

Past:

- ❖ The food drive for the Open Hand Pantry went very, very well. Aimee Whitten and Lea Lekowski collected approximately 300 pounds of food and delivered it to the Open Hand Food Pantry. (Discussed an additional drive during the school year, possibility for toiletries.)
- ❖ The Staff Luncheon was very well received thanks to the efforts of Jo Morrill, Meredith Fitzgerald, Colleen McKenna, Mary Lynch, Janet Begin, Jo-Anne Zullo, Tom Broderick, Leah Sullivan, Cheryl Hood, LeeAnn Axford and Aimee Whitten. Everything from salad to bread to pasta to dessert was deliciously consumed!
- ❖ Square 1 Art was a great success! Romy Gaiero 201 pieces of artwork submitted with a \$1,650 in profit for the school. Secondary orders were sent in but may not be returned in time for the Holiday.
- ❖ Santa Parade - Mary Lou Johnson. 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the Most Original/Creative Float. Approximately 30 families participated and had a great time! Thank you to everyone who took their time and energy for this wonderful day.
- ❖ Family Game Night (11/17) Steve Boyle. Over 45 people in attendance...If interested orders are still being taken for games. Please send your order form in by 12/1. Thanks to Janet, Jessica + Ryan Begin and Angela Demarco + Justin Lapierre for helping out

Present

- ❖ Hill Bucks (Scrip Program) - Steve Boyle and Romy Gaiero A wonderful first time order was submitted with \$1,600 generated for our school. This program will continue throughout the year and will provide funds for HVM. The next order form will be sent out Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Haverhill Gazette Santa Fund Penny Drive ...Mary & John Lynch \$239 to date! All classrooms have participated with the last day for pick up being Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Dinner Night at Papa Gino's on River Street - tomorrow night! (Thu., Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>)
- ❖ Mitten Tree - Aimee Whitten, Mary Lou Johnson and Julie Herget will coordinate. Watch for permission notes to be sent home for participation.

## Future:

- ❖ Scholastic Book Fair - Jo Morrill - December 4-8 Jo is still looking for someone to help out on Thu., Dec 7<sup>th</sup> from 5-6:30 as well as from 6:30-8pm. Jo can be reached at [jmorill@rpi-apex.com](mailto:jmorill@rpi-apex.com).
- ❖ District Parent Council - 9.15 am, 12/6 at City Hall.
- ❖ Board of Trustees Meeting Thu., Dec 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm All parents are welcome to attend. A change has been made to the public speaking policy at this meeting. At the close of each topic, time is available for parents to speak/ask questions, etc.
- ❖ Health Advisory Committee Meeting - Thu., Dec 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm
- ❖ Coat Drive - January 2007 Save those winter coats of all sizes. HVM will be collecting, cleaning and distributing them to Ruth's House. We're looking for volunteers to help with this wonderful program.
- ❖ Health Fair - May 19, 2007! Nurse Shanyng announced her plans for the Health Fair and would welcome participation from health and safety organizations. She is also welcoming parents to get involved with the Health Advisory Committee.

## SITE UPDATE

Veronica O'Brien reported that the Site Committee is currently exploring the possibility of four different sites for our school and is confident that something will be settled upon for the 2007-2008 school year. It may be a temporary split campus or one campus; details will be announced as soon as negotiations are complete. Norman Day, the developer who worked with the River Valley Charter School in Newburyport, is assisting the Site Committee in their quest for a new school. If you know of a building that is 50-60,000 square feet and could be the future home of HVM, please contact Veronica O'Brien.

## BRAINSTORM!

The CP Meeting concluded with two open discussions.

The first was initiated to generate ideas pertinent to Community Service and how to get the children more involved. Ideas such as collecting and distributing food to an area shelter, 'adopting' an assisted living home and volunteering for the Historical Society or Trails commission were brought up. One arm of the CP is Community Service and we felt it'd be great to give the children exposure to different segments of the Haverhill community. If you have ideas or thoughts, please share them with us!

The second discussion was in regards to the content of the CP Meetings and ways in which we can make them as informative as possible. Ie. Possibly having a 'current event' segment in which parents can hear more about the activity in the classroom, projects being worked on, etc. The parents in attendance applauded the involvement of staff - teachers - administration at the monthly meetings and would love to see more.

### Science Center Field Trip

Upper Elementary will be going to the Christa McAuliff Planetarium this Thursday . CP is funding 50% of transportation plus entry fee for those that receive reduced lunch. \$269 for CP funds. Also, Melanie has applied for grant funding (through Target) for a trip for the whole school to the Museum of Fine Arts.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER!

CP Meetings are held monthly (**Dec 18<sup>th</sup>** is our next one) and is vital to the continued growth and support of HVM. ALL parents are welcomed and encouraged to attend! It's a great way to meet the parents from your child's classroom and learn more about HVM. If you regularly attend these meetings, offer to carpool with another parent who hasn't been before. Child care is supplied at the school.

### Got Questions? Want to get involved? Maybe we can help!

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If you notice errors or discrepancies in this newsletter, please contact Stephen Boyle