



Harrington The Herald



Special Anniversary Edition

April 2013



Happy Birthday, Lexington!

This year is a special time for residents of Lexington as it celebrates its 300th anniversary of incorporation as a town. Numerous celebrations have been created throughout the year for citizens of all ages. But some activities have been designed for just our town's youth.

At Harrington, children began the year with a special assembly to introduce the students to what a town anniversary means. This was filled with re-enactors of early town leaders, fife and drum corps and a commemorative quilt, to name a few.

More recently, Harrington students have been involved in social studies projects that focus on Lexington "then and now." This curriculum has been specially designed for this year by LPS staff to compliment what each grade typically studies during the year. These projects were on display in the front hall of Harrington during parent-teacher conferences the first two weeks of April.

To compliment this display, this special edition of *The Harrington Herald* has been created to describe and celebrate the special studies that the children have been doing this year in their classrooms.

When they dig up the Lexington 300th time capsule in 50 years, I wonder what our children will remember most?

LIBRARY

One way children have been celebrating Lexington's 300th in the library is by reading a picture book called *The Firehouse Light* by Jane Nolan. The story has helped spark interesting discussions about how life has changed over the past century. The book tells the story of a remarkable light bulb that burns in a firehouse for decades as the town changes around it. When the light bulb has burned for 100 years, the whole town comes out to celebrate. The book is actually based on a true story and students have been excited to see the light bulb still glowing in the firehouse today with the "Light bulb Cam" available online at <http://www.centennialbulb.org/photos.htm>.

MUSIC

The music curriculum, *Music in Colonial America*, is taught each year in the third grade. This year parts of this curriculum will be taught to other grade levels as we celebrate the 300th anniversary of Lexington. Keep an ear out for *Revolutionary Tea* or *Yankee Doodle*!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Harrington's 2013 Field Day will be centered around Lexington's 300th Celebration. Students will be placed in a variety of teams named after regiments from the Revolutionary War. Twenty-five activities will take place and will have the theme of Lexington's historical events, people and places. It will be a great way to increase enthusiasm, instruction, and gain knowledge about this special celebration. Look out for cries of The Field Day is coming! The Field Day is Coming!

LEXINGTON
300TH
ANNIVERSARY
1713 - 2013

CALENDAR
Details available online
www.lexington300.org

April

1 Golden Tricorn Scavenger Hunt

14 Patriots' Day Parade

May

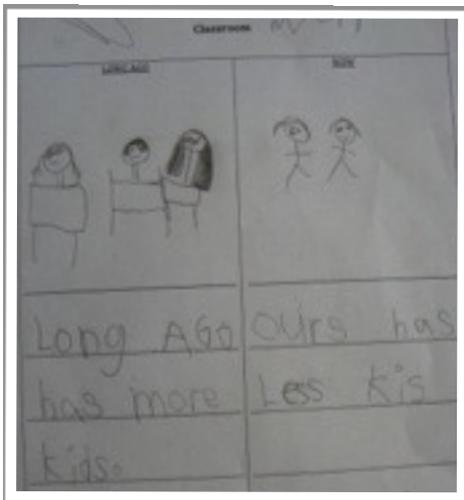
25 Time Capsule Sealing & Clock Dedication

26 Old-time Baseball Game & Clinic

27 300th Anniversary Concert

KINDERGARTEN

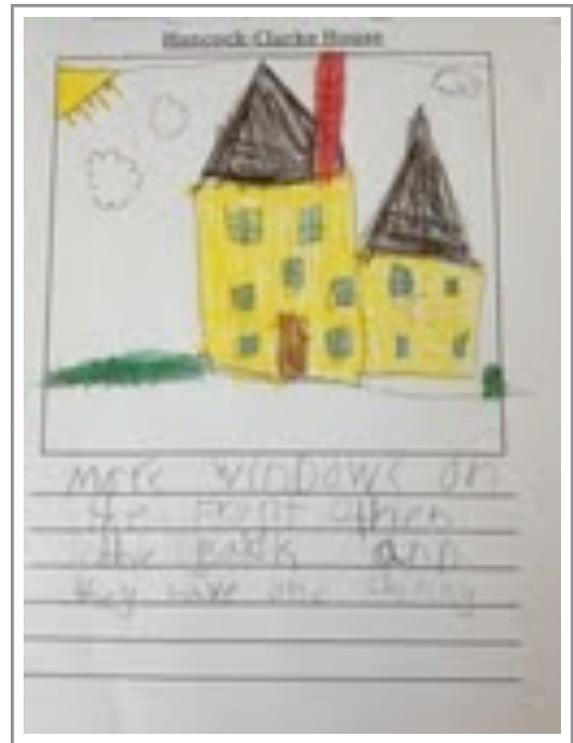
An important part of the Lexington Kindergarten social studies curriculum is studying the children's classroom and school communities, as well as understanding the concept of *long ago* as opposed to *now*. In the Lexington 300th Anniversary lessons, both ideas are addressed. Through photos and books children have learned what a typical school and classroom looked like long ago when Lexington first became a town. Using a giant Venn diagram compared and contrasted what those communities are like now. In addition, children studied what transportation was like long ago and compared and contrasted it to transportation now. For the culminating project, each class focused on one aspect -- classroom, school or transportation. Children wrote and illustrated something they had learned about their class' topic.



GRADE 1



To celebrate Lexington's 300th Anniversary, the 1st grade classes at Harrington learned about the Hancock-Clarke House -- then and now. They discovered the special features of the house and compared it to houses today. They later drew a picture of the Hancock-Clarke House and wrote something they learned about the house.



GRADE 2

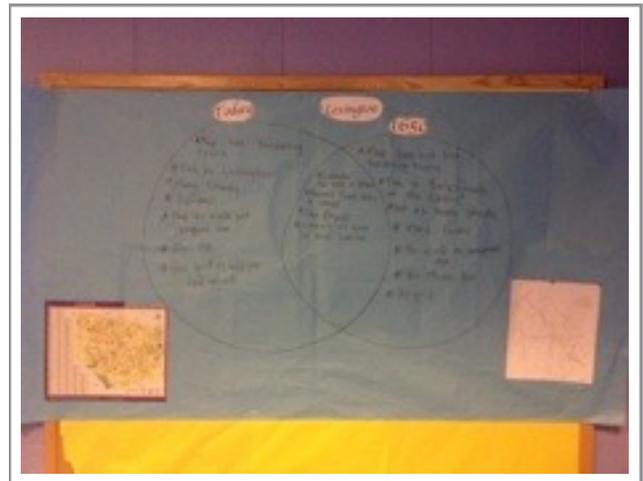


Harrington's second grade students are celebrating Lexington's 300th birthday by recognizing their diversity. This compliments their study of maps and traditions of different countries. Each student was invited to lay down his or her yarn strand(s) on a class map to display his/her family's country or countries of origin. These class maps honoring our diversity are proudly displayed on the bulletin board in our pod.



GRADE 3

Third grade students learn about Colonial America. This year's study built in comparison and contrast of current maps of Lexington to maps made in 1650 and 1853. Students then examined the importance of farming in Lexington and how it has changed over time. All the children in third grade worked together to create a display of Lexington's maps throughout history.



GRADE 4



Did you know that there are 21 "Lexingtons" in the USA? Fourth graders worked with partners to learn facts about the various Lexingtons throughout the United States. This ties in to their study of the different U.S. states. From the information they gathered, they created scavenger hunt questions to help others identify the location of each town or city.



The Harrington Herald

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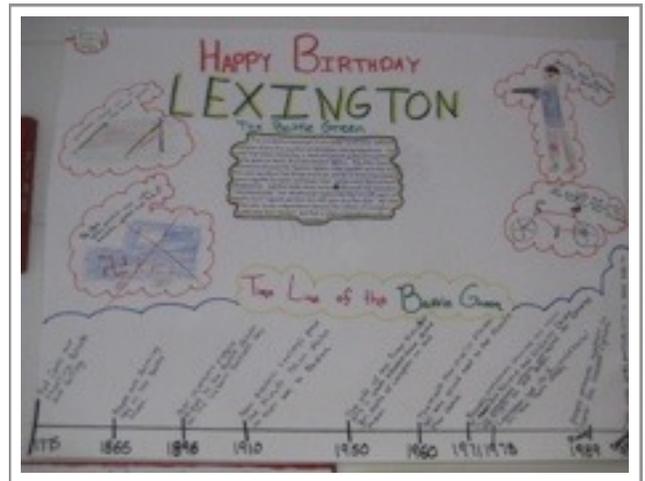
The Harrington Herald is the bi-monthly newsletter of the Harrington PTA. This special edition was written by Harrington Elementary School Staff.

GRADE 5

Focusing upon historical moments from Lexington's Battle Green, students at Harrington created a poster showing how the Battle Green became a symbol for democracy, independence, and communication.



Creating a timeline and highlighting a few key events from The Battle Green's history, Harrington students demonstrate in this poster how the Battle Green stands for both democracy and independence.



Fifth graders also had an audience with Bentley Boyd, the author/illustrator behind Lexington's anniversary comic book. At this time he provided a workshop on his work of drawing history and civics lessons in comic strip form. This was brought to Harrington by ACT (Arts Created Together).