

<h1 style="margin: 0;"><i>The PEIRCE LINK</i></h1>	<p>A Bi-Weekly Publication of the Peirce PTO Absent/Tardy: (617) 559-9650 Peirce Office: (617) 559-9630 http://www.k12.newton.ma.us/Peirce/</p>
<p><u>P</u>atience <u>E</u>quality <u>I</u>nclusion <u>R</u>esponsibility <u>C</u>ooperation <u>E</u>ffort</p>	

Calendar

March	English Language Arts (ELA) MCAS long composition test for Gr. 4 only
18	Early release Thursday
23	School Release 3:00PM
24	Early Release 12:30PM for all students
26	March Madness ends
29	Passover begins
April	
2	Good Friday, no school

Principal's Letter

Dear Peirce Families,

We are delighted to announce that Mark Chitty has been named principal of Peirce, effective July 1, 2010. Currently a principal at South Elementary School and Jones Early Childhood Center in Stoughton, he was previously a Fifth Grade teacher and director of the K-12 Summer Programs in the Westwood public school system. The Peirce community welcomes Mark and looks forward to working together to continue to provide our students with the challenging, fulfilling educational experience they enjoy at Peirce.

March is a very busy month for us. We will welcome a number of new Kindergarten families to the Peirce community during our Kindergarten Registration on March 17 and 18. Please remind your new neighbors to register their child if they are age eligible.

It is important to keep in mind that we have entered a budget season for the school system. On March 4, Dr. Marini presented the budget for the 2011 school year. Many aspects of the budget affect the elementary schools. Please check the school system website to find out the times and dates for the various hearings to the budget.

If your child is in grades 3 through 5, you are aware that we begin our MCAS testing schedule the week of March 22, and we will work through these assessments over the next few weeks. We thank you in advance for getting all of the children to school on time, so we may get started on these assessments promptly at 8:45am. Since we have many students who will be working in the classrooms and various spaces throughout the building, it is important that we ensure a quiet atmosphere from the start of the morning on each day of testing. All children, no matter their grade, should be settled into their classrooms at this time as well. We have many parents/guardians who often chat with friends in the morning. We would be most appreciative if you would do so outside of the building on these testing days. Many thanks in advance for your cooperation.

The schedule for MCAS is as follows:

March 22	English Language Arts (ELA)	Grade 5
March 23	Writing Composition	Grade 4
March 24	ELA	Grade 3
March 25	ELA	Grade 4
March 26	ELA	Grade 3
March 29	No Testing	
March 30	No Testing	
March 31	ELA	Grade 5
April 1	ELA	Grade 4
April 2	No School (Good Friday)	
April 5	ELA	Make up
April 6	ELA	Make up
April 7	Long Composition Make up	Grade 4
April 8 & 9	Make-ups	

All tests are untimed

All tests begin at 8:45AM

Type to Learn: Recently, a letter was sent to you by the Director of Informational Technology about *Type to Learn*, which has been introduced to students in grades 3 through 5. Each student has a username (LASID) assigned to them by the classroom teacher. Their Username and Password are the same number. Please note, the Account Code was missing from this letter, which your child will need in order to log on at home. The Account Code for all Peirce students is 106687. This number will not need to be entered after the initial log on.

Beginning this morning, I will be absent from Peirce for an estimated 7-10 days. I am having shoulder surgery to repair a severe tear in my right rotator cuff. In my absence Anne Knight, Literacy Specialist, is teacher-in-charge, with backup provided by Tom Morris, Music Teacher. Dr. David Castelline, Underwood Principal, is administrative backup. I look forward to a fast recovery and to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Ruth H. Chapman, Interim Principal

Creative Arts

IRISH AND SCOTTISH CULTURE COMES TO PEIRCE - Last week The Bell Family brought some Irish and Scottish culture to Peirce, performing in the auditorium for grades K-5. Well-known for their skill in the Irish arts of step dancing, bagpipe playing, story telling and fiddling they charmed and educated the children with their warm style and lively program. Ask your child to describe the sound of the bagpipes (were they loud or soft?!) and why men used to wear skirts in Ireland. See if they remember anything about the Gaelic songs or the story they heard about a leprechaun and a boy who wished he could play the fiddle. Your children and their teachers thank you for your generous contributions to the PTO, which made this Creative Arts and Sciences program possible.

School News

WORD OF THE WEEK – Restate: to show you are listening and understanding what is being said; to check your understanding and interpretation; to state again. This week's word is being sponsored by the Learning Center.

PEIRCE EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM - Applications for the 2010-11 school year are now available. Is your child looking for something fun to do after school next year? You may think Peirce EDP is only for children whose parents are working, but many children who attend do so for the enrichment and social benefits. Did you know that you can do just one day a week if you want? The program offers many activities both indoors and out. Thematic units, field trips, special events, a musical, and classes such as skiing, woodworking, and martial arts all make PEDP a great place for kids to be! For information, stop in or call 617-332-5881.

Community News

EARLY RELEASE MOVIE DAY - March 18, at the West Newton Cinema, 1296 Washington Street. Pizza at 1PM. Movie from 1:30-3PM. *Alvin and the Chipmunks, the Squeakquel* Start off your afternoon with pizza and a drink, served to you at the theatre and then proceed to see *Alvin and the Chipmunks* while enjoying popcorn and a beverage. **Seating is limited, so RSVP as soon as possible.** For more information, please email Becky Manley at becky@calare.com. \$10 per ticket, \$15 includes pizza and drink. You will receive an email confirmation. A list of attendees will be at the door.

FOURTH ANNUAL WINTER DINNER SERIES TO BENEFIT PROGRAMS OF THE NEWTON SCHOOLS FOUNDATION - "Global Education Leadership Fund Dinner" Friday **March 12**, helps deserving high school students take part in study-abroad programs. "Tailgate 2010" on Saturday **March 27**, funds technology in the classroom. "4th Annual Winter Dinner" **April 10**, raises more funds to keep classrooms technologically up-to-date. "Turkish Delights" Sunday **April 11**, helps fund The Newton Schools Foundation. Find out more about these great nights out at www.newtonschoolsfoundation.org.

SHARING THE JOURNEY - Support Groups starting in March for Parents Dealing with Children with Mental Health Issues. Come join with other parents and understand the diagnosis, the myriad of services, medications and complex issues families face. Whether your family is just starting the journey or well along the path, these helpful forums will allow you to ask questions and explore answers. All groups are free of charge and held at Newton Community Service Center, 492 Waltham Street, West Newton. For parents of preschool and elementary school-age children, 10 Wednesdays starting **March 10** from 7-8:30PM. Register with Susan Sklan LICSW 617-969-5906 x 125. For parents of middle school children, 10 Thursdays starting March 11 from 7-8:30PM. Register with Debra Sosin LICSW 617-969-5906 x 297.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE - Public Meeting on March 17. The CPC will hold a public meeting on March 17, starting at 7PM in the City Hall Cafeteria (basement). The Committee will hold a working session on the current proposal for City Hall Historic Art and will briefly review and confirm its schedule of future working sessions for still-pending proposals, including the Charles River Lower Falls bridge. All proposals are online from www.ci.newton.ma.us/cpa/projects.htm. For details, contact Alice Ingerson at aingerson@newtonma.gov, 617.796.1144. Agenda includes a working session on the proposal for City Hall Historic Art, Committee business. Future agendas and schedule, fiscal 2011 goals & procedures, updates on already recommended or funded projects.) At this meeting the Committee will not discuss or vote on any proposals not listed above, but will confirm its schedule

of future working sessions for still-pending proposals not listed above, but will confirm its schedule of future working sessions for still-pending proposals, including the Charles River Lowe Falls Bridge. Next meetings: April 28, 7PM; and May 19, 7PM, City Hall Cafeteria.

LEARNING DISABILITIES: WHAT WE KNOW, HOW WE CAN HELP - March 18, from 7 to 9PM at the Williams Elementary School, 141 Grove St. Presented by David Urion, M.D., Director, Learning Disabilities/Behavioral Neurology Program, and Director of Education, Department of Neurology, Children's Hospital Boston, Associate Professor of Neurology, Harvard Medical School. Parents attending this free presentation will gain a better understanding of why children sometimes struggle in school. Dr. Urion will discuss the biological basis for learning disabilities and provide an in-depth discussion of how to identify learning disabilities in children. In addition, Dr. Urion will review the latest neurobiology research and what treatments are shown to be the most effective. The Elementary Counseling Grant and the Newton Partnership are thrilled to bring Dr. David Urion, a nationally renowned expert on learning disabilities, to the Newton Public Schools.

EXPANDING OUR IDEA OF NEIGHBORHOOD - Every year, thousands of people from across the state gather to participate in the annual 3.6 mile Mother's Day Walk for Peace in Dorchester. The Walk, scheduled for Sunday, May 9, was started in 1996, by Tina Chery after her 14-year-old son, Louis was killed on his way to a "Youth Against Gang Violence" meeting near his Dorchester home. Among those walking are elected officials, law enforcement professionals, neighbors, clergy, advocates and parents and friends of people lost to violence. The Mother's Day Walk is a fundraiser for The Louis D Brown Peace Institute which educates young people about the importance of peace and provides crisis management and counseling to Boston families impacted by violence. For more information about the Peace Institute go to <http://www.louisdbrownpeaceinstitute.org> This year, we are making a concerted effort to draw walkers from the suburban communities to come support their Boston neighbors. Tina Chery will be in Newton on Sunday, **March 28**, 4-6PM., to talk about her son and what inspired the creation of the annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace. For more information, please contact Josie Greene at JosieGreene49@comcast.net or 617 513-0130

CYBERBULLING PROGRAM - According to Dr. Elizabeth Englander, Founder and Director of the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center, parents should begin talking with their children "as soon as children begin to go online and play interactive games – usually first or second grade. It's not necessary to frighten children; just ask them how children speak to each other – both online and offline – and discuss it if they say they see or read something that was mean or cruel." Learn more on **Saturday, March 20 8:30AM - 1PM** at Parenting Newton Kids in 2010: Keeping Our Kids Safe and Enhancing Learning in the Digital Age at Brown Middle School. This half day parent conference will feature a keynote presentation by Dr. Englander, as well as Technology and "How To" Clinics, workshops on adolescents and cell phones, special issues of technology and children with special needs, and more. RSVP not required. What is cyberbullying? Cyberbullying and traditional bullying are closely linked. To learn more about what you can do to prevent and intervene with bullying, come to a talk by Dr. Kim Storey on **Monday, March 15, 7– 8:30PM.:** Eyes on Bullying: Practical Tips and Strategies for Parents of Elementary School Aged Children at Mason Rice Elementary School. RSVP not required.

A SNEAK PEEK INTO ONE OF FIRST 21ST CENTURY NEWTON CLASSROOMS - March 23, 7-8:30PM, at Brown Middle School, 125 Meadowbrook Road, Newton Center. Director of Information Technology for the Newton Public Schools will be on hand to explain the advantages of upgraded technology in the classroom as she demonstrates the latest and best of what new technologies have to offer our children. Be a student for the evening as 8th Grade science teacher Michelle Fox walks you through an interactive lesson. Sponsored by the Newton Schools Foundation (NSF). RSVP by March 23 to tori_filler@newton.k12.ma.us or 617-559-6120. More at www.newtonschoolsfoundation.org.

STEP INTO ART – A two-day program for children (Grades 1 - 5) will run **March 14 & 21**, Sundays. Day 1: March 14 - Bringing Art to Life, **Session A:** 12:30 - 2:30PM or **Session B:** 3 – 5PM, Newton Cultural Center, 225 Nevada Street, Newtonville. An interactive slide show introduces children to great French and American paintings from the MFA, Boston. Hands-on art activities follow, inspired by the works they have just seen.

2010 ENVIRONMENTAL ART CONTEST FOR NEWTON STUDENTS GRADES K-5 -The Green Decade/Newton 2010 Environmental Art Contest is open to all students who live or go to school in Newton, grades K-5. The theme is “How My School Is Helping Newton Go Green” and **submission deadline is Monday, March 15**, 2010. Grades K-5 can enter posters in teams of 4-6 students; grades 3-5 also have the option of submitting individual artwork. Mayor Setti Warren will present the awards to winners and certificates to all participants on Thursday, April 8. All art entries will be exhibited in the rotunda at City Hall in late April-early May. Registration info and further contest details: contact the Green Decade at 617-965-1995 or visit <http://www.greendecade.org/artcontest.html>.

“ANIMAL TALES” STORYTELLING - Award winning storyteller Cindy Rivka Marshall performs "Animal Tales," stories from around the world, featuring animal characters to which everyone can relate. This promises to be an engaging, fun show, involving the audience with songs and movement. Especially suited for children ages 3-10. Sunday, **March 14**, at 10:30AM at the Coolidge Corner Theatre Kids' Show. Tickets and info: 617-734-2501 or www.coolidge.org/kids.

THE ANNUAL “HOPPIN’ FOR NEWTON” - (formerly "3 on 3 for Charity") Sunday March 21, at 2PM at the Newton North High School Gym. Here is one of the last chances to play in the NNHS gym. This event is for everyone who enjoys playing or watching basketball from 2nd Grade up to adults. Girls, boys, men, and women. All levels of experience, beginner to college hoops. Teams are matched by experience and play for fun. This charity event benefits Newton families in need, providing seed money for Newon ASC, ONE Newton (the fund inspired by the plight of the Beatrice family and designed to help other families as well) and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. For more info or to reserve a place: westmanj@comcast.net or 617-285-2632.

NAVIGATING THHE ROCKY ROAD TO ADOLESCENCE - This popular parent series explores, with a professional facilitator, the many changes that occur during adolescence and how they affect relationships at home and at school. Four Wednesday evenings at 7:00-8:30PM, starting April 7 at Warmlines at the Newton Cultural Center, 225 Nevada Street. This program is free for Newton residents, but pre-registration is required. Go to: www.warmlines.org.

STAND FOR CHILDREN’S DAY - on Beacon Hill, Tuesday, March 23, 9AM – noon. Parents and other community members from Newton are being encouraged to join with hundreds of education advocates from around the state on Beacon Hill to show support for public education. There will be speakers from the field of education policy and practice during the indoor rally, and an opportunity to tell legislators what matters to Newton. The event is free and open to the public. Transportation will be provided, but advanced registration is requested. For more info and to register: www.stand.org/ma/dayonthehill. Optional online rally for those who can't be there: Here is a way to make an online “sign” to send to Beacon Hill's legislators. Go to www.stand.org/ma/signs

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS AT HISTORIC NEWTON – “What Women Wore,” Sunday, **March 14**, 2PM. What did women wear in the 1800s in New England? Get an exclusive view of historic dresses pulled from the museum’s collection in this hands-on program for all ages. Look at styles of the time and consider how women’s day-to-day lives would have been impacted by their clothes. Complete the afternoon by designing your own fashions for a nineteenth-century paper doll. Cost: \$15 per family (\$10 for members); includes museum admission, materials, and snack.

Prepaid registration is recommended; call 617.796.1450 to register. Historic Newton is located at 527 Washington Street, Newton.

PART 3 OF HISTORIC NEWTON'S SERIES - ...“...*some cotton, and tobacco, and negros...Pray have you heard nothing of my black guard Peter...*” with State Representative and Historian Byron Rushing. Reflect on the first two centuries of Africans in New England. Compare the origin story of Africans in the Massachusetts Bay Colony recorded in founder Winthrop's journal with the visit of South Carolinian John Rutledge's enslaved servant to Boston in 1803. Monday, March 22 at 7PM at the Myrtle Baptist Church, 21 Curve Street, West Newton (in cooperation with Historic Newton).

NEWTON PARKS & RECREATION DOG OWNER SURVEY - Please help Newton Parks & Recreation Department better meet the needs of Newton's dog owners. Complete the dog owner survey at: www.ci.newton.ma.us/Parks/DogInformation/index.htm

LEARN ABOUT NEWTON'S ONLY WORKING FARM - The Historic Newton Angino Community Farm. The homestead was a family farm for 300 years. Generations of the Angino family farmed there from 1917 to 2005. Now it's owned by the city and operated as a non-profit, preserving a valuable cultural and historical landscape and serving as a model for sustainable agriculture in our community. Newton Community Farm Board Member and Landscape Designer Ted Chapman gives a talk about what this special piece of land can tell us about the history of Newton and the vital role of farming in daily life. Thursday, March 25, 7PM at the Newton Free Library, 330 Homer Street. Free. Part of the 'Roots in our History -The 2010 Newton History Series'

APRIL VACATION WEEK AT THE NEW ART CENTER -Two programs for elementary and for middle school students, grades K-9. Painting, drawing, sculpting, ceramics and drama. Extended days and sibling discounts available. For info and to register: www.newartcenter.org or call 617-964-3424.

VACATION PROGRAMS WITH NEWTON COMMUNITY ED - EdNCE has a variety of exciting and unusual programs coming up for April vacation. Sign up for **Marble Machine Madness**, **Create a TV Show**, **Engineering with Legos** or **Painting**. Older kids can choose to take our **Babysitting Certification** class over spring break. We also have openings in some of our ongoing winter classes. Private violin lessons are available at Mason Rice, Bowen, and Countryside. For weekend fun, young ones can sign up for **Soccer Tots**, **Play Soccer**, or our **Spring Nature Walk**. Registration has begun for all our summer programs. We have some great new offerings this year, such as **Check I.T. Out**, **Fiber Arts**, **Engineering Workshop**, **Sew...What's New**, and lots more. Plus we have our popular returning favorites like **Clay Workshop**, **Domino Physics**, and **Club Invention**. We have lots for middle school siblings too. Call our office at 617-559-6999 or visit our website at www.newtoncommunityed.org for information or to register.

FITKIDS JAMBOREE AT NCSC - West Newton, Saturday, March 27. Parents, looking for a new way to get the wiggles out? Bring your kids ages 2-5 to the FitKids Jamboree. Athletic activities provided by Knucklebones, healthy snack choices provided by Whole Foods Market, and the Lakeshore Learning Art Experience gives kids the ability to create things that reinforce active, healthy lifestyles. Divided into three, two-hour sessions (9-11AM., 11:30-1:30PM., and 2-4PM.). Located at 492 Waltham Street, West Newton. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit www.FitKidsJamboree.com or call 617-935-9856.

ARTS EDUCATION AWARDS - Arts Learning is now accepting nominations for the Massachusetts Champions of Arts Education 2010 Advocacy Awards. The awards honor individuals and organizations that have made exceptional contributions to arts education

advocacy and continue to make strides toward the goal of high quality arts education for every student in Massachusetts. Is there an arts teacher (dance, music, theatre, visual art) you would like to nominate? A parent advocate? Check out the nomination materials at www.artslearning.org.

DROP-IN ARTISTS' STUDIO - For all artists, amateur or otherwise. Newton Cultural Center, 225 Nevada Street, Newton. If you love to draw, paint, knit or sew and would enjoy the camaraderie of working alongside other artists - to create, critique or just chat over coffee - you will love the new self-directed Drop-in Artists' Studio at the Newton Cultural Center. Come as often as you like. The fee is just \$10 for a half-day, and \$15 for the whole day! Call 617-527-8283 or visit www.newtonculturalcenter.org and click on Mayor's Office for Cultural Affairs.

PLAYSPACE - Drop-in playtime at the Newton Cultural Center, 225 Nevada Street, Newton. For children 7 and under with a caregiver. Art projects and a choice of many toys and activities in the art room with Kim Jacques, Arts in the Parks teacher. Play time in a large gym with plenty of room to run and play, and many ride-on toys, slides and balls to play with. It's a great way to beat the winter weather for children and adults! Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays through April 15: 2:30-5PM and Saturdays 1:30-4:30PM. Season-long memberships available. Membership - Newton resident \$95. Drop-in fee \$10. Call 617-796-1540 or 617-527-8283 or visit www.newtonculturalcenter.org for more information.

KINDERGARTEN SOCCER - Register now for Newton Kindergarten Soccer Spring 2010! All children entering kindergarten or first grade in Newton in the fall of 2010 are invited to join the program which has been introducing children to soccer since 1993. The program is co-ed and focuses on fun while developing confidence as children learn the basics of the game. Teams are typically organized by elementary school. Kindergarten Soccer will meet on 8 Saturday mornings, April 24 - June 19 (except 5/29) at Richardson Field. Kindergartners will play from 9:15 to 10:15AM, and pre-kindergartners will play from 10:45 to 11:45AM. Kindergarten Soccer is run by parent volunteers and we need parents to help as coaches and assistant coaches. No previous knowledge of soccer is required. The fee for Kindergarten Soccer is \$60. (Financial assistance is available and is confidential). Your child will receive a team t-shirt, as well as a medal or trophy at the end of the program. Every child must bring a size 3 soccer ball and wear shin guards each week. The deadline to submit your registration is **March 31, 2010**. Enrollment is limited and handled on a first come first serve basis. You will be contacted by a coach the week prior to the first session. Please register now and tell your pre-school friends too!
www.kindergartensoccer.org

THE BC LADY EAGLES SOCCER SCHOOL - will be holding their April Vacation clinic for girls ages 6-14 during April 20-23, 9:00AM -3:00PM at the BC Newton campus. Come join us for soccer fun and development. Registration may be found at: <http://bceagles.cstv.com/camps/bc-w-soccer-camps-april.html>.

A STEP AHEAD BASKETBALL - is offering many programs and camps for Newton children. We have after-school and Saturday classes in addition to four weeks of basketball camp at the Brown Middle School. **After School Classes - Monday**, Bishop Mackenzie Center (Newton), Monday's until May 8, 3:45PM - 4:30PM; Ages: Boys & Girls ages 8-12. To Register- [Click Here](#) **Saturday Class**, Bishop Mackenzie Center, Saturday's until May 8, 9AM - 9:45AM. Ages: Boys & Girls ages 8-12, Saturday Class - [Click Here](#) **Summer Basketball Camps, Newton**, June 28 -July 2, Boys & Girls 7-15; July 6-9, Girls ages 9-17; July 19-23, Boys & Girls 9-17; August 23-27, Boys & Girls 9-17. All camps held at the Brown Middle School and run from 9AM - 3PM. For more information on all of our programs please visit www.asahoops.com or contact coach Smith at 617-909-5990 / Coachb@asahoops.com

NEWTON CENTRAL LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL SIGNUPS - Sign up for Little League Baseball. All K-5 students can play! Sign up this month at <http://www.eteamz.com>.

SOFTBALL REGISTRATION - Think Spring! Think Softball! Newton Girls Softball registration is underway for the 2010 spring season. This is a recreational league for over 500 Newton girls in grades 1-8. Players of all skill levels will have a fun and rewarding experience. Visit our website at www.newtongirlssoftball.org for more details, on-line registration, and our ongoing winter indoor clinics.

CLUB INVENTION - July 12-16 and July 19-23; 9AM -3:30PM*. * *Morning and extended day program also available.* The **Club Invention** program is for children entering grades 1-6. There are five, daily, activity-oriented modules promoting science, math, history, and the arts through creative problem-solving and critical thinking skills. In the *Innovate* program (July 12-16), children will rebuild a virtual world and act as entrepreneurs as they establish a new marketplace in *Hatched*[™], explore alternative energy to power their robotic creatures in *Power'd*[™], and discover surprising mathematical connections between soap bubbles and lightening bolts in **SMart: Science, Math & Art**[™]. In the *Wonder* program (July 19-23), children land on Mars in *M.A.R.S. (Moving at Rocket Speed)*[™], act as engineers improving safety features of vehicles and skateboards in *Spills and Chills*[™], and create innovative artwork that incorporates the use of recyclable materials in *Art Park*[™]. Both weeks also feature *I Can Invent III*[™], where younger children take apart discarded household appliances and create fantasy inventions, while older children use the pieces and parts to build Rube Goldberg machines. **Judi Fitts**, a Cabot 4th grade teacher, returns as director. All activities are taught by Newton teachers, and the program features a 1:8 staff-to-child ratio. Register for one or both weeks: July 12-16 and/or July 19-23 (extended day is available). The registration fee of \$275 includes all materials and a cool T-shirt. Register through Newton Community Education at www.newtoncommunityed.org or call 617-559-6999. Registration is limited.

SUMMER ART PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS AT NEW ART CENTER - Both elementary and middle school programs for grades K-9. Different age-appropriate themes each week; register by the week or for the full 9 weeks. Extended hours and sibling discounts available. For information on weeks and themes and to register, go to www.newartcenter.org or call 617-964-3424.

MUSIC EXPLORERS SUMMER PROGRAM - All Newton Music School. Boys and girls ages 5-8 during the month of July 2010. The young explorers will be exposed to a variety of musical genres. Hands on, one-on-one experience with professional music educators. Each week a musical theme (Keyboard, Xylophone Band, Guitar, Broadway tunes) is taught in small classes. Daily art, movement and improvisational theatre instruction as well as free play and organized games. Monday through Friday from 9AM - 4PM with extended day care available until 5:30PM. Call or e-mail for brochure and application: All Newton Music School, 321 Chestnut St., West Newton. 617-527-4553 x103 allnewtonmusicschool.com.

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES 2010 DARTS SUMMER CAMP – in the Berkshires. Pre-application forms now available from your school's music or visual arts teacher. This popular overnight camp for 5th, 6th and 7th graders is entering its 42nd year. For one week, August 2-6, 15 Newton students join kids from around Massachusetts in the beautiful Berkshires, a hotbed of professional arts activity. Selection is by lottery. Pre-application forms must be mailed or dropped off at the Fine Arts Office at the Education Center, 100 Walnut Street by the deadline, 5PM, Friday, **March 19**. Questions? Contact Richard P. King: richard_king@newton.k12.ma.us or 617-559-9090.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS SUMMER - Creative Arts at Park is a 5-week arts and sports program where young people ages 7 to 15 can explore the full range of visual and performing arts

as well as sports. Part time enrollment is available. Summer at Park is an ACA-accredited camp for young people ages 4 to 15. Campers can participate in a wide variety of programs of varying duration throughout the summer. The Park School 171 Goddard Avenue, Brookline www.parkschool.org/mainsummer 617-274-6024.

NCSC SUMMER DAY CAMP AT HALE RESERVATION - (Grades 1 - 8) Registration is now open for the Newton Community Service Center Summer Day Camp at the beautiful Hale Reservation in Westwood (transportation from our West Newton location is included). Join us for fun-filled days of boating, Red Cross swim lessons and free swim, arts and crafts, fishing, boating, archery, a ropes challenge course, nature activities, sports, cookouts, special events, overnights and more at our ACA-accredited camp. From June 28 through August 27, join us for two, four, six, eight weeks – or the entire summer! For more information or to register, please go to our web site at www.NCSCweb.org. If you have questions, please contact Megan Cap-Renzi at mcap-renzi@ncscweb.org or (617) 969-5906, ext. 224.

NURSERY SCHOOL AT TEMPLE SHALOM IN WEST NEWTON - Come visit Temple Shalom's award winning nursery school. Jewish learning is integrated with secular learning at Temple Shalom as children experience yoga, art, math, science, language arts, and community service. The curriculum incorporates the best of all of the education philosophies (Piaget, Waldorf, Montessori, Reggio) while maintaining a very rich Jewish content. Children ages 1.6 to 5 years. For information and a tour contact jperlin@templeshalom.org or call Johanna Perlin (617) 969-5521.

Classifieds

PEIRCE FAMILY DOES PET SITTING - While you are on business trips, vacations, day outings, etc., give your dog a fun time, too! Your puppy/dog will be well cared for while you're away. Your pet will be fed, walked, pampered, played with; in short, will be having fun! We're a family with two kids; 17 and 10 years old. We've had our own dogs before and now we are opening our hearts and home to pet sitting while folks are away. We have been doing this service for the last few years and it works very well for the animals and for our kids, too! We will only take one at a time, or two at a time, if you wish for your pet to vacation with a friend (!), so please schedule your time ASAP. Reasonable rates. EMagids@aol.com or 617-527-6654

HOUSE CLEANER AND ORGANIZER - Spring cleaning is around the corner - are you looking for someone to help clean and organize your home? Our house cleaner Marlene is amazing and has recently acquired some additional available hours for a new family. She works independently and is meticulous and responsible and lives in the area. We've known her for nine years and are happy to provide a reference. If interested, please contact Marlene at 617-605-4801 or Jody at 617-921-0391.

WANTED – UMBRELLA STROLLER - Looking for a gently used travel stroller. Please contact Kara at karasmith.14@gmail.com or 617-515-5468.

ACADEMIC TUTORING / MCAS TUTORING - Not only do the math, but understand the math. Not only read and spell, but write a story. After 35 years, newly retired teacher and district math coach available for after-school or Saturday tutoring of students in grades 1-4. Leona Giovannini, M.Ed., SLP: 617-244-5866 lgiovannini@rcn.com

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY offered by pathologist with 30 years experience with children ages 3-11. Also, functional non-verbal communication strategies offered to children and adults. Leona Giovannini, SLP license #238: 617-244-5866 lgiovannini@rcn.com

JCC KALEIDOSCOPE CREATIVE ARTS + SCIENCE CAMP - Open House, Sunday, March 28, 2-4PM, Leventhal-Sidman JCC, 333 Nahanton St., Newton, 617 558-6523
kaleidoscope@jccgb.org. Meet the director, tour the facilities, and learn about this day camp where boys and girls in grades K-8 make new friends, learn new skills, stay active, and nurture their "inner artists." CIT program available (grades 9-11). Transportation available from Brookline, Wayland and Framingham. 2010 Camp dates: June 28-August 20. www.kaleidoscopecamp.org;

CALL Y3K TUTOR IN YOUR HOME - When schoolwork goes the wrong way! Our many years of experience in teaching and educational consulting has developed the right way to motivate, the right way to teach, be understood, and be remembered. We tutor special ed. such as ADD, ADHD, Asperger's, Autism, Emotional/Behavioral, and gifted. We also tutor regular ed. and test preparation. All subjects and ages are taught. Parents can now receive 25% off the first lesson. Call 781-492-8700 or log on to www.Y3KTutorInYourHome.com

WITH SPRING AROUND THE CORNER - Plan for your family Holiday portraits with professional photographer Donna Stanger. Get 10% off packages if you book by March 8. Donna Stanger Photography. www.donnastangerphotography.com. 617-304-1819.

PIANO INSTRUCTION - Berklee & New England Conservatory graduate with 30 years teaching experience has several openings in studio. Beginners Welcome. Learn Jazz/Blues/Classical, theory, sightreading from a patient, caring teacher. Gloria Jasinski, phone: 617.566.9704, email: piano566@comcast.net.

LOCAL NEWTON PARENT AVAILABLE FOR MATH TUTORING - Help build your child's confidence in learning math. Math can be daunting for some but never impossible to master! Experienced Math tutor for K-8 students in math. References and rates available upon request. Please contact Barbara at bnjoseph2000@yahoo.com or 617-861-7873.

ACTIVE MINDS TUTORING, LLC - Your source for in-home tutoring. Effective, Personalized and Convenient. All grades/all subjects, including test preparation (MCAS, SSAT, ISEE, SAT...). Sign your child up for academic success and receive a free lesson! Call: 617-663-5700 during business hours, or 617-227-2225 Eve/Wknds. Please visit our web site at www.activemindstutoring.com.

KEYS FOR KIDS - Innovative piano instruction in an engaging parent-child group environment. For ages 4 and up. Contact Marina Gorny: email mdgorny@comcast.net or call 617-527-4942 or visit www.NewtonKidsLoveMusic.com.

KUMON MATH AND READING - an individualized program for remedial to gifted students ages 3 and beyond. Drs. Jane and Winston Chiong, teacher/owners of Kumon Math and Reading in Newton, are offering a discount of \$10 off enrollment for new students in our math, reading or pre-school programs. The offer is limited till March 1. Additionally, we will match this discount as a donation to your school PTO. Please call 617-244-9540 to schedule a free testing/informational interview. Check our website at www.newtonkumon.com.

Submissions may be made by email only to newtonpeirce@yahoo.com

Submission deadlines are Wednesday, by 5:30PM.

For fairness and reliability, we strictly adhere to this deadline.

Coordinating Editor: Roberta Martone Pavia.

Editors: Alexa Dulchinos, Lisa Gianelly, Sarah Kish, Katya Salkever, and Holly Umina

March Newsletter

In the midst of cold and flu season, it's a good time to remind the whole family how important hand washing is. Frequent hand washing is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of disease, so soap up and remember these hand washing tips:

- Wash your hands when they are dirty, before eating, and after using the restroom
- Use soap and warm water and rub your hands together for at least 15 seconds before rinsing and drying
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are ok to use when your hands aren't visibly dirty
- Do not cough or sneeze into your hands – use a tissue or your elbow
- Don't put your hands into your nose or mouth

If you unfortunately do get sick, it's important to stay home to keep others from getting sick. Please let your child's school know if you are keeping your child home because of illness. It is the policy at all Newton schools to keep a child at home if s/he has:

- a fever over 100 degrees Fahrenheit during the past 24 hours
- a cold in the active stages: coughing, running nose, sneezing
- a sore throat and/or swollen neck glands
- an undiagnosed rash or skin eruption
- vomiting or diarrhea during the past 24 hours
- head lice that has not been treated

If you have any questions about hand washing or the sick policy, please contact your school nurse.

Becky Brooker

Peirce Elementary School Nurse

617-559-9636

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