



HERRICK NEWS



Volume XXX

February 5, 2010

FROM THE PRINCIPALS' DESK . . .

Dear Parents,

Our 2009 NECAP scores have been released, and demonstrate a decrease in proficiency rates in reading and math from 2008-2009. To view our school results, copy the following link into your web browser:

http://www.education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_aassessment/data.html#necap.

We are also posting a link on our website which includes the press release from the Department of Education regarding the 2009 state results, as well as a slide presentation which provides an overview of the NECAP assessment.

As a school, we will be analyzing these results in depth to determine specific areas in which we need to improve our instruction, and to develop more effective intervention strategies to assist our struggling students to make the progress they need to meet the defined standards.

Individual student reports for students in grades 3-6 will be sent home by the end of the month.

Parent Forum: At our first parent forum in January, we had eleven parents in attendance. We presented an overview of Positive Behavior Supports (PBS), and answered questions regarding our student discipline system. Next Tuesday, we will be holding a second parent forum before the PTA meeting. This meeting will begin at 5:45PM in the elementary school library. The topic for this month's parent forum will be an overview of our Educational Support System at MES. We hope to see many of you there!

Upcoming Events:

- ◆ Winter Break - Feb. 22 - Mar. 2nd.
- ◆ Spring Pictures - Mar. 24th & 25th.

ATTACHMENTS:

- PBS Ticket Winners
- Governor's Fit & Healthy Kids
- Milton Community Winter Festival
- PTA Movie Flyer

Health Office News:

This winter, Governor Douglas challenges all Vermont kids and families to *STRETCH YOUR LIMITS*. See attached flyer from the Dept. of Health with activities that will challenge you to ***Stretch Your Limits!***

PBS Corner:

As many of you noticed, our newsletter last week announced MES's Positive Behavior Supports ticket winners for the week. It may be a good time to remind families what the Positive Behavior Supports initiative is and how it supports learning.

PBS is a positive, proactive, school-wide systems approach to improving social and academic competence for all students. The Milton Elementary School has identified our school-wide expectations:

The ABC's
Act Responsibly
Be Respectful
Cooperate and have fun!

Students in the school earn tickets for demonstrating the ABC's; these tickets are collected for both classroom, individual and school-wide incentives. Our school continues to be committed to the fostering of the school-wide expectations in all settings.

PTA NEWS: Next Tuesday, February 9th at 5:45PM, we will start off the night with our next Parents' Forum and at 6:30 we will begin our PTA meeting. Both of the meetings will be held in the library and childcare is provided. Please come and join us! We would love to hear



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your ideas, interest, and input. Our PTA Family Movie Night is February 12th at 6:00PM. We will be showing *Alvin and the Chipmunks*. Please refer to our flyer that is attached for more information. We are also looking for costumes for the 5/6 Drama Workshop. If you have one we could use please give Mary Knight a call at 893-1576. We just started Traveling Tuesdays and if you would like to help out please call Rae Couillard! Remember to send in your Box Tops, Hannafords Helping School certificates, and Campbells labels in with your children. If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact our MES PTA President Rae K Couillard at 893-1462 or you can email me at rkcjjc@comcast.net.

Reiki Care Sessions
FREE for Soldiers' Families
February 10th first Sign Up

All Milton families who have loved ones serving in Afghanistan and Iraq are invited to sign up for a FREE Reiki session. Local Reiki practitioners are volunteering their time to help the 55 Milton families affected by the recent deployment. They would like for you to experience Reiki's beneficial healing effects that include relaxation, feelings of peace, security and well-being. Reiki is a healing practice that originated in Japan.

The word Reiki is made of two Japanese words: Rei which means "God's Wisdom or the Higher Power", and Ki which is "life force energy". So Reiki is actually "spiritually guided life force energy."

A Reiki session can ease tension, stress, and help support the body to facilitate healing on all levels: physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. The energy is transmitted using specific hand positions, while the client relaxes on a massage table or in a chair.

There will be four Reiki Care Sessions:

2/10, 2/24, 3/10 and 3/24 from 6:30-8:30pm at the Milton Elementary School in the Music Room, 118, next to the cafeteria.

If you are interested in receiving a 20-minute session, please call Denise at 893-6913 to schedule your session ahead of time. For additional information about Reiki go to: www.vermontreikiassociation.org and www.nccam.nih.gov.

Outback Steakhouse Luncheon

Milton Project Graduation is selling tickets for a luncheon at the Outback Steakhouse on Wednesday, February 24th. Seating is available at 11:30 or 1:00. Lunch includes a bloomin' onion, beef or chicken, cheesecake or carrot cake and a drink. Tickets are \$15.00. Project Graduation provides a fun, safe, substance free event the night of graduation for our senior class. Please call Lisa Bongiorno at 893-6825 to purchase tickets.

The Ice Barn
February Vacation Camp
Grades 3-6
2/22-2/26, 3/1 + 3/2
\$210 per child
Lunch included
Call 893-4237
Watch for Flyer!



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