



The Staples Scoop



October 15th, 2011



CALENDAR @ A GLANCE

Week of Oct. 17	Fall Book Fair; 9 am – 5 pm, Small Gym
Thurs., Oct. 20	PTA Welcome Coffee; 9 am; Cafetorium
Fri., Oct. 21	School Spirit Day; "Uniforms of Character"; School Store Open 11:30 am – 2:30 pm
Thurs., Oct. 27	EARLY DISMISSAL; Prof. Development; 1 pm; (HKMS at 12:10 pm)
Mon., Oct. 31	Halloween Parades
Wed., Nov. 9	EARLY DISMISSAL; Prof. Development; 1 pm
Mon., Nov. 14	Annual "Turkey Trot" Food Collection
Tues., Nov. 15	Easton Board of Ed Meeting; 7:30 pm; HKMS

THE PRINCIPAL'S SCOOP by Kim Fox-Santora

Thoughtful discussions and new learning can best characterize how our day was spent during the Professional Development Day on October 7th. With multiple work sessions happening concurrently, everyone benefitted from this time.

Teachers in Grades 3-5 worked with a consultant, Dr. Kristina Elias-Staron, on teaching grammar, revising, and editing using the new Common Core State Standards. After teachers explored the scope and sequence for teaching parts of speech, they learned techniques for manipulating grammar and sentence structure as a way to improve writing in students. Validating a practice that we regularly use, Dr. Elias-Staron reminded teachers that good literature includes the best models for good language use. Some of our favorite K-2 read-alouds were recommended to be used again in 3-5 classrooms, and a few new titles were shared for their rich use of vocabulary. We also learned that the University of Pittsburgh researched the power of imitating the structure (grammatical order) of great writers, and they found that writing improved exponentially through imitation of published author's structure. Teachers' repertoire of teaching strategies increased as a result of this wonderful workshop.

Teachers in Grades K-2 worked with math specialist, Stephanie Holroyd, on identifying the teaching implications in math as a result of the rigor added in the Common Core. Some of their discussion was focused on this notion of persistence and helping students to become persistent problem solvers. Teachers learned approaches for guiding students to make sense of the math that they are learning without giving away too much information. Teachers also reviewed units of study that our state department has created as guidelines for curriculum development and made comparisons with our existing curriculum resources.

Our music and art teachers worked with their counterparts in Redding, comparing their curriculum audits and aligning the areas where there were gaps. The P.E. and Media teachers used this time to complete their curriculum audit for Grades K-5. Our school psychologists attended the second day of a training on Functional Behavioral Assessments and creating Behavior Support Plans offered by staff from the Center for Children with Special Needs. Kimberly Simon, Board Certified Behavior Analyst, conducted the session at SSES.

"Uniforms of Character Day" is The Theme for Next School Spirit Day, Oct. 21st

Grade 5 decided that they would like the spirit day to reflect character education (the topic of their town meeting). They thought it would be a great idea if the students came to school dressed as the color of their *favorite character trait* (Honesty = light blue) and perhaps wear name tags that say, "Hello, I'm Honesty."

Time for “Turkey Trot” + Food Bank Week

This year our annual Turkey Trot will be Monday, Nov. 14th from 2:40-3:15. Each student is asked to donate one non-perishable food item (their ticket to trot) at the beginning of the event. K-2 students will trot on the lower field, while Grades 3-5 will trot on the upper field. All of the food will be donated to the Easton Senior Center, and with the help of Easton, Redding, and Joel Barlow students, will be made into 75 food baskets for needy local families.

The week of November 14-18 will be **Food Bank Week** – we ask our school community to fill the base of the lobby staircase with donated food so that the food bank has a reserve supply..



Nurse Notes by Carolyn Kearney, R.N.

Whenever possible, medications should be given at home. However, if medication needs to be administered at school:

1. A *Drug Administration Form* must be completed by you and your child’s physician.
2. New this year: If your child needs an occasional dose of Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen you can sign an *Administration of Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen Form* -- (it does not require a physician’s signature). We will make every attempt to reach a parent before administering the medication.

Both forms are available online. Go to SSES’ webpage and click on “Ask the Nurse” then on the “Resource” link.

The Halloween Scoop

Come one come all and enjoy the Halloween parades on Monday, Oct. 31st in the traffic loop in front of the school. Pre-school to Grade 2 will be from 9:30 - 10 am, and Grades 3-5 will march from 10:30 – 11 am. **A reminder that costumes with blood, gore or weapons are always prohibited.** For parents, grandparents and other spectators, Easton SEPTA (Special Ed PTA) will again be selling baked goods and hot coffee, tea and cocoa.



SAMUEL STAPLES PRE-SCHOOL IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR OUR 2012-2013

3- AND 4-YEAR OLD FULL-DAY PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

For more information, please contact sbarnard@eastonps.org or (203) 459-9689

THE PTA SCOOP

PTA Welcome Coffee

Are you a new parent to SSES? Or perhaps you’re not so new, but would like to come and find out “all the things you wanted to know but did not know whom to ask.” Please join us on Thursday, Oct. 20th at 9 am in the SSES Cafetorium.

Please Join the PTA

The form is at <http://www.eastonpta.com>. *Can't remember if you joined or not?* Contact Caryn Jack (carynjack2@optonline.net). The new student directory is on the presses – don't miss out on your free copy! Join the PTA today.



SSES Fall Book Fair is Next Week! "Reading Is Out of This World!" Oct. 17 – 21 from 9 am -5 pm in Small Gym

Come explore the large selection of books and find great reads for every person in your family. Your student should have brought home a schedule, with the times that his/her class will PREVIEW the books, and then return back to the fair to purchase books. Students can also purchase books from their teacher's "wish list". Parents and grandparents are welcome to come by to assist their student or to do some early shopping for the holidays! **Gift certificates make great gifts for all those**

October birthdays, and are available by contacting Beth Gomolak bethbg@optonline.net. Would you like to help out at the Book Fair for a morning or an afternoon or just a couple of hours? Please contact Beth or Jeanine jeaninejones@optonline.net.

Fall Fundraiser Update

We are very pleased to announce that we have exceeded our Fall Fundraising goal of \$10,000 in profit. A big **thank you** to all of the SSES and HKMS parents who either ordered from Innisbrook or gave a donation. Your support will allow us to continue to fund the many programs we provide to Easton students. We expect to have delivery in two weeks, so please be on the lookout for e-mails with information on pick-up dates and times.



School Store Open on Fri., Nov. 21st

The SSES school store will be open on October 21st, from 11:30 am -2:30 pm. Lots of new items for purchase! We will not be open in November, so shop now or you will have to wait until December! Who knew school supplies could be so much fun? We accept cash and checks made out to Easton PTA.

Vote for SSES! – We're Halfway to \$500!

Please help the PTA win \$500 just by signing up and voting in the Better School Bonanza on thedailyeaston.com! We need 500 votes by 10/28, and we're just over halfway there!

Visit: <http://www.thedailyeaston.com/promotion/bsb/fairfield>

You can vote once daily after you sign up on the website. We appreciate your help!



Pumpkin Patch at SSES

Sport Hill Farm will again be selling pumpkins grown in the fields they lease in front of SSES on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 am to 5 pm through October 30th. A percentage of sales benefits the Easton PTA and ELF, so please consider purchasing your pumpkins there.

Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program

Through March 29, 2012, SSES will have the opportunity to earn cash through your purchases at Stop & Shop. All you have to do is grab your Stop & Shop Rewards card and either:

1. Go to www.stopandshop.com/aplus; or
2. Call 1-877-275-2758 to register your card over the phone



Even if you registered your card last year, you must re-register for SSES to receive credit. Your grocery receipt will tell you how many points you've earned for SSES. *Peapod purchases count, too!* At the end of the program, SSES will receive a check to be used for any of our school's educational needs. Samuel Staples Elementary School's ID is #05774. Also, don't forget to encourage friends and grandparents to register their cards, too.

Welcome New Students and Parents

At SSES we participate in three different label programs: **Box Tops for Education, Campbell's Labels for Education, Tyson Project A+ Label Collection Program.** These programs provide SSES with either cash or points for free supplies. Please help us by saving the labels from the items you have in your home or that you purchase. Please turn them in to your teacher in an envelope or ziplocks, making sure you write your teacher's name. The top earning class for each program will earn a party at the end of the school year.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

We have more products than ever before. New products this year are: Avery, Juicy Juice, Green Giant Lettuce, Ziploc baggies, Old El Paso, and much more. Check the list at www.boxtops4education.com. Please remember to check for expired labels and do not cut the date otherwise they will be invalid.



CAMPBELL'S LABELS FOR EDUCATION

You can now earn 5 points when you save proof of purchase from over 150 products; (ie. V8 Splash, Campbell's Supper Bake and select Campbell's soup). Check the website www.labelsforeducation.com for the entire list. Remember please send in only the UPCs from the soup cans, Pepperidge Farm breads, Dannone yogurt, Goldfish crackers--the only exception are the V8 Splash Juice and Smoothies which only the LID is valid.



TYSON PROJECT A+ LABEL COLLECTION PROGRAM

Tyson Labels also now appear in their bacon products. Please remember to send in the entire box bottom. In the case of the family size plastic bags please send in the entire end piece with the logo intact. You can visit their website at www.ProjectAplus.tyson.com.



THE TOWN SCOOP

Easton Clean Energy Task Force Plans Electronics Recycling Collection

Easton residents can properly dispose of unwanted electronics on Saturday, Oct. 29 from 9 am to 2 pm in the parking lot behind Samuel Staples Elementary School.

Residents can recycle anything that plugs in or needs a battery, including the plugs and batteries, e.g. computer monitors, towers, laptops, keyboards and mice; cell phones; fax machines; stereos; speakers; telephones; TVs; plasma, CRT and LCD screens; copy machines; calculators; and household appliances. The company protects the "identity" of a recycled computer's owner by securely erasing all data left on the machines, "within the standards of the Department of Defense, five times over."

The collection, being handled by West Haven-based eReclaim, is sponsored by the Easton Clean Energy Task Force, in conjunction with Girl Scout Troup 31173 and the Joel Barlow High School Boys Hockey Team. The Easton Public Works Department is helping to oversee the event.

The Joel Barlow Boys Hockey team will be at the drop-off site to remove old electronic items from residents' cars for them. (They will also gratefully accept any monetary donations for their team.) For information call eReclaim at 203-687-4445 or go to e-reclaim.com.

At the ECC - To sign up for any of the below, call the Easton Community Center at 203-459-9700.

- **Haunted Hallway (not scary):** Monday, October 31st from 3:30-5:30 pm. Trick-or-treating in the hallways, bouncy slide – an Easton tradition for little people.
- **Pub Night:** For adults, to benefit the ECC; Sat., Nov. 5th. \$40 per person. Tickets at <http://eccpubnight.eventbrite.com>

Easton Historical Society of Hosts Free Lecture on Stone Carvers

“Our History in Stone, The New England Carvers”, Saturday, October 22nd at 2PM, Easton Library Community Room. The HSE will host guest lecturer, Christina Eriques, author her new book; “Our History in Stone, The New England Carvers”. Christina unlocks the meaning behind the symbols on graveyard stones and provides us with the names of the artists who carved their art in stone. No reservations necessary. Information: (203) 581-0850 or HSEastonCT@gmail.com, Website: www.facebook.com/hseastonct

- Joel Barlow High School presents Catwalk for the Cure to benefit Norma Pfriem Breast Center; Sun., Oct. 23rd from 6-9 pm at Brooklawn Country Club. For more info: bmgord@bpthosp.org
- ELF’s Cocktail Party and Silent Auction is Saturday, Dec. 3rd at Aspetuck Valley Country Club. We welcome items for our silent auction. For more info: mkarenobrien@yahoo.com



The Scoop Scoop

The Scoop is published the 1st and the 15th of every month, Sept. 15 through June 1.

Please submit any information – in MS Word format -- by a minimum of three days prior to publication.

The Scoop is distributed by SSES’ email Listserv. To add or change your Listserv information go to www.er9.org/sses/ and click on “Join Our Listserv”. *The Scoop and the SSES Office do not update the Listserv, but please be sure to inform the school office of any changes to your email address.*

Questions and submissions to Cathy Dunsby at ssesscoop@yahoo.com



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