



MLK Elementary School PTO April 2011 Newsletter



Family Night Out

Tuesday, April 12,
5:00-9:00pm

Tortilla Flats
355 Hope Street

Plan to join teachers and families from King to raise funds for the PTO at a Fund-raising Dinner at Tortilla Flats on Tuesday April 12. Tortilla Flats will donate a portion of the night's profits to the PTO for academic enrichment. If you haven't been there before, it's great, with a kids' menu and lots of fun food for adults, too. Plan to attend for a fun evening and a great way to support our school.



News and Updates from the PTO . . .

Talent Show Date and Volunteers!

The MLK Elementary Talent Showcase has been scheduled for May 19, 2011 and will once again take place at Nathan Bishop Middle School. We're looking for parent volunteers, who are essential to making the talent show possible. We need volunteers who can be with the kids during auditions and rehearsals during the school day and who can work during evenings, weekends, and the night of the show. If you would like to help out or learn more, contact Helen Dukes at lizdukes@cox.net or 935-9735.



Mosaic Volunteers

Needed: Each year, working with artist Jess Regelson, the 5th grade creates a mosaic to celebrate their learning. This year, the 5th grade is learning about seismic and volcanic activity and is creating a mosaic focused on volcanoes. The students do much of the work, but we need parent help. We are looking for several volunteers for a couple of hours per week starting mid-April through early June. Volunteers will learn how to make mosaics and will contribute to the wonderful tradition of mosaics at MLK. Parents of 5th graders are urged to participate but all parents are welcome. To volunteer or learn more, please contact PTO mosaic coordinator Jill Davidson at 401-345-2464 or jill.davidson@gmail.com.



Share Your Views : SurveyWorks 2011!

RI Department of Education invites parents to participate in Survey-Works! 2011, the online surveys for parents, teachers, and administrators about public education in RI. The survey helps educators and the public understand what parents think and believe about the education their children receive. Your child brought home a survey access form and a letter of instruction. If you did not receive the access form, need another copy, or prefer to fill out a paper version, please contact the MLK school office or call 456-9398. The survey remains open through April 15.

Field Day! June 10

Field Day is set for Friday, June 10. Once again City Year RI will be helping out. Mark your calendars and see if you can take the day off from work to help with this fun-filled day of outdoor activities!

Email mlkptpto@gmail.com if you would like to help on Field Day (it's super fun!).





Spotlight: Fourth & Fifth Grade Poetry Project: Making History Come Alive-Expressive Social Studies

The fourth and fifth grade participated in an exciting poetry initiative with visiting poets Indigo Bethea, Kate Schapira and Elizabeth Powers Howort. The poets are affiliated with Writers in the Schools, RI. The poets worked weekly with Ms. Riojas's fifth grade classe and Mr. Baxter's fourth grade class for a ten-week period. The focus was to help the students make a connection with historical figures, events, and themes. The project enabled students to learn two things: Number one, poetry has a place in social studies; number two, poetry writing should be active and involve students in the reading of their poetry as much as possible.

Most importantly, the project emphasized literacy in the curriculum and also addressed the thematic strands of social studies. The project will provide each student with an anthology of poems written by their fellow students. **Students will read their poems at a pulic performance "Young Poets Read at AS220" on Sat., April 9, 3-5 p.m. at AS220,115 Empire Street in Providence.**



Freedom of Religion

By Ronen Kadmon

We're all in the first amendment.
We have freedom of religion.
I can go to temple to pray.
My family goes on Saturday.
I am learning Hebrew.
I can learn something new.
The candles on the Menorah give us light.
It was a miracle to last 8 nights.

News from our Community Partner: Mt. Hope Learning Center

Mt. Hope Learning Center (MHLC) continues to grow with upcoming activities for students of MLK School and the community. Already serving over 100 students at MLK School and many more in the Mt. Hope Community, MHLC welcomes additional students and family participation. For more information about any programs, please call the Learning Center at (401) 455-8875 for more information.

After School Programs: During its after-school program AmeriCorps volunteers engage students in enrichment activities in the form of clubs. Spring clubs include fencing, baseball, walking, photography, art, cooking, chorus, and step. It's not too late to sign up. MHLC is still enrolling students for the after-school program.

April Vacation Camp: During April vacation students can take part in MHLC's Camp, *E3: the Exciting Earth Experience*. During this program, student participants will complete projects throughout the week focusing on earth science, poetry, recycling lifestyles, and recycled art that will end in a Musical production, and a large recreation of Providence in 100 years made with found objects. Camp will run from 8:30-4:30 (with an

extended day option) and is open to all MLK students (even if not currently in a MHLC Program).

Parent-Teacher Basketball Game: Mark your calendar and plan to attend (or play in) the 4th Annual Parents vs. Teachers basketball game on Friday April 15th from 3-5pm. The goal of the event is to promote sportsmanship and teamwork for kids of the after school program. If you are interested in participating, please call Matt Jose at the Learning Center (455-8875). All are welcome!

Calendar

- April 9 Young Poets Read at AS220 (4th & 5th Writers in Classroom Performance)
- April 15 Mt. Hope Learning Center Parent-Staff Basketball Game @ MLK
- April 18-22 Spring Break (No School)
- April 23 Earth Day Clean Up at MLK School
- May 10 Talent Showcase
- May 30 Memorial Day (No School)
- June 10 Field Day