

Haddam Elementary School  
2009  
NEWSLETTER



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*Dr. Janice Harris*  
*Principal*

*Notes from the Principal*

May is always an exciting month at Haddam Elementary, highlighted by our Art Show & Ice Cream Social (featuring a PTO Basket Raffle) and our musical concerts (recorders, beginning band and chorus). Our art teachers Jay Granucci and Bethany Kohary are working hard to showcase the beautiful artwork that your children have produced over the year. We look forward to seeing you at the show on Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00pm. If you can volunteer to help with setting up or taking down, please let one of them know. In this newsletter, you will find dates and times for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade chorus and band concerts and the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade recorder concert. The students are really looking forward to showcasing their talent!

This week is teacher appreciation week (and today is Nurses' Day). I am honored to lead such a dedicated and knowledgeable group of teachers and staff members! It truly is a pleasure to work with each of them! Thank you to all the parents who contributed to the wonderful appreciation luncheon. We are always so humbled by your generosity and hard work in putting this event together for our staff! It was a great luau!

Now that we have a budget in place for our district (thanks to all of you!), we will soon be ready to plan for next year. Planning class assignments for the 2009-2010 school year will take place in the next few weeks. As in past years, we will work as a team to carefully review individual student profiles (including performance, learning styles, social interactions and special needs) to determine placement for next year. If you wish to express any specific concerns or needs that you would like the team to consider, please share them in writing to me (Dr. Harris) no later than May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please do not use teacher names in your letter, as requests for specific teachers will not be considered.

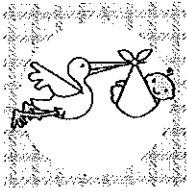
Our School Advisory Team continues to work towards school improvement. We have several new ideas for the coming year and will be working over the next couple of months to "hit the ground running" in the fall. (Copies of the SAT notes can be found on the school's webpage.) We got many ideas for our school from the National Association of Elementary School Principals' Conference that I attended in New Orleans last month. It was a great conference! I was also able to visit several school sites, including our "sister school" New Orleans Free Academy to donate the books students earned from HES Loves to Read month. The students at

the Academy were excited to receive books and pen pal letters from our students. There is still so much need in the New Orleans school system. It really makes me appreciate the supportive community we have at HES! Have a great month!



### **PTO BASKET RAFFLE**

A special Thank You to all who have contributed to the Basket Raffle which will be displayed during the Art Show on May 12th. Tickets will be sold for \$1.00 each. Please visit our table while admiring your child's beautiful artwork!



### **CONGRATULATIONS**

To Mr. & Mrs. Smith (gr. 4) on the birth of their son, Jack Thomas, born on April 24, 2009!

### **Children's Book Week Program at Brainerd Library**

Kathleen Kudlinski, author of *BOY, WERE WE WRONG ABOUT DINOSAURS!* and over twenty other books, will be at the library on Wednesday, May 13 from 4:00-5:00 PM presenting "Dinosaur Discoveries". She is a "prolific author of historical fiction, biographies, and science books that reflect her passionate interest in the natural world and preserving its treasures".

This fun presentation will include some historical facts about dinosaurs and the more astonishing modern theories. Ms Kudlinski will bring fossils to share and lead the audience in some exciting activities. The program is geared to children age 5 and older. Please call the library to register for this educational and entertaining after-school program.



to a first grader who requested that her birthday guests bring a donation to the HES Library to her party as an alternative to a birthday gift. HES students will now be able to enjoy several new books the library is purchasing with the generous donation. Thank you to the birthday honoree and friends!

### **HK PARK & RECREATION CONTACT**

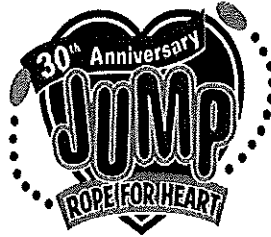
Frank J. Sparks III  
Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department  
[frank@hkrec.com](mailto:frank@hkrec.com) (860) 345-8334

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION NEWS:**

**There are many exciting things happening in Physical Education.**



On Wednesday, May 6, 2009 Haddam Elementary School will again participate in Project ACES. Millions of school children all over the globe will be exercising simultaneously in a symbolic gesture of fitness and unity to show the world that they do not fit into that negative stereotype of being "physically unfit". At 10:00 we will go for a 15 minute walk outside to celebrate this event.



Jump Rope for Heart will be taking place during P.E. class the week of May 11<sup>th</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup>. You are invited to come to your child's P.E. class that week to enjoy a good workout for a good cause.



Field Day will be held on Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. There will be games and activities in the morning and some cool assemblies in the afternoon. If you would like to volunteer to help on that day please contact me at [bergantino77@rsd17.org](mailto:bergantino77@rsd17.org). Thanks again.

**☀ SUMMER CENTER**

Registration for the Summer Center has begun. Summer Center is a non profit, reasonably priced alternate summer program, with a wide variety of classes offered by the district. This year the program will be held at the middle school from June 22, - July 17. Please send in your completed forms soon. For more information, or a copy of the catalog call Jay Granucci at Burr Elementary School, 345-4584.



*You are cordially invited  
To attend the  
Annual Art Show  
And Ice Cream Social  
Featuring: Under the Big Top  
By all the students of  
Mr. Granucci  
And  
Mrs. Kohary  
Haddam Elementary School  
Tuesday May 12, 2009  
6:30-8:00 P.M.*

Important notes:

- We are still in need of any available parents that could help us with setting up for the art show on Monday May 11, first thing in the morning.
- Please do not remove art work from the walls or any of the three dimensional projects from any displays the night of the art show. All work will be sent home at a later date.



Notices with detailed information will be going home with those students involved. Please encourage your young musicians to practice regularly.



### **Safety Town**

The Haddam Junior Woman's Club will again this year be holding Safety Town for children entering kindergarten at the end of August. Safety Town will be held Tuesday August 25, Wednesday August 26 and Thursday August 27 from 9-11:30 ( you must attend all 3 days). It is open to any child entering kindergarten at Haddam, Burr or Killingworth Elementary School. Children are taught their addresses, phone numbers, stranger danger, fire safety and school bus safety. A light snack will be provided every day. Please note our **NEW** location at the New Haddam Fire House on Rt. 154 (429 Saybrook Road) in Higganum. It is 1 mile south on Rt 154 from the light at the intersection of Rt 154 and Rt 81. Enrollment is limited to 30 children. Please contact Karen Revis ASAP at 345-1002 to register your child. The fee is \$15.

### **NOTES FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE**

Notes from the Health Office

I hope everyone is having a wonderful spring and enjoying the beautiful season change and flowers.

This time of year we ask that all parents please apply sunscreen to their children before coming to school. Sunscreen should last anywhere from **6-8 hours** a day, which should cover them for the time they are in school. The children are going outside almost daily, and sometimes more than once a day. Your child is allowed to bring sunscreen to school to keep in their back pack. If you choose this option, please understand that the nurse and teaching staff are **NOT** responsible for its application. The student may apply it before going outdoors if needed, however the best option is to apply it at home each morning.

Please remember to send fresh water bottles to school each day with your child. During these warm days, children can dehydrate quickly which can lead to headaches, dry, sore throats, etc. I keep a limited amount of water bottles in my office, so please supply one for your child.

Thank you to all parents for the healthy snacks you have been supplying for birthdays/special occasions. I appreciate your help in making us a healthier school. The kids are really loving all of the treats! And thank you for remembering to call me 24 hours ahead of your child's special day to let me know what will be served.

There has been a lot of media coverage about the recent confirmation of human cases of swine influenza in several states. I did want to provide you with some information that may be helpful. First and most importantly this is a virus that passes from person to person. **YOU WILL NOT GET IT FROM EATING PORK.** Like any influenza it is thought to spread mainly through coughing or sneezing of infected people. "Symptoms of swine flu include fever, lethargy, lack of appetite, coughing, runny nose, sore throat, and sometimes nausea, vomiting and diarrhea," according to the CDC. There are many things you can do to prevent getting and spreading influenza. These everyday actions that you can take to stay healthy include:

- \* Cough or sneeze into your arm or cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it and then wash your hands.

- \* Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective. **Handwashing** is the single most important thing you can do to protect yourself

- \* Avoid sharing drinks, water bottles or silverware with others.

- \* Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.

- \* Stay away from people that you know are sick.

- \* If you get sick, the CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them. The CDC recommends that you do not return until all symptoms have been resolved for at least 24 hours.

There is no reason to panic. If you have any additional questions regarding this issue please do not hesitate to call me.

### HK HALL OF FAME INAUGURAL BANQUET

This recognition ceremony will be on May 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM, @ the HKMS honoring Patsy Kamercia, Mark Brookes, Richard Dupuis, Richard Langer and Dennis O'Rourke who actively serve as athletic coaches since 1975. Please stop by the HES office for tickets (\$40 ea.)



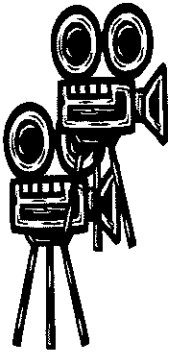
### THANK YOU....

To all the parents for their generous donations and delicious baked desserts for the Staff Luncheon on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

☺ Katie Bodak and Colleen Totman

 **UPCOMING CONCERTS**

Grade 4 -Chorus: May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM here in the HES All-Purpose Room.  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Festival: May 27<sup>th</sup> at HKMS at 7:00 PM  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Music: Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM in the -HES All-Purpose Room



# COMING ATTRACTIONS

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|--------|--|
| MAY 11 | CULTURAL ARTS, 9 & 10AM                                  |
| MAY 12 | ART SHOW AND BASKET RAFFLE 6:30-8PM,<br>ALL PURPOSE ROOM |
| MAY 20 | KINDERGARTEN PARENT MTG., 6:30 ALL PURPOSE<br>ROOM       |
| MAY 21 | GR. 4 BAND CONCERT, ALL PURPOSE RM. 6:30                 |
| MAY 22 | EARLY DISMISSAL – ALL STUDENTS                           |
| MAY 25 | NO SCHOOL – MEMORIAL DAY                                 |
| MAY 27 | 4 <sup>TH</sup> GR. BAND FESTIVAL, 7PM AT HKMS           |
| MAY 30 | HK HALL OF FAME BANQUET, 6:30 @ HKMS                     |

In the event of an evacuation in which students and staff must leave the school premises, we have two locations that we are authorized to use. One is the United Methodist Church next door and the other is the Town Garage. The EMERGENCY LINE TELEPHONE NUMBER is 345-8526.



**HES**  
**AT A CONNECTICUT DEFENDERS BASEBALL GAME**  
**ON APRIL 18, 2009**

