



UPDATED
CARVER COYOTE NEWS
February 2013



“Ones best success comes after their greatest disappointments.”
– Henry Ward Beecher

UPCOMING EVENTS:

February 6
Volunteer Orientation 9AM
GJC Cafeteria

February 14
Happy Valentine's Day

February 18-February 22
Winter Recess

March 1
Marks Close for Term II

March 5
Family Math Night
6:00-7:30 pm

March 7
PTO Meeting 7 PM
Information on Positive
Behavior Intervention &
Support

March 14- Early Release
11:45
Parent/Teacher Conferences

March 19
Grade 4 MCAS Long
Composition

Dear Families:

On **February 8, 2013**, we will have reached the 100th day of school! Time seems to be flying by quicker than ever. Our Elementary School is buzzing with the wonderful sounds of learning. For many students, so much of what they have been working on suddenly begins to make sense and they begin to put all their skills together. We are proud of the effort and progress our students are making. Thank you for your support in making school a priority.

Through the years, we have received a tremendous amount of support from our Parent Teacher Organization. Our Carver Elementary PTO has had a long-standing reputation of working collaboratively with the school to assist in the funding of equipment, school supplies and enrichment opportunities for our students. Unfortunately, the 2012-13 school year will be the final year for current PTO members Marie Blotner, Tracy Condon, Jani Donnelly, Dorene England and Thea Rowles. We will miss their presence in our school and we will miss all the fun activities and new ideas that the PTO team has provided. If there are any parents and/or family members who are interested in joining the PTO, we would be delighted to have you on our team and to work with you. Our current members are eager to work alongside anyone interested to provide the training, planning and organizing. Please call the school office or email carverpto@hotmail.com if you have any questions.

Our **School's Security** remains a priority. We have implemented new procedures, which include locking the front doors of the Governor John Carver Building and having all visitors report to the Erwin K. Washburn Building. We will continue with this procedure and we thank you for your patience and the support you have given us. We know that these changes are vital to ensure safety for everyone.

Thank you to our local Fire Department for the education presentation on **Ice Safety**. Our students received valuable ice safety information specific to Carver. They participated in fun activities designed to teach children safety when near or on ice. They were also able to get up close for a viewing of the newly rehabilitated Hovercraft.

School Attendance: Please make every effort to have your child attend school every day. It is important for your child to understand that good attendance and getting to school on time is necessary to succeed in school. We have attached the Attendance/Vacation section from the Student Handbook for your review.

Science Week: This month the students in Grades 3 and 5 participated in a full week of science. The students enjoyed science units from our Full Option Science Systems Curriculum. We extend a special thank you to the parent volunteers who gave endless hours both in and out of the classroom to support the teachers with preparation for science. Other grades will be participating in Science Week later in the school year.

Join us for Math Night, which will be held on March 5 in the Erwin K. Washburn Building. This exciting evening is open to all Carver Elementary School students in grades K-5 and their guardians. There will be exciting math activities and games for all levels! Come learn what the children are learning in their classrooms with Everyday Math. The event will be held from 6:00-7:30 for all grades. More information regarding activities and prizes will be sent home in a separate letter next week!

Read Across America Coyotes: This is an urgent message from the Read Across America Team. In order to earn our next Read Across America theme day we need your help! Honolulu, Hawaii is 10,000 miles away from our current location Concord, New Hampshire. If every student reads 117 minutes per week we can earn a Luau Themed Day on February 15th! That means just adding a few extra minutes to your 20 minutes of daily reading at home, or logging your weekend reading! We know you can do it, Coyotes! So start reading (and practicing the hula)...Honolulu here we come!!!

Community Readers' Day is coming in March. We will be inviting members of the school community into our school to share their love of reading with us.

Cold Weather: Since the weather has been bitterly cold lately, even the short walk from the bus to the school is chilling. Remember to send your child with a hat and gloves. In addition, there may be times when our classrooms may be colder than usual. Please be sure to send your child with a sweater or sweatshirt that he/she can keep at school to put on when needed.

Concussion and Head Injury Awareness: In an effort to ensure the health and safety of all our students, we are asking parents/guardians to inform the school if your child has been diagnosed with a concussion or head injury. It is important that we have this information so that we can manage the recovery process while your child is at school. If you have any questions please call the office.

Groundhog Day Poem
Old Groundhog stretched in his leafy bed.
He turned over slowly and then he said,
"I wonder if spring is on the way,
I'll go and check the weather today.
If I see my shadow between eleven and noon,
I then will know that I'm out too soon.
I'll crawl back in bed for six weeks more,
Pull up the warm covers and snore and snore.
But if no shadow gives me a scare,
I know that spring is in the air,
I'll wake my friends and wish them cheer,
With glorious news that spring is here."
-Author Unknown

Did the Groundhog see his shadow on February 2? Ask your child to write a note to Mrs. Maestas about whether or not the Groundhog saw his shadow. All correct student responses will be entered into a drawing and the winner will receive a special prize. All notes must be received in the office by February 12. The winner will be announced at school and in next month's Coyote Newsletter.

Attendance/Vacation Policy

According to state regulations, the school year includes 900 hours of instructional time and is in session for 180 days. Every child is expected to attend school daily and to arrive on time. The MA General Laws Chapter 76, Section 2 specify that a student under 16 years of age may not be absent more than seven (7) unexcused day sessions in any six (6) month period. Parents are required under the law to ensure regular school attendance of their children and are subject to a fine for failure to comply with the law. When a child is absent from school, a note written and signed by the parent/guardian must be brought to the homeroom teacher when returning to school. The note should specify why the child was absent, indicating the specific type of illness, so outbreaks of common illness can be monitored. If the child is absent for five or more consecutive days, a doctor's note (certificate) is required when the child returns to school. Excessive absences from school will be followed up with a letter by school administration and the school attendance office will be notified. The officer will investigate and will be in contact with the parent/guardian. Excessive absences from school may result in poor academic performance, which could lead to retention.

Although it is understood that vacations with the family do not always correspond with school vacations, these types of unexcused absences are highly discouraged by the school. They create a burden on the teaching/learning process. Taking work on vacation or attempting to make it up after returning does not replace being in the classroom. If such absences become unavoidable, the student and parents must notify the appropriate teacher(s) in advance. Teachers are not required to provide work for students prior to leaving on vacation. Upon the student's return, all work must be completed within a reasonable time period.

Carver Elementary has gone Mobile with School Connect. The Carver Public School District has released a new smartphone application for parents and students to get the latest information from the schools. The application features messaging from the district and schools with information on school closings and other important updates. Parents can also access the parent portal, district contact information, and the district calendar. The app is free and is available on most smartphones. For more information on the School Connect app, visit www.carver.org

SAVE THESE DATES!! MCAS Dates for the 2012/2013 School Year

The testing dates for the 2012-2013 MCAS sessions are as follows:

Grade 3	English/Language Arts Reading Comprehension	3/20 & 3/22/13
	Mathematics	5/8 & 5/10/13
Grade 4	English/Language Arts Composition	3/19/13
	English/Language Arts Reading Comprehension	3/25 & 3/27/13
	Mathematics	5/13 & 5/15/13
Grade 5	English/Language Arts Reading Comprehension	3/21 & 3/26/13
	Mathematics	5/14 & 5/16/13
	Science and Technology/Engineering	5/7 & 5/9/13

South Shore Parent Classes-Classes for parents are offered through the South Shore Community Action Council, Inc. and the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Council. The CFCE Program sponsors a variety of Parenting Workshops that engage and support parents in understanding and promoting their children's development, school readiness, and early literacy. For more information, please visit their website, www.sscac.org/cfce/events.html.

Kindergarten Registration

The Carver Elementary School will be holding kindergarten registration appointments on the following days by appointment only:

Monday, 4/8/13

Wednesday, 4/24/13

Tuesday, 4/9/13

Thursday, 4/25/13

Wednesday, 4/10/13

Friday, 4/26/13

- Only children who will be 5 years old on or before **September 1, 2013** are eligible to enroll in kindergarten per Carver Public Schools' entrance age policy.

Parents/guardians need to call the EKW office to make an appointment to register and for a hearing/vision screening appointment beginning on Monday, January 14, 2013 between the hours of 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. The phone number is 866-6210. Please note that due to the winter recess, February 18 through February 22, 2013, the office will be closed. After receiving your appointment, a kindergarten registration packet will be mailed to you promptly. In order to register, you need to bring **all completed** forms and the following:

- The child's certified birth certificate (with a raised seal on it).
- Proof of residency. The following is the only acceptable proof of residency: Purchase and sales of house/condo, two consecutive months of a utility bill, rental agreement including landlord's contact information. A driver's license will be accepted with one of the above items listed.
- Up-to-date immunizations.

Failure to provide this information will delay the placement of your child.

An evening orientation will be held on Thursday, May 23, 2013, 6:30 – 7:30 pm in the EKW cafeteria. At this time, information about our kindergarten program will be presented.

Please note that students who currently attend the Carver Public Schools' Preschool Program are required to register for kindergarten, if they are age appropriate.

If you have any questions, please contact the EKW Building at 866-6210.

Carver Elementary PTO News

SAVE THE DATE

Family Bingo Night

Friday, February 15th @ the Erwin K. Washburn Building Cafeteria

Two Sessions: 6:30p-7:30p OR 7:30p-8:30p

Please choose only one session to attend as the cafeteria can only hold so many people!

\$3.00 donation per player....

More Great Recycling News.....

The Carver Elementary PTO has teamed up with Planet Aid! Planet Aid is a non-profit organization that collects and recycles used clothes and shoes. Carver Elementary School will be “hosting” a school bin! When you donate clothes and shoes to Planet Aid, you set in motion a chain of events that benefit people and the planet. Your items will become cherished possessions for someone, somewhere who cannot afford to buy new garments. At the same time, municipalities have less trash to manage, there are more jobs created, and the earth is spared the burden of additional toxic and greenhouse gas impacts.

You will now be able to donate your clothes/shoes at any time during the year – you do not need to hold them for our semi-annual Bag2School Program anymore... This bin will allow everyone to drop off old clothes whenever they would like.

Planet Aid will come by on a weekly basis to empty! The PTO will receive .05 per pound of clothing collected! A busy bin could yield approximately \$1,200 per year without expending any resources! Another easy money maker for our kids! The Planet Aid bright yellow bin should be in place by the second week in February! Once you see it, start loading it up! ☺

Carver Public Library Calendar of Events

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
			<p style="text-align: center;">February 2 Ground Hog's Day Trail All Ages, Drop In 11:00 a.m.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">February 5 Toddler Storytime, Ages 3 & under, 10:30 a.m. Make-It, Take-It Valentine Cards All ages, Drop in, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 6 Preschool Storytime, Ages 3 to 5, 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 7 Preteen Jewelry Club Bracelet Craft Ages 8+, Please register 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 9 Paper Rose Heart Wreath Ages 6+, Please register, 11:00 a.m.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">February 12 Toddler Storytime, Ages 3 & under, 10:30 a.m. "Games of the Heart"</p> <p>Conversation Heart Games Ages 5+, Please Register 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 13 Preschool Storytime, Ages 3 to 5, 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 14 Stupid Cupid Mini Golf Challenge All Ages, Drop In 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 16 CLOSED 2/16-2/18 For President's Day Holiday Weekend</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">February 19 Toddler Storytime, Ages 3 & under, 10:30 a.m. "Minute to Win It" Challenge 6:30 pm Ages 6+, Please Register</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 20 Big Ryan's Tall Tales 10:30 a.m. All Ages, Drop In</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 21 Candy Bar Bingo All Ages, 6:30 p.m. First come first seated. Admission: 1 Full Size Candy Bar</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 23 Angry Birds Party 11:00 am Ages 5+ Please Register</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">February 26 Fun Foam Fest Create your own designs with all types of fun foam shapes! 6:30 pm All Ages, Drop In</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 27 Preschool Storytime, Ages 3 to 5, 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February 28 Family Game Night Trivial Pursuit Jr. Ages 6+, Please Register 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">March Madness is Coming! Be sure to come in each week during the month of March to vote for your favorite Superhero The Ultimate Superhero will be announced on March 30th. See if you can predict the winner!</p>

LUNCH MENU

Monday, 2/4

Hot Dog in a Wheat Bun
Oven baked potato wedges
Baby carrots
Cinnamon applesauce

Ham & cheese wrap
Oven baked potato wedges
Baby carrots
Cinnamon applesauce

Tuesday, 2/5

Brunch for Lunch
W/G French Toast with syrup
Crispy sweet potato bites
Yogurt cup, apple juice

Chicken Caesar Salad
Yogurt cup
Apple juice

Wednesday, 2/6

W/G Chicken Tenders
Seasoned Brown Rice
Corn, wheat dinner roll
Chilled peach

Greek Salad
Wheat dinner roll
Chilled peaches

Thursday, 2/7

BBQ Beef on Bun
(Sloppy Joes)
Baked beans
Celery sticks & tomato wedges
Chilled pears

Buffalo Chicken on a wheat bun
Celery sticks & tomato wedges
Goldfish Crackers
Chilled pears

Friday, 2/8

Gilardi "The Maxx" Pizza Day
(Cheese or buffalo chicken)
Fresh tossed salad with spinach
Chilled strawberry cup

It's Friday!!

Please check your child's fund balance.
Payments can be made at school or at
www.Myschoolbucks.com

Monday, 2/11

Chinese New Year
Baked Chicken nuggets with s&s sauce
Steamed brown rice, broccoli crowns
Chilled pineapple chunks, fortune cookie

Chicken Teriyaki Salad
Chilled pineapple chunks
Fortune cookie

Tuesday, 2/12

Brunch for lunch
WG Pancake
Sausage links
Sweet potato bites
Cinnamon applesauce

Greek Salad
Cinnamon applesauce

Wednesday, 2/13

Grilled chicken in a soft taco wrap
Baked potato rounds
Baby carrots
Bean dip salsa w/WG tortilla chips
Fresh Orange “smiles”

Southwest Salad
Grilled chicken & cheddar cheese
Bean dip salsa w/WG tortilla chips
Fresh Orange “smiles”

Thursday, 2/14

Italian Pasta Bake
Baked elbows w/meat sauce and mozzarella cheese
Green beans
Wheat bread stick
Chilled pears

Popcorn chicken wrap
w/BBQ dipping sauce
Side of tossed salad
Chilled pears

Friday, 2/15

Sal’s Pizza Day
(Cheese or pepperoni)
Fresh tossed salad with romaine
Jell-o Gelatin
Chilled Fruit cup

It’s Friday!!

Please check your child’s fund balance.
Payments can be made at school or at
www.Myschoolbucks.com

Alternative Choice Lunches for Grades 1-5

Garden Salad
Whole Grain Bagels
Whole Grain Cereals
Smucker’s Uncrustables

All lunches include:
Fat Free Chocolate or 1% White Milk

Menus are subject to change upon
availability of products.

Available for purchase separately: milk \$.50 8 oz. water bottle \$.75 ice cream \$.75

Free/reduced meal applications are available on our website www.carver.org,
All school office or by calling (508) 866-6230.
Applications are accepted at any time during the school year.