



# Carver Elementary School Newsletter – May, 2011

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month

*“One looks back with appreciation to the brilliant teachers...with gratitude to those who touched our human feeling...”*

Carl Gustav Jung

Dear Families,

The first day of May is just around the corner! How quickly this school year has gone! Everyone has worked very hard this year. Although we only have six more weeks of school, the students need to remain focused and continue to come to school every day ready to learn. It is important for them to know that putting in good effort results in success. Continue to read with your child every night, and when your child has homework, make sure that (s)he has a quiet place to complete it. Please continue to check your child's backpack everyday. Thank you for helping and supporting your child!

**Annual Art Festival:** You are cordially invited to attend the annual Art Festival featuring art work by the Elementary School students, grades 1-5. Please take the time to come view their creative artwork on Wednesday, May 4 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Many thanks to our art teachers, Mrs. Stansfield and Mrs. Modica for all their hard work! That same evening the third graders from the Elementary School will be presenting a Recorder Program in the Primary building gym at 7:00 PM. **Please note: Pod 4 will be open so that you will be able to see the bottle people that the third graders created.** This is a very special evening so please come and enjoy!

**Teacher Appreciation Week** begins Monday, May 2 and continues through Friday, May 6. If you would like to show your appreciation to any member of the Elementary School staff for his/her hard work and dedication, please feel free to write a brief note to that person. It will make the recipient very happy. We are proud of our dedicated staff and thank them for their ongoing commitment to our young students.

**Appropriate footwear:** We have concerns about the type of footwear that some students have been wearing to school. As stated in the School Handbook, we recommend that students wear sneakers on days their class has physical education and/or if your child is participating in the Walking Club during recess. We request that other footwear, such as high platform shoes, flip-flops or Crocks not be worn to school. It is difficult to climb on the playground structure with these types of shoes. Flat shoes are recommended to ensure safety on the playground. Thank you in advance for your cooperation to this request.

**Reading logs for grades K ~ 2:** We hope your child was able to read and record the books that (s)he read or were read to them during the vacation. Please be sure to complete the Red Robin reading log and take it to the nearest Red Robin restaurant for a free kid's meal. Thank you to all the parents for encouraging your child(ren) to read during vacation. Students in grades 3~5 who participated in the READ-A-THON will be having an awards ceremony on Wed., June 15. More information will be going home in the June newsletter.

We have attached the **Report to Parents, *Keep Kids Learning During the Summer.*** Please take some time to read this for some great ideas to incorporate learning activities into the summer months.

Spring is finally here! As the weather finally begins to warm the earth, take the time to explore the springtime wonders with your child. Take a nature walk and look for the early signs of spring. Enjoy this time of year with your child. It will be time well spent.

Sincerely,

Candace E. Weiler  
Principal

Ruby Maestas  
Associate Principal

Paula Foley  
Associate Principal

## MCAS Dates: Schedule for May – Math and Science

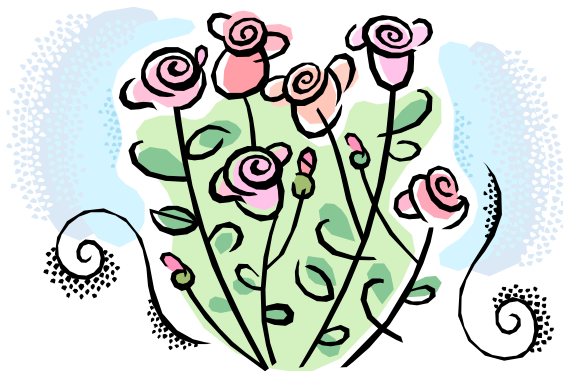
- Grade 4 – May 10 & May 11
- Grade 5 – May 12 & May 13
- Grade 3 – May 16 & May 17
- Grade 5 only Science – May 18 & May 19

## Calendar of Events – May, 2011

2 Advanced Band Beginner Band @ 4:15 pm	3 Elementary Chorus Flute, Trumpet & Trombone Lessons Gr. 5 Rocket Club 2:45 pm	4 Advanced Band Beginner Band @ 4:15 pm Annual Arts Festival 5-7 pm Recorder Concert	5 Orff Rehearsal Clarinet, Saxophone & Drum Lessons Gr. 5 Rocket Club 2:45 pm	6 Advanced Band
9 Advanced Band Beginner Band @ 4:15 pm School Council Meeting @ 3:00 pm	10 Elementary Chorus Flute, Trumpet & Trombone Lessons Gr. 5 Rocket Club Gr. 4 MCAS/Math	11 Advanced Band Beginner Band @ 4:15 pm  Gr. 4 MCAS/Math	12 Orff Rehearsal Clarinet, Saxophone & Drum Lessons Gr. 5 Rocket Club Gr. 5 MCAS/Math	13 Advanced Band   Gr. MCAS/Math
16 Advanced Band Beginner Band @ 4:15 pm  Gr. 3 MCAS/Math	17 Elementary Chorus Flute, Trumpet & Trombone Lessons Gr. 5 Rocket Club Gr. 3 MCAS/Math	18 Advanced Band Beginner Band @ 4:15 pm  Gr. 4 MCAS/ Science	19 Orff Rehearsal Clarinet, Saxophone & Drum Lessons Gr. 5 Rocket Club Gr. 5 MCAS/ Science	20 Advanced Band
23 Advanced Band Beginner Band @ 4:15 pm	24 Elementary Chorus Flute, Trumpet & Trombone Lessons Gr. 5 Rocket Club	25 Advanced Band Beginner Band @ 4:15 pm	26 Orff Rehearsal Clarinet, Saxophone & Drum Lessons Gr. 5 Rocket Club	27 Advanced Band
30  No School Memorial Day	31 Elementary Chorus Flute, Trumpet & Trombone Lessons	1 Advanced Band Beginner Band @ 4:15 pm  Gr. 5 Challenger Center Field Trip Smith/Kent/1/3 Lynam	2 Last Orff Rehearsal Clarinet, Saxophone & Drum Lessons Last Gr. 5 Rocket Club Gr. 5 Challenger Center Field Trip Harkins/MacEachen/ 1/3 Lynam	3   Gr. 5 Challenger Center Field Trip Baldo/Williams/ 1/3 Lynam

### BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH

Since 1927, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) has celebrated Better Hearing and Speech Month each May to raise public awareness of speech and language disorders that affect 14 million Americans. During the month of May, the speech language pathologists at Carver Elementary will be hosting various events to promote better hearing and speech habits. More information will be sent home throughout the course of this celebration. Happy Better Hearing and Speech Month!





At last month's PTO meeting, we held our annual elections and we are happy to welcome Shannon Jablonski and Jen Reardon as new PTO Board Members. Shannon has been spearheading the Paper Retriever program and other recycling efforts and Jen Reardon is our Box Top Coordinator as well as the driving force behind the Labels for Education program. It made perfect sense to have Shannon and Jen join in on all this fun "officially". Unfortunately, Joyce Macrina has decided to step down as a board member but has let us know that she will be an ever present volunteer. Thank you Joyce for everything!

### Update on our "Going Green" Efforts!

The Paper Retriever Recycling Program continues to be a success! We are filling the bin on a regular basis! We are so excited that the community appears to be using this to dispose of their papers, magazines, junk mail, etc... We would also like to send out a huge "Thank you" to those that have stepped up to help out with the emptying of the classroom bins as this is a weekly commitment and it is greatly appreciated! Thank you to: Kelly Ryan, Holly Kishbach and Jen McQuiggan.

Remember you may dump *catalogs, magazines, newspapers, junk mail, office paper, fax paper, school paper, notebooks, and folders* into the recycling bin.

The NSTAR Efficient Lighting Fundraiser took place during the month of April. Grades 3-5 participated in this fundraiser and the purpose was to educate students and their families on the benefits of compact fluorescent lighting. We will update our website with the amount of money raised so stay tuned! We are in the process of tallying things up!

### Other News

Family Movie Night is *Friday Night, June 3<sup>rd</sup>*. We are always looking for ways to involve the children so this year they get to choose the movie!!! A hand-out was sent home last week for the children to choose either Despicable Me, Megamind or How to Train Your Dragon – we will let you know the winner in the next week so, again check out our website regularly for updates! Also for Family Movie Night, we will be having a giant obstacle course, a giant slide, a couple of jumpy tents and plenty of other activities for the children so, save this date as it will be a great night to just relax and enjoy! We will be sending more specific information home as the date approaches...

The results from the Fundraising/Event Satisfaction Survey are known and a summary of the results will be sent home in the next week. We were overwhelmed with the responses. We received a lot of positive feedback and are really looking forward to adding some new fundraisers/events/services in the 2011/2012 school year.

We would like to thank the following parents who volunteered during the Spring Pictures and helped all the children look pretty for the camera: Jenna Douglas, Tina Gallagher, Christopher Jones, Stacey Marshall, Carol Spiewakowski, Jodi Teebagy, Paula Welch, Sarah Buchanan, Cara Dahill, Sally Dudley, Cindy Letsche, Jackie Maynard, Kim Davis, Michelle Nickerson, Madeleine Pompei and Ken Roussel. We really appreciate your help and support!

Box Tops continue to be a huge success. Our goal this year is to reach \$5,000! As of the end of last month, Carver Elementary School has raised \$3,719. That is amazing, 74% of the way there! In comparison to other schools in the state of Massachusetts, Carver Elementary is # 6 in regards to the amount of money raised this school year. April box tops are being counted as you read this and we have one more month to get to that goal of \$5,000 so, find those box tops and attach them to May's collection sheet! Can we reach our goal???

May 19th is our next and last PTO Meeting for the school year. It will be held from 7:00 pm-9:00 pm in the Washburn Building IMC. We will be finalizing plans for Family Movie Night! All are welcome!

As always, please feel free to contact us about anything, [carverpto@hotmail.com](mailto:carverpto@hotmail.com) and stay up-to-date with the latest news at [www.carverpto.org](http://www.carverpto.org).

# MENU

May 2	Toasted cheese sandwich Oven baked Smile fries Carrots Apple slices w/cinnamon sugar	Teriyaki chicken salad Wheat Pita bread Apple slices w/ cinnamon sugar
May 3	Baked chicken tenders w/dipping sauces Steamed rice Mixed vegetables Wheat roll Peaches	Bologna & cheese on wheat Harvest cheddar chips Pickles Peaches
May 4	Cheeseburger on a bun Smart Food popcorn Carrot sticks w/ dip Pears	Turkey/bacon wrap w/lettuce Smart Food popcorn Carrot sticks w/ dip Pears
May 5	<b>Cinco de Mayo</b> Hard shell taco Seasoned beef, lettuce & cheese Baked oven fries Corn Salsa Fruit cup	Taco salad Garden salad w/ cheddar cheese & seasoned beef Salsa Wheat pita bread Fruit cup
May 6	Sal's Pizza – cheese or pepperoni Pasta salad Mocha mousse dessert w/ topping	

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May 9	Hot dog on a bun Smart Food popcorn Carrot sticks w/dip Diced pears	Italian sub Smart Food popcorn Carrot sticks w/ dip Diced pears
May 10	Chicken patty on a bun Lettuce & tomato Oven baked fries Peaches	Buffalo chicken patty on a bun Lettuce & tomato Oven baked fries Peaches
May 11	French toast w/ warm syrup Crispy bacon slices Scrambled egg patty Cinnamon applesauce	Bologna & cheese sub Baked Doritos Veggie sticks w/ dip Cinnamon applesauce
May 12	Rotini in sauce w/ meatballs Parmesan cheese Green beans Warm pretzel Orange mousse dessert	Salami & cheese sub Lettuce & tomato Spicy baked Nacho chips Orange mousse dessert
May 13	Whole grain stuffed crust pizza- cheese or pepperoni Garden salad Mixed fruit cup	

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May 16	Toasted ham and cheese on wheat Baked Smiles Carrot sticks Applesauce	Turkey & bacon wrap Lettuce & tomato Baked chips Pickles, Applesauce
May 17	Oven baked chicken nuggets Dipping sauces Oven baked fries Peas, Fruit cup	BLT on wheat bread Baked Doritos Pickles Fruit cup
May 18	<b>Quesadillas</b> Seasoned chicken w/ melted cheddar In a grilled tortilla wrap Salsa & sour cream Baked Doritos Veggie sticks Blueberries w/ topping	Crispy fish filet on a bun Baked Doritos Veggie sticks Blueberries w/ topping

May 19	Turkey w/gravy Whipped potatoes Corn Wheat bread stick Cranberry sauce Apple slices w/ cinnamon sugar	Tuna salad roll w/ lettuce Tiny twist pretzels Pickles Apple slices w/ cinnamon sugar
May 20	French bread pizza- cheese or pepperoni Garden salad Peaches	
May 23	Cheeseburger on a wheat bun Baked Cape Cod chips Veggie sticks Orange slices or diced peaches	Bacon/cheeseburger on a wheat bun Baked Cape Cod chips Veggie sticks Orange slices or diced peaches
May 24	Baked chicken tenders Dipping sauces Seasoned rice Peas Applesauce or Raisins	Chicken Caesar salad Wheat pita bread Applesauce or raisins
May 25	Hotdog in a roll Oven baked fries Mixed vegetables Fruit cup	Chili/ cheese dog in a roll Oven baked fries Mixed vegetables Fruit cup
May 26	Tuna salad sub Baked Cape Cod chips Pickle spear Frozen fruit dessert	Spicy chicken wrap Baked Cape Cod chips Pickle spear Frozen fruit dessert
May 27	Cheesy pizza sticks w/ sauce for dipping Pasta salad Fruit cup	
May 30	<b>Memorial Day - No School</b>	
May 31	Wholegrain waffle dippers/ warm syrup Baked sausage patty Scrambled egg patty Applesauce or orange slices	Bologna & cheese wrap Baked chips Pickles Applesauce or orange slices
June 1	Crispy popcorn chicken w/ dipping sauces Baked oven fries or sweet potato fries Peas Fruit cup	Chicken teriyaki salad Wheat pita pocket Fruit cup
June 2	Super nacho's w/ cheese Baked potato puffs Steamed carrots Apricots	Sliced turkey sub Lettuce & tomato Baked potato puffs Apricots
June 3	Sal's Pizza – cheese or pepperoni Garden salad Chocolate whip dessert w/ topping	

**Available Daily Alternative Lunches**

**Grades 1 & 2**

**Peanut butter and jelly sandwich (Smucker's Uncrustable)**

**Bagel Lunch**

**2.5 oz bagel w/ choice of cream cheese, margarine, or jelly**

**Assorted cereals**

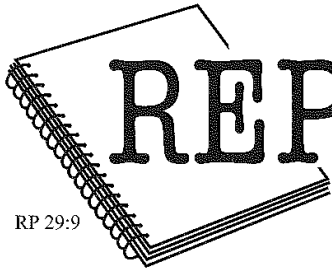
**Included with all the above are: milk, juice, fruit, and vegetable of the day**

**All menus are subject to change upon availability of products.**

**LUNCH \$2.00**

**MILK \$.50**

**Bottled Water or 100% Juice  
SNACKS & ICE CREAM \$.75**



# REPORT to PARENTS

RP 29:9

## Keep Kids Learning During the Summer

By forgetting about learning during the lazy days of summer, you're actually harming your child's education. Children lose a shocking amount of what they've already learned if they're allowed to "veg out" during the summer. That means that the kids who put forth just a little bit of effort are going to be way ahead come fall. You owe it to them—and to their futures—to incorporate learning activities into their summers.

- **You've got to have "the talk."**

Before the last school bell rings for the year, sit down with your children and let them know that reading and learning activities will be an important part of their summer. Assure them that they'll still have lots of time for play and relaxation.

- **Find activity books to exercise their minds.** There is a huge variety of activity books available, usually catered to specific age groups. Give your children their own activity book, and let them work at their own pace to finish it. (Set a "due by" date to keep them on track.) Crossword puzzles, math activity books, and number puzzles all keep children's brains in motion.

- **Set a reading time every day.** Set aside a certain time every day where everyone turns off the computer, TV, music, and video games, and spends 15 minutes or more reading. (As busy as parents are, it's important that you participate as well, even if you just read the newspaper.)

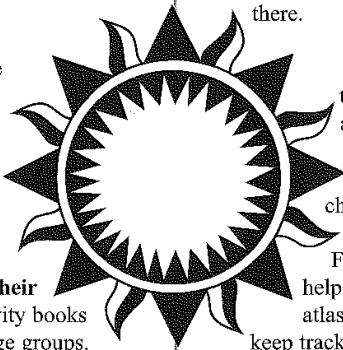
- **Get great recommendations on books for your child.** Check out the American Library Association's lists on Summer Reading and Learning for Children at [www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscresources/summerreading/recsummerreading/recommendedreading.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/alscresources/summerreading/recsummerreading/recommendedreading.htm). Be sure to sign your kids up for library summer book clubs, too!

- **Be "international."** Set aside one or two nights during the summer to have an international evening. Together, find recipes from a different nation and put together a special meal. Learn a few basic words in that country's language and find a children's book or an encyclopedia article that gives information on what life is like in that country. Get out a world map or a globe and show them where the country is and talk about what you'd want to visit if you could go there.

- **Incorporate "thinking" into traveling.** If your family is able to take a vacation during the summer, include stops at a few places that sneak in learning, along with fun. Zoos, children's museums, and historic sites are educational as well as entertaining. For bonus learning, have your children help you plot out the trip using maps or an atlas. Older children can tally up the miles, keep track of expenses, or figure out gas mileage.

- **Participate in sports/exercise.** With hours of free time every day, there's always time to build in some physical activity. Even if your child can't participate in a local sports league or community-based team, there are plenty of ways to get exercise—from jumping rope to family walks.

There are wonderful resources available through schools, libraries, and on the Internet to help families keep their children's brains "alive" during the dog days of summer. Even though it takes a little bit of effort on your part, the payoff, in terms of their education, is beyond measure.



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