

Green Meadow News

May 1, 2008



Dear Parents and Caregivers;

After April vacation, the end of the year is within sight although it is always **AMAZING** how fast the school year seems to fly by! We begin to look at closing this year out and beginning a new school year. If you know for certain that your child will not be attending Green Meadow next year, please let us know so that we consider that during the placement process.

There are many **civic events planned during May**. Next Tuesday, May 6th is election day for town offices. The Annual Town Meeting will be held on Monday, May 19, 2008 starting at 7:00 P.M. at the Fowler School. This is an extremely important meeting when the business of the town is conducted. The budgets for the various departments such as: town services, emergency services and the school department are presented and voted upon. Your vote is important so please plan on attending and participating in the process.

On Saturday, May 10, 2008 the postal service staff will pick up **food donations** at your house as they drop off your mail. The food will be used in area food programs to benefit others.

Next week is '**Staff Appreciation Week**'. We are always very fortunate that the PTO with your support and help always plan a wonderful luncheon for all the staff. The luncheon will be on Friday, May 9th which is an Early Release Day for us. Please consider writing a note or having your child(ren) write down some thoughts and sharing it with a staff member who has made an impact on their life. Words go a long way and often times are a mirror of what's in our hearts and thoughts and so if we have kind thoughts – why not share them?

In looking forward to next year we are accepting applications for **next year's bus transportation**. The cost will be \$180.00 or \$75.00 if your child is on free or reduced lunch. The application is available at all schools or on the school website. If you need a copy sent to you, please call school and we will send it home to you. You can send it back to us at school and we will send it to the main office.

Next year **Green Meadow (ONLY)** is looking at changing the model for **early release days**. We are reviewing the idea of having them more frequently but for a shorter amount of time. We would release students every Wednesday unless there is a holiday during that week. The students will be released at 1:00 P.M. and will have had lunch on early release days. There are several reasons we are considering this such as: providing a consistent schedule so parents can plan better and not have to guess when the next early release day is, providing staff more time on a more frequent basis to discuss the curriculum initiatives we have undertaken. Please let us know your thoughts.

The **School Council** meets next Monday, May 5, 2008 at 6:30 P.M. in the office conference room.

There is a week devoted to volunteers – all these Hallmark moments! Since it was during vacation week, we are **recognizing our volunteers** next week. We are giving each of them a small token and will put their names in next week's newsletter. The number approaches 150(!!!) and many of these wonderful people help in several classrooms, tasks and/or initiatives. We are very grateful to each of them because they make Green Meadow what it is – a wonderful place to bring up children!

Sincerely,

Bernadette McLaughlin
Principal

<http://www.maynardschools.org/gms/>

May

- May 1st - Grades K & 1 – Paul Taylor Storyteller
- May 2nd - Grades K & 1 – Paul Taylor Storyteller
- May 2nd - Pre School Screening
- May 5th - School Council 6:30 PM
- May 5th - Grade 2 Vernal Pool Work Day with Erika Whitworth
- May 9th - Grade 1 Birds of Prey
- May 9th - Early Release Day – 11:25 (Kindergarten 11:15)
- May 12th - Grade 2 Vernal Pool Work Day with Erika Whitworth
- May 12th - Grade 3 MCAS Math
- May 13th - Grade 3 MCAS Math
- May 13th - Grade 2 Art Show at Art Space 5-8:00 PM
- May 13th - PTO Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- May 14th - Grade 2 Vernal Pool Work Day with Erika Whitworth
- May 14th - Grade 3 MCAS Math
- May 15th - Grade 3 MCAS Math
- May 15th - School Committee Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- May 16th - Early Release Day – 11:25 (Kindergarten 11:15)
- May 19th - Grade 1 Music Concert 8:40 A.M.
- May 19th - Grade 2 Vernal Pool Work Day with Erika Whitworth
- May 19-23rd - Book Fair in Library
- May 21st - Kindergarten Parent Night – Around the World 7:00 P.M.
- May 23rd - Patriotic Sing A Long
- May 23rd - Grade 3 Duck Tour Field Trip
- May 26th - Memorial Day observed – No School
- May 28th - Kindergarten Drumlin Farm Field Trip
- May 28th - Grade 1 New England Aquarium Field Trip
- May 28th - Workshop for incoming Kindergarten Parents
- May 30th - Grade 2 – Discovery Museum – State of Matter