



Carver Coyote Newsletter

October 2014



“Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere.” Chinese proverb

Dear Families,

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We are happy to share that we have had a great start to the school year. The students are getting off the school buses each morning with big smiles on their faces! They are greeted by the principal, the associate principals and other teachers on the bus circle. From the circle, the students head directly to the EKW or the GJC gymnasium depending on the location of their classroom. The students report to their classrooms at 8:15 where they are greeted by their teacher; they then start their day with a morning meeting. We are all enjoying implementation of the 'Morning Meeting' component of the Responsive Classroom. Ask your child to share some of the great activities learned during morning meeting.

Once again, our Open House was extremely well attended by many families! 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. Many families participated in our Passport to Education. Our intention with the Passport was to continue to encourage participation and to allow parents and families an opportunity to become acquainted with our specialists and support staff. Thank you for making an effort to be here! This year we had two 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; they are Mrs. Barker and Mrs. Johnson. Both classrooms will be rewarded with a pizza party. There were 5 names drawn for the Passport to Education raffle. Congratulations to the following winners of the drawing: Eric Lunnin, Jen Carol, Diana Banville, Jenn Toomey, Kim Martin and Matthew/Christine Thomas. Please come by the school to collect your family prize.

Student Interns

This school year we are fortunate to have 15 high school seniors interning at Carver Elementary. The students are: Kelsey Berg, Cassidy Brown, Andrew Garland, Caleigh Garren, Leah Gould, Madeline Marino, Alyssa Mackenzie, Nicole Orlando, Brittani Pouilot, Samantha Podielsky, Samantha Rudnik, Julia Scarafone, Faith Shanley, Lynne Spinetto, and Kelsey Waitt. We are thrilled to have them working with us!

Calendar of Events



October is Bus Safety Month

Monday, 10/6/14	Carver School Committee Meeting, 7 pm, MLLC
Friday, 10/10/14	No School – Teacher Professional Development Day
Monday, 10/13/14	Columbus Day – No School
Monday, 10/20/14	School Council Meeting, 3:00 pm, EKW Conference Room
Monday, 10/20/14	2:00 & 6:30 pm, Volunteer Training, GJC Cafeteria
Thursday, 10/23/14	Early Release Day – 11:45 am dismissal; lunches are not served
Thursday, 10/23/14	Parent/Teacher Conferences (by appointment)
Thursday, 10/23/14	Scholastic Book Fair, EKW Gymnasium, 8 am – 8 pm
Sunday, 11/2/14	Daylight Savings Time Ends

NEW TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Mrs. Margie Sullivan graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in Early Childhood Education. Early in her teaching career, she was head teacher for a preschool in Braintree. She then took several years off to raise her three boys. She returned to education in the Carver Public Schools starting as a parent volunteer. She continued as a special education paraprofessional and a long-term substitute kindergarten teacher before obtaining her present position as a kindergarten teacher. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with family, reading, and going to the movies.



Miss Caroline Listernick grew up in Duxbury and graduated from Duxbury High School in 2010. She graduated from Wheelock College in Boston with honors obtaining a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Early Childhood Education and Performing Arts. While at Wheelock, she completed her student teaching in the Brookline Public Schools and participated in the Jumpstart Program. Her hobbies include shopping, going to the movies, relaxing on the beach, and attending concerts and musical theater productions.

Mrs. Darby Lewis remembers wanting to be a teacher since second grade. She earned her Masters of Education from Lesley University in 1999; and has been in an educational setting ever since. For the past two years, Mrs. Lewis was a paraprofessional at the Carver Elementary School. This year, Mrs. Lewis returns to the classroom as a third grade teacher.



Miss Tara Barboza is the new Carver Elementary School art teacher. She is a recent graduate of UMass Dartmouth and is very excited to begin her first year of teaching. This year she will have students from grades K, 1 and 3 in her classroom. With her appreciation for education and her passion and knowledge of art, she will be dedicated to encouraging students, nurturing creative expression, and generating critical thinking strategies. She is looking forward to a wonderful year here in Carver!

Summer Reading Book Bingo 2014

Children who passed in a Summer Reading Bingo Board were celebrated during the second half of their regularly scheduled lunch. They received an award and a popsicle. They were recognized in front of the grade-level which we hope will increase our numbers next year. Students in grade 4 had the most participants!

- Grade 1-25 students
- Grade 2-37 students
- Grade 3- 34 students
- Grade 4-51 students
- Grade 5- 37 students

184 children read many books this summer! Each classroom was awarded 25 extra miles toward Read Across America/New England for every child that passed in a bingo board.

'We Love Our Schools' gift from Shaw's

Thank you to our local Shaw's grocery store. This past week, the Elementary school received \$400 as part of the Shaw's "We Love Our Schools" Campaign. Shaw's stores across New England are making \$125,000 in donations by adopting a local school. In an article posted last week, Shaw's president Jim Rice said "This is our way of saying thank you to all the educators who helped to prepare Shaw's employees to lead Shaw's stores and offices." This money will be used for teachers to purchase necessary items for their classrooms.

Preschool Screening

If you are a Carver resident and feel that your preschooler, age 2 1/2 to 5 (just before kindergarten), has special needs, please contact the Carver pre-school and schedule a screening. Screenings are generally held on the first Friday of the month throughout the school year. Please call Mrs. Blackden at 508-866-6307 or Mrs. Wethington 508-866-6403 to schedule a screening or to address any questions.

Preschool Screening Schedule for 2014-2015. The remaining dates are:
October 3, November 7, December 5, January 9, February 6, March 6, April 10, May 1 and
June 5

Read Across America

The Carver Elementary School Coyotes' *Read Across America* program is in its third year. This year the Carver Coyotes are reading across New England from a family oriented destination and/or historic destination. Grades K-5 participates by keeping weekly logs of minutes read by individual students. At the end of the week the logs are turned in and the whole class is credited a tenth of mile for every 20 minutes read. The students in winning homerooms in each grade level K-5 get a coupon from the local sponsoring business. The plan is to announce the winning homerooms and distribute the awards/coupons during the *Caught Being Good* assembly held in late spring 2015. New this year we are asking teachers and students for input on destinations.

Math Intervention

Carver Elementary School is currently implementing the 2011 MA Frameworks and the Everyday Math Curriculum created by the University of Chicago School Mathematics Project. This curriculum has allowed us to respond to one of our School Improvement Plan goals of improving mathematics instruction, K-5.

As we continue to follow a Response To Intervention (RTI) model at the Carver Elementary School, small-group intervention services will be available for qualifying students in grades 1-5. In September, students were assessed using CBM (Curriculum-based measure) and Everyday Math Assessments. Using this data, students who need extra support in specific target areas will be placed in a small group with other students needing the same skill-based instruction for 30 minutes each day.

We believe this initiative will increase our students' math skills by targeting instructional level support. Students will begin participating in math intervention services on October 1st. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 508-866-6287 or kelleyj@carver.org. As we move forward with our mathematics plan, we look forward to improving mathematics instruction for all students.

Halloween Safety Talk

The administrative team of Mrs. Maestas, Mrs. Foley and Mrs. Agashe will be providing Halloween Safety information during student lunch blocks on October 22nd and 24th. The Halloween Safety talk will include child friendly tips for trick-or-treat safety.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

For your planning purposes, conferences will be held on Thursday, October 23rd. 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 20 at 3:00 P.M. We currently have one parent vacancy on the council. If you are interested in being on the School Council, please call the school to let us know by October 8. According to state law, candidates must be voted into the council by parents. An election will be held by the Parent Teacher Organization during the week of October 14th. The School Council 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 Julie Kennedy and our community representative is Cheryl Weston. Our meetings are open meetings therefore all are welcome to attend.

Family Directory

Thanks to Mrs. Kelly Yenulevich and Mrs. Pauline Lopez for compiling the Family Directory for the 2014-2015 school year. You will receive a family directory if you sent in the form. 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, we ask that you do not send home birthday invitations through school. Thank you for your cooperation.

Morning Drop-off Reminder

Drop-offs begin at 8:05 A.M. and the gate closes at 8:15. Anyone dropping off after 8:15 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. Late arrivals will be considered tardy and will be reflected in the attendance section of your child's report card.

Attendance Policy Information

In the event that a child will be absent for the day, parents or guardians are expected to call the school office by 9:30 AM. Parents and guardians must furnish the school with a home, work or other emergency telephone number where they can be contacted during the school day. Parents will be contacted within three (3) days of the student's absence if the Parent or Guardian has not contacted the school regarding an absence.

The school office number is 508-866-6210 (grades PK-2)

The school office number is 508-866-6220 (grades 3-5)

The 2014-15 handbook can be found at www.carver.org.

Volunteering at Carver Elementary School

Anyone wanting to volunteer in any capacity at the Carver Elementary School is welcomed. Remember you must complete a volunteer application, a CORI form and attend one of our annual mandatory volunteer trainings, even if you are chaperoning a field trip. The next training will be held on Monday, October 20, 2014 at 2:00 and 6:30 pm in the GJC cafeteria. If you plan on attending, please call the office to reserve a spot. The CORI process can be completed through the Superintendent's office or at the main office of the EKW building. You will need identification for the process.

Home Alone/Babysitting Course at Carver Public Library

The Carver Public Library will be offering the free Home Alone/Babysitting Class to those who are age 11 and older again this fall. The class will meet on 5 consecutive Tuesday evenings from 6:30 – 7:30 beginning Tuesday, September 30th and ending Tuesday, October 28th. The class is for those who wish to learn about babysitting as well as for those who stay home alone. There will be guest speakers covering topics such as fire safety, personal safety, nutrition, child development and activities. The class will be held in the Small Meeting Room. Registration is required. Please call the library at 508-866-3415 to sign up.

Weekly Storytimes

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. – Toddler Storytimes, ages 3.5 and under meet for stories, songs and activities.

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. – Preschool Storytime, ages 3.5 to 5 meet for stories, songs and related activities.

Shredded Lit

Guess which book is in the jar – Throughout October

Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 4th, 11:00 a.m. – All ages, please register. Enjoy some root beer, pretzel-making, games and crafts.

Lego Workshop

Tuesday, October 7th at 6:30 p.m. – All ages, drop-in.

Starburst Bracelets

Thursday, October 9th at 6:30 p.m. – Ages 5 and up, please register.

Fast Track Marble Run

Tuesday, October 14th at 6:30 p.m. – Ages 5 and up, drop-in. *Bring your own cereal box if you can!

Make-it, Take-it: Halloween Pennants

Thursday, October 16th at 6:30 p.m. – Ages 4 and up, drop-in.

Highland Games (weather permitting)

Saturday, October 18th at 11:00 a.m. – Join us for the library edition of the traditional Scottish games. Toss some haggis and cabers, participate in tug of war and sack races, and compete to show your strength and agility.

Pumpkin Spice Dough

Tuesday, October 21st at 6:30 p.m. – All ages, drop-in.

Monster Jaws

Thursday, October 23rd at 6:30 p.m. – Ages 5 and up, please register.

Halloween Gingerbread Monster Decorating

Saturday, October 25th at 11:00 a.m. – All ages, must register. *Please note this activity involves food, beware of allergies.

Ghoulish Golf

Tuesday, October 28th from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. – All ages, drop-in.

Trick-or-Treat

Friday, October 31 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Drop by the library in your costume for a special trick-or-treat.



Carver Elementary School Lunch Menu

October 2014

Lunch Price: \$2.25

<u>Monday, 9/29</u> French toast sticks w/syrup Sausage links Sweet potato coins 100% apple juice cup Chilled Applesauce Chicken Caesar Salad	<u>Tuesday, 9/30</u> Chicken Patty/wheat bun Plain or buffalo Lettuce & tomato Potato puffs Chilled Peaches Chicken Caesar Salad	<u>Wednesday, 10/1</u> Ham & Cheese Wrap Reduced Fat Doritos Veggie sticks/dip Chilled fruit cup Chicken Caesar Salad	<u>Thursday, 10/2</u> <u>Pizza Day is now</u> <u>Thursday</u> Sal's Pizza Cheese or pepperoni Fresh spinach salad Roasted chick peas Chilled pears	<u>Friday, 10/3</u> Tuna on a wheat roll Pickles Baby carrots w/dip Red. Fat Cape Cod chips Fresh apple Chicken Caesar Salad
<u>Monday, 10/6</u> Toasted cheese sandwich Chicken noodle soup Carrot sticks Fresh apple Buffalo chicken salad	<u>Tuesday, 10/7</u> Popcorn chicken bites Potato wedges Corn Fresh banana Buffalo chicken salad	<u>Wednesday, 10/8</u> Nacho Platter Seasoned beef/cheddar Shredded lettuce & tomato Salsa/tortilla chips Chilled pineapple chunks Buffalo chicken salad	<u>Thursday, 10/9</u> <u>Pizza Day is now</u> <u>Thursday</u> Stuffed crust pizza Cheese or pepperoni Fresh tossed salad Roasted chick peas Chilled pears	<u>Friday, 10/10</u> Teacher Professional Day No School
<u>Monday, 10/13</u> Columbus Day No School	<u>Tuesday, 10/14</u> Chicken Nuggets Baked sweet potato fries Steamed broccoli Fresh banana Teriyaki Chicken Salad	<u>Wednesday, 10/15</u> Baked macaroni & cheese Fresh spinach salad W/G dinner roll Chilled pineapple chunks Teriyaki chicken salad	<u>Thursday, 10/16</u> <u>Pizza Day is now</u> <u>Thursday</u> Sal's Pizza Cheese or buffalo chicken Fresh tossed salad Roasted chick peas Chilled pears	<u>Friday, 10/17</u> Burger on a bun With or without cheese Reduced fat Cape Cod Chips Lettuce, tomato & pickles Fruit Cup Teriyaki Chicken Salad
<u>Monday, 10/20</u> Brunch for Lunch w/g pancakes w/syrup Baked sausage links Sweet potato bites Cinnamon applesauce Greek Salad	<u>Tuesday, 10/21</u> Crispy chicken tenders Potato puffs Steamed carrots Wheat dinner roll Fresh apple Greek Salad	<u>Wednesday, 10/22</u> Beef taco/soft shell Lettuce & cheddar cheese Seasoned rice/corn Salsa & bean dip Chilled peaches Greek Salad	<u>Thursday, 10/23</u> Early Release Day Lunches are not served	<u>Friday, 10/24</u> Sal's Pizza Cheese or pepperoni Fresh tossed salad Chilled fruit cup
<u>Monday, 10/27</u> Chicken & Rice soup W/G baked soft pretzel Cheese stick/baby carrots Fresh apple Teriyaki chicken salad	<u>Tuesday, 10/28</u> Chicken nuggets Seasoned rice Peas Fresh banana Teriyaki Chicken Salad	<u>Wednesday, 10/29</u> Meatballs in sauce Wheat sub roll Fresh spinach salad Fresh apple Teriyaki chicken salad	<u>Thursday, 10/30</u> <u>Pizza day is now</u> <u>Thursday</u> French Bread Pizza Cheese or pepperoni Fresh tossed salad Chilled pears	<u>Friday, 10/31</u> Hot dog in a roll BBQ baked beans Fresh veggie sticks Chilled fruit cup Teriyaki chicken salad

Daily Choices

- Choice 1 – WG Honey Wheat Bagel
w/cream cheese, cheese stick & salad
 - Choice 2 – Garden salad w/dressing
Cheese stick, croutons and fruit
 - Choice 3 – *Smucker's Uncrustable*, with side
Salad and fruit
 - Choice 4 – Assorted WG cereals w/cheese stick
And fruit
- All meals include choice of milk
 (1% low fat or Tru-Moo fat free chocolate milk)
 A' la carte milk \$.50
 Meals are subject to change upon availability of Product.

Nutrikids

To register for Nutrikids, watch daily transactions, check balances and make online prepayments, please visit:

www.myschoolbucks.com

At school prepayments: please make checks payable to: **CPS Meal Program**. Please include student id# on check. Free and reduced applications are available on the school website (www.carver.org). Applications can be filled out anytime during the school year. Return completed application to:
 Carver Public Schools – Food Services
 3 Carver Square Boulevard, Carver, MA 02330
 Contact Kathleen Farrar (farrark@carver.org).

Report to PARENTS

Maximize Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are an excellent opportunity for families to meet with teachers one-on-one and learn how their children are doing academically and socially. To make these meetings as smooth and stress-free as possible, follow these tips for conference preparation, execution, and follow-up.

Before the Conference

Listen. If you hear your child talking about something he or she is doing well in or is struggling with, make a note of it. When it's time for the conference, you'll have a list of topics to discuss.

Ask. Sit down with your child and ask him or her about school. Ask what's happening in class, at lunchtime, or in special classes such as art or physical education. Does your child enjoy classroom activities? Does your child feel like he or she is falling behind academically? Is he or she bored? Are there any troubling issues with classmates? Try asking your child what he or she thinks their teacher is going to tell you about them.

Assemble 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 tactfully bring up concerns.

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.

Make childcare arrangements. Maximize your time with teachers by hiring a babysitter or teaming up with another parent to take turns watching the children.

Take notes. Make note of what the teacher tells you about your child. Bring up your concerns, making sure to explore strengths, weaknesses, and social skills.

Keep emotions out of it. It is always difficult to hear that your child may not be 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. Tell your child 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 arranging counseling for your child, make sure to follow up in writing with the teacher soon after the conference. Specify what steps will be taken, what your responsibilities and the school's responsibilities will be, and what the timetable is for action.

Meet with your principal. If, after conferring with your child's teacher, you still feel that serious issues weren't adequately addressed, set up a time to talk to the guidance counselor or principal.

Follow through. Once you know what you can do at home to help your child succeed in school, make sure to actually do it.



Web Resources

Scholastic Parent offers a round-up of resources on school involvement, including advocating for your student and how to bridge home and school.
<http://bit.ly/19J4bqO>

Ask these specific questions from **Reading Rockets** in your parent-teacher conference to gauge your child's reading skills.
<http://www.readingrockets.org/article/19842/>

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