



Harrington The Herald

Harrington School
328 Lowell Street
Lexington, MA 02420
(781) 860-0012
harrington.lexingtonma.org

Nov/Dec 2011

Volume 14, Issue 2

November

- 1 5th Grade Math Night
- 3 12:15 Dismissal
- 3 METCO FF Day
- 8 3rd Grade Math Night
- 11 **No School**
(Veteran's Day)
- 13 World Kindness Day
- 15 School Council Mtg.
- 15 4th Grade Math Night
- 23 12:15 Dismissal
- 24 **No School**
- 25 **No School**
(Thanksgiving)

December

- 2 School Council Mtg.
- 8 B&N Bookfair
- 14 Peace Concert (sch.)
- 15 Peace Concert
9-10 AM (parents)
- 15 METCO FF Day
- 26-30 Winter Break

January

- 2 No School
- 3 School Resumes
- 12 Hobby Night 6:30

Details available online

From the Principal

Elaine Mead, emead@sch.ci.lexington.ma.us



Recently, I was asked, "What do teachers do on Professional Development days?" and "What does Professional Development look like for Harrington teachers?" Proudly, I can tell you that Harrington teachers are active participants in their own learning and the learning of their colleagues. Professional Development may appear to be a one-day event on the calendar; however, it is happening all the time. Each teacher has an Individual Professional Development Plan and seeks opportunities to expand his or her skills to reach all learners. Teachers participate in collaborative workshops on Professional Development days, such as the Friday in October, AND they are also involved in professional development activities during early release Thursdays, faculty meetings, after-school courses, and through collaboration within the school day.

October was a very busy month for professional learning at our school. For example, on October 6th we joined Estabrook teachers for a Literacy Workshop focused on improving our small group practices in reading instruction. Teachers gathered in two groups, K-2 & 3-5, for an overview workshop with consultants to develop a common understanding of the key components of effective literacy practices. The next day, October 7th, our Harrington literacy specialists met with grade level teams to discuss resources and follow-up support here at Harrington. Throughout this release day, teachers worked together in teams to

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From the PTA:

Curriculum Enrichment

Tanya Gisolfi, gisolfit@verizon.net

Kathy Taudvin, ktaudvin@aol.com

Curriculum enrichment is one of the many committees of the Harrington PTA. This encompasses the Big Backyard, Science Enrichment and ACT programs.

Established in 1980, ACT – Arts Created Together – appears to have been created to deal with the fiscal difficulties of the times, passage of proposition 2 ½, dwindling revenues, increased costs, and limited school budgets. Nancy Gordon, an ACT founder and a former Lexington High School teacher, understood what research in the mid-late 90's would later prove, that art and science enrichment were critical to student achievement and better schools. ACT's original purpose, which still exists today, is to bring programs and people in the arts and sciences to our schools to support, complement, and extend the curriculum.

Today, ACT is a town-wide program that brings curriculum-oriented enrichment programs into school at both the classroom and school-wide levels. These programs bring greater depth and balance to the classroom and are selected with the guidance and support of the faculty. ACT programs throughout Massachusetts are paid for by local PTA funds and Lexington is no exception. All programs brought to Harrington are paid for by the funds raised throughout the year by Harrington's PTA. At Harrington, the PTA spends approximately \$20 per student for ACT programs, and approximately \$.72 per student for science each year.

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Get Involved! Opportunities

Gr. 2 Library Volunteer

(p. 2)

Donations (p. 4)

Family Nights (p. 3 & 6)

Principal's Message, continued...

plan and implement new ideas to help our students learn. Later in the month, demonstration lessons were scheduled with the consultants for each grade level and observed by groups of teachers. Seeing the small group reading practices in action with our students made the ideas come to life. This professional development, embedded within the day, included discussions and coaching from the consultants.

Other examples of our professional development at Harrington included a school-based workshop on the many features of the ELMO, the document readers that are in all the classrooms thanks to PTA and district funding. We also have extended grade level meetings to look at student performance data and collaboratively plan an instructional response. Using a cycle of looking at student work, implementing instructional strategies and monitoring the impact on learning is known as the "Data Cycle." This process is another major driver in our professional learning. Most importantly, the "adult learning" continues every day as teachers and specialists work together in the classroom helping children develop academically and socially.

Prospective teachers are attracted to Lexington because of the high quality opportunities for professional growth and development. The current faculty is among the most knowledgeable and skilled professionals I have ever known. And our students are the beneficiaries. The Lexington Public School system has a nationally recognized Professional Development Program with a wide range of course offerings that are open to Lexington teachers. For more information on LPS Professional Development go to <http://lps.lexingtonma.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=403> I am grateful to our Superintendent, Dr. Paul Ash, and our Assistant Superintendent, Carol Pilarski, who continue to advocate for professional development funding and the time to make the adult learning a priority here.

.....

The value of our PTA-funded enrichment program should not be underestimated. "For students living in a rapidly changing world, the arts teach vital modes of seeing, imagining, inventing and thinking."

Ellen Winner & Lois Hetland, researchers in Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education

.....

PTA Message, continued...

All ACT programs are based on the understanding that arts & science enrichment can enhance children's educational experience and fundamentally shape the way they understand the world. Through the arts, a child may experience an environment where judgment rather than rules prevail. How qualities interact, whether in sight or sound, through prose or poetry, in the choreographed movement we call dance, or in an actor's lines and gestures – these relationships all matter and provide additional texture to a child's learning environment. They cannot be neglected; they are the means through which work becomes more expressive. Here at Harrington, parents, teachers and staff actively collaborate to deliver ACT programming throughout the year that is diverse in exposing children to a variety of artistic disciplines, from the classical to the international, including music, dance, storytelling, art, theater, nature, community building, writing and more. Our intention is to ensure exposure to a variety of enrichment programming over the course of each child's six years at Harrington.

This year, in addition to classroom-level programming, ACT is sponsoring a weeklong artist-in-residence program, with Giles LaRoche, a critically acclaimed children's book author, illustrator and artist. Mr. LaRoche will be joining us in late January and early February for two school-wide assemblies as well as classroom workshops where he will work with each class as they collaborate to create cut-paper murals for display. At the end of his residency, the entire school will join together to present and discuss the school-wide project.

We hope you and your child enjoy the Harrington ACT program, and we are always available to receive your feedback and additional support. It is through your generosity and additional contributions that we continue to keep ACT strong, identify and engage exciting, dynamic programs, and inspire our children year after year. Thank you for making ACT possible!

The ACT program in brief*

- Improves students overall academic performance
- Develops skills needed on the 21st century workforce: critical thinking, creative problem-solving, effective communication and teamwork
- Teaches students to be more tolerant and open-minded
- Allows students to express themselves creatively – bolstering their self-confidence
- Keeps students engaged in school and less likely to drop out

* *Critical Links: Learning in the Arts and Student Academic and Social Development* (2002)

<http://aep-arts.org/files/publications/Critical%20Evidence.pdf>



ACT & Science Enrichment

Here are some of Harrington's curriculum enrichment programs students have to look forward to this year; brought to you by the efforts of PTA volunteers and PTA funds:

Kindergarten:

Mother Goose, December
Farmer with chickens, April

First Grade:

WingMasters, December
<http://wingmasters.net/>
Boston Aquarium – Tidepools, May

Second Grade:

Patricia Bade - Native Americans, November
<http://www.patbade.com/>
Discovery Museum - Physical Changes, Jan.

Third Grade:

Bay State Colonies, April
Kitchen Chemistry, May

Fourth Grade:

Animal Adaptations, December
Star Lab, MOS, March

Fifth Grade:

Lexington Historical Society (TBA)
Museum of Science – Electromagnetism, Nov.

All-School Assemblies:

Giant Asia Map, November
<http://events.nationalgeographic.com/events/special-events/giant-traveling-maps/>
Giles LaRoche in the classroom in January & for a student assembly in February
<http://gileslaroche.com/schoolWorkshops.html>

Go to the Herald online at the Harrington website to click on these websites directly

Save the Date:

Thursday, December 8th, 2011
BARNES & NOBLE BOOKFAIR

Shop all day at B & N, Burlington,
Proceeds benefit the Harrington PTA

Get all your holiday shopping done!

Flyer & additional info to hit the home folders soon

GO GLOBAL: Destination Asia!

Tanya Gisolfi, gisolfit@verizon.net

Kathy Taudvin, ktaudvin@gmail.com

The Harrington PTA's Arts Created Together (ACT) committee is hosting a fun and educational evening exploring Asia. The centerpiece of the night is the *National Geographic's Giant Asia Map*.

Every Harrington class will have a chance to see/walk this map over the course of the week. On Thursday night, families will have the chance to take a guided tour of the map's many countries. In addition, parents and school staff will put on short presentations that explore the diverse cultures and traditions of Asia.

Thursday, November 17th

6:30 - 8:00

Harrington Gym

Please sign up in advance

(as only a limited number can be on the map at once)
at: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/goglobal

Harrington Library News

Susan Weeks, Harrington Librarian

sweeks@sch.ci.lexington.ma.us

Changes are underway at Harrington Library. The district libraries are switching to a new library automation system, Follett Destiny, within this month. Since patron data records can't be converted between the old and new automation system, we will be asking all books to be returned by the December holiday break. In January we will only use the new system for circulation and the catalog. This will give the library staff and volunteers time to be trained in the new system before we start using it in January.

Research classes are underway in the Harrington Library. Grade 5 students have completed research of a famous scientist or inventor. Grade 2 students are beginning Native American research in the library. There will be more details about research strategies in Harrington Library in the next newsletter.

Thank you to all of the volunteers in the library this year. We are lucky that so many parents are willing to help out with circulation and shelving and other tasks. Most classes are all set but there are a couple of Grade 2 classes with just one volunteer. Please let me know if you want to help out in Grade 2. You may also contact Kathy Taudvin, Grade 2 library coordinator at Ktaudvin@gmail.com.

QuickTime™ and a decompressor are needed to see this picture.

Notes from the Music Room



In July 2011 Mrs. Stumpf attended an intensive week learning to play and teach the African marimba. She learned music from Zimbabwe, which this tradition originated. Learning many marimba pieces and teaching techniques associated with marimba playing, Mrs. Stumpf also viewed videos of Zimbabwean players and discussed integrating this music into elementary classrooms. This intensive week was funded by a grant from the Lexington Education Foundation. Mrs. Stumpf and all of the Harrington community are grateful to the LEF for their continued support of education in Lexington.

Day with Nani Agbeli

On Friday, October 28, Nani Agbeli from Ghana will be at Harrington to provide professional development for music teachers. Because this professional development includes teachers observing Nani Agbeli teaching, our students will have the opportunity to attend an assembly featuring Agbeli dancing with some of his students on African drums. Fifth and fourth graders will also participate in a class about African dance. This day is funded by Friends of Lexington Music Art Drama Students (FOLMADS) with additional support from Harrington School Council.



Help our School, the Environment and our Funds!

The following items are collected at our school throughout the school year. Most of these items can be dropped off at the "Harrington Hawks Hub" located to the right of the front lobby stairs. Please do your part in recycling and creating extra funds for our school. Thank you!

Empty Glue Bottles & Sticks:

Clean the empty glue bottles and glue sticks the best you can with warm water. The recycled plastic made from glue bottles and glue sticks is made into other plastic products such as garden equipment, packaging and even park benches! Drop-off Location: Harrington Hawks Hub.

Printer Cartridges: Drop off your used printer cartridges in the plastic bin and your eco-conscience donation brings extra funds to our school. Drop-off Location: Harrington Hawks Hub.

Recycled Greeting Cards Program: The Harrington PTA will be supporting the environment and the non-profit, St. Jude's Ranch, by collecting used, all-occasion greeting cards. Cards can be brought in throughout the year by students, families, and staff and placed in the Greeting Card Collection Box located at 'The Harrington Hawks Hub'.

Card Donating Tips:

All types of greeting cards, including Christmas. There's an increased need for Birthday and Thank You cards.

Only the card front can be used (please ensure the back side is clear of any writing, etc.)

We cannot accept Hallmark, Disney or American Greeting cards

Children's Books:

Donate any new or gently-used children's books (biographies, novels, picture books, short stories, etc) and they will be added to the library circulation if needed. The library is especially in need of books in foreign languages. If the library does not need the book, Ms Weeks will donate to the teachers to have in their individual class libraries. Drop-Off Location: Designated Basket in Library.

Bottles/Cans for Redemption:

Proceeds from the returnable empty cans & bottles are donated to "Peddlers Paw Projects", local animal shelters. Do not bring in cans and bottles from outside the school. This is simply a place to drop them off should you be in the school and have a clean, empty can or bottle that can be redeemed. Drop-Off Location: Atop the Lost & Found Bin.

BoxTops: Clip Box Tops from many different packages (visit their website at boxtops4education.com for a list of products that carry the Logo). Harrington has received over \$1800 in the last 2 years from Box Tops!

Collections are every Thursday before school.

Drop off Location: Center stairs in the front lobby.



METCO Family Friends

Debra Morales, debieddrt@yahoo.com

Rebecca Horne, rahorne@gmail.com

We had a great kick off to the METCO Family Friend Program, with a great turnout and pizza sponsored by the PTA. The following are dates for the Family Friend Program 11/3 12/8 1/19 2/2 3/15 4/5 5/17 and 6/7.



PTA General Meeting Minutes

Kim Goldinger, Co-President kim.goldinger@comcast.net

Claudia Lavin, Co-President, clavinrdz@gmail.com

Last Thursday night, October 20th was the year's first PTA General Meeting. MaryAnn Stewart came to talk about town meeting processes and the special upcoming meeting regarding the debt exclusion for Bridge and Bowman.

She explained to the PTA members that MSBA (Massachusetts State Building Assistance) declined to fund new buildings for Bridge and Bowman as they considered them to be in sound condition. An assessment has been done with a design partner and the estimated cost to renovate these two schools and modify them for the expanded student population is approximately \$19 million. Town members have decided to propose a debt exclusion for both schools to renovate and improve the buildings. This will require a vote from a special town meeting on November 14 of this year, and she encouraged our PTA to write or call our Town Meeting members.

If the debt exclusion is accepted, it will go to Lexington voters as a debt-exclusion in January of 2012.

Ms. Stewart also talked about the 10 year master plan for Lexington school buildings and explained that because of the PCB issue in the Estabrook school, the Lexington High School renovation plan was put on hold to give Estabrook priority.

Next, Ms. Mead talked about the HAWKS pro-social program that has begun being implemented this year. The objective of the program is to establish a culture of positive behaviors that Harrington stands for. Flyers were sent home to inform parents about the program so that their children can explain to them what it is.

Ms. Mead also answered some questions from parents. The first one being about how many classes will next year's 5th grade have. She informed the PTA members of her plan to have 4 classes for next year's 5th grade and the add a fourth class for next year's 3rd grade due to the large numbers of students currently enrolled in those grades.

Parents also brought up the issue of traffic in and around the school. Judy Crocker has been working on a solution to the traffic issue, including encouraging parents to use the school bus more often. Christine Chisholm said she has been working with Lexington Police to come up with a solution on the Lowell St. crosswalk. They are

being very cooperative and as of now, they have a speed monitor and have placed extra signs.

A longer discussion followed about the traffic situation within the school grounds. Many drivers are not respecting crosswalks, are going too fast, drop off their kids at the parking lot, or park in the middle of the parking lot. All of this is creating a hazardous situation for children walking to school.

Ms. Mead explained they have tried to come up with a solution, and though it's not perfect it is better than in previous years. Everybody agreed that a collaborative effort should be made to ensure the safety of children moving around school grounds at drop off/pick up times.

Ideas were proposed to modify the HAWKS flyer to encourage parents to display a positive behavior during these times, and to have 5th graders distribute those flyers, in order to have this be a PTA/school effort.

It was suggested a traffic team be created to explore different solutions. Christine Chisholm offered to do modifications to the flyer and she will bring it forward to the PTA and Ms. Mead to get the process started.

Mrs. Mead also announced that Lynn Reeves-Griffin will be speaking at the Clark Auditorium on November 29 about Parent support of pro-social growth and development.

Next, Kim Goldinger proposed a vote for change in by-laws related to online bill payment. In order to be able to pay bills online, the bylaws need to change from requiring two signatures to be allowed with just one. Kim assured the PTA members that this is within insurance requirements as well. Katie Cutler seconded the motion. All present voted aye. No nays.

Lastly, Kim Goldinger announced that Claudia Lavin agreed to be PTA Co-President and was voted in at the PTA Executive Committee meeting on October 4th, 2011.



LEX 16th Annual Trivia Bee

lexedfoundation.org

The 16th annual Lexington Education Foundation (LEF) Trivia Bee is Wednesday, November 9, 7:00 p.m. at Cary Hall. Admission is free and it's fun for the whole family!

You won't want to miss this fun and exciting town-wide tradition; the chance to cheer on your favorite teams of teachers, friends and neighbors, and test your own trivia know-how against seasoned competitors. This year,

Harrington has two teams competing! Will the Harrington Hawkettes, with competitors Ms. O'Donnell, Ms. Taylor, and Ms. Moussa, swoop down and claim the title or will the Harrington Hawks pluck it from their talons? Come to the Bee and cheer for your Harrington teams!

Over forty teams sponsored by local businesses, organizations, and individuals, test their trivia know-how in this friendly battle of wits. All nine Lexington schools will be represented, including for the first time, students from Lexington High School. Perennial favorites will try to claim the winning spot, new teams have signed up to create some buzz, and last year's Bee champs, the 'EGgheads' are returning to defend their crown.

Many "bee-loved" friends provide the supporting cast – Jeff Leonard, Performing Arts Department Coordinator at Lexington High School, returns as the Master of Ceremonies. Time limits will be enforced by "beekeeper" Matt Murphy, Community Resource Officer with the Lexington Police Department. Koren Stembridge, Director of Cary Memorial Library, will participate as a judge along with Bee Questions Committee members Greg Morrisett and Betty Gau. "Bee-dazzling" the audience, Thelma Goldberg will "Dance Inn" the questions to begin the festivities.

For more information on foundation or the Trivia Bee go to the LEF website at: lexedfoundation.org.



Math Mornings

4th Grade - **Jennifer Roney**, jaroney@comcast.net
3rd/5th Grades - **Grace Clackson**, timandgrace@comcast.net

Math Mornings, a weekly before-school math enrichment club, began in early October. 3rd graders have experimented with using levers to lift heavy weights; 4th graders have discovered how to use charts and diagrams to solve complex word problems; and 5th graders can tell you exactly why it's a much better deal to wash the dishes every day for a year than to sort your mom's 15 books into every possible order. Over the course of the year, Math Morning students will continue to strengthen their problem-solving skills, investigate real-life math applications, and explore topics outside the school curriculum.

If you haven't made it to Math Mornings yet, it's not too late! 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are invited to join us on the days listed below. Parent participation is welcome and encouraged, but not required. There is no need to sign up. All math mornings meet from 7:45-8:30 am. (We regret that we cannot be responsible for

unattended siblings: if you need to bring siblings to Math Morning, a parent must stay to supervise them. Thanks for your understanding.)

- 3rd Grade: Wednesdays in the computer lab
- 4th Grade: Thursdays in the library
- 5th Grade: Fridays in the computer lab



Family Math Night

Jennifer Roney, jaroney@comcast.net

Watch your child's home folder for details about upcoming Family Math Nights – one evening per grade for children and their parents to do fun, hands-on math activities together. Three Family Math Nights are coming up in November:

- **3rd Grade:** Investigating relationships between 3-D shapes and their 2-D silhouettes
- **4th Grade:** experimenting with pentominoes
- **5th Grade:** building giant Platonic Solids
see calendar on 1st page for dates

All three grades will also have a chance to try a wide variety of puzzles, brainteasers, and games, and experience math in a playful and hands-on way. All Family Math Nights meet from 6:45-8 pm in the cafeteria. Dates for Kindergarten, 1st Grade, and 2nd Grade Family Math Nights (which will meet later in the school year) are available on the school calendar on the Harrington website.

New this year! Create your own original math-themed art, poetry, puzzles, or games, and have them displayed at your grade's Family Math Night. Write your name and grade on your project and submit it to the "Family Math Night Creations" box in the PTA area *no later than the Friday before your grade's Family Math Night*. For more details and some ideas to get you started, watch for information in your child's home folder two weeks before their Family Math Night.

Online Math Gym

Looking for even more math enrichment? Check out our online Math Gym at harringtonmathgym.weebly.com. Designed for Math Morning students and other curious 3rd through 5th graders, the Math Gym is updated every two weeks with new math jokes, links, challenging brainteasers, and more.



Big Backyard: Signs of Life

- Susie Lee-Snell

Last year I had an opportunity to lead a small group of first grade scientists through the Harrington backyard. Some of the things we were hoping to spot were some chewed leaves, woodpecker holes, berries, nuts and scat. Finding birds nests and holes in the ground were on our list too! What were we searching for? Signs of life. We journeyed through the outskirts of the field and in through the woods to confirm if animals lived in the backwoods of Harrington School. We were also trying to answer if Harrington School made a good environment for insects and animals. The answer was a resounding Yes. The abundance of acorns, berries, various shrubs and trees as well as a small stream provide what all living creatures need to survive; food, water, shelter, protection and air.

We saw some squirrels running around and birds flying above but for me, the most interesting discovery was finding a leaf miner trail. Leaf miners are small larvae that live in the mid-tissue layer of plant leaves. They "mine" out the nutrients and as their path gets wider it's a sure sign the larva is getting bigger. We could clearly see the path the larva took and where it finally left the leaf. The kids were amazed that a living creature could live between the layers of a leaf, and so was I.

If you haven't had a chance to guide a group of students through Harrington's backyard, give it a try. Parent volunteers are trained prior to each walk so you will be armed with information and you just might spy something you've never seen before! For more information on volunteering please contact Pam Cohen at cohentraub@rcn.com. Hope to see you in the woods!

Stop & Shop A+ Rewards

Leslie Zales, leslie.zales@gmail.com

Anne Stevens, anne@janescope.com

Register your Stop & Shop card for A+ School Rewards today through March 24, 2010 and Harrington Elementary School will earn CASH each time you shop at Stop & Shop.

Log on to www.stopandshop.com/aplus
to register online
OR
Dial 1-877- 275-2758

The Harrington School code is **10572**.

Enroll your Stop and Shop card online and Harrington will receive credit for all your purchases starting in October.

After you register your card, each shopping trip using your Stop & Shop Card earns points. It even works with purchases made online with Peapod by Stop & Shop. At the end of each month these points determine our school's cash total which is automatically credited to its account and school totals updated each month. At the close of the program Harrington will receive a check.

Encourage your family and friends to sign up too! If you have children in multiple schools, you can register up to 3 schools on one card. Just search our city and state on the website to see which schools are enrolled in Lexington.



Fifth Grade Perspectives!

Last year when the question was put to some neighborhood folks about what they would like to see in their PTA newsletter, several responses came back about seeing student work. Beginning with this newsletter you will be able to read about events happening in the school as reported by Harrington 5th Graders. Contributors were randomly selected from a list of interested students.

Suggestions are always welcome! Please submit any thoughts or ideas to the editor (listed on the back page of this newsletter).



The Fall Festival for the Arts

by *Kate Bruno, Fifth Grader*

On Sunday October 2, 2011 Harrington School held the Fall Festival for the Arts. It was really fun!

There were lots of snacks including donuts, popcorn and cookies. There were lots of activities too - including decorating pumpkins and making "trick or treat" bags. My 4 year old sister came, and she loved decorating the pumpkins and the big "blow up" slide. There was a great photo booth where kids got to dress up and take pictures. There was also lots of entertainment during the day. My big sister performed in the Clarke Middle School production of Mulan and the Lexington High School A Cappella group performed too. In the gym there were people selling all types of crafts and food. My mom bought some hand made soaps -- they smelled delicious! There was also a science lab where they made slime, and there was a place where you could make candy sculptures - my friends and I enjoyed eating the candy! All in all, the Fall Festival was a really fun time, and I am looking forward to going again next year!



Harrington Book Club

By *Maya Gong, Fifth Grader*

Harrington Reads is a great place to join a community and talk about a book. Twice a year approximately 30 people come and enjoy an hour of discussion about a book the organizers chose. I went to Harrington Reads a couple nights ago, and it feels to me like a place to learn while having fun talking about a book.

Ms. Novogrodsky, one of the organizers, says, "I am always pleasantly surprised at how many people come out to Harrington Reads and enjoy a book that everybody has read."

This year the organizers chose a book called "The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg." By Rodman Philbrick. The book is historical fiction and takes place during the Civil war. It is about this boy named Homer. Homer is trying to find his brother who was illegally sold into the Civil War. It is a sad and funny story and you might want to try reading it. As you can see, Harrington Reads is a fun program that you might want to try out when you are in forth or fifth grade.



International Food Night

By *Amrita Vetticaden, Fifth Grader*

It was a stunning evening at the 2011 International Food Festival, one of Harrington's many traditions. Various dishes from around the world were spread out on two long tables. Many people came to share their culture's food and to taste other's. "I love it, the food is good and it has a nice, calm atmosphere," said Mrs. Mead, the school principal. There were long lines at each table and soon there was no food left! "I feel that the International Food Festival was a wonderful experience that allowed everyone to come together and enjoy delicious cuisine from around the world," said Mrs. Moussa, a 5th grade teacher. It was a great evening all right! Everyone enjoyed the food and had a great time. "bottom line - it was REALLY yummy! Said Ava Buchanan and Amy Hu, both age 10. Overall, the International Food Festival was a big success this year, and we hope to have many more like this one in the future.

Heartfelt Thanks...

... to **Ann Ostrowski**, mother of a 3rd & 2nd grader (and two to follow!) and a former editor, for guiding the new project of bringing in 5th graders to contribute to the Herald.

... to **ALL the many BBY volunteers** who donated their time and energy to walk with all the classrooms this autumn.

... to **Michelle Mabardy & Jen Camp** for organizing picture day.

... to **Andrea Caplan** for the running the Genevieves fundraiser.

... to **Claire Sheth & Elizabeth McLaughlin** for organizing and running the Festival for the Arts.

... to **Henrietta Mei & Jing Sun** for running International Food Night

... to **Rebecca Horne & Debra Morales** for running METCO Family Friends program and activities.

... to **Flavia Vidal & Sarah Novogrodsky** for running the *Harrington Reads* Book Club.

... to **Roberta Wehmeyer** for her continued support to the METCO Family Friend program, and use of the Art Room & to **all the parents** who attended the kick-off event.

... to all the **parents volunteering in the library** each week during their child's class library time.

... to the MANY people who worked so tirelessly to make the Festival for the Arts day the success that it was. In addition to the **financial & in-kind sponsors** and **40+ parent** and **high school volunteers** that helped in so many ways, a special thanks to publicity guru, **Sandy Parks**; entertainment "agents", **Meena Kothandaraman & Kathy Taudvin**; the Arts and Crafts mavens, **Sabrina Napoli & Sandy Schwartz**; photo booth consultants, **Jacqy Fiore & Cristina Burwell**; the **Heatherington-Martin Family** Halloween Room Helpers; silent auctioneers, **Susie Lee Snell & Christine Chisolm**; and, last but not least, our heroes in all things facilities-related, **Paul Cuzzupe & Mark Freitas**.

The Harrington Herald

Editor: Cristina Burwell - (781) 862.2018, cristinaburwell@mac.com

Proofreader: Barbara Yates - yatesoffice@aol.com & Natalie Gornstein, hgornstein@hotmail.com

PTA Co-Presidents: Kim Goldinger, kim.goldinger@comcast.net & Claudia Lavin, clavinrdz@gmail.com

The Harrington Herald is the monthly newsletter of the Harrington PTA, published six times a year. In keeping with PTA Newsletter Policy, *The Herald* will print items directly related to the schools and their PTA's. This includes curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities that are PTA- or system-supported, and school-sanctioned projects. All articles are subject to editorial discretion. Newsletter material may be emailed to Cristina Burwell (see above). If you cannot email your submission, please call her to make other arrangements.

Visit the Harrington School website for online editions and archives at <http://harrington.lexingtonma.org>.

Next Submission Deadline: 20 December

