

# THE PIERCE SCHOOL BROADSHEET

Issue 25 - March 09, 2010

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

**The PTO/Principal's Forum** on March 10th from 7-8:15 pm in the library is sponsored by the School Council.

It's the Parent Input Night where families help the council develop our school improvement goals. This interactive evening encourages parents and guardians to share their thinking on what "wows" them and what they "wonder about" at Pierce.

Please come out for this important school wide opportunity.

Those unable to attend that evening have an opportunity to complete an online survey starting the 11th of March.



## "Bee" Part of the Excitement

Who said Spelling Bees were just for kids? Get your dictionaries out and start studying up for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Brookline Education Foundation's Adult and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Spelling Bees, which will take place at the BHS Auditorium on Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. The Children's Bee will begin at noon and is an old-fashioned spell-off, open to all Brookline 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Information about the Children's Bee was sent home with each 5<sup>th</sup> grade student at the end of January. The Adult Bee follows the children's Bee, from 2-6. Adult teams of three must register by February 20<sup>th</sup>, and as always, prizes will be awarded to the first and second place teams.

To "Bee" in the Bee visit [www.brooklineeducation.org](http://www.brooklineeducation.org) or call the Foundation at 617-232-3846.

## K-W Fundraiser for Chile

Dear Friends and Families,

K-W is preparing a fund raiser for Chile in an effort to assist with disaster relief after the devastating 8.8. Earthquake that struck the country on February 27th.

On Wednesday, the children in K-W will be building a model house to represent the notion of shelter. At the end of the week, we will be having a delicious bake sale, and selling Chilean empanadas and baked goods.

As part of this campaign, we are asking for your help in the following ways:

1. That you please bring one of your favorite baked goodies for the bake sell this Friday morning.
2. .... and that you please consider making a Tax Deductible contribution in any amount you possibly can to either of the organizations below, MIT/HARVARD or Habitat for Humanity, both institutions who have worked and dedicated their housing and humanitarian programs in Chile in the past. Coins and small change are also very much appreciated!

<http://www.habitatforhumanity.org/>

<http://www.harvardmitchile.org/>

Proceeds will be symbolically deposited into the house we construct together. These will then be sent to the above organizations for Chile relief.

Please stop by the Pierce School Cafeteria right after 2:20 p.m. on Friday, March 12th, and help us with this worthy cause!

James Burnard, my son, and our family are very grateful for your assistance with this matter, especially as we have dear family and friends in Conception and Santiago, Chile.

Our sincere thanks to all of you.

Kindest regards,

Maria Bellalta and family

## Positive Press for Pierce

### 2009-2010 Math League Team

Our Math League team of 5th and 6th graders did an excellent job during the three meets! The last meet was on March 3rd and our team won two trophies for the highest score in the Patterns category and in the Problem Solving category. An individual trophy went to Arthur Chen for perfect scores in all three of the categories in which he competed.

Many thanks to coach and coordinator, math specialist, Darrielle Sullivan and to all the parent volunteers who supported the team during the practice sessions at 7:30 every morning since November!

*There were 7 5th grade students 18 6th grade students who participated have in this year's Math League. Congratulations to all Math League participants!*

### District-Wide Science Fair

On Saturday, the district wide Science Fair was held at Devotion School. Pierce had seven 6th graders submit science projects for the fair. Pierce is proud of all the participants. Congratulations to them and to science teacher, Melissa London!

6H had a project on the best preservatives. Another project was on the amount of lead in Brookline park. This group won second place and will advance to the Regional Science Fair in May.

(By the way, Pierce Park had no detectable lead according to their calculations!) Congratulations and Good Luck in the regional's!

6S has a project on the effect of air inflation on soccer ball height and distance. This project will advance to the Regional Science Fair in May. Congratulations and Good Luck in the regional's!

#### Way to Go Pierce!

Pipier Smith-Mumford, Ph. D.  
Principal, Pierce Elementary School  
Brookline, MA  
(617) 730-2580  
Fax (617) 264-6468

### The Pierce Book Fair needs to take a new direction.

If you enjoy the BOOK FAIR, either as a volunteer or a customer...please come to a meeting to discuss the future of the PIERCE BOOK FAIR and how it will be organized going forward. Due to the economic climate, many companies are unable to bring new books from our required reading lists; we must now find a different direction and put a different twist on this long standing, beloved Pierce School tradition.

Please join us: **Friday, March 26, 8:15am**, Pierce School Cafeteria. If you are unable to attend this meeting and have input to share, please contact Nicole: [lapidusfamily@earthlink.net](mailto:lapidusfamily@earthlink.net)

### The Public Schools of Brookline Brookline, Massachusetts

Bill Lupini, Superintendent and Peter Rowe, Deputy Superintendent will be hosting a series of open forums to discuss the FY11 SCHOOL BUDGET.

All are welcome to attend on:

Tuesday, March 16 - 6:00 p.m.  
Hunneman Hall of the Main Library

Thursday, March 18 - 8:15 a.m.  
Devotion School Library

Tuesday, March 23 - 8:15 a.m.  
Baker School Library



## Pierce was "mad" for March Madness!!!

Our thanks to everyone "mad" enough to be involved in our first indoor fitness event! Some thought we were "mad" for even suggesting a week-long event, but every night of March Madness was well attended and full of fun.

Thank you to the parents, teachers and administrators who helped make this event a success. Special thanks to our event sponsors and raffle item donors Benefitness, Brookline Recreation, Inner Space, Paris Creperie, Pierce Enrichment, Prudential Unlimited Realty and SarahBDesign. And thank you to the parents and children who came out, some almost every night, to support this event.

We would like to recognize the following individuals for their tireless efforts that, for many, began months before the actual event: Anna Asphar and Nicole Lapidus for coordinating t-shirt and raffle sales. Sarah Bishins for a fabulous logo and marketing, Annette Hughes for helping to secure the buildings, Amanda Grindstaff and Mike Micelli for collaborating to create the obstacle course, Billy Harris for overseeing the games almost every night, Charlie Walsh for coordinating 7/8 and adult basketball, the custodians at Pierce and Pipier Smith-Mumford and John Badger for their continued support. We had many, many parent volunteers step forward to sell, play and support the games....WE THANK YOU ALL!



### Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the raffle winners. Although March Madness was a free event, we appreciate everyone who helped raise money for Pierce through raffle tickets and t-shirt sales.

Enjoy your prizes:

Monday	Allison Heffan, Miles Hart, Henry Ledbed
Tuesday	Zach Regis
Wednesday	Felina Mucha-Cyr, Cherie Gaehde
Thursday	Miles Hickey, The Roffmans
Friday	Ellen Ball, Blanka Bogdanovic

### Photo Request

We are in need of good photos from March Madness. If you have any, we would really appreciate them!! Please e-mail photos to Deborah Heffan at [heffan@verizon.net](mailto:heffan@verizon.net).

Your "mad" PTO co-chairs,  
Eileen, Deborah and Chuck

## Honk is Here!!

The Pierce 3-6 grade Musical - Honk, Jr. - is approaching fast! Tickets go on sale Friday, March 12th, near the Pierce office, from 7:45 - 8:15 a.m., and will continue to be sold each morning until we sell out! We will also sell tickets on Monday, March 15th from 2:30 - 3 p.m.



*This show does sell out each year, so please be sure to get your tickets as soon as possible!*

Tickets are \$7 each, and the performance dates are:

Thursday, March 18 at 7 p.m.  
Friday, March 19 at 7 p.m.  
Saturday, March 20 at 2 p.m.  
Saturday, March 20 at 7 p.m.

(If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Suzanne Elovecky at [suzanne.elovecky@gmail.com](mailto:suzanne.elovecky@gmail.com) or 617/283-9152.)

## Pierce School Enrichment Classes-Spring 2010 Session Sponsored by the Pierce School Extended Day

The Registration Deadline is Thursday, March 18th and Classes Begin - Monday, April 5th

The brochure will be posted on the Pierce School website under the enrichment tab on Thursday, March 11th.

[pierceschoolbrookline.org](http://pierceschoolbrookline.org)

Please use the link in the brochure to register online.

Contact : Abbie Fennell [pierceenrichment@gmail.com](mailto:pierceenrichment@gmail.com) or 617-730-2589  
Paper copies of the brochure are available by the main office or PSED office.

NEW CLASSES-Marital Arts (new program and instructor), Chess-Level I, Cartooning and Illustration, Piñata Making , Clay (some projects will be kiln fired), BIY...Build a Robot Band.

Most classes offered in the fall or winter session have new class descriptions to reflect new activities and the predictability of seasoned instructors.

## Special Performances for Early Release Days

Grades 1-5 12:30 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.

Sponsored by the Pierce School Extended Day

Thursday, March 11 Mike Bent-Comedy and Magic [www.abrakidabra.com](http://www.abrakidabra.com)  
Tuesday, March 16 Wayne From Maine [www.waynefrommaine.com](http://www.waynefrommaine.com)  
Thursday, March 25 Dan Foley-Juggling [www.airborncomedians.com](http://www.airborncomedians.com)  
Tuesday, March 30 Toe Jam Puppet Band-Go Green! [www.toejampuppetband.com](http://www.toejampuppetband.com)

Please use the following link to register your child

<https://psed.wufoo.com/forms/pierce-school-early-release-series/>

Cost: \$48 or \$12 per show (checks should be payable to PSED)

Registration Deadline is Monday, March 8.

\*If you enroll after the March 8 deadline, the cost of each show will be \$24.  
We are unable to accommodate children signing up on the day of the performance.

\*It is not necessary to if your child attends extended day on these days.  
For additional information contact:

Abbie Fennell [pierceenrichment@gmail.com](mailto:pierceenrichment@gmail.com) or 617-730-2589

## **PATHfinders**

An After School Program for 6th and 7th Grade Students Sponsored by the Pierce School Enrichment Program

### **Spring Session**

April-June 2010

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays - 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Two day or three day a week option for enrollment.

Must commit to January through March 2010

The first hour of the program is homework time with homework support from the instructor. A light snack will be served during this time.

Students will plan, shop, and prepare a special snack twice a month.

The second hour of the program will consist of computer time on Mondays. On Tuesdays and Thursdays we will offer various activities such as: outdoor or indoor games, sports in the small gym, along with other activities that the children have an interest in. We will be providing early release programming at 12:30 p.m. if the early release day falls on a Monday, Tuesdays, and Thursday. Early release days will consist of field trips and additional special activities. (PATHfinders-Pierce Activity Time and Homework)

Limited Space Available

Financial Assistance Available

Payment Plans Available

Cost \$250 per month for 3 days

Cost \$170 per month for 2 days

For an application or more information please contact Abbie Fennell at [pierceenrichment@gmail.com](mailto:pierceenrichment@gmail.com) or 617-730-2589

## **Pierce GREEN Corner**

### **Think EarthThursday**

The next ThinkEarthThursday (TET) in the Brookline Public Schools will be held on March 25. This month's theme for Pierce is how to minimize our use of electricity and how and when to turn down our thermostats. On Thursday, March 25, students will report back in class on steps they (and their families) have taken this month to minimize their use of electricity and heat. (They will be asked to come up with some of their own ideas on how best to do this). Are we turning off lights? Turning down heat at night? Avoiding the use of energy-sapping appliances and machines that don't need to be plugged in 24/7? Let's get everyone to think about ways in which we can conserve around electricity and heat.

### **Food pantry reminder**

Please remember to bring in items for the Brookline Food Pantry. Kids bring items to the pantry on Wednesday afternoon. Food is collected in the green bin in the Pierce main hallway (outside the main office).



**The Haiti Relief & The Chile Relief Fund** will receive \$106 each from Girl Scout Troop 81351 led by Felina Mucha-Cyr and Santina Robinson. Many thanks to all of those who purchased cookies from us!!

We also raised \$212 for our Troop camping trip this Spring.

## **PIERCE READS - Coming Your Way this MAY 6<sup>th</sup>**

Pierce Reads, which was curtailed this year because of reductions in Pierce Library staffing, will happen again in May thanks to the generosity of the PTO in providing funds for a Literacy Enrichment Specialist who will work after school to help plan this exciting program and to free up the Librarian's time for the many hours it takes to plan and execute this event. We look forward to wide participation in this literacy building and community building event. SAVE THE DATE ---- THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2010, 7:00p.m.

## Pierce Problem of the Week

### **Community Information**

#### **ScienceFest 2010: A Fun-Filled Day of Hands-on Science for Kids of all Ages**

ScienceFest 2010 will be held at the Devotion School (345 Harvard St.) on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 2:00. The event will feature exciting hands-on science activities and demonstrations. Highlights include: Nature in Your Backyard live animal demonstrations (11:00 and 1:00), Catapult Design Challenge, the Electric Pickle, Microscope Mystery, Computer Take-Apart, Newspaper Tower Activity, Segway and Astronomy Demonstrations by the Clay Center, SnapCircuit explorations, and much more! The event is sponsored by the Brookline Education Foundation and is open to the public. Refreshments will be available for purchase. If you'd like more information, please contact Janet MacNeil, K-8 Science Coordinator, 617.264.6403, [janet\\_macneil@brookline.k12.ma.us](mailto:janet_macneil@brookline.k12.ma.us).

#### **Tonight! 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. Tuesday, March 9, 7 - 9 pm, 1773 Beacon St. (entrance on Dean Rd.), Brookline. For details, call 617-738-4631 or visit [www.cornercoop.org](http://www.cornercoop.org)

# Celebrity Series of Boston

## Take your Seat Program for April May 2010

### Deadline Date March 12, 2:20pm

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | St. Laurence String quartet<br>Friday April 9, 8 pm   | NEC's Jordan Hall  |
| 2. | Chantecler<br>Sunday April 11 3 pm  | NEC's  |
| 3. | Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater<br>Thu, April 15 at 7:30pm; Fr, April 16 at 8pm; Sat, Feb 17 at 2pm & at 8pm<br>Sun, Feb 18 at 3pm | The Wang Theatre<br>Limit 25 tickets per school per show |
| 4. | Imani Winds with Stefon Harris<br>Friday, April 16 at 8pm   | NEC's Jordan Hall  |
| 5. | Maurizio Pollini, piano<br>Sunday, April 25, 3pm  | Symphony Hall  |
| 6. | Brian Stocks Mitchell<br>Saturday, May 8 at 8 pm  | Sanders Theatre  |

How to Order - Please read with attention!

Order forms lacking required ratio 4 students : 1 Adult will not be processed by the Celebrity Series!

(Except in the case of special needs students. Please mention if this is the case)

Arts, Education and Community Program "Take Your Seat": An opportunity for to enjoy performances at \$10.00 a ticket!

The goal of this project is to expose as many young people as possible to music and dance. The Project requests that schools participating in the program must adhere to a minimum of 4 students to every 1 adult chaperone for each submitted order. If additional adults wish to attend the performance, they may purchase tickets at full price. Please contact [boxoffice@celebrityseries.org](mailto:boxoffice@celebrityseries.org) for more detail on purchasing additional adult tickets.

HOW TO ORDER: Please read and follow the rules! This is very important!

1. Note the deadlines for ordering! Print your student's name, his/her grade & Teacher's Name on each envelope! One envelope for each performance! No stamps!

2. Enclose a note (one for each performance!) with the following information (example):

Performance Name Example	Date	Pierce Student's Name (only one name please)	Grade and Teacher's!!! Name	Required Number of tickets for students / adults	Parent's name, telephone number & e-mail
Kirov Ballet	Oct.16 5 pm	Robert Green	6 Fitzgerald	4students/ 1Adult 8students/2Adults	Anne Green Email, phone

3. Make out checks to "Celebrity Series of Boston" An individual check is required for each performance! This is very important! Cash or credit cards are not acceptable.

4. Place your order in "Celebrity Series" box, which is next to Mary Gabriel's room.

5. Tickets are distributed to students not later then 7 days prior to performances.

6. ??? - 738-5269 (Sofia Ginzburg), <mailto:evginz@yahoo.de>  
[www.celebrityseries.org](http://www.celebrityseries.org)

## Calling All 5th - 8th Grade Wrestlers and Wrestlers To-Be...

Are you interested in learning how to wrestle... the real kind, not that stuff you see on TV? Do you want to have fun, work hard, and learn how it's done? If you answered 'yes' or even 'maybe' to any of these questions, then check out [The Commonwealth Wrestling Club](#). We guarantee that you'll have fun, learn a new sport, feel great, and learn some cool moves. The coaches are Albert Gianforno, a New York state champion and 2-year captain of his college team, and Mike Carver, a teacher at Brookline High School and the head coach of BHS's wrestling team. Coach Carver was also a college wrestler and football player and is an NASM certified personal trainer.

Our season begins March 22nd and runs until June 13th. We meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 5-6:30 PM and Sundays from 11-12 PM. Tournaments are held on Saturdays. This club is open to boys and girls (BHS was once the New England girls' wrestling champions!) The cost for 30-sessions is \$150. Registration is on March 15th and 17th at the high school in the wrestling room (Tappan Street Gym - downstairs).

**\*\*OPEN HOUSES:** Please join us at one of two open houses to meet the coach, team members, and get a taste of what wrestling is all about before the spring session begins on March 8th/10th from 4:00 - 5:00 PM at Brookline High School's Tappan Street Gym.

Still have questions? Email: [commonwealthwrestlingclub@hotmail.com](mailto:commonwealthwrestlingclub@hotmail.com), or call 617-780-8791.

## Bluegrass Kids Jam

The Boston Bluegrass Union offers a free monthly kids jam, for all levels of experience, Sundays 1-4 pm, taught by professional bluegrass players. Kids should be between the ages of 6-16 and have basic skills in their instrument (fiddle, cello, guitar, mandolin, banjo, etc.).

Kids receive group instruction as well as opportunity to play in bluegrass festivals. The jams are hosted in participants' homes in and around Brookline/Boston. Next Jam is March 14th, 1-4 pm, Brookline Village. For more info. contact Kate Risse: [katherine.risse@tufts.edu](mailto:katherine.risse@tufts.edu) /617-277-0652

## Brookline Town-Wide Soccer Cleat Exchange

Want to do a good deed and get a new (used) pair of cleats?

The Brookline Town-Wide Cleat Exchange will take place the week of March 15, 2010, and provide the opportunity to donate used soccer cleats, exchange used cleats for new (used) cleats, or buy donated cleats (at our Recession special price of \$5) in time for the spring soccer season.

Cleats remaining after the exchange will be donated to soccer programs for disadvantaged youth, and money collected will help fund Brookline Recreation soccer scholarships.

Help everyone enjoy soccer for less! Shin guards may also be donated and exchanged or purchased (for \$2).

Exchange hours are as follows in each k-8 school:

Tuesday, March 16 - 7:45-8:00 a.m. - collection

Wednesday, March 17 - 7:45-8:00 a.m. - collection

Thursday, March 18 - 7:45-8:00 a.m. - exchange and sale

Friday, March 19 - 7:45-8:00 a.m. - collection

After Thursday remaining cleats from all schools will be pooled and available for exchange or sale at the Tappan St. Gym (gym #2) as follows: Thursday, March 18, 6:30-8 p.m.

Saturday, March 20, 9-11 a.m.

*Volunteers are still needed!* Only one hour of volunteer time is needed in each school to make the exchange possible, and that can even be divided among two or more people. Please contact [pueda@comast.net](mailto:pueda@comast.net) or [tiffanyrinne@gmail.com](mailto:tiffanyrinne@gmail.com).

We would like to donate any remaining cleats to L'Athletique d'Haiti, which provides soccer programs for boys and girls in Haiti and relies entirely on donated cleats. Anyone who has means or information about getting them there without substantial cost should please contact the Exchange organizers at the above email addresses.

## Save the Date

Wednesday, March 10, *PTO Principal's Forum* (7:00pm)  
Thursday, March 11, *Early dismissal, Grades K-12* (12:30pm)  
Tuesday, March 16, *Early dismissal, Grades K-6* (12:30pm)  
Thursday, March 18, *3-6 Musical: Honk* (7:00pm)  
Friday, March 19, *3-6 Musical: Honk* (7:00pm)  
Saturday, March 20, *3-6 Musical: Honk* (2:00pm)  
Saturday, March 20, *3-6 Musical: Honk* (7:00pm)  
Monday, March 22, *MCAS testing begins: Grades 3-8*  
Tuesday, March 23, *MCAS: ELA Composition, Grades 4 & 7*  
Thursday, March 25, *Early Dismissal, Grades K-6* (12:30pm)  
Thursday, March 25, *ThinkEarth Thursday*  
Friday, March 26, *Future of Pierce Book fair* (8:15am)  
Monday, March 29, *Cleat exchange*  
Tuesday, March 30, *Early dismissal, Grades K-6* (12:30pm)  
Wednesday, March 31, *Cleat exchange*

## Pierce School Menu:

**March 2010** <http://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/NR/rdonlyres/F11BCF49-7AC4-4986-A1E8-2F775BDD205A/3225/Mar2010Revised.pdf>

## Broadsheet Schedule for the 2009-2010 School Year

Welcome to another year of a "green" Broadsheet. This year, the Broadsheet will be e-mailed on Tuesdays to all who have registered for electronic information. If you would like to register for the **PiercePost**, visit <http://www.pierceschoolbrookline.org/> or the **Pierce Broadsheet** email [poetsareangels1963@gmail.com](mailto:poetsareangels1963@gmail.com). The deadline for submitting articles for the broadsheet is Monday at 2pm. 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](mailto: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  
[poetsareangels1963@gmail.com](mailto:poetsareangels1963@gmail.com)

