



# The Staples Scoop



Wednesday, October 29, 2008

Produced by the PTA

## CALENDAR @ A GLANCE

Wed., Oct. 29	Lockdown Drill
Fri., Oct. 31	Halloween 🦋
Tues, Nov. 4	☒ Election Day – <i>School in session</i>
Mon., Nov. 10	Picture Retake Day
Tues, Nov. 11	NO SCHOOL -- Veteran's Day
Wed., Nov. 12	Principal's Coffee – Topic: Internet Safety; Cafetorium; 9:15 am
Tues. Nov. 18 -	EARLY DISMISSAL; Parent-Teacher Conferences; 1 pm
Fri., Nov. 21	
Thurs., Nov. 27 &	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Recess
Fri., Nov. 28	

## THE PRINCIPAL'S SCOOP by Kimberly Fox-Santora

As if you didn't already know, the social event of the season is this Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>! For those of you new to Samuel Staples, Halloween is a fun-filled school day, starting with a parade and ending with a class party. What could be better?

Due to the large size of our school, we will hold one parade for students in pre-kindergarten through grade 2 at 9:30 and a second parade for students in grades 3-5 at 10:30. Parents are encouraged to watch the parade and take pictures of their favorite goblin, princess or superhero.

Our students will parade around the front car loop. The entire side walk is reserved for the students, while parents are relegated to the grassy hill in the center of the loop. I will lead the parade one grade level at a time, beginning with the youngest grade level. Each parade will take about 40 minutes.

**Costumes with blood, gore or weapons are expressly prohibited.** Those students in violation of this rule will not be allowed to participate in the festivities.

Parking is always a challenge on this day. The Easton Police Department will be on-hand to help us guide the traffic flow. I strongly encourage parents to carpool, come early and park in the back of the school.

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On a different topic, school is in session on Election Day, and we have been working closely with the police department to closely monitor school security on a day when we expect an unprecedented number of visitors to the school.

We developed a very elaborate parking plan for the staff at SSES to allow enough parking spaces for the voters and the poll workers. I have asked the teachers not to schedule any parent volunteers on November 4<sup>th</sup>, so that we can minimize the number of cars in the parking lot and reduce the number of visitors in the building.

## THE PRINCIPAL'S SCOOP (cont.)

I am very concerned about parent pick-up in the afternoon of Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> because the driveway will be restricted to voters with handicapped parking needs and senior citizens. ***I implore you to allow your children to take the school bus home next Tues., Nov. 4th.*** There simply is no place to queue up the number of cars we get on a typical day.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.



### Picture Retakes Are Monday, Nov. 10th

Picture retakes will be Monday, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am to noon. Please send your child in with his or her original envelope – minus the class photo – to be returned in order to get another one taken. Anyone who missed the first photo day can also have a photo taken (extra forms are available in the front office). Questions to Trisha Tourigny at [bratpack@optonline.net](mailto:bratpack@optonline.net) or 268-4924.

### Principal's Coffee on Internet Safety is Nov. 12th

Please join Kim Fox-Santora on Wed., Nov. 12th at 9:15 am in the Cafetorium for a special presentation on Internet Safety with Officer Mark Pastor, Easton P.D. and Richard Colangelo, Esq., Senior Assistant State's Attorney (and SSES father).

## NURSE NOTES



### -- Flu Season is Coming! Keeping Kids Healthy --

Know the difference between a cold and the flu: If you have a stuffy nose, sneezing, sore throat and a hacking cough, you probably have a cold. If you have a high fever, severe headache, muscle and body aches, extreme tiredness and a dry cough, you probably have the flu.

### Practice healthy habits...

1. **Wash your hands often** with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds to prevent germs from spreading. Also avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth because viruses can spread when your hands touch surfaces that are infested with germs. If you are sick, stay home to help yourself get better and prevent others from getting sick too.
2. **Cover your mouth and nose** with a tissue when coughing and sneezing, and throw away your used tissues in a proper receptacle. It is recommended that you cough and sneeze into your arm.
3. **Don't share** drinks, water bottles, eating utensils, or cell phones with friends.
4. If possible, **get a flu vaccine**.
5. If your child has a sore throat for a few days that does not improve, call the doctor.

### CHILDREN MUST STAY HOME 24 HOURS FEVER-FREE

Staying home will likely shorten the length of the illness and will help prevent the “sharing of germs” in school.

***When calling your child in sick please leave us a message telling us what is wrong with your child*** so we can better track illnesses in school. Please refer to the health guidelines in the calendar under “Illness” if you are unsure when to keep your child home.

## THE PTA SCOOP

### You Don't Know What You're Missing ('til You See It In the Lost & Found!)

Please stop by and take a look in the Lost and Found, located behind the Cafetorium near the Teacher's Lounge. We already have two large bins of lost belongings waiting to be reunited with their owners. The PTA will donate unclaimed items throughout the school year to local charities. The first donation drop-off is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> to the Easton Senior Center. Please feel free to contact Shannon Barnett at 373-0263 with any questions.



### Support the BIG Y Education Express Program

It's Simple. It's Free!

Look for the Education Express forms being sent home this Friday.

- Use your Big Y Express Savings Club® card to purchase items designated with the Education Express® logo.
- Help our school acquire desperately needed equipment & supplies - **FREE!**

**Earn Points for Samuel Staples Elementary School or Helen Keller Middle School simply by registering on-line or on the form your child brings home this week.**

YOU MUST REGISTER using one of our school numbers.

**SSES #5174**

**HKMS #5175**

Go to <http://www.BigY.com> and look for the yellow Education Express Bus for more details.

Our Schools have earned laminating machines, shredders, electric staplers and more through the points our families accumulate while shopping. The schools have redeemed wonderful products from this program in the past and they are very excited about our participation!

### The Scoop Scoop

[ssesscoop@yahoo.com](mailto:ssesscoop@yahoo.com)

Contact: Cathy Dunsby at above email or 292.3692. Next issues: Nov. 12 and 26. Deadline: the Sat. before publication.

## PTA Portrait Day Fundraiser Update

Thank you to all the families who supported our PTA Family Portrait Day fundraiser. We will contact you when the orders are ready. Questions to Lisa Sheehan @ 373-9799

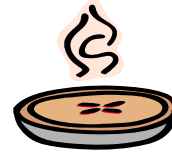
## And Now a Word From Our Sponsor

The PTA offers its sincere thanks to....

- **Trisha Tourigny**, Picture Day Chairperson and her committee, **Jane Pompa, Sharon Stemme, Rebecca Little, Stacey Thomas, Kim Hewson, Michelle Mauro, Caroline Biederman, Lisa Colasante** and **Caroline Feroletto** for assuring that Picture Day went smoothly.
- **Dina Massey**, PTA Executive Committee/Membership, for the PTA Membership table at Open House and Parents night. Thanks to Dina, PTA membership is currently 77% and growing!
- **Kathleen Wassmer**, PTA Co-President/HKMS for running the SSES/HKMS Gift Wrap Fundraiser. Kathleen and Chairpersons **Kim Cicarello, Elise Nappi, Lisa Burghardt** and **Caroline Feroletto** EXCEEDED their fundraising goal, resulting in approximately \$15,000 for educational enhancement.
- **Maura Eustace**, School Store Chairperson and her team of volunteers. **Lynn Petrino** and **Sharon Stemme** for SSES sweatshirt and T-shirt orders.
- **Laura Jones** and **Beth Gomolak**; Book Fair Chairpersons, and their team of volunteers for raising OVER \$7,000 and adding wonderful books to the SSES Library, classroom libraries and home libraries! "One For Books" raised \$270, part of which will go to children in need.
- **Sharon Stemme** and **Bernadette Ulmer**, Celebration of Books Chairpersons for their contribution to the Book Fair.
- **Sharon Stemme**, Bulb Sale Chairperson for the overall success of the Bulb Fundraiser.
- **Stephanie Frangenes**, Family Activities Chairperson, for organizing a fun night at the Circus!
- **Laura McCarthy**, Chairperson/Kindergarten Commemorative Book Club, for coordinating this enjoyable event for kindergartners with SSES Librarian, Lynne Duffy.
- Directory Chairperson **Denise Sherwood** for her great efforts to provide all PTA members with this invaluable tool! Thank you also to Denise's dedicated committee members: **Christine Calvert, Lorelee Cusick, Michelle Falcone, Kathe Garafolo, Rebecca Little, Karen Marchetti, Janine Martinich, Nancy Rosenthal, Sharon Stemme, Nadine Thoretz, Gayle Worthington, Annette, D'Augelli, Margot Abrams** and **Schuyler Sherwood** for all of their hard work, and to **Dina Massey** for organizing the distribution of the directories.

# 2008 Annual Easton PTA Pie Sale

The Easton PTA is sponsoring its annual pie sale. The pies are **\$12** each, delivered frozen and taste like homemade! Serve them for Thanksgiving, another festive occasion or give as a gift to someone you will visit. Choices are pumpkin, fruit of the forest, apple, peach, blueberry, chocolate cream. Just heat and serve!



**Sale dates:** Now through November 1st (final deadline )

**Pick-up date:** Mon., Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> at the Helen Keller Middle School cafeteria: 2:30 - 5 p.m.

More order forms are available at school, school newsletters, Easton Public Library and Community Room Lobby or call Diane Karazulas at 268-2305 for more information.

**Proceeds benefit the Helen Keller Middle School Beautification Fund, a PTA/student/community-lead improvement project. Thank you for your Support!**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Enclose check payable to: **Easton PTA**- All pies cost **\$12.00**

Name	Blueberry	Peach	Chocolate Cream	Pumpkin	Fruit of the Forest	Apple	# Sold	\$ Paid
<b>Total Each Column</b>								

\*\*\*Pies that are not picked up will be donated to charity

Mail To: Helen Keller Middle School, **ATTN: PIE SALE**, 360 Sport Hill Rd., Easton, CT 06612

## THE TOWN SCOOP

**Easton Community Center News** Please call 459.9700 to reserve for the following:

**New! Dodge Ball and Wiffle Ball Leagues Now Forming** -- For ages 10 - 13. Sign up as a single player or an entire team (6-10 players). Call for more information.

**“Haunted” Hallway:** This Friday from 3-5 pm : Stop by the ECC for some non-scary trick-or-treating with Joel and your other ECC friends and play on the big bouncy slide, too!

**Parents’ Night Out:** Fri., Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> -- 6:30 – 10 pm. Pizza, games, crafts, more! members \$15/non-members \$20/child.

**Upcoming Vacation Camps:** Nov. 11 & 28 -- 8 am – 6 pm, members \$50/non-members \$60

### **R.I.P. Sherwoods’ Haunted House**

“Regretfully, we can NOT open our haunted house this year. Thank you to everyone who visited us over the past 13 years. It has been our pleasure to entertain you.” -The Sherwood Family (Sunset Rd.)

### **Pop Tab Collection Fundraiser Runs through October**

Please keep collecting Pop Tabs from soda cans and turn them into the main office to benefit New Haven Ronald McDonald House. Contact Mark D’Augelli, Jr. (or Annette) at 452-1656 with questions.

### **Collecting Used Books For New And Improved Hardcover/Softcover Book Sale Bonanza**

While the Easton Public Library has traditionally held separate book sales for hard cover and paperback books, the Friends of the Easton Library have now merged the two into one big book sale bonanza!

Friends of the Library will be collecting hardcover AND paperback books from Saturday, November 8th (10 am to 3 pm) through Friday, November 14th until noon. Donated books may be dropped off in the Library’s Community Room during those times. All subjects will be accepted. Children’s books, audio books, DVDs, and CDs are also being collected. All books should be in good to excellent condition with no damaged covers, pencil markings, or torn pages. No textbooks, condensed books, or magazines will be accepted. For more information, feel free to phone Gail at 459-9964.

Watch for the new two-day hardcover and paperback Book Sale Bonanza: Saturday, November 15th, from 10 am to 4 pm, and Sunday, November 16th, from 11 am to 4 pm.

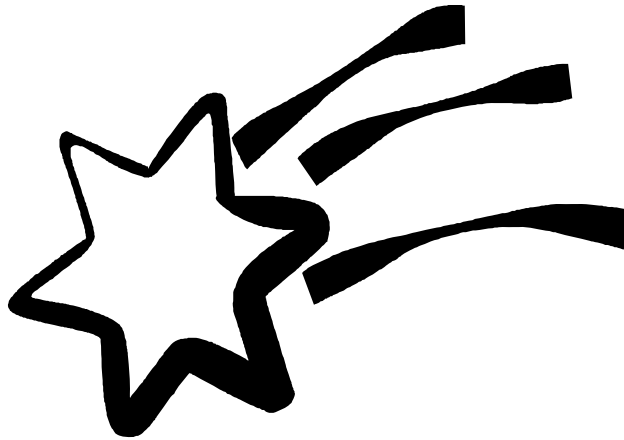
School

Teachers

Are

Really

Special



Easton Learning Foundation STARS Program for SSES

Whether it's a holiday gift, Teacher Appreciation week, or just a way to say "you're great!" -- a STAR is a welcome recognition of the people who make a difference in our lives. And just think -- it always comes in the perfect size and doesn't require batteries! You don't need to wrap it or go to the mall to look for a parking space!

ELF does all the work for you!!

When you make a gift, ELF will send a beautifully packaged cardstock star home in your child's backpack. The Star can be decorated in any way and personally delivered BY YOUR CHILD. If your child doesn't want to decorate a STAR, ELF can deliver a certificate directly to your child's teacher/honoree. All the proceeds benefit Easton students and educators by funding teacher grants and cutting-edge technology.

Teachers/specials teachers, nurses, office staff, librarians, classroom aids, administrators, custodians, etc. can all be recognized.

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***In support of a highly dedicated person in the school, I have enclosed a tax-deductible donation to Easton Learning Foundation***

STARS: # of Stars ordered \_\_\_\_\_ \$ Donation per STAR \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Certificates: IF you would like us to fill out and deliver certificates only, please list the "To" and "From" as you would like it to appear on EACH certificate: the amount of your contribution will not be indicated.

To: \_\_\_\_\_ From: \_\_\_\_\_ \$amount \_\_\_\_\_

To: \_\_\_\_\_ From: \_\_\_\_\_ \$amount \_\_\_\_\_

To: \_\_\_\_\_ From: \_\_\_\_\_ \$amount \_\_\_\_\_

# of certificates ordered \_\_\_\_\_ Total Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of corporate matching gift (\$25 minimum) \_\_\_\_\_

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_ home phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Grade/teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Room# \_\_\_\_\_

The minimum contribution per honoree is \$5 -- the maximum contribution for one teacher/honoree cannot exceed \$25 (If multiple honorees, you may write one check for the total contribution amount which may exceed \$25. If you have additional honorees, you may list them on the back of this form)

***Please return this form and make check payable to:  
Easton Learning Foundation \* P.O Box 437 \* Easton, CT 06612***