

THE PIERCE SCHOOL BROADSHEET

Issue 12 - November 24, 2009

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

Dear Pierce Families,

The season for thinking of others and being grateful for what we have is upon us. This is a great time to help our students realize the wealth they have in the support and love of family and friends. We also want them to feel the love and support of their Pierce family. So, in the spirit of the season, here's wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving and a holiday season of peace and joy!

Happy Holidays!

Pipier Smith-Mumford

Did you know the Pierce annual fund drive is underway?

This year's fund drive will be the only major fundraising event of the '09/'10 school year at Pierce. We are asking every family to give at whatever level they can. Our annual budget is approximately \$50,000. We spend funds on programs and resources that enhance your child's school day including:

Teacher Classroom Reimbursements	\$11,700/22%
Field Trips	\$10,500/20%
Arts & Enrichment Programs	\$10,000/19%
Before & After School Programs	\$ 6,700/13%
Events & Communication	\$ 4,100/8%
Literacy Support	\$ 3,500/7%
Professional Development	\$ 2,500/5%
Misc (accounting, scholarships)	\$ 2,500/5%



Additionally, we fund special projects as needed. This past summer we focused on upgrading our technology and computer lab. \$15,000 was spent on new computers, \$700 on teacher websites and \$2,500 on professional development for teachers to be trained on using teacher websites and other computer systems.

If you are able to contribute to this year's drive, please make your check out to "Pierce PTO" and return to the PTO mailbox by the main office. If you have any questions, please email Eileen Regis at serandz@msn.com. Remember, every donation makes a difference, no matter how big or small!

Thank you in advance for choosing to support Pierce.

Henry Bear's Park Fundraiser-Parent Volunteers Needed

Help the Pierce PTO raise funds, spend time with other parents and get a jump on your holiday shopping! We need two volunteers for each one hour shift to wrap gifts at Henry Bear's Park in Brookline Village. No prior gift wrapping experience necessary! Henry Bear's provides all the supplies and all donations for wrapping go to Pierce. The store will match all donations with a gift certificate for teachers too! Times are available on Friday, December 4th (10 am - 7 pm), Saturday, December 5th (10 am - 6 pm), and Sunday December 6 (noon-5 pm). We also hope everyone in the Pierce community will come to the store on those days to do their holiday, birthday and other shopping!"For more information or to sign up for a slot please contact Nancy Leventhal (2Le) at nancyandchuck@comcast.net or Gioia Perugini (KW) at gpjb@verizon.net.

Pierce Enrichment Holiday Schedule

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday there will be no Pierce Enrichment classes on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday of this week. Please view the Pierce Enrichment Board opposite the PTO mailboxes to see the final date(s) of class(es).

Please be sure to make other arrangements for your children if they are normally attending a class.

Meet Brookline Special Education Administrators

Brookline Special Education Parents Advisory Council (SEPAC) is hosting a Meet the Administrators night Wednesday, December 9, 6-7:30 p.m. in Town Hall Room 103. This is an opportunity for Brookline parents to hear directly from the new administrative leaders of special education in Brookline, ask questions and offer comment. Light refreshments served. Brookline SEPAC is a Brookline 2010 climate action partner; please bring your own cup.

5th Grade Parents Network

All 5th grade parents are invited to a potluck to discuss 5th graders, homework, discipline and more.

Date: Friday, December 4

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Laurence Mialot, (7 Elm street, apt.3)

Please RSVP to Laurence lmialot@yahoo.com.

I look forward to seeing many of you on Friday, December 4!

Positive Press for Pierce

Dress Up Day with Great Food!

Many thanks to our cafeteria staff for a great lunch on last Thursday's Dress Up Day! Several parents sent messages about how much their children enjoyed the delicious turkey lunch with all the fixings. Their sentiment, along with that of many of our staff, represent how many of us felt about the huge effort made by the cafeteria staff in making the Dress Up Day lunch so special. Led by manager and chef, Merima Kantardzic, the lunch matched the attire of so many of our students and staff. The turkey meal was so tasty several students asked about seconds. They are truly preparing for the Thanksgiving Day feast. Congratulations to the cafeteria staff for preparing and serving the most important part of our Dress Up Day tradition!

Thank you teachers and students in 2Le, 2Y and KD for creating our centerpieces, setting up our placements and cleaning them up before and after our lunch. Dress Up Day is a great tradition in our school and students really do look forward to the day. Thanks to all who dressed up and ate lunch with their students.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

Pipier Smith-Mumford, Ph. D.

Principal, Pierce Elementary School

Brookline, MA

(617) 730-2580

Fax (617) 264-6468

Community Announcements

Reminder - 1st Light Festival 2009 on Thursday, December 3rd from 5pm until 8pm to kick off the holiday season. Enjoy live performances, free food, activities for everyone, and more. Come share this night with your family, friends, and community to shop, eat, and discover Brookline's best!

Performers, Sponsors and Business Participants are now being sought for 1st Light Festival 2009; Brookline's Holiday Town-wide Open House. For more information, contact us at 1stlightbrookline@gmail.com or 617-730-2050.

Save the Date

Wednesday, November 25, **Noon dismissal** (12:00pm)

Thursday, November 26, **Thanksgiving holiday** (no school)

Friday, November 27, **Thanksgiving holiday** (no school)

Tuesday, December 1, **Seventh Sense** (7:00pm)

Thursday, December 3, **Early dismissal, Grades K-8** (12:30pm)

Friday, December 4, **Pot luck community breakfast** (8:00am)

Saturday, December 5, **Henry Bear Park wrapping fundraiser**

Sunday, December 6, **Henry Bear Park wrapping fundraiser**

Wednesday, December 9, **Early dismissal, Grades K-12** (12:30pm)

Thursday, December 10, **Pajama Game (7/8 Musical)** (7:00pm)

Friday, December 11, **Pajama Game (7/8 Musical)** (7:00pm)

Saturday, December 12, **Pajama Game (7/8 Musical)** (2:00pm)

Saturday, December 12, **Pajama Game (7/8 Musical)** (7:00pm)

For the Current School Lunch Menu Visit:

http://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/NR/rdonlyres/F11BCF49-7AC4-4986-A1E8-2F775BDD205A/3101/Dec2009_v2revised.pdf

Broadsheet Schedule for the 2009-2010 school year

Thank you for your continued support. The broadsheet will continue another year of "green"! Therefore, the Broadsheet will be e-mailed on Tuesdays to all who have registered for electronic information. If you would like to register, visit <http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org/> or email poetsareangels@rcn.com. The deadline for submitting articles is Monday at 5pm. Anything not received by that deadline will go in the next broadsheet. Each Thursday a limited number of paper copies will be distributed to the teachers and will be available outside the main office.

Classified ads will run on the last Thursday of each month by email only.

Broadsheet
Pierce School
50 School Street
Brookline, Massachusetts 02446

piercebroadsheet@gmail.com

Felina Mucha Cyr's Cell: 617/935-4367
Pierce School Brookline: 617/730-2580

Thank you for your interest and support!

Sincerely,

Felina

Felina-Marie Mucha-Cyr
Editor, The Pierce School Broadsheet
poetsareangels@rcn.com



Welcome to the Pierce School Community Classifieds

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 on the last Tuesday of each month 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.

Flu Busters at Runkle on Tues., Dec. 8th!

The Runkle PTO is partnering with Flu Busters, a leading provider of on-site vaccinations, to provide convenient access to affordable influenza vaccinations for everyone in our community. Vaccinations will be administered by qualified health professionals, and each vaccination will cost \$25 with preregistration, \$27 for walk-ins. The clinic will be held at Runkle, 50 Druce St, starting at 2:30.

For more information see: www.flubusters.com/files/FAQs.pdf

Pre-register at: <https://secure.flubusters.com/home.aspx>
by December 1st! Or call 1-(866)358-2878.

Learn to Fence! Cambridge Fencing Center, the newly-opened fencing club at 120 Vassar Street in Cambridge, has been designed to create opportunities for men, women and children of all ages to learn an excellent Olympic sport. Fencing classes, practices and individual lessons will be led by a renowned set of coaches with international experience including the Head Coaches of MIT and Harvard University. The club is a registered member of the United States Fencing Association (USFA) and fully committed to providing world class instruction and excellent service. For more information, go to www.cambridgefencingcenter.com. Submitted by Driscoll parent, Caroline Barnes.

benefitness

HEALTH CLUB FOR WOMEN

Pierce moms get ONE MONTH FREE!!

*childcare / personal training & pilates studios / nautilus
outdoor boateamp program / sauna / 50+ classes/week
cardio and free weights / jiteenz membership ages 14-17
nutritional counseling services*



62 HARVARD ST. BROOKLINE 617.232.7440 BENEFITNESSHEALTHCLUB.COM

Are You Interested in Girl Scouts for your 2nd or 3rd Grade Daughter? Do you have a 2nd or 3rd grade daughter who is interested in making new friends while learning about useful life skills? We will be making trips and doing some fun community service projects. If interested, please contact: Felina Mucha-Cyr at troop81351@gmail.com or call 617/935-4367. Meetings will be held on scheduled Friday's at St. Paul's church in Brookline.

FC Blazers soccer club will be running winter indoor soccer clinics for boys and girls ages 5-9 at Boston University on Sunday mornings. Session starts December 1. Information at www.fcblazers.com.

Winter Vacation Soccer Clinic at Boston College - The Women's Soccer staff invite girls aged 6-14 to join them for a soccer clinic at BC. The program runs December 28th-31st from 12pm-5pm. The focus is on fun and development. Come and join the BC players and coaches for a great soccer experience. For information on all our programs and registration please visit: www.bceagles.com/camps or call 617-552-0982 or email soccer.clinic@bc.edu.

Experienced tutor available for students in grades 3-9 who may need help with reading, writing, math skills, Spanish and/or organizational issues and executive functioning. Contact Melissa London, Pierce 6h grade teacher: melissa_london@brookline.k12.ma.us

Writing Tutor: I am a writer and editor in the field for over 20 years, currently working with middle and high school students to improve the quality of their writing. I can help your children learn to organize their thoughts; improve grammar, punctuation, and vocabulary; self-edit; and express themselves creatively. I take an individualized approach, working with each student's unique learning style, interests, and goals to help make writing a less stressful and more enjoyable endeavor. I also work with non-native English speakers on their spoken and written English. References available. For more information contact Fran at franrota@mac.com.

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 a free lesson! Call: (617) 663-5700 during business hours, or (617) 227-2225 Eve/Wknds. Please visit our web site at www.activemindstutoring.com.

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.

Helping Kids Communicate Home-based Speech-language Services

Meryl Heller Schram, experienced speech-language pathologist, provides year-round services for children with communication difficulties, including developmental speech-language disorders, language-learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorders and dyspraxia.

For more information or to make an appointment, contact:

Meryl Heller Schram, M.S., CCC-SLP
617.733.1995
mhschram@comcast.net

Open House at Corner Co-Op Nursery School

Have you thought about joining a parent co-op which nurtures both your child and your family? Come meet the staff and parents, see a slide show and join in a discussion with us. Wednesday, Dec. 2, 7 - 9 pm, 1773 Beacon St. (entrance on Dean Rd.), Brookline. For details, call 617-738-4631 or visit: www.cornercoop.org.

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:

Group Leaders: Matt Paluszek & Tracy Grondin
Brookline Public Library, Main Branch
361 Washington St, 2nd Fl Conf Room
Last Monday of each month 7-8:30PM

November 30th

&

December 21st (1 week early due to Holidays)

Lori Baeumler
Adoptive Families Together
MSPCC 99 Summer St. Boston, MA 02110
tel 617/587-1522 fax 617/587-1584
lbaeumler@mspcc.org www.mspcc.org