, 1, 2 Drama, Grades 2, 3, 4, 5

Additionally, there are openings in both:

Computer Game Design

Tuesdays 2:30-3:45, Grades 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Computer Game Design is now open to children in Grades 2

Instructor: Build It Yourself Staff

Want to make your own computer game? If you want to be a hot shot game designer, this is a good place to start. Specify the game strategy and logic. Design graphics for dragons, heroes, pirates, and other wacky characters. Layout fantasy settings. Record outrageous sound effects. Integrate all the components. Test the game with your friends and then post it on the Web for the world to play. We use Scratch, a programming language developed at the MIT Media Lab. Let the games begin!

It is essential that children who enroll in one of the Build-It-Yourself programs come eager to build and willing to work on teams of 2 or 3. Children must respect their teammates and their work.

8 weeks (\$125)

Body Works

Thursdays 2:30-3:15, Grades 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Bodyworks is now open to children in Grade 2

Instructor: Regina O'Brien

Body Works is a complete body workout. It is beneficial for building core strength, balance, and mental focus. The class incorporates props such as pillow discs, gliders, resistance tubing, and weighted energy balls to keep things fun and interesting. Dynamic pilates, yoga exercises, and fun games are performed to improve body alignment and overall coordination. Each class ends with a quiet time where the focus is on breathing and relaxation. The instructor discusses general fitness and body awareness concepts with the group. This class is especially designed for girls in grades 3-6. This class will take place at the Benefitness Health Club directly next to the Pierce School. 8 weeks (\$85).

(Regina is the fitness director at Fitness Unlimited. She is the mother of two children. She has worked at many fitness clubs in the Boston area for the last fifteen years.)

If interested me contact Abbie at pierceenrichment@gmail.com or call 617-739-1919.

Upcoming Events

Celebrity Series tickets — \$10 tickets are available for Celebrity Series performances to a large number of community groups, students, senior citizens and special needs individuals. The Order form for February and March performances is due on January 22 at 2:20pm. The form is available on the Pierce School website:

Rob Kapilow's Family Music
Tsai Performance Center - Saturday, February 28 at 12 & 2pm

Lang Lang, piano
Symphony Hall — Sunday, March 1 at 3pm

Silk Road Ensemble with Yo-Yo Ma
Symphony Hall - Monday, March 9 8pm

Angela Hewitt, piano
NEC's Jordan Hall - Sunday, February 22, 3pm

Contact Sofia Ginzburg (evginz@yahoo.de) with additional questions.

Pierce Problem of the Week: #8

Keeping FIT in the New Year!

Billy and Jimmy started at opposite ends of the swimming pool. After a minute and a half they passed each other at the center of the pool. If they lost no time in turning and kept the same speed, how many minutes after starting did they pass each other again?



Answer to Pierce P.O.W. #7

"Girls and Their Dogs" was 10 girls and 12 dogs.

Welcome to the Pierce GREEN Corner!

The next **GREEN Team** meeting will be held on Friday, January 16th at 8:00 a.m. in the small conference room.

GREEN TIP

Did you know that you save energy when you wash your clothes in cold water? It's a greener choice because you are not using lots of energy to heat water for a warm or hot water wash. Your clothes come out just a clean with cold water and it is kinder to the planet!

January 15th "Take an Energy Tour of the Pierce School, How the Building is Ventilated & Cooled"

If you are interested in attending this fascinating tour, or the next tours of one of Brookline's largest municipal buildings, RSVP to the Climate Change Action Brookline Building Committee Contact: Jim Lockwood at www.lcci.construction@verizon.net

Latest News

Winter Sing 2008



Both the Grade 3-6 and the K-2 Winter Sings were well performed with great singing, dancing and instrument playing. The talents and efforts of all of our students were; evident throughout the grades. We always look forward to the 3rd graders' debut on their recorders. Parents, staff and the student body were enjoying the performances and happily singing the traditional songs of the season. The audience also had a great time during the sing-a-long.

I want to thank the music teachers, Dianne Greco and Anne Sheridan for planning, rehearsing and delivering a very festive and enjoyable Winter Sing. I also thank pianists, Tru Burley for accompanying the 3-6 concert, and parent, Steve Lipsitt, and 2H intern, Sandy Tsai for their accompanying the K-2 concert.

Thanks to the 7th & 8th grade students who assisted during the 3-6 program. Especially for their help creating magical lighting and accompanying on percussion.

Thanks also to head custodian, Jackie McCarthy for helping set-up and take down our risers on several occasions.

Pierce School Community Classifieds

Are you looking for a good buy, an apartment for rent, or maybe piano lessons for yourself or your child? Stop by the Pierce School Community Classifieds and see what can offer you.

See more info on pages 5 and 6 in this issue of the broadsheet.

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 your interest and support!

Sincerely,

Felina

Felina-Marie Mucha-Cyr
Editor, The Pierce School Broadsheet

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 at piercebroadsheet@gmail.com. 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.

Available now. Pierce family is looking for renters for a beautiful, sunny 2 BR 1 bath with parking and views over lovely park in Brookline Village. Hardwood floors, LR, DR, updated eat-in kitchen, pantry, large deck overlooking park, washer/dryer & storage in basement, parking spot in back, fenced in lawn, great neighbors. Lots of light from all four directions.

Terrific location. Easy access to Boston on the Green D Riverside line (3-minute walk). Twelve-minute walk to Boston hospitals (B&W, BIDMC, Children's, Dana Farber). Half a block from one of Brookline's best shopping areas (post office, children's bookstore and toy store, Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts, Pomodoro restaurant, Matt Murphy's Pub). 1 block to Pierce K-8 School, 3 blocks to Brookline Main Public Library. Near to Stop n Shop, Trader Joe's, Coolidge Corner. Looking for nice, responsible people. Available now. End date of rental flexible. Photographs are available at Boston.com site, under "rentals," Brookline, 2B R, Linden Court. Please email brooklinecondo123@gmail.com.

a creative workspace



has a wide variety of beading, jewelry making and paper craft supplies. We offer classes and parties for adults and children. Come visit us or learn more about us at www.abeille.us.

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"Making Cents of Money Management for Women," a program to teach and empower women to: find and save money, make a savings and spending plan, and understand their credit report.

Tuesday, January 13th, 7-8:30pm, Hunneman Hall, Brookline Main Library, 361 Washington St. Light refreshments will be served. Co-sponsored by the Brookline Commission for Women, the Jennifer A. Lynch Committee Against Domestic Violence and the Bank of Canton. Free and open to the public.

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.

Subscribe for your Child a Life-Long Love for Music. Piano and Music Theory Instruction by Lily Yeh, a graduate of Harvard's Music Department and a member of Music Teachers National Association. Go to www.lilyyehpianostudio.com or call 860-377-2603 for more information.

Parent Groups: Parent-run confidential groups to share personal concerns and needs around adoptive parenting. AFT provides education, advocacy, support, and more. We also welcome adopted individuals, birth parents, foster parents and all those with a connection to adoption. These are ongoing groups that meet once a month. Feel free to drop in!

Brookline Group: NEW TIME!
Group Leaders: Matt Paluszek & Lori Bakshi
Brookline Public Library, Main Branch
361 Washington St, 2nd Fl Conf Room
3rd Wed. of each month 7-8:30PM

Dec. 17th

The Brookline Group is supported by a grant from the Brookline Community Foundation

In the event of inclement weather, we will leave a voice mail cancellation message on the AFT line by 3 PM the day of the group. Call 617-587-1563.

Bookline Solo Parents Group Meeting - 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. We have been meeting at 20 Harvard Place (off Harvard Street, across from Walgreen's, near the Pierce Playground) at Pierce 2nd grade parent Pablo Alvarez's house. However, please email or call to check on our location for the month, in case there is a change in plans.

Our meeting dates for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year will be: Sat Jan 10 from 4 to 5:30, Sun Feb 8 from 6 to 7:30, Sat Mar 18 from 4 to 5:30, Sun Apr 5 from 6 to 7:30, Sat May 16 from 4 to 5:30 and Sun Jun 7 from 6 to 7:30. RSVP/Questions or to find out our location for the month, please contact: Lisa Geiger (Pierce 1st grade parent) at 617-566-200 or chirolisa@yahoo.com, Pablo Alvarez (Pierce 2nd grade parent) at 617-734-0456 or palvarez@palvarez.net, or Luisa Raposo (Pierce 2nd grade parent) or Imr2001@yahoo.com, or join us online at the website for The Brookline Solo Parent Families Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/brooklinesp>. Hope you can join us!

Join Our "Baby and Child Scientists"!

How do babies recognize faces? How do their memories form? How do children learn to read?

At the Labs of Cognitive Neuroscience at Children's Hospital Boston, we are working to shed light on such questions by learning more about brain and behavior development in infants, children, and adolescents. In gaining a better understanding of these processes, our goal is to contribute to the healthy growth and development of our children. We invite infants and children of all ages to help us with our research by taking part in one or more of our studies. In doing so, you and your child could provide us with valuable information on children's development. We provide free parking, free childcare for siblings, and a small toy as a thank you to our littlest "scientists." Please visit our website—www.wherethekidshelpkids.org—or call us at 617-355-0400 for more information on our work or to join our Participant Database. Thank you for your interest in our work!



Children's Hospital Boston

Division of Developmental Medicine
Laboratories of Cognitive Neuroscience

Brookline Commission for Women 4th Annual Dress for Success Clothing Drive

Donation Times and Location:

Friday, January 30th 11am - 7pm

Saturday, January 31st 8am - 11am

Brookline Police Headquarters, CommunityRoom

350 Washington Street

Brookline

Dress for Success is a not-for-profit organization that offers services to help women enter the workforce and stay employed. Each Dress for Success client receives one suit when she has a job interview and a week's worth of separates when she gets the job.

Please limit your donations to winter coats and accessories (gloves, scarves, shoes and handbags/briefcases, etc.). This is NOT a general clothing drive. All donated coats and accessories should be appropriate for the workplace. If possible, please have the coats dry-cleaned prior to donation so they are ready to wear. We will also be accepting financial donations for a dry cleaning fund for items that need to be cleaned.

Chess Class

Chess is more than a game. Throughout its existence, chess has been compared to art, science, and life itself. The study of chess requires a large degree of discipline, patience and dedication. It is a mental exercise at the highest level, with the added benefit that improvements in chess lead to improvements in other aspects of life, such as academic performance. Come learn the game of Chess from experts at the Perl Chess Academy. No Experience Necessary. This class runs for 8 weeks and is for children in grades K-4.

Classes will be held on the 3rd floor of the Soule Recreation Center, 652 Hammond St., Chestnut Hill.

Wednesdays, January 28, 2009 - April 1, 2009 (There will be no class on Feb. 18, 2009 or Mar. 11, 2009)

Time: 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Fee: Residents: \$88.00 Non-residents: \$98.00

For more information or to register please call 617-730-2069 or register online at www.brooklinerec.com