

# Carver Elementary School

## October 2012 Newsletter



### Upcoming Events:

Please visit our website, [www.carver.org](http://www.carver.org), for all of the upcoming events at the Carver Elementary School.

Friday, October 5 – No School – Teacher Professional Day

Monday, October 8 – No School – Columbus Day

Thursday, October 18, 2012 – Early Release Day – 11:45 am dismissal. Parent/Teacher Conferences (by appointment)

Mandatory Substitute Training will be held on Friday, October 19, 2012 at 9:30 am in the GJC cafeteria.

Mandatory Volunteer Training will be held on Friday, October 19, 2012 at 10:30 am in the GJC cafeteria.

### **SCHOOL HOURS**

**8:15 – 2:45 pm**

*We long to accomplish great and noble tasks, but it is our chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble tasks.*

*Helen Keller*

Dear Families,

We are happy to share that our Open House was well attended by so many of you! We had over 150 families participate in our Passport to Education. Our intention with the Passport was to encourage participation at Open House and to allow parents and families an opportunity to become acquainted with our specialists and support staff. While you were here, we hope you were able to learn about our curriculum and the expectations for your child while he/she attends Carver Elementary School. Thank you for making an effort to be here! This year we had 2 opportunities to earn prizes, the parent participation contest and the Passport to Education raffle. Congratulations to the winners of the contest for the most parent participation at Open House; they are Mrs. Bennett and Ms. Smith. Both classrooms will be rewarded with a pizza party. There were 12 names drawn for the Passport to Education raffle. Winners of the drawing are the families of: Barret and Tessa D'Olimpia; Ben and Alex Diogenes; Brianna Donnelly; Brennan Dudley; Breyden Eaton; Gracie Gagnon; Samantha Quigley; Amelia Shaw; Jady Sotomayor; Shana Struski; Erica and Zachary Thevenin; and Gemma Tibbetts. Congratulations!! Please come by the school to collect your prize.

### **PTO News**

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. This school year will be a transition year to a new PTO team. The transition will consist of an introduction to the roles and responsibilities of the PTO. Interested members will attend bi-monthly meetings to gain an understanding of the undertaking. 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](mailto:carverpto@hotmail.com) if you have any questions.

### **Summer Reading Rewards**

Thank you to the PTO for providing our grades 3, 4 and 5 students with a Summer Readers' rewards treat on September 28, 2012. Summer readers in these grades enjoyed an ice cream treat on Friday afternoon. Students in grades K, 1 and 2 will be rewarded for their reading later on in October. We appreciate that you have encouraged your child to read during the summer months. Reading during the summer helps children to keep their skills sharpened and they develop a lifetime love of reading. The complete list of summer readers is included in this newsletter. Again, thank for your support with this important part of your child's education.

### **Halloween Safety Talk**

The administrative team of Mrs. Maestas, Mrs. Foley and Mr. Waddicor will be providing Halloween Safety information during student lunch blocks on Friday, October 26 and Monday, October 29. The Halloween Safety talk will include child friendly tips for trick-o-treating safety.

### **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

For your planning purposes, conferences will be held on Thursday, October 18th. We have attached a guide to successful parent/teacher conferences. This guide provides information on what to expect, what to discuss and follow-up plans. Information from your child's teacher regarding scheduling a time to meet will be forthcoming.

### **School Council**

Our first meeting will be held on Monday, October 15 at 3:00 P.M. Randi Struski has volunteered to serve on the CES council. According to state law, she has to be voted onto the council by parents. Please complete and return the ballot that was sent home on Monday, 10/1/12. The ballot must be returned by October 10th. The group meets monthly to develop the School Improvement Plan and acts as an advisory group to the Principal. Returning as a parent representative this year is Stephanie Clougherty and our community representative is Kathy Doherty. Our meetings are open meetings, so all are welcome to attend.

### **Family Directory**

Thanks to Mrs. Kelly Yenulevich and Mrs. Nancy Seamans for compiling the Family Directory for the 2012-2013 school year. You will receive a family directory if you sent in the form by September 14, 2012. This user-friendly directory is handy to use and nice to have for play dates and birthday party invitations. Just a reminder: In an effort to be respectful and sensitive to all our students' feelings, birthday invitations may not be sent home through school. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Morning Drop-off**

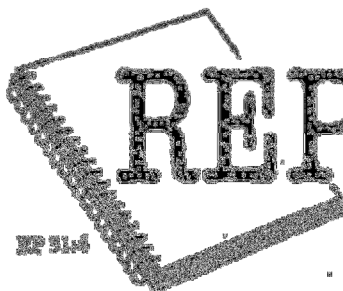
Thank you to all the parents and/or families that have contributed to making our morning drop-off a huge success. We continue to encourage all children to ride the bus. Remember that drop-off begins at 8:00 A.M. and the gate closes at 8:25. Anyone dropping off after 8:25 will have to bring their child into the school and sign the child in as a late arrival. Our classroom teachers are beginning their morning activities promptly at 8:15 A.M. At this point in the school year, we believe children are able to disembark on their own and walk themselves into the cafeteria. If you are walking your child in, you must park near the ball field. Supervision is on hand and an adult faculty member will take the younger children to the EKW building.

### **MCAS NEWS**

All students in grades 3, 4 and 5 were tested on MCAS this past spring. Carver Elementary demonstrated improvement in MCAS across the board. The most significant growth is noted in Grade 5 Mathematics with 69% of students performing in the Proficient and Advanced category. This is an increase of 16% from the previous year. While the Spring 2012 results indicate we are making steady progress, we will continue to analyze our data closely to assess all areas and provide student support where necessary. Congratulations to all our teachers at Carver Elementary for their dedication to our students. It is through the hard work, team work and commitment to student success of our entire staff and faculty that our students continue to thrive!

### **E-Newsletter**

Thank you to all of the families who have opted to receive our e-newsletter. What a great response we have had to our "going green" initiative. In just one month, we have estimated that we have saved 2,600 pieces of paper. If you would like to receive our newsletter electronically, please contact your child's office.



# REPORT to PARENTS

EP 51-4

## Having Successful Parent-Teacher Conferences

It doesn't matter if you're the student, the teacher, or the parent, parent-teacher conferences are bound to cause some anxiety. Yet these one-on-one meetings are priceless opportunities for families to get a better understanding of their children. By preparing well for your meetings with teachers and following up with both your children and their teachers afterward, you can strengthen your children's school success.

### Before the Conference:

**Listen.** Any time you hear your child talking about something he or she is doing really well in or is having trouble with—either with schoolwork or with classmates—make a note of it. When it's time for the conference with the teacher, you'll have a ready-made list of things to discuss.

**Ask.** When it's time to schedule the conference with the teacher, sit down with your child and ask him or her what you should discuss with the teacher. Encourage your children to open up and tell you what it's like for them in the classroom. Do they feel like they're falling behind academically? Or are they bored because they understand the material that the rest of the class is struggling with? Are there any troubling issues with any of their classmates? One thing that's guaranteed to get your children to open up is asking them what they think their teacher is going to tell you about them.

**Bring notes and papers.** Write down questions you want to address with the teacher. Bring copies of any assignments you have questions about. Think ahead of time how to be tactful and kind in voicing concerns you have about the teacher or the class.

### During the Conference:

**Be on time.** Schools tightly schedule parent-teacher conferences because there's only so much time available and dozens of families to see. Show up at least a few minutes early, so you know you'll be set to begin when it's your turn.

**Hire a babysitter.** It's important to make sure that the

time you have with the teacher is as productive as possible. Having other children in the room is distracting. Either hire a babysitter or trade off with another parent so that your children don't tag along.

**Take notes.** In addition to presenting the questions and concerns you brought to the meeting, make sure to take notes about what the teacher is telling you about your child. Be sure to address these important areas: strengths, weaknesses, and social skills.

**Keep emotions out of it.** It is always difficult to hear that your "angel" or "young Einstein" isn't exactly the person you thought he or she was in the classroom. Keep your cool and bear in mind that the teacher is offering constructive criticism.

### After the Conference:

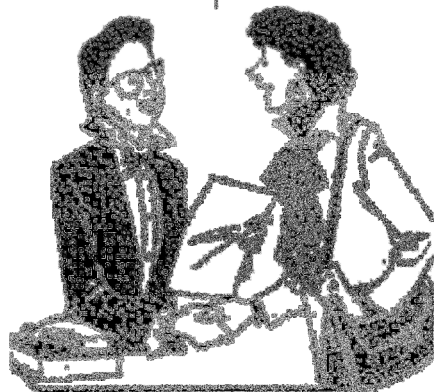
**Talk to your child.** Sit down with your child and tell him or her what you and the teacher discussed. Emphasize the positive things the teacher said. Remember that it's important for your child to feel positive about

learning, the teacher, and the school.

**Follow up.** If there were important issues that need to be dealt with, such as finding a tutor or getting counseling for your child, make sure to follow up in writing with the teacher soon after the conference. Specify exactly what you discussed with the teacher, what steps will be taken, what your responsibilities and the school's responsibilities will be, and what the timeline is for action.

**Remember the principal.** If, after meeting with your child's teacher, you still feel like you have serious issues that weren't adequately addressed, set up a time to talk to the guidance counselor or principal to see what other options are available.

**Follow through.** Once you know what you can do at home to help your child succeed in school, make sure to actually do it. It's understandable that finding the time might be difficult, but remember—your child needs you.



## Students That Participated in the Summer 2012 Reading, Grades K-5

Andrade, Ethan	Demers, Keeli	Keller, Lindsey	Rego, Grant
Arendt, Delaney	Desisto, Lynsey	Kenyon, Ella	Ritz, Justin
Aresta, Shane	Desisto, Matthew	Kishbach, Hadi	Rizzuto, Grace
Arsenault, Molly	DeSisto, Michael	Kittredge, Quinton	Roche, Hayden
Bellew, Jacob	Devlin, Savannah	Landolfi, Haley	Rogers, Ethan
Bellew, Victoria	Diogenes, Alex	Larracey, Emma	Roussel, Tyler
Bent, Juliana	Diogenes, Ben	LeBlanc, Camille	Rubin, Emma
Benting, Brodin	Dion, Emma	Lydon, Ethan	Rudnik, Sarah
Berry, Josiah	DiRado, Alex	Manning, Aine	Russell, Ella
Billings, Alexis	DiRado, Nathan	Mannix, Joey	Santos, Roger
Blair, Kyle	Dishaw, John	Marino, Hannah	Sawicki, Michael
Blanchette, Tyler	Donnelly, Brianna	Marshall, Gemma	Searle, Cameron
Blankenship, Carson	Drum, Matthew	Martin, Shay	Sears, Steven
Blotner, Kathleen	Dudley, Brennan	McCarthy, Gracie	Sears, William
Blotner, Teresa	Dudley, Tyler	McElroy, Charlotte	Shannon, Daniel
Bohan, Seana	Eaton, Breyden	McManus, Tanya	Sheehan, Isabella
Breen, Ryan	Ellis, Melanie	Miller, Luke	Shores, Cameron
Brown, Madison	Empey, Isaac	Morey, Jenna	Shott, Kyle
Burns, Emily	Fairweather, Hailey	Mullins, Sara	Simmons, Emma
Burns, Hannah	Ferrari Lauren	Mulready, Siobhan	Simmons, Matt
Camardella, Libby	Ferrari, Andrew	Murray, Samantha	Simmons, Olivia
Camelo, Olivia	Ferrari, Michael	Murray, William	Sousa, Cora
Campbell, Morgan	Fisher, Zachary	Nelson, Caitlyn	Staples, Jared
Carey, Chace	Flood, Derek	Nelson, Hailey	Stearns, Maddie
Carey, Ciara	Foley, E.J.	Nickerson, Chloe	Steed, Lauryn
Carpender, Tyler	Fox, Emily	Northrup, Robekka	Struski, Shana
Cipullo, Maxwell	Fox, Mike	Nunes, Travis	Tait, Conner
Clark, Billy	Gainey, Brandon	Olson, Harmonie	Teebagy, Gabriella
Clark, McKenna	Gallagher, Lexi	Olson, Jayden	Toomey, J.T.
Cohenno, Rene	Gilbert, Caleigh	Osswald, Baylee	Trudeau, Tyler
Collins, Kailey	Giorgio, Aria	Parsons, Joshua	Turner, Jordan
Colon, Reese	Gould, Ryan	Pauze, McKenzie	Vitale, Jordan
Condon, Ava	Gould, Sarah	Perkins, Violet	Welch, Delaney
Conner, Allison	Grant, Julian	Peterson, Sydney	Welch, Devin
Cooney, Joseph	Gregory, Luke	Pina, Havannah	Weston, Alyssa
Corbin, Aiden	Grimes, Megan	Pioppi, Daykota	Weston, Brenna
Corbin, Emma	Halunen, Luke	Preston, Andrew	Weston, Holly
Corr, Alexxis	Hannon, Victoria	Preston, Lucas	Weston, Mitchell
Corr, Domenic	Harrington, Bradley	Quigley, Samantha	Worden, Jayden
Correa, Hannah	Harrington, Sydney	Ramsdell, Timothy	Yenulevich, Kraig
Crawford, Madeleine	Henderson, Julia	Raymond, Nick	Young, Jordan
Darcy, Christopher	Hutchison, Alana	Reed-Davis, Morgan	Young, Lily
Darcy, Isabelle	Johnson, Abrielle	Reed-Davis, Riley	

## CARVER ELEMENTARY PTO

The Carver Elementary School PTO is looking forward to another great school year as we settle in! Here is just some of what's going on in the PTO world....

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### **BINGO NIGHTS**

We kicked off our year with a "Back to School" Bingo Night this past month! It was great to see many of you there! We will be having two more Bingo Nights this year (one in February and then another in April) so if you couldn't make September's Bingo Night, no worries – the opportunity to play again is coming this winter!

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### **PTO MEETINGS**

Our 1st public PTO Meeting of the 2012/2013 school year was held last week! Thank you to everyone who attended! We have decided this year to hold bi-monthly meetings as October and December are extremely busy months for us and with February and April having school vacations, we decided against holding meetings during these months. So the PTO Meeting Schedule is as follows: Sept 27th, Nov 15th, Jan 17th, March 7th and May 16th! All meetings are held in the primary building's IMC room from 7:00pm-9:00pm! We hope that both parents and teachers make an effort to come to at least one meeting during the school year to learn what events/fundraisers we have planned as well as bring some fresh ideas to the table!

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### **SUMMER BOX TOP CONTEST**

Congratulations to Lizzie Kelly (grade 2) and Hadi Kishbach (grade 5) for submitting the most box tops to kick off the school year! Lizzie submitted 1,308 (\$130.80) and Hadi submitted 1,179 (\$117.90) box tops! Absolutely awesome job ladies!!! Lizzie won the \$50 gift card to Target and Hadi won the \$25 gift card!

In total we counted out 10,017 box tops! That totals \$1,001.70 earned! Thank you to everyone who participated and turned in box tops!

Our next collection date will be **October 31st** – you should've already received your "Falling for Box Tops" collection sheet! The contests are now by classroom! Whichever classroom collects the most box tops will win a prize for each student and will get to have "Cocoa" (the Box Top Mascot) hang out in their classroom for the month!

A couple little things that we would like you to remember when collecting the box tops!

***Please do NOT staple box tops to the collection sheets, we cannot turn any in with staples on them so it does become tedious/time consuming when we have to remove staples***

***Please make sure that box tops are NOT expired, the print on the box tops is very small so when looking at a couple thousand it is hard on the eyes and if we submit to many that are expired, we could get kicked out of the program!***

***Please do NOT attach bonus coupons to the collection sheets, only attach individual box tops! We have to remove all the bonus coupons from the collection sheet, just place these in zip lock bags and return them with the collection sheet.***

Thank you so much for following these simple instructions, it will make it a lot easier on the volunteers who collect/count the box tops!

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## ***FALL FUNDRAISERS***

We will also be holding two fundraisers this fall!

**Cristoline Product Catalog Sales** will begin ***October 1st and run through October 19th*** - this was our biggest profit last year, earning in profit alone over \$8,000! Great selection of 126 items consisting of gifts and chocolates! Also included is a “Grand Café” insert which is a delicious assortment of snacks, appetizers, cheesecakes, cookie dough, gourmet cakes and Auntie Anne’s Pretzels/Pretzel Dogs – all could be put in the freezer and served during the holidays!

We also have our artwork fundraiser - this year we decided to try out a new company that offered a better variety of product as well as quality of product - the students have already completed their artwork in class – we are in the process of having “customized” brochures made for each student! The new company is **SQUARE 1 ART** and the artwork catalogs will be sent home ***October 29th*** and all order forms will be due back in school by ***November 9th*** to ensure that we have the products back by the holidays! These make wonderful Christmas presents! We think this is a good start to the new school year and look forward to working with everyone throughout the school year!

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### ***SAVE THE DATES!***

As always, we are doing our best to ensure that the students have some fun activities to look forward to! Here are just a few (save the dates):

**Thursday (October 18th):** Scholastic Book Fair / Bag2School Donation Day

**Friday Night (October 26th):** No Trix / Just Treats Event

**Saturday (December 1st):** 3rd Annual Winter Wonderland

Volunteer opportunities exist for each of the above - more information will be sent home closer to each event!

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If anyone has any questions, feedback, ideas, etc... Please contact [carverpto@hotmail.com](mailto:carverpto@hotmail.com) (this email is checked daily throughout the school year)! We do NOT check the voicemail often so email is the best way to reach us! You can also like us on Facebook and get updates / make comments that way too!

***As always, thank you for supporting Carver Elementary PTO!***

## Carver Public Library – Calendar of Events

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
<p><b>October 2</b></p> <p>Toddler Storytime, Ages 3 &amp; under, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Preteen Craft: Braided Yarn Octopus, Ages 8+, please register, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>October 3</b></p> <p>Preschool Storytime, Ages 3 to 5, drop-in, 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>October 4</b></p> <p>Family Game Night: Apples to Apples All ages, please register 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>October 6</b></p> <p>Library Closed for holiday weekend.</p>
<p><b>October 9</b></p> <p>Toddler Storytime, Ages 3 &amp; under, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Acorn Necklace Craft Ages 5+, drop-in, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>October 10</b></p> <p>Preschool Storytime,  Ages 3 to 5, 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>October 11</b></p> <p>Social Skills Group, must register, 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>Eggs-Act Addition Math Game, Grades k to 3, drop- in, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>May 12</b></p> <p>Fall Window Painting All ages, please register, 11:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>October 16</b></p> <p>Toddler Storytime, Ages 3 &amp; under, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Foliage Art, All ages, drop-in, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>October 17</b></p> <p>Preschool Storytime,  Ages 3 to 5, 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>October 18</b></p> <p>Spark the Storyweaver, join Spark from King Richard's Faire in an interactive storytelling program for the whole family, drop-in, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>October 20</b></p> <p>Fall Fairy &amp; Gnome Houses (weather permitting) All ages, drop-in, 11:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>October 23</b></p> <p>Toddler Storytime, Ages 3 &amp; under, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Nature Name Plaque Ages 6+, please register, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>October 24</b></p> <p>Preschool Storytime,  Ages 3 to 5, 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>October 25</b></p> <p>Social Skills Group, must register, 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>Gothic Sock Puppets Ages 8+, must register, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>October 27</b></p> <p>Halloween Costume Parade &amp; Trick-or-Treat, All Ages, drop-in, 11:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>October 30</b></p> <p>Toddler Storytime, Ages 3 &amp; under, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Make-it, Take it Craft Stick Mummy All ages, drop-in, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>October 31</b></p> <p>Slightly Spooky Costume Storytime, come dressed up today for some fun stories and songs, 10:30 a.m.</p>		

## **Carver Elementary School - Lunch Menu**

### **Monday, 10/1/12**

Wholegrain French toast w/syrup  
Oven roasted sweet potato home "fries"  
Baked turkey sausage  
Cinnamon applesauce

Chicken Caesar Salad  
with croutons and light dressing

### **Tuesday, 10/2/12**

Hamburger on a wheat bun  
Romaine and tomato  
BBQ baked beans  
Baby carrots, Fruit cup

Greek Salad  
Wheat pita & light dressing

### **Wednesday, 10/3/12**

Italian meatballs in a wheat sub roll  
Broccoli and cheese  
Fresh apple

Tuna salad in a wheat roll

### **Thursday, 10/4/12**

THE MAXX Whole grain pizza square  
(cheese or pepperoni)  
Tossed salad with baby spinach  
Lime sherbet cup

### **Friday, 10/5/12**

Teacher Professional Day – No Lunches Served

### **Monday, 10/8/12**

No School – Columbus Day

### **Tuesday, 10/9/12**

Homemade chicken noodle soup  
Carrot and celery sticks  
Whole grain pretzel  
Cheese stick, fruit cup

Crispy chicken wrap w/ranch  
Tossed salad w/romaine

### **Wednesday, 10/10/12**

Baked chicken tenders  
Seasoned rice, peas  
Wheat dinner roll  
Pineapple tidbits

Greek salad  
with wheat pita bread

### **Thursday, 10/11/12**

Hot dog in a wheat bun  
Side of vegetarian chili  
Steamed carrots, Orange wedges

BLT on wheat bread  
Tossed salad with romaine

### **Friday, 10/12/12**

Sal's wholegrain pizza (cheese or pepperoni)  
Tossed salad with romaine  
Diced pears

### **Alternate Choice Lunches for Grades 1- 5**

Garden Salad with soup of the day  
Whole Wheat Bagel  
Smucker's Uncrustables

### **All Lunches Included**

Choice of TruMoo Fat Free Chocolate  
or 1% white Milk, 100% juice/fruit

Menus are subject to change up availability of products

Available for purchase separately – milk \$.50, 8 oz. bottle of water \$.75

Free or Reduced Priced Meal Applications are available in the school office, [www.carver.org](http://www.carver.org)  
or by calling (508) 866-6137