

April 2010

Important Dates

April 12th– 16th: Spring Recess

May 7th– Early Dismissal

May 11th– Open House/ International Night

May 14th– Art Festival

May 31st– No School

June 2nd– Field Day

June 15th– Tentative Graduation Date

June 17th– Yearbook Presentations and Last Day of School

July 1– ESY starts

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The Chronicles of High Road

Director's Corner– Ms. Pinto

Well, we've finally entered the home stretch – only one more marking period left until the end of the year! Along with that, comes the impending beautiful weather. We already got a glimpse of what's ahead with a few 70+ degree days; hopefully we will see some more in the near future! *May 11th* is our [International Night Open House](#). All families are welcome to come see how much progress each of our students has made throughout this school year. Classes will be preparing an ethnic dish from different nationalities for all to enjoy as they peruse the highlighted work samples.

Our [2nd Annual Fine Arts Festival](#) will be held on *May 14th* from 10 – 12 at the Sheraton in Meriden. Again, we encourage all families, districts and friends to come see all of the hard work and creativity our students put into developing works of art all based around this year's theme of "[Finding Your Voice](#)". Along with the art show, select students will be performing different presentations. Some of the highlights include songs, raps, and skits. Come support our students as they demonstrate the many ways art can be

Graduation is rapidly approaching for our 6 seniors, and as the year comes to a close, we look forward to some fun events. One thing coming up is our [6th Annual Car Wash Fundraiser](#). It will be held the week of *May 24 - 28*. The social workers always do an amazing job organizing this event. If your car is in need of a wash, bring it early; we usually have cars lined up down the parking lot! Another reward our students can look forward to is [Field Day](#). Field Day will be held on *June 2nd*. In the event of rain, Field Day will be rescheduled.

[Yearbook presentations](#) will be on the last day of school, *June 17th*. Yearbooks are provided free of charge and all students must be present in order to receive them. Time will be provided for students to autograph each other's yearbook. Students will also be able to receive the gift cards with any school store money they have earned throughout the year.

We hope to see each and every one of you at one or more of our upcoming events. Family participation is invaluable for all of our students. It is a pleasure to be able to serve you and your family while continuing to build and foster confidence and competence in each of your children.

High Road Happenings in Mrs. Schaeffer's & Mr. Prosper's Class

The third marking term proved to be one of excitement and accomplishment.

Literature classes continued with short stories from our American Literature text books that have a suspense theme. This theme focuses on drama, narration, and the elements of short stories. Within that framework questions on recall, inference and application are discussed. In addition, story vocabulary and writing about the selections are required. The second book report was due Tuesday March 23rd and the final book report is due Tuesday May 25. The school day begins with students entering responses in their journals with a specific topic. Students enhance their written expression skills by organizing those thoughts and ideas into complete sentences. Students continue to work on English composition skills which will help them apply new skills to prepare for the future.

Math class, which includes Algebra 1 and Basic Math provides students with instruction in basic skills, working with fractions and solving equations. Hands-on activities, especially for the 100th day of school, reinforced the student's understanding of the concepts introduced.

World History, this past term, took us to Ancient India and China. Students not only learned about civilizations, but also enhanced their geography, internet research and map skills. Class participation/ discussions are expected. Our studies included, but not limited to, India's ancient caste system, and the Great Wall of China. Our next course travel will take us to Ancient Greece.

Our class sponsored a "Where at High Road is the Pot of Gold?" contest. Students were given a clue to find the "Pot of Gold" (metaphorically speaking). The winners were: 1st – Chad, 2nd – Mike, 3rd – J.B. The staff winner was Ms. Schettino. A Jelly Bean Contest was also held. Students and staff were to guess the number of jelly beans in a jar. There were 147 entries for this contest. The grand prize winner was Joey representing the students and Mr. Prosper as the staff winner. There was a total of 1,219 jelly beans in the jar. Thank you to all those who participated.

Winter Newsletter with Mrs. Legere and Mr. Melillo

We have been very busy this semester focusing on planning for the future, discovering the scientific method and taking the CAPT test. Our students are approaching a pivotal time in their lives and are beginning to explore what they want their futures to look like and how to realistically attain their goals. Some of our students have gone on outings to vocational schools, while others are busy researching employment interests. Our students have been writing daily journals centered around what they envision their BEST LIFE to be which includes careers, family, and hobbies to name a few. They are looking toward a future that feels more and more attainable as they explore/research all the different avenues they can take to make their dreams a reality. The more real it feels, the more invested they become therefor, the more empowered they feel!



After the science fair this year, our students were eager to participate in more hands on science activities. We were lucky enough to have Mr. B come into our room and show us how to dissect a squid. We had already had some experience in using the scientific method, so we were confident and genuinely enthralled by what we found. We look forward to his next visit when we will be dissecting a mammal.

As for CAPT testing, we prepared with practice testing, and even earned rewards for perfect testing attendance, thanks Ms. Pinto! Another year of testing done!!

We are looking forward to Spring!

Ms. Majewski's Class

January and February were busy months for Ms. Majewski's class. Our class spent many weeks working diligently on the Stop That Now protest from the "Finding your Voice" unit. Although this activity was very challenging, it was a great way for our class to practice writing an argumentative essay and helped us prepare for the writing section of the CAPT test.

The Science Fair projects were a success! We are very proud of Luz E. for winning "most original"! Luz's experiment involved experimenting with milk to see how fast bacteria can grow in hot and cold temperatures. In Biology, students got to experience dissecting a squid with Mr. B.



Students studying World History in our class have spent a lot of time learning about Ancient Egypt. Students had to research and create a travel brochure including interesting facts and pictures of Ancient Egypt. Students who were on level in our class joined Mrs. Leger's class on a field trip to the Peabody Museum. This field trip brought the Ancient Egypt unit to life. Students saw a real mummy, a presentation of Ancient Egypt and were able to explore the rest of the museum. Ms. Majewski's future plans include a field trip to watch the new 3D movie *Oceans* from the series 'Planet Earth'.

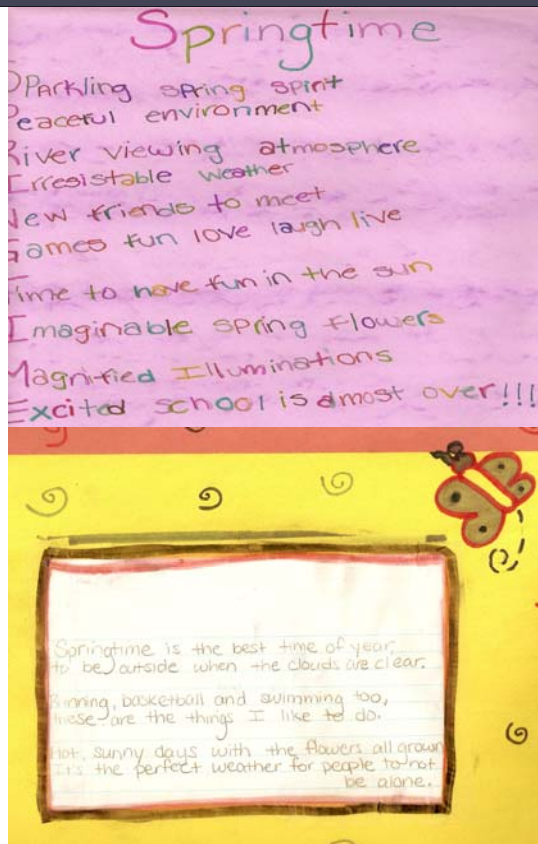
Walking by our classroom, you can see our students using their creativity in making paper mache masks. We are learning about Ancient Greek culture in World History and the masks are a perfect way to connect with the "Finding You Voice" unit to Greek theatre. For many of our students, this is their first time working with paper mache. We are now painting our masks and they are coming out great! Feel free to stop by our classroom to see the masks.

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Fun Friday with Mr. Prosper

Fun Friday's during the third term went by fast. The students that were on level got a chance to play against a few of the staff members in a charity basketball game at Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, CT. Student also got to learn about the history of air-planes at the New England Air Museum in Windsor, CT, as well as the chance to play laser tag with a few of their classmates. Going out to eat is probably one of the student's favorite things to do, which is why they have gone to eat at the "all you can eat" buffet several times. We look forward to future "Fun Fridays" and encourage all the students to get on level and participate.



Updates from Ms. Kinell's Class

This marking period in Ms. Kinell's class was an exciting one! We studied many topics from Assyrians to Planets and composing paragraphs to Science Fair projects. During the Science Fair, one of our students one 1st prize in the school. John Pendleton states "I loved working on the Science Fair project. It was great that I won first and would love to work on my project some more and create an even better project." This marking period we also worked on springtime poems. Students were aloud to choose any type of poem they wanted and write about springtime. Here are some of the amazing poems the students created and we hope to have fun in the upcoming marking period.

Mr Horton's Class

Mr. Horton's classroom is looking forward to the end of the year, especially the four seniors who have been doing even more work as the semester comes to a close. They have been reading Shakespeare's *Hamlet* in English class. On top of their reading schedule, they have also made a number of trips to local colleges and universities, including Gateway, Tunxis, and Southern. They all have a lot of decisions to make in the near future and hope that their futures are as much fun as solving algebraic equations with three variables.

The class is also working on individual tour projects. Each student needs to give a tour of something they've studied during the year. For example, one student is giving a tour of the Taj Mahal while another is doing a walk through of a kelp forest. Each of these experiences is teaching the students how to teach, and more importantly, how to pick out what's important.

Mr. Horton and Ms. Cotoia are trying to plan a hike to Sleeping Giant for the seniors, while trying to keep everyone else focused as the weather gets nicer. All of the students are looking forward to the summer and a new beginning.

Art Class at High Road

The 3rd marking term was a creative experience for the Art Elective. Students completed their CD cover designs exhibiting a variety of designs, styles and colors. Students also participated in and internet assignment for Art History and researched the biography of various artists, where they were born, birth/death dates, one painting that the artist was famous for, and the historical significance of that painting. Students are currently designing a family crest, (aka Coat of Arms). Students will be working on projects for the 2nd Annual Arts Festival. They are to complete 10 projects for this event. Panera Bread of Hamden donated shopping bags for the students to store their projects for the festival.



Upcoming Event



The 2nd Annual Art Festival (date change to Friday 05/14/10). This year's theme is "Finding Your Voice". It will be held at the Four Points Sheraton on 275 Research Parkway in Meriden, CT

The Resources We Use at Your Fingertips

Food Stamps 1800-842-1508

Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC) 1-800-741-2142

Federal Income Maintenance Program for the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (SSI) 1800-772-1213

Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) 860-424-5540; Short term cash assistance program

Department of Social Services (DSS) 860-424-5031 or 860-424-5427

Section 8, Security Deposit Assistance, Eviction Prevention, State Rental Assistance Program

CTWorks- 860- 754-5050 www.ctdol.state.ct.us/ctworks/ctworks.htm

Free employment services for those interested in finding a job, upgrading job skills, or starting a new career

Dress for Success- 860-525-5015 www.dressforsuccess.org

Helps low-income women transition into the workplace by providing job retention programs, interview and employment attire, mentoring programs, coaching and support groups

Transportation to Work (TTW) 1-888-353-5828

Assists low income and individuals transitioning off public assistance

Career and Adult Education 860-807-2050

Boys and Girls Village, Inc.

528 Wheelers Farm Road

Milford, CT 06460

(203) 330-6790; (203) 330-6756 (fax)

Email: walsha@boysvill.org

Web: <http://www.boysvill.org>

Boys and Girls Village is a 501-3c non-profit agency with offices in Waterbury, Milford, and Bridgeport. Kids I.N.N. our sub-acute shelter for children who are psychiatrically disturbed; our Day School for children with specific edu-

Department of Children and Families

505 Hudson Street

Hartford, CT 06106

(860) 550-6683

Email: Karen.anderson@po.state.ct.us

Web: www.state.ct.us/dcf

Department of Developmental Services

460 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, CT 06106

1-866-737-0330 or 860-418-6000

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) 1-800-627-3543



Bureau of Rehabilitative Services

Department of Social Services

25 Sigourney Street

Hartford, CT 06106

(860) 424-4848

Email: john.halliday@po.state.ct.us

Web: www.brs.state.ct.us

Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

410 Capitol Avenue

P.O. Box 341431

Hartford, CT 06134

1800-446-7348

(860) 418-7000

Web: www.dmhas.state.ct.us

The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) promotes and administers comprehensive, recovery-oriented services in the areas of mental health treatment and substance abuse prevention and treatment throughout Connecticut.

Honor Roll

This quarter we are happy to announce those students who have made honor roll. The following students are:

Junior

Charles

J.B

Transition with Mr. Benham

As we turn the corner and get ready for the spring semester, our transition class plans for more exciting and interesting experiences and trips. Visits to our local supermarkets and discount food stores such as Stop and Shop and BJ's Wholesale, will help the students understand the career opportunities and where the company is headed for the future. The first library opened April 9, 1833; with that historical date we will be exploring the resources that the public community has to offer and the services it can provide us.

A visit to the firehouse after the students come back from a refreshing vacation will continue our look into public services and the careers it has to offer. The month of May will hopefully bring more sunshine so that as the school year comes closer to the end, their minds will flourish with knowledge and career choices become a bit more clearer.



Congratulations!!

The High Road School of Wallingford High School is piloting an attendance incentive this year. Students who are present the entire day every day they are enrolled at HRSW are eligible to receive a special lunch on the last school day of the month. Students who are absent, arrive late, or leave early are ineligible to receive the special lunch. Eligible students are also entered into a monthly drawing for \$25 to a different venue each month.

The following students to have *perfect* attendance for the month of January are Chad, Keyla, Collin, Junior*, Kelsey, Cory G., and Willis. Junior, from Mr. Horton's class, was the winner of the monthly drawing.

For the month of February, students with *perfect* attendance included Kelsey, Collin, Joey*, J.B., Cory G., and Keyla. The winner of the February monthly drawing was Joey from Mrs. Schaeffer's class.

Thanks for being so dedicated to your schoolwork!

Science Fair!

On February 24th, the High Road School of Wallingford High School held it's 6th Annual Science Fair. Each student was required to complete a science experiment of their choosing, write a lab report, and figure out how to effectively display their results and findings. Experiments ranged from dancing pasta to color-changing flowers to different types of rockets and volcano eruptions. On February 24th, our two guest judges, Mr. Flannagan and Mr. Botwick listened as each student gave an oral presentation on their experiment, and answered questions about their findings. The judges then met to discuss the results, and at the end of the day an award ceremony was held to present certificates in different categories. Families and friends were invited to come celebrate the hard work of the students and see all of the different projects later that night. ! Here are the students who received extra recognition:



- Most Creative: Charles P.
- Best Oral Presentation: Franchesca V.
- Most Original Experiment: Luz E.
- Best Display: Erica C.
- Most Scientific Thought: Joe C.



3rd Place Overall: Joey T.

2nd Place Overall: Kelsey C.

1st Place Overall: John P.

Congratulations to everyone who participated; your hard work really paid off!



Haiti Relief Fundraisers

A challenge was posed to all of the schools within the company to see who could raise the most money to provide relief to those who were devastated by the recent earthquakes in Haiti. This sparked a school-wide contest to see which classroom within the High Road School of Wallingford could raise the most money, and therefore earn the honor of shaving Mr. DeLaSota's head into a Mohawk. All five of our classes participated in collecting change and donations from school store accounts from the students and staff. In addition, Mrs. Schaeffer's classroom held a 'Hearts for Haiti' Valentine cookie sale. Ms. Kinell's classroom held a make your own taco fundraiser, and Mrs. Legere's classroom held a make your own sundae fundraiser. All together, our school raised a whopping **\$776.50** that will go to-

wards helping those who need it most.



Ms. Kinell's classroom was able to raise the most by a small margin of \$16.23, and therefore earned the privilege of shaving Mr. DeLaSota's head. All classrooms were encouraged to continue their fundraising efforts in an attempt to help others that are in a time of need. Every contribution is welcome and appreciated!