



Central Co-Op News

Volume 2

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

October 2008

Chairperson needed for pancake breakfast

We are looking for a parent to chair the Spaghetti Supper on Feb. 7, 2009. If you are interested, please contact Danielle Evans or Cindy Bruetsch at fundraising@centralcoop.org.

Upcoming Events

October

School pictures, 10/16-10/17

Halloween celebrations, 10/30-10/31

November

Spaghetti Supper - Thurs., 11/13

Scholastic Book Fair – Wk of 11/10

October Notes

From the Director

This school year is off to a great start. By the time you read this, we already will have hosted the Traveling Barnyard and our family Apple Picking Field Trip to Parlee Farm.

Other upcoming events include school pictures, which will be taken on October 16 and 17. This year, our photography company will be Photo Play Images, and they promise to have all the advantages of our past photographer in its earlier years. Forms for you to complete for these pictures will go out soon.

Our Tracy Hamilton Holiday Wishes fundraiser (no relation) order sheets are also due on those days.

I am happy to say that the classes are feeling very comfortable together these days and that the children are making a lot of progress with both separation issues and rule-following.

In other news, the construction on bathrooms near the entrance and in the Big Hall should be completed by the end of this week, and we're happy to have such bright modern, and clean facilities for the children to use when necessary.

The Parents and Tots class, led by Holly Prees, began on Tuesday, 9/23 with only a handful of children. If you or a friend are interested, please let us know.

Pat Finlay-Hamilton, Director



Holiday Wishes fundraiser order forms due Friday, Oct. 17.

From the Board President

By now, you've probably spent a day with your child in the classroom and seen the Co-Op in action, and I mean action. These boys and girls are busy; sometimes being a parent helper is an aerobic workout! And while you may be just starting to learn the names of your child's classmates, he or she is already making new friends and may be telling you lots of stories.

Several years ago, Mrs. Martin shared some Native American artifacts with her class. When I asked my son (now 10!) what he did that day he told me, "Mrs. Martin said the native North Americans

had arrows for heads, and they pointed them which way to go." Don't forget to keep the baby book and a pencil handy when you talk to your child about school; you might hear something you want to remember!

It was great to meet so many of you at the Parent Meeting. Bennett, his grandmother, and I had fun picking apples and pumpkins at Parlee with so many new friends, too. As your child is forming friendships, I hope Moms and Dads are also finding new friends here at the Co-Op. Whether it's lingering in the parking

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lot or waiting in the hallway, it's great to get to know other Co-Op parents; you might find yourself setting up play dates or trips to the playground after school. When the time comes to sign up to volunteer (soon for the book fair and spaghetti supper!), chat with your classroom parents and sign up together—your families can eat spaghetti or shop for books together while Mom or Dad helps out.

Finally, I want to thank the staff, teachers, and Board for getting the year off to a

great start and for all of the parents who stepped up to volunteer. Stay tuned for details on November's Book Fair and Spaghetti Supper, and don't forget to turn in your Holiday Wishes fundraising materials by Friday, Oct. 17. We're hoping this new fundraiser is a successful one for the school and helps defray the costs of neat programs like this month's Traveling Barnyard.

Have a fun season.

Holly Prees, Board President

Wild Fun for You and Your Family

Great local programs let you explore the outdoors for free or for cheap

Massachusetts Audubon Society Memberships

Massachusetts Audubon Society family memberships are available for half price through the end of November. For \$29, your family gets free admission to all 45 wildlife sanctuaries in Massachusetts—including Drumlin Farm—for one full year. Free admission applies to two adults and all minor children in their household, making this is an especially good deal for big families. You also receive the *Guide to Mass Audubon Wildlife Sanctuaries*, one-year subscriptions to *Sanctuary* magazine and *Connections* newsletter, as well as additional member-only discounts.

http://www.massaudubon.org/support/support_benefits.php

Massachusetts Park Passport Program

Get your Park Passport from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and begin exploring the 76 state parks in Massachusetts today. New this year, the program is simple, and it's FREE. Just pick up a passport for your child at any state park or order one online. At each park you visit, you'll find a stamp box. Unlock the box with the combination in your Park Passport, take out the stamp, and stamp your Passport. The state parks are divided into five regions—Greater Boston, Northeast, Southeast, Central, and Western. Once your child has collected stamps for each park in a region, he or she gets a free T-shirt representing that region. Visit each park in all five regions and get five T-shirts. The program is ongoing, which means you don't have to visit all of the parks in single year.

Note that some state parks charge a daily parking fee ranging from \$2 to \$7. However, a Massachusetts resident can purchase a ParkPass for \$35 per calendar year (January 1 to Dec. 31). The pass gives you unlimited access to all parks that charge a parking fee.

Park Passport program: www.mass.gov/dcr/passport/getting_started.html

Massachusetts ParkPass parking permit: www.mass.gov/dcr/parkpass.htm

Deb Gere, Editor

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President@centralcoop.org

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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 by the 20th of the month for publication in the following month's edition.

Central Co-Op Nursery School Calendar

October 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 No school - Columbus Day	14	15	16 School pictures	17 School pictures; Holiday Wishes fundraiser order forms due	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 Halloween celebrations	31 Halloween celebrations	1

November 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 No school - election day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 No school - Veteran's Day	12	13 Spaghetti Supper	14	15
	Scholastic Book Fair This Week					
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 No school for split- time class	27 Thanksgiving	28	29
				No school		
30						