



# Central Co-Op News

Volume 1

PO Box 142 • Chelmsford, MA 01824 • 978-256-3033 • www.centralcoop.org

September 2008

## T-shirt sale and raffle at Parent Meeting

The Co-Op Board will be selling raffle tickets at the upcoming parent meeting for one month's free tuition, as well as Co-Op T-shirts in adult and children's sizes (great for showing your school spirit during field trips and other special events).

### T-Shirt Prices

T-shirts, \$15 each, or 2 for \$25

### Raffle Tickets

\$2 for 1 Ticket (or \$2 each)

\$5 for 3 Tickets (or \$1.66 each)

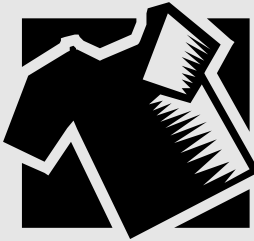
\$10 for 8 Tickets (or \$1.25 each)

\$20 for 20 Tickets (or \$1 each)

### Parent Meeting Special

Free raffle ticket with every T-shirt purchased.

Cash and checks will be accepted



## Upcoming Events

Our school events calendar begins Sept. 23 this year with apple picking at Parlee Farms, followed by the Traveling Barnyard on Sept. 30.

### Apple and Pumpkin Picking

Come pick apples and pumpkins at Parlee Farm in Tyngsboro with your Co-Op friends on Tuesday, Sept. 23, at 1 p.m.

Our package includes a ¼ peck bag for apple picking, pumpkin picking (a small

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## Mandatory parent meeting Wednesday

The mandatory parent training and orientation meeting will be this Wednesday, Sept. 10, at 7 p.m. in the Big Hall. We will discuss policies and procedures that all parents who help in the classroom really need to know.

If you are a returning parent, these emergency procedures and other policies still have to be reviewed so that they are automatic responses in the event that anything ever happens.

Teachers will also meet with parents in their classes that evening to talk about their particular way of doing things in the classroom. Because you are staff here at school, at least a minimum of training time is necessary. The meeting will take about 1.5 to 2 hours.

Prior to the meeting, the Co-Op board will be selling T-shirts, as well as raffle tickets for one month's free tuition. See details at left.

### From the Director

A new crayon smell is in the air, and the perfectly ordered classrooms are just waiting for the children to move in. Although summer at the Co-Op is very relaxed, there is absolutely nothing like the sound of children to make this place come alive. We can't wait for the first day of school, and we hope that your child is equally excited.

During the first weeks of school, you should expect to see a lot of construction around the building. Various crews are working on the newly renovated church bathrooms off the Big Hall, and also on the brand-new handicapped bathroom that used to be our school office. You can, however, find Mrs. Dionne and me upstairs in the new school office on the second floor in room 206. I am sorry for the hike to see us, but under the circumstances there is really not much we can do. I will try to

be in the downstairs hallway at the beginning and end of the day so that you can all reach me more easily.

If you have any questions or concerns about the beginning of school, please speak to me or your child's teacher about them. Our staff is very familiar with children's separation issues and will no doubt reassure you that your child will be fine during these first few days and weeks of school. If you would like to discuss any issues, please let us know. We all feel that communication between school and home is very important for your child.

I am looking forward to a fabulous new school year ahead.

Pat Finlay-Hamilton

# School fundraisers start next week with Tracey Hamilton Holiday Wishes catalog

Our school fundraising calendar kicks off next week with the Holiday Wishes catalog from the Tracey Hamilton company. The Tracey Hamilton company is a new fundraiser for us this year, but we're sure you'll find a great selection of products in the catalog. The early kick-off date ensures that we can collect orders and have them shipped in plenty of time for the holiday season.

Fundraising plays an important role at the Co-Op in helping keep our special events free and tuition costs low for our families. We strive to provide a diverse array of

fundraisers so that everyone can find something they will enjoy. Also slated for this year are annual Co-Op events such as the spaghetti dinner, Scholastic book fair, pancake breakfast, yard sale, and ice cream social, as well as sales-based fundraisers including Square One Art and Butter Braids pastries and cookie dough.

One of the things that makes the Central Co-Op special is a strong sense of community and a commitment to working together towards the common goal of supporting our school. Everyone plays a vital role in making this another great year at the

*Fundraising, continued, p. 4*

## News and Notices

### Chairperson needed to coordinate spaghetti dinner in November

Are you looking to get more involved with the Co-op this fall? Do you want to help make one of our annual fundraisers a great success? We are looking for a parent to chair the Spaghetti Supper on Thurs., Nov. 13, 2008.

The initial work of soliciting donations has already started, but we need a parent to plan and manage the actual event. If you are interested, vice presidents of fundraising Danielle Evans and Cindy Bruetsch are available to answer any questions. You can reach Danielle and Cindy at [fundraising@centralcoop.org](mailto:fundraising@centralcoop.org).

### Are you Safe-Serv certified?

We are also looking for a parent or friend of the Co-Op who is Safe Serv certified to help with our spaghetti dinner and pancake breakfast. The Town of Chelmsford requires a certified Safe Serv person to oversee any food handling at our school. Certain people in the food service industry

must be certified to do their jobs. Since our past Safe Serv certified person has "graduated", we are looking to replace her. If you can help us, please call Pat at the school. 978-256-3033.

### Publicity coordinator needed

The Board is looking for someone to coordinate publicity for the school. This involves placing newspaper advertising and calendar items regarding enrollment and various events throughout the year. It also involves helping with posters and signs to advertise our programs on-site and flyers to promote our programs in the community. In addition, it would be great to have the publicity person submit photos of events with press releases to local newspapers.

### Visit the Central Co-Op online

Did you know we have a website? Stop by <http://www.centralcoop.org/> to see what's going on at the school. Visit our calendar page for a handy month-by-month schedule. Learn about our wonderful teachers

*News and Notices, continued, p. 4*

## CENTRAL CO-OP BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2008-2009

### President

Holly Prees  
[President@centralcoop.org](mailto:President@centralcoop.org)

### Vice President, Scheduling

Kristen Ward  
[Scheduling@centralcoop.org](mailto:Scheduling@centralcoop.org)

### Vice Presidents, Fundraising

Cindy Bruetsch  
[Fundraising@centralcoop.org](mailto:Fundraising@centralcoop.org)

Danielle Evans

[Fundraising@centralcoop.org](mailto:Fundraising@centralcoop.org)

### Treasurer

Leigh Ann Sciacca  
[Treasurer@centralcoop.org](mailto:Treasurer@centralcoop.org)

### Secretary

Mary Ellen Robert  
[Secretary@centralcoop.org](mailto:Secretary@centralcoop.org)

### Field Trips/Special Events

Betsy Hebert  
[Tripsandevents@centralcoop.org](mailto:Tripsandevents@centralcoop.org)

### Repairs and Maintenance

Gary Ward  
[Scheduling@centralcoop.org](mailto:Scheduling@centralcoop.org)

### Computers/Website

Deb Dorsey  
[Website@centralcoop.org](mailto:Website@centralcoop.org)

### Newsletter

Deb Gere  
[Newsletter@centralcoop.org](mailto:Newsletter@centralcoop.org)

### NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

Interested in placing an ad? You can purchase ad space to help promote your home business or service.

#### Co-Op Member Rates

Business Card size: \$5/month  
3 ½ X 5 in: \$10/month  
½ Page: \$15/month

#### Non-Member Rates:

Business Card size: \$10/month  
3 ½ X 5 in: \$15/month  
½ Page: \$20/month

All copy must be submitted to Deb Gere at [newsletter@centralcoop.org](mailto:newsletter@centralcoop.org) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month for publication in the following month's edition.

# Central Co-Op Nursery School Calendar

## September 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		2	3	4	5	6
7	8 First day of school for 3-day and 5-day students	9 First day of school for 2-day students	10 Mandatory parent orientation in Big Hall, 7 p.m.	11	12	13
14	15 Holiday Wishes fundraiser begins	16 Holiday Wishes fundraiser begins	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Apple/pumpkin picking, Parlee Farms, 1 p.m.	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Traveling Barnyard in Co-Op parking lot				

## October 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Co-Op Board meeting, 7 p.m.	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Columbus day: no school	14	15	16	17 Holiday Wishes fundraiser orders due	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween	

## **Fundraising, continued from p. 2**

Co-Op. If you can help out with our fundraising events (we need plenty of volunteer hands on-deck), please contact vice presidents of fundraising Danielle Evans and Cindy Bruetsch. You'll find one or both of them around in the halls during drop-off and pick-up times, Danielle with Mrs. Rousseau's class Monday through Friday, and Cindy with Mrs. Buhle's class on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. You can also reach Danielle and Cindy at [fundraising@centralcoop.org](mailto:fundraising@centralcoop.org).

## **2008-2009 Fundraising Calendar**

### **September**

Holiday Wishes Fundraiser Sent Home, 9/15 – 9/16

### **October**

Holiday Wishes Fundraiser Selling Dates, 10/1/08 – 10/15/08

***Due Date: October 17, 2008***

### **November**

Spaghetti Supper - Thurs., Nov 13  
Scholastic Book Fair – Week of 11/10

### **December**

Papa Ginos Night – Date TBD

### **January**

Square One Art – Dates TBD

### **February**

Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction - Sat., 2/7/09

### **March**

Butter Braid Fundraiser - Dates TBD  
Applebee's Fundraising Night - Date TBD

### **April**

Yard Sale – Sat., 4/3/09

### **May**

Ice Cream Social / Book and Video Sale - Date TBA

## **Events, continued from p. 1**

sugar pumpkin), a hay ride around the 93-acre farm, feed for Annie's Goats in the Trees' and other goats, sheep, bunnies, chickens and ducks, and access to the Hay Play Area. The trip takes about 1 ¼ hours.

We will meet at the Parlee Farms picnic area right after school, so pack a picnic lunch for your family and join us! Our picking/hay rides start at 1 p.m. We should be finished before 3 p.m. for those of who need meet older children at the bus stop. Non-Co-Op friends are welcome to join us. The cost is \$8 per adult/child and

must be paid in advance. Please see your flyer for details.

## **Traveling Barnyard**

The Traveling Barnyard will be visiting our parking lot on Tues., Sept 30. Ruth Scruton drives her huge van—equipped with fencing, grain, and hay—to our school from Farmington, New Hampshire. Our kids will feed, pet and walk among her goats, sheep, fowl and donkey, up close and personal. M-W-F children and families are invited to come see the animals on Tuesday afternoon.

## **News and Notices, continued from p. 2**

and staff. Read the latest announcements and newsletters. And much more! We are in the process of adding new information to the website, so check in regularly and contact us at [website@centralcoop.org](mailto:website@centralcoop.org) if you have suggestions for additional content.

## **Parents and Tots program**

We still have openings for our very successful Parents and Tots Program. This

class will begin the week of September 22. Classes will be held once a week, and an adult should plan to accompany the child to each session. Cost is \$140 per eight-week session, and children should be 2-years-old by the start date. Last year's program was really wonderful. If this program interests you, and you would like more information, please call Pat at the school office, 978-256-3033.

## **Point & Click Corner**

Editor's picks for cool online resources to check out this month:

### **www.PrintableChecklists.com**

Need a morning routine checklist for your child? A potty chart? Activity time tracker? Reading checklist? This website contains a plethora of checklists in categories including children and education, parenting, home and household, business, health and medical, and more. Checklists are free, although you can make a donation using Paypal if you find the checklists useful.

### **www.ToddlerToddler.com**

A resource for toddler and preschool learning activities, online games, crafts, and more.

### **www.EverythingPreschool.com**

Chockfull of themes, lesson plans, and activities to use with your child. Project recipes for goo, silly putty, paint, dough, homemade crayons, bubbles, and more.