



GRAND CENTRAL NEWS

September 14, 2009

From the Principal

Welcome to the beginning of a new school year. I am very happy to be here as the principal of the Central Elementary School. I want to thank the many parents who have stopped by to say hello and welcome me to the school and Stoneham community. Thank you to all who attended the first PTO meeting last week. It was refreshing to see the parents of students who have been at the Central for a number of years continue to be involved in their children's education. It was also nice to see many first time Central School parents come to the meeting and learn more about how they can participate and support their children.

As I visited the classrooms over the first few days of school it continues to amaze me how quickly the students have settled into the school routine. I want to thank all the teachers for their efforts in preparing their classrooms and making them a welcoming environment for the students.

I believe students' academic and social success depends on a strong partnership between the school and home and I look forward to working with all of you.

*Sincerely,
Mrs. Sharon M. Bird*

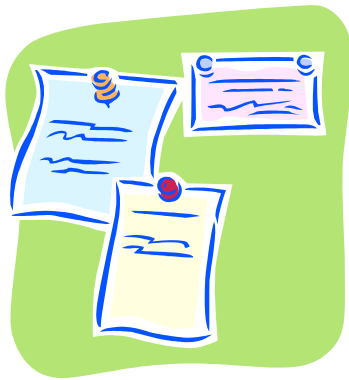
Arrival and Dismissal

Thank you to everyone for adhering to the arrival and dismissal guidelines outlined in the Welcome Letter. This Welcome Letter is also posted on the school's website for future reference. It is nice to see so many parents walking to pick up their children. **Just a reminder: For the safety of all students and adults we ask that you refrain from bringing pets along when dropping off or picking up your child.** Even the friendliest pet can become excited when there are lots of people around. Thanks for your understanding and attention to this matter.

It is the policy of the Stoneham Public School not to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin or handicap in its education program, activities, or employment policies as required by law.

Return of Notices

For the efficient running of the school, it is important to return all notices to school as quickly as possible. The most important items to return are the two student emergency forms. Obviously, we want to be able to contact you in a time of need.



Energy Assistance from N-Star: N-Star offers families that qualify for free or reduced price lunch a reduced energy rate. Please contact the Central School principal, Mrs. Bird, if you want an application from N-Star for this program.

School Lunch Reminder

Please remember to purchase lunch tickets on Tuesdays for Grades 1-5. Kindergarten should bring in their lunch and milk money on Mondays. School lunch cost \$2.75 and milk is .50 cents. Always put money in an envelope with your child's name, teacher's name, amount enclosed, and intended purchase. Free and Reduced lunch applications were distributed on the first day of school. Extra copies are available in the office.



Paperless Notices:

Many of our notices are sent via e-mail or are available on the school website (www.stonehamschools.net) and on local cable TV. If you are not on our e-mail list and wish to be, please contact the office. Going paperless reduces cost and can be a time saver for all of us. If you are not interested in receiving e-mail notices, or do not have access to e-mail, you will receive paper notices. Be sure to contact the office to be added to the paper copy list.

Personnel Changes:

Every year there is a turnover of staff due to retirements, resignations and job shifts. This year we have hired the following new staff:

Ms. Bregou has been hired as our new Kindergarten teacher for sessions 1 and 2, as Mrs. Wood is now teaching the new Full Day kindergarten program.

Ms. Marquis is the new Special Ed classroom teacher replacing Mrs. Ryan who is now a resource teacher.

Mrs. Lipson and Mrs. Gallagher are new resource teachers.

Mrs. Grant is the new Speech Therapist.

Mrs. Koester becomes the new fourth grade teacher, replacing Mrs. McArdle who retired after long service to the Stoneham students.

Mrs. Cann is a new kindergarten teaching assistant.

Ms. Seeley is a new Title 1 teaching assistant.

Mrs. Geraghty and Ms. Harrington are now Special Ed teaching assistants.

Please welcome these new staff members to Central School!

Volunteers Needed

Don't forget to contact Jamian at mjm4291@aol.com if you can volunteer to work the bake sale or donate a peanut free item at the Back to School Night.

Box Tops for Education

Please save your box tops for education. We get .10 cents for every box top. The jug is located inside the office.

Things to watch for:

Halloween Party Committee will be looking for volunteers.

Booing will begin just in time for Halloween.

Watch for more information in the next newsletter.



Teachers Wish List

Don't forget to check the lobby bulletin board on Back to School night for the Teachers Wish List.

Each teacher makes out a wish list and they are posted on the bulletin board. Some examples are paper towels, tissues, markers, tape, etc... Come take a look and help make a teachers wish come true.

The teachers thank you in advance for your donations.

PTO

The next PTO meeting will be on Wednesday,
October 14th at 7:00 p.m.

All parents are invited to attend.

Meetings are held in the Library of Central
School.