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# Taft Elementary School

## Tiger Tales

Volume 4 Issue 8

May, 2009

### A Letter From the Principal

#### Upcoming Events

May 18 & 19	Slater's Mill (pre-visit presentation at Taft)
May 19 & 20	MCAS Grade 4 Math
May 21, 2009	International Fair 9:00 Bandstra, Roche, Davis, and Buckley 10:00 DuBois, Dunlavey, McCall, Gallo
May 22, 2009	Memorial Day Assembly Flying Squadron Time 9:00 Grades 1 and 2 1:30 Grades 3 and 4
May 25, 2009	Memorial Day No School
May 27, 2009	Big Bad Wolf Play (UHS students) Grades 2 and 3 9:15
May 29, 2009	Grade 4 Field Trip Roger Williams Park
May 30, 2009	PTO Spring Carnival
June 1, 2009	Grade 4 Move-up to Whittin Grade 4 Ice Cream Sundae party
June 2, 2009	Field Day Grade 4 (AM), Grade 2 (PM) Pizza party for Grade 4 at lunch
June 3, 2009	Field Day Raindate 2, 4
June 4, 2009	Field Day Grade 3 AM, Grade 1 PM
June 5, 2009	Field Day Raindate 1, 3
June 6, 2009	Desk Auction (Taft Playground Fundraiser) Town Common 10-2
June 8, 2009	Grade 3 Slater's Mill Campbell, Quintiliani, Hansel, DiGregorio
June 9, 2009	Grade 3 Slater's Mill Auciello, Lukowski, Lamarre, Higgins
June 9, 2009	Grade 1 Field Trip Southwick's Zoo
June 11, 2009	Assembly Behind the Mask (Eric Bornstein) Performances 10:00 Grades 1 and 2 1:15 Grades 3 and 4
June 11, 2009	Grade 4 Talent Show 6:30
June 12, 2009	Assembly MA State Police K-9 Unit Gr. 1, 4
June 12, 2009	Volunteer Breakfast 9:30 Taft Library
June 16, 2009	Grade 2 Science Guy at Taft School
June 18, 2009	Talent Show Assemblies for Taft students
June 19, 2009	Last Day of School 1/2 Day for Students Dismissal at 11:45

## Let's Get Physical

With the warm weather settling in, we are taking to the fields. In preparation for the field days, the children are practicing events. In addition they are practicing T ball and volleyball.

Grade 2 students are practicing their folk dances for the upcoming International Fair.

By the way, did you know that Mrs. Dimmick is getting an award on May 21st from the American Heart Association for her dedication to Jump Rope for the Heart?

**Volunteers are needed for the Field Days. If you are interested and have not already done so, please contact Lisa Rooney at 278-9250 (Grades 1 and 3) or Sean Cole at 278-7709 (Grades 2 and 4)**

## musical notes

Final Concert: Grade 4 Chorus will be singing at the Uxbridge Senior Center on June 17th. Students will be escorted by Ms. D'Andrea. Thank you for your hard work and dedication this year.

*Kyle Alger, Jennifer Hunter, Christopher Palmieri, Kyle Archambault, Zachary Johnson, Madison Poirier, Audrey Bergeron, Matthew Kelly, Luciano Pugleasa,*

*Tayla Brown, Jennifer Kindl, Alexa Richardson, Olivia Caldwell, Jacob Landry, Victoria Rondeau, Olivia Cassidy, David Lamontagne, Dana Schauer,*

*Felicia Chambers, Michael Lawrence, Lauren Silbor, Mallory Crossley, Caitlyn Mac Neill, Lauren Small, Kristen Earle, Alexander McCall, Leah Sweet, Celeste Fredrickson, Timothy McCrohan, Zachary Verrier, Emily Guertin, Regina Merritt, Jillian Hamel, Jake Murray, Nicole Hewett, Samantha Nolan, Ian Hogan, Erin Ostroskey*



## ART "EFFECTS"

Welcome back from April vacation. We are in the final stretch of our school year.

All art students are working on drawing skills.

Grade four students are making sketch books that they will be taking home to draw in over the summer. We will also be creating wire and clay sculptures. May and June will be fun for all.

My third grade classes are working on trophy fish. They will be working toward accuracy in their work and creating the texture of scale fish. You'll be very impressed.

Grade two students are preparing for their International Fair. They will be producing art projects from around the world. We will have our exciting celebration and art exhibit on May 21st at 9:00 and 10:00 AM. I hope you can all join us. We will also be selling note cards generously donated but The Village Prints Works. (Thank you Mrs. DiBattista) The subject of the note cards are the beautiful canvas collages created by the children, Mr. Eric Bornstein and Mrs. Henries during our artist in residence program. A set of eight note cards (one for each class art piece) will be sold for \$5.00. The proceeds will be used to cover the canvases as required by fire department regulations.

Grade one students are growing up so quickly. We will be working with clay soon. I know they will love this project!

Enjoy the beautiful weather and thank you for giving me such talented children to work with!

Diane Henries

Would you like to know how you can help those in need when planting your vegetable garden this year? Plant a row of vegetables that will be specifically donated to help those struggling to feed their families. Vegetables can be expensive to purchase, therefore many of our families will go without fresh vegetables, because they cannot afford to buy them. By planting vegetables for these families in need, you will be helping them get the nutritious food that they need in order to stay healthy. This is a wonderful way to show how much you care about your neighbors in need. Fresh vegetables can be dropped off at the food pantry (behind the Uxbridge town common-in the community house) 15 minutes prior to each shift opening Wednesdays 10:45 - 1:00 and Wednesday nights 6:15 - 8:00. We ask that donations are not dropped off during open shifts, as we need to protect the privacy of the families we serve. If there is an overabundance of vegetables, we will share these vegetable donations with the Mendon, Douglas and Northbridge food pantries. If you would like to join our e-mail list to stay informed of pantry needs and events, please e-mail Denise Mussulli at [Thepeoplefirstfoodpantry@msn.com](mailto:Thepeoplefirstfoodpantry@msn.com). You can also visit our website at [www.uxbridgelibrary.org/FoodPantry\\_Home.html](http://www.uxbridgelibrary.org/FoodPantry_Home.html). Thank you for your support, Happy planting!

## Taft Elementary School

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### Leadership News

The Taft School Leadership Club has been collecting change in the fourth grade classes to donate to Pennies for Patients. This charity helps people suffering from leukemia. Thank you to the following students for providing us with important facts about this charity and about the disease during our morning announcements. Emily Guertin, Jack Chapman, Regina Merritt, Victoria Rondeau, Kirsten Grenon, Rosa Gonzalez, Lauren Small, Grace Lemire, and Jayce Knapik.

### T-Shirt Contest and Trash Pickup

On Thursday, April 16, 2009, Mrs. Lukowski's third grade classes had Earth Day T-Shirt Contest. There were three prizes: first prize was a \$5.00 gift card to Dunkin Donuts, second prize was a tiger piggy bank, and third prize was something from the classroom treasure chest.

The winners were:

Jessica Rice (DD Gift Card)

Evan Goulet (tiger piggy bank)

Darian Spencer (treasure chest drawing)

Also, on Friday, April 17, Mrs. Lukowski's class went outside to pick up trash. When they were done they had 3 trash bags full of trash. They also had a bag full of recyclables. The bottles went into the school recycling drive.

The class had fun doing some community service and helping the environment.

By: Evan Maietta

## COMPUTER BYTES

This month in computers, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be practicing their math skills on two websites. The 4<sup>th</sup> graders will use an online database of MCAS math questions at:

<http://bpl.org/teens/mcas/> This is a great website to use if you have older children taking the MCAS test too! Our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will go on Mr. Myer's website and practice their math at: [http://www.mrmymers.org/Math\\_Mania/math.html](http://www.mrmymers.org/Math_Mania/math.html) In addition to the math practice, students will also continue using Type to Learn.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will continue practicing on Type to Learn and will locate information about life cycles and animals on World Explorer and JumpStart. Our 1<sup>st</sup> graders will be using Microsoft Word to type an acrostic poem and insert a picture.

Here are some websites that the students will enjoy going on at home!

<http://uptoten.com/> Games and activities for children up to 10 years of age

[www.meddybemps.com](http://www.meddybemps.com) Learning activities

[www.howstuffworks.com](http://www.howstuffworks.com) A very popular website for older students

### LIBRARY CORNER

Hello from the Library at the Taft School! During the month of April we looked at April Fools books, books about pigs, dogs and chicks. The latter subject was quite popular due to the large amount of chicks hatching in incubators in various classrooms during this last month!

We finished out our exploration of the reference section by looking at atlases and magazines. (A magazine subscription makes a great gift for your child - something in the mail each month addressed to them!)

As the school year winds down, continue to encourage your children to read. A good book opens our hearts and minds...and is pure joy!

Mrs. O'Donnell

