

What's Happening...

May

- 11 - Presumpscot Night at the Sea Dogs 6:00
- 13 - 5th Grade Performance of "Lewis and Clark" 1:45 & 7:00
- 14 - Musica de Fillia 1:45
- 20 - Celebration of Learning 6:30

June

- 3 - 5th Grade Celebration
- 3 - Kindergarten Orientation for Parents & Guardians 6:30
- 7 - Field Day
- 10 - 5th Grade Breakfast 8:00am
- 10 - Ice Cream Social 6:00
- 11 - Last Student Day 12:00

May 2010



Presumpscot School *Family News*

Portland School District Unveils New Web Site

The Portland Public Schools will roll out a new Web site in early May. The address will remain www.portlandschools.org, but the site will have an updated design and many new features.

The new Web site will be unveiled at the Portland School Committee meeting on May 5 at 7 p.m. in Room 250, Casco Bay High School.

"The new Web design will showcase our district and improve communication with students, staff, parents and community members," said Portland Superintendent James Morse, Sr.

The new Portland Public Schools homepage features the Portland skyline and several photos of students. The Web site's navigation menu provides easy access to district news releases, notices about upcoming events, the school lunch menu, staff email addresses and phone numbers and other information. Visitors can take polls on topics related to the district.

The district began work on revising the Web site several years ago, but lack of funds delayed the project. In 2008, a committee of staff members and community residents helped draw up the new site's specifications. The district secured a federal technology grant and sought bids last summer. ImageX Media, a web design company based in Vancouver, was hired to work with the school system's technology department on the project.







The initial redesign includes the district portion of the Web site. This summer, the district plans to complete other improvements, such as adding language translation and making the site more interactive.

Gearing Up for Our Celebration of Learning

Our students are in the midst of becoming experts on the topics below while immersed in their first Expeditionary Learning Unit. Please join us on May 20th, 6:30-7:30, for Presumpscot School's Celebration of Learning. More details will be coming home with your children.



Cynthia Loring
Principal

- | | | | |
|--------------|---|--|---|
| Kindergarten | - | "The People and Places of Presumpscot School" |  |
| Grade 1 | - | "Who Am I" |  |
| Grade 2 | - | "From Seed to Syrup" (A Study of Trees and Maple Sugaring) |  |
| Grade 3 | - | "For the Love of Maine Lobsters" |  |
| Grade 4 | - | "Breaking Up is Hard to Do" The American Revolutionary War |  |
| Grade 5 | - | "Invertebrates of the Gulf of Maine" |  |

Student Placement 2010-2011

We will be focusing on next year's placement process for our current First, Third, and Fourth grade students at the end of the school year. This will allow staff to continue focusing on this year's students. Our main goal in approaching this process is to create balanced classroom communities. In this process, we take into consideration students' gender, strengths, ability, social/emotional, and medical needs. A team of staff members that includes our Data Literacy Specialist, Learning Strategist, and sending teacher work together to create the best possible groupings of students given the needs that are presented. Once the placement is completed this summer, your child will receive a letter from his/her new teacher. Kindergarten and Second grade students We will continue with a Kindergarten/First grade "Loop" and a Second/Third grade "Loop".

Our current Kindergartners will be looping to First grade with their classmates and teachers next year as will our Second graders. Please call Mrs. Loring with any questions you may have.

From Our Family Council

The next Family Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 18 at 6:00pm in the Library. We will be working on the yearbook, Field Day (June 7), the Dance (June 4) and the ice cream social (June 10). For more information on these events/projects, please contact the following people:

Yearbook = Caroline Clavel, 712-3313, cclavel@maine.rr.com

Field Day = Sarah Livingston, 939-4566 (Leave a message) slivingston@maine.rr.com

The Dance = Brenda Santoro, 874-0853 or 671-0645

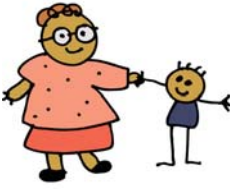
Brenda is looking for volunteers to help with ticket sales and corporate donations.

Ice Cream Social = ??? we are looking for someone to head-up this event.

See you on the 18th!

~Jackie Adamo (207-838-2137)

Dismissal Reminders



When picking up your child at the end of the school day, please remember to wait for him or her outside near the picnic tables, playground or Kindergarten doors.

Our main office reports that many parents have been arriving at the office either just before or during our busy dismissal time when announcements are being made and phone calls are coming in.

When entering the building at any time, please adhere to the school district's security policy of always signing in and checking in at the main office before heading to your destination. Please support our school policy of turning off cell phones while in the school building.

Your cooperation will help us run our important building procedures smoothly and safely and is greatly appreciated!

Safety First

With the warmer weather upon us, we are seeing shorts and T-shirts that are not suitable for outdoor play. We also are starting to see flip-flops and other forms of footwear that are not recommended or playground wear. Please keep the flip-flops at home and send your child to school in safer, closed-toe shoes such as sneakers and other footwear that is safer or active play on our playground. Safe and happy feet make safe and happy kids!



Everyday Math Update

On April 14, 2010, our parents/guardians joined our K-5 teachers and Sue Stewart, our Everyday Math consultant for an informational evening. As mentioned in earlier newsletters, this is the first year that the Everyday Math program is being implemented across every classroom at Presumpscot School.

A report from the Department of Education has found Everyday Mathematics to be the most promising among the elementary school mathematics programs.

Our parents and guardians participated in a math lesson, led by their child's teacher, to gain a better understanding of the program, learn ways to support our students at home and to have fun!

Childcare was provided by Mrs. Nichols, our Technology Integrator and math support teacher, who involved students in Everyday math activities on line in our computer lab.

Thank you to all who joined us!



There will be a Kindergarten Orientation for Parents/Guardians of incoming Kindergartners will take place on June 3 at 6:30 at Presumpscot School. Details will be forthcoming.

Portland Public Schools

Administrative Offices

196 Allen Avenue-3rd floor, Portland, Maine 04103-5599

207-874-8100

*Dr. James C. Morse, Sr.
Superintendent*

*Jill Blackwood
Asst. Superintendent*

February, 2010



Dear Parent/Guardian:

The federal No Child Left Behind law requires that school districts annually make available data on student achievement, school accountability, and teacher quality.

The law also requires that you are notified of how to access this information.

The data from the 2008-09 school year are now available.

You may view the data:

- At your child's school, in hard copy;
- On the internet at <http://blogs.portlandschools.org/nclb/report-card/>; or
- At Portland Public Schools Central Office, 196 Allen Ave., Mon-Friday, 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

If you have any questions about the data, please contact your school principal.

Sincerely,

Dr. James C. Morse, Sr., Superintendent