

Early Childhood Center Communicator

Issue #12.2

Website: <http://www.abingtonps.info>

October 2009

Dates to Remember:

October

2—World Smile Day

5—PTO Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

**9—Professional Development Day for Staff-
No school for students.**

12—Columbus Day—No School

16—PTO Pumpkin Party

22/23—Individual/Class Pictures

22—Title I Annual PAC Meeting

NURSE'S CORNER

School is back in full swing with each classroom having its own daily routines. These routines provide children with the knowledge of what is expected of them and helps them to be more confident and independent learners.

Establishing routines in your own home is an important carry over. A predictable schedule helps children feel safe and secure and helps parents feel as though they are doing a good job of parenting. Routines help ease stress and can actually have a positive impact on your child's health. With the anticipation of the flu season this year, establishing good hygiene and bedtime habits as well as eating nutritious foods may help to lend truth to the "an apple a day" message!

ECC STARS PROGRAM

As you know, this year we are continuing our very successful ECC STARS program. We held a kickoff celebration last month to welcome all of our ECC STAR students back to school. It was a lot of fun.

Also, last month each grade began their Character Education Curriculum. The theme of the month for September was **caring**. At each grade level, stories were read, discussions were had and different activities were completed covering the topic of caring for self, caring for friends and caring for other people. Our theme of the month for October is **safety**. Again, each grade level will cover the topic once a week, for at least 30 minutes, through stories, discussions and activities. We hope that you will continue to encourage and emphasize these positive traits at home. Our next fun STARS event will be a spirit week. Please keep an eye open for a yellow flyer with spirit week information.

Thank you for your continued support.

Reading Counts

Reading Counts is up and running in the second grade. Before long, it will be time for our first Points Trading Day! Classroom teachers will be sending home information on how to access our school literacy program online at www.ThinkCentral.com. Remember to read 10 minutes daily with your child.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council had its first meeting on September 30, 2009, at 4:30 PM in the ECC Conference Room. The new members are:

Katie Minnehan, Nancy Clancy, Angie Cruz, and Diane Kane. Jim West will be our School Committee Liaison.

During this meeting, the calendar was set, our 2009-2010 School Improvement Plan was discussed along with plans to develop our 2010-2011 School Improvement Plan.

Our returning representatives are: Julie Laszczak, Jeannette Libby and Inga Wronski. Steve Siroonian will serve as our Community Member and Ann Harper will serve as Administrator.

Our next meeting will be at 4:30 PM on Wednesday, October 28, 2009.

ABINGTON ALE HOUSE & GRILLE

\$10.00 gift certificates are now available for purchase at the ECC office.



Proceeds will benefit and give staff and students of the ECC the opportunity to access updated technological materials.

Please make checks payable to the ECC-PTO. Thank you.

JUST A REMINDER:

There are a small number of residents in the Town of Abington who have been classified as sex offenders. The Abington Police maintains and disseminates information concerning registered sex offenders in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws. Additional information is available at the Abington Police Department website (www.abingtonpolice.org). For information concerning offenders that live or work in Abington, contact Sergeant Kevin Force, Abington Police Department (781-878-3232).

WEB PAGE

Be Sure to visit the Abington Public Schools website, <http://www.abingtonps.info>, to supply your email address to our district mailing list, so you can receive news and information from your child's school.

"Crossing Guard Corner"

- Parents please remember to direct your children to the cross walk at drop off and pick up. Let's show the children a great example.
- Please remember to use the new sidewalk behind the ECC that runs along the building. This keeps you and your child safe from cars backing out of parking spots.
- Please try to refrain from texting and making phone calls during drop-off and pick-up so the children have your undivided attention and are safe crossing in the parking lot.

Parent Teacher Organization

On September 14, 2009, the first Parent Teacher Organization meeting was held. This was a valuable opportunity to meet with other parents and teachers. The PTO serves our children in many ways throughout the school year from assisting in acquiring volunteers to funding buses for field trips. This year the PTO has chosen various fundraisers.

- **Enrichment:** The Enrichment Committee will host "Johnny the K", Dan Cripps and others again this year.
- **Scholastic Book Fair:** This year's Kindergarten and Grade 1 & 2 Book Fair will be held November 11-20, 2009 in the gym.
- **Box Tops for Education:** Please collect General Mills/Betty Crocker boxtops and labels; they are worth money for the school. We are asking each child to try to contribute 2 or more labels per month.
- **Papa Gino's**—every 2nd Wednesday of each month 20% of all sales generated by ECC parents will be donated to the ECC. Please remember to give the flyer that comes home with your child to Papa Gino's so the ECC will receive the credit. Delivery is free.

NEXT MEETING – OCTOBER 5, 2009 – 7:00PM