



The Staples Scoop



September 15th, 2011



CALENDAR @ A GLANCE

Fri., Sept. 16	School Spirit Day; Wear SSSES Colors! – <i>School store is open</i>
Sat., Sept. 17	ELF Used Sporting Goods Super Sale; 9 am – 3 pm; HKMS Tennis Courts
Tues., Sept. 20	Picture Day
Wed., Sept. 21	Parent Back to School Night for Pre-K – Grade 2; 7 pm
Thurs., Sept. 22	Parent Back to School Night for Grades 3 -5; 7 pm
Fri., Sept. 23	EARLY DISMISSAL – Professional Development; 1 pm; (HKMS at 12:10 pm)
Fri., Sept. 23	PTA Family Fun Night; 6 pm; Bow Tie Cinemas, Trumbull
Thurs., Sept. 29	NO SCHOOL – Rosh Hashanah
Fri., Sept. 30	Summer Reading Celebration; 2:45 – 3:15 pm
Fri., Oct. 7	NO SCHOOL – Staff Development Day
Mon., Oct. 10	NO SCHOOL – Columbus Day
Week of Oct. 17	Fall Book Fair; 9 am – 5 pm, Small Gym
Thurs., Oct. 27	EARLY DISMISSAL; Prof. Development; 1 pm; (HKMS at 12:10 pm)

THE PRINCIPAL'S SCOOP by Kim Fox-Santora

As Principal, I have the good fortune of visiting many classrooms, and based on the enthusiasm I have observed since school opened, our students appear to have adjusted well to the opening of school. I see bright smiles and eager participation in many different settings. I look forward to sharing with you each accomplishment that your children will surely experience.

In addition to all of our kindergarten students, we registered 24 new students in Grades 1-5. There are several new friendships emerging which I hope find their way into dinner conversation at home. Just as I am sure that you do at home, we talk a lot about maintaining good friendships and making room for some new ones. In just a few days, teachers have shared many thoughtful moments when they have noticed welcoming gestures of kindness. On behalf of the teachers, I extend my gratitude to you for supporting these new friendships.

As professionals, you might be interested in knowing that we are experiencing some new connections, as well. We have some new faces on staff that I look forward to introducing to you personally at Back-to-School Night. Each new person has already added new energy and excitement to the school climate. We are fortunate to have hired such strong and capable professionals.

Open, two-way communication remains one of my highest priorities. Talking with parents about matters that are important to the school and the children are best received when we have a relationship; forging those relationships is an essential part of my work in September. If you have not yet included the dates of my Principal's Coffees into your calendar, I encourage you to do so. I host many coffees in September (*editor's note: remaining Sept. coffees are listed below*) and monthly coffees thereafter. These gatherings are a great way for us to learn about each other and exchange ideas about what we value with regard to educational practices.

Welcome back to Samuel Staples! It's going to be a great year!

Summer Reading Celebration

We will be celebrating our students' success with the Governor's Summer Reading Challenge outside on Friday, Sept. 30th. All students and staff are asked to bring in a beach towel and their favorite summer book. Classes will gather on the grass between the neighborhoods at 2:45 pm and share the highlights of their favorite summer story.



Remaining Principals' Coffees for September

Please join Kim Fox-Santora in the Cafetorium at 9:15 am, for following coffees scheduled specifically for the class or grade listed:

- 9/15: K-Giglio
- 9/16: K-Cox
- 9/19: Grade 1 Parents
- 9/20: Grade 2 Parents
- 9/21: Grade 3 Parents
- 9/22: Grade 4 Parents
- 9/23: Grade 5 Parents



2011 – 2012 Calendar

The finalized calendar for this school year is online at:

<http://www.er9.org/Calendars/RevisedApproved2011-2012SchoolCalendar.pdf>

Due to the delayed opening of school, the (tentative!) last day of school is Tues., June 19th, 2012.

THE PTA SCOOP

Meet Your PTA Executive Board:

- **SSES Co-President - Stephanie Frangenes:** This is Stephanie's second year on the board and has a daughter in 6th grade and a son in 3rd grade.
- **SSES Co-President - Sharon Stemme:** This is Sharon's third year on the board (one year as recording secretary and entering her second year as co-president) and has a son in 7th grade and a daughter in 4th grade.
- **HKMS Co-President - Ruth Straughn:** This is Ruth's first year on the board and she has a son in 6th grade and a daughter in 4th grade.
- **HKMS Co-President - Dona Zappulla:** This is Dona's first year on the board and she has a daughter in 9th grade, a son in 6th grade, a daughter in 4th grade, and a son in 1st grade.
- **Membership - Caryn Jack:** This is Caryn's first year on the board and she has a son in 4th grade and a daughter in 3rd grade.
- **Recording Secretary - Jill Jarvis:** This is Jill's second year on the board she and has a son in 1st grade and a two-year old daughter.
- **Corresponding Secretary - Melinda O'Brien:** This is Melinda's second year on the board and has daughters in 9th, 8th, and 5th grades and a son in 3rd grade.
- **Treasurer - Christine Eden:** This is Christine's first year on the board and she has a daughter in 6th grade and a son in 5th grade.
- **Treasurer - Cathie Gordon:** This is Cathie's second time being on the board; she was on several years ago as treasurer and has graciously agreed to take on the same position again. She has sons in 9th and 8th grade and a daughter in 7th grade.

We are excited to be your PTA board for the year, please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns, we look forward to a great year!

This Friday is our first **School Spirit Day**. Wear your SSES colors of **blue & yellow!** The School Store will be open from 11:30 am -2:30 pm. There are lots of new items, plus SSES favorites such as water bottles, plush dolphins, car stickers and more!

PTA Fall Fundraiser

You should have received an Innisbrook packet in your child's backpack, with a selection of wrapping paper, magazines, treats and more. **The PTA has reduced our number of fundraisers, but we really need to raise \$10,000 on this one to be able to maintain our level of support for the many programs we fund or subsidize at SSES and HKMS.** The cases outside the Cafetorium currently have samples of some of the many great products for sale. If you don't see anything you might like to order, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Easton PTA. The deadline for ordering is Sept. 28th. Questions to Robyn Katz Kornblatt or Rachel Rios at rachelrios01@sbcglobal.net.



From Oct. 6, 2011 through March 29, 2012, SSES will have the opportunity to earn cash through **Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program**. 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 this year 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.

Evening Benefits Outdoor Classroom in Memory of Joan Parker

"Fall into Fashion", a family-friendly event being planned by the Helen Keller student council, will be held on Fri., Oct. 14 from 7-9 pm at HKMS. The evening features a fashion show of students and teachers modeling trends generously provided by area clothiers, as well as sweets, treats, a silent auction and other entertainment. All proceeds benefit the development of an outdoor learning environment at HKMS, which was long the dream of beloved late principal Mrs. Parker. Tickets, which have a minimum donation of \$25, are available in the HKMS office or can be purchased at the door.



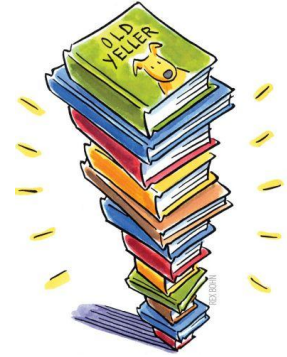
Please Keep Saving Labels

At SSES, we collect BoxTops for Education, Campbell's Labels for Education and Tyson's and redeem them for cash for our school. They are found on many of the products that you likely buy, so please keep an eye out for them, cut them out and send into the office in an envelope with your student and his or her teacher's name on it. Please send in any labels you collected over the summer to the office by tomorrow, Sept. 16, to be entered into our summer contest.

SSES Fall Book Fair -- 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. All the books have been carefully reviewed and approved for young readers. These books represent the best authors and illustrators in children's publishing.

Each class will have time to PREVIEW the books, complete a personal WISH LIST and then return back to the fair to purchase books. Students can also purchase books for their 'teachers wish list'. Parents and grandparents are welcome to come by and assist your child or to do some early shopping for the holidays!



Book Drive Update



Thank you to all who contributed books last spring to the very successful book collection for the United Way/Read-to-Grow Book Drive. **We collected 2,585 books – surpassing our lofty goal of 2,500 -- within two weeks, thanks to contributions from SSES and HKMS families, as well as the general Easton community.**

The project, coordinated by the Easton PTA, several SSES teachers and last year's 5th graders, benefited children in the Fairfield County area by providing new and gently used books to those who otherwise wouldn't have books for their summer reading. The United Way/Read-to-Grow's total goal for this summer reading program was 100,000 and they surpassed it by reaching 101,773, thanks in part to this tremendous contribution from Easton.

Easton SEPTA (Special Ed PTA)

If you have a child receiving special services, we invite you to be a part of our SEPTA. Please contact Stacy Varvaro pvsav@optonline.net for more information.

THE TOWN SCOOP

ELF Used Sporting Goods Mega-Sale is This Saturday
New This Year – Costumes!

Please continue dropping off your sports equipment and costumes in the lobby of the Easton Public Library, the ECC, SSES or HKMS, or at the "Pod" container at the HKMS tennis courts.

The sale will be at the HKMS tennis courts this Sat., Sept. 17th from 9 am to 3 pm. Early bird admission at 8 am for \$10. All proceeds will support the Easton Learning Foundation and benefit our teachers and students.

What to donate? Bikes, jog strollers, exercise equip., snow clothes and boots, dance clothing, skis, skates, rackets, playground toys, hockey, baseball, lacrosse, golf, tennis equipment, cleats...if you use it when you are sporting, we will take it! Please, no large plastic structures.



ELF's Cocktail Party and Silent Auction is Saturday, Dec. 3rd at Aspetuck Valley Country Club.

Save the Dates:

- The Easton Public Library's Annual Country Fair & Cow Chip Raffle is Sat. Sept. 24th from 1-4 pm. Featuring a pie-eating contest, apple pie back-off and much more. Buy a \$25 lawn square for a chance to win \$500.
- Jesse Lee's Fall Festival is Sat., Oct. 1st from 11am-2pm in the church parking lot. Carnival games & prizes, live children's music, touch a truck, face painting, food and more! \$5 admission per child (\$15 max) adults and children under 2 are free (price includes 5 tickets per family to play games).
- Easton Library Book Parade; Sat., Oct. 15
- The Easton Senior Center is accepting donations for their Oct. 16th tag sale. Please drop-off items between 7 am and 3:30 pm on weekdays.
- Catwalk for the Cure to benefit Norma Pfriem Breast Center; Sun., Oct. 23rd.



Historical Society of Easton Planning Two Fundraisers

For more information on the below, visit www.facebook.com/hseastonct, email HSEastonCT@gmail.com or call (203) 581-0850.

- Preview Art Show and Wine Tasting is this Sat., Sept. 17th, 7 – 10 pm. The art show will feature the beauty of our town's historic buildings and landscapes. Tickets are \$35 per person. Proceeds will benefit the restoration of the Bradley-Hubbell Barn.
- "Treasured Barns of Historic Easton" Barn Tour is Sept. 25 (raindate Oct. 2) from 10 am – 4 pm. Adult tickets are \$25; children are free.

Easton Not-for-Profits To Launch New Online Community Calendar

Representatives of all non-governmental civic, charitable, cultural, and political and citizen organizations are invited to attend a meeting on Sunday, October 16th, from 1-3 PM at the Easton Library Community Room. Local groups can use the online calendar to increase awareness and maximize visitor participation in their events. At this meeting representatives will also learn the benefits and features of the online calendar and how their group can participate in this initiative. No reservations necessary. Information: (203) 581-0850 or email EastonCommunityCalendar@gmail.com.

The Scoop Scoop

**The Scoop has a new publication schedule:
It will come out 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



Samuel Staples
Elementary School

515 Morehouse Rd.
Easton, CT 06612

phone: 261.3607
fax: 452.8403

Important Websites

www.samuelstaplesps.org

www.eastonpta.com

www.er9.org

Easton PTA Membership 2011-2012

Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers, and Staff:

We invite you to join The Easton PTA. The PTA provides many programs for the students of Samuel Staples and Helen Keller Schools. By becoming a member, you will assist in providing these programs and many other activities. For existing members, this is your opportunity to renew your membership. For families, teachers, and staff new to our school, now is your chance to join and become an active participant of the Easton PTA. We also realize that due to busy schedules, many people are not able to donate as much of their time to the PTA as they would like, but we still encourage you to become a member of the organization.

Why Become a Member?

- The proceeds go to support many programs at SSES and HKMS, some of which are listed below.
- You **must** be a member to be a room parent or to be a committee chairperson.
- Membership shows our children how much we care for and support our school.
- You will receive a complimentary Easton PTA, Student Directory 2011-2012.

Activities and Programs Supported by the PTA

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| • Enrichment Programs – \$1,000 per grade | • GR 5-8 Agenda Planner Notebooks |
| • Parent/Student Directory | • <i>Cougar Connection</i> – HKMS Newsletter |
| • Staples School Calendar | • Diversity Day |
| • Student Enrichment Events | • 2 nd Grade Play Productions |
| • <i>SCOOP</i> – SSES Newsletter | • Ice Cream Social |
| • Sport Events & Family Activity Nights | • School Store |
| • Parent Education | • Reflections |

Please mail or return your tax-deductible check payable to **Easton PTA** to Caryn Jack-Membership, 85 Norton Road. Attn: PTA Membership to help support 2011-2012 programs. Thank you.



Parent Name _____

Student Name(s) _____

Address _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

Annual Membership Levels:

\$15 family membership \$25 patron \$50 star \$100 superstar \$6 teacher

Parent/Guardian at: SSES HKMS BOTH

SSES Family Fun Night at the Movies

Friday, Sept. 23rd



The movie about Winter the dolphin is here!! As a school we learned all about Winter and her perseverance last year. Come and share this special night out at the movies with your family.

The PTA is planning to rent a private theater on opening night just for SSES families. Please turn in your forms asap (by 9/15) as we have to let the theater know our count in order to reserve the theater.

Please contact Sharon Stemme at sharonstemme@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

Where: Trumbull Bowtie Cinemas, Marquis 16, 100 Quarry Road

When: Friday, September 23rd at 6 pm

(movie will start promptly and is just under 2 hours long)

Please return bottom of form to the main office (via your child's backpack) with payment (checks made out to Easton PTA) by 9/15 in envelope marked PTA-Family Fun Night.

Name of Student _____

Teacher (so we can get tickets to you prior to show) _____

Number of Adult tickets at \$13.50 _____

Number of child tickets (ages 2-11) at \$10.50 _____

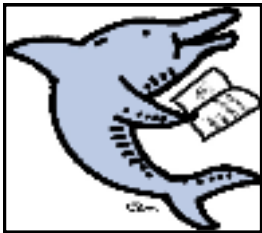
(Kids under 2 are free if they sit on your lap)

Please note the price is what the theater charges, the movie is in 3D, this is not a PTA fundraiser

Commemorate Your Child's Kindergarten Year with a Book!

Looking for a great way to mark the start of your child's elementary school years? Why not purchase a book for donation to the Samuel Staples Elementary School Media Center in their honor! Here's how it works:

1. Complete the form below and enclose a check for \$20.00, for each child being honored, made payable to the Easton PTA.
2. Place the form and check in an envelope marked **PTA Kindergarten Book** and send it to **ATTN: Amy Hauptman** at Samuel Staples Elementary School, 515 Morehouse Road.
3. To assure that there will be enough books available for every Kindergarten student being honored, all checks must be received by **Thursday, October 6**.
4. With the donated funds, the school librarian, Mrs. Duffy, will purchase new hardcover books chosen especially for the SSES Media Center.
5. During the week of November 1-7, your child will be invited to the Media Center to select, and borrow for the first time, one of the new commemorative books.
6. Each of the donated books will have a special book plate placed on the inside cover with the following inscription:



Donated to the Samuel Staples Media Center
in honor of
NAME
KINDERGARTEN YEAR
2011-2012

Donated books purchased through the Kindergarten Commemorative Book Program become the property of the SSES Media Center, and they will be checked out and enjoyed by SSES students for years to come. What a fabulous way to commemorate your child's Samuel Staples years while adding to the library collection!

Any questions? Please contact Amy Hauptman at amhauptman@gmail.com.

✂ _____ ✂ _____ ✂ _____ ✂ _____

Yes! I want to honor my child with a PTA Kindergarten Commemorative Book purchase. Enclosed is a check for \$20.00 per child for each book that is being donated to the Media Center, payable to the Easton PTA.

Kindergartener's Name _____

Kindergartener's Name _____

Parent contact information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email address: _____