



The Staples Scoop



Wednesday, November 26, 2008

Produced by the PTA

Happy Thanksgiving Edition



CALENDAR @ A GLANCE

Wed., Nov. 26	EARLY DISMISSAL; 1:25 pm
Thurs., Nov. 27 & Fri., Nov. 28	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Recess
Fri., Dec. 12	EARLY DISMISSAL; Teacher Development; 1 pm
Wed., Dec. 17	PTA Night at Uno Chicago Grill
Fri., Dec. 19	School Store Open
Wed., Dec. 24 – Fri., Jan. 2	NO SCHOOL – Holiday Recess
Mon., Jan. 5, 2009	School Resumes



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THE PRINCIPAL'S SCOOP by Kimberly Fox-Santora

As a school community, we take an active role in recognizing the value of diversity and in celebrating the unique qualities that make each of us special. On Friday, November 14th, SSES celebrated its third annual **International Day For Tolerance (IDFT)**, a United Nations initiative.

Along with playing music that inspires love and peace, I used the morning announcements throughout the week as a vehicle to discuss ways we practice tolerance at SSES. In the classrooms, teachers planned lessons that allowed students to examine their own varied character traits that make each of us strong, tolerant, and diverse. Books such as Tacky the Penguin, The New Kid, Crocodile and Ghost Bat Have a Hullabaloo, and Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon provided meaningful opportunities for the students to discuss ways the characters made good choices and demonstrated acceptance of others who might be different from themselves

Under the leadership of Susan DiScipio, the IDFT Committee worked tirelessly as they developed this year's theme, *Tolerance Teaches Togetherness*. Thanks to the creativity of your children, the cafeteria windows are filled with the little cardboard figures that represent how each student at Samuel Staples is wonderfully unique and special. If you haven't yet had an opportunity to view them, please step into the cafeteria during your next visit.

We owe many thanks to the members of the IDFT Committee because they spent hours making the banner and hanging up the figures. I would like to recognize Noelle Newell, Lynn Bruce, Teresa Mannii, Teresa Harrington, Hollyann Corello, Bernadette Brady, Phyllis Biros, Denise Lynch, Anne Manusky, Chris Lee, and of course, chairperson, Susan DiScipio, for their ongoing dedication to this project.

I look forward to many more opportunities where we can again work together as a community, building strong hearts and open minds in our students.

“That’s the Spirit!”

The Black Rock Food Pantry was thrilled with SSES’s very generous donation of non-perishable items from last Friday’s School Spirit Day. Thank you!

Samuel Staples Pre-School Accepting Applications for 2009-2010

For more information, please visit:

http://www.classroomwebsites.com/Teacher/News/view_news.aspx?id=sbarnard

THE PTA SCOOP

Wanted: Anyone who can cut felt with a scissor!

The Character Attributes Committee is making banners for the Cafetorium and for each SSES neighborhood and we need to cut out lots of letters! If you can help, please contact Susan DiScipio at susandiscipio@epals.com by Dec 2nd.

Boys and Girls Wrestling to Start in December

Boys and girls in grades K-8 are invited to sign up for Easton Cougars Youth Wrestling. Practice for SSES students will be 3:45 – 5:15 pm Mondays and Fridays in the HKMS gym, starting December 1st and ending in mid-March. This program is underwritten by the PTA and is *free* (but you need a \$35 check made out to Philip LiCastrì if your child will be competing against other schools). Bring: Shorts/sweatpants, t-shirt, wrestling shoes, water. Questions, please contact Phil LiCastrì at Pnl63@optonline.net or 268–5501.

Registration form is on the Easton PTA home page and at:

http://www.eastonpta.com/pdf/wrestling_registration_2008.pdf

PTA Night at Uno Chicago Grill is Wed., Dec. 17

Vouchers are on the PTA home page and at:

http://www.eastonpta.com/pdf/uno_chicago_grill_december_17_2008.pdf

Reflections Contest is Coming

Watch for a packet of information on the CT PTA’s multi-media contest, Reflections, after the Thanksgiving holiday. Entries can be in photography, visual arts, literature, musical composition, dance choreography or film production and will be due back right after the New Year. You can enter more than once! This year’s theme is WOW!

IDFT Thanks

Thank you everyone for making the third International Day for Tolerance event a success. The committee is especially appreciative and thankful to:

- SSES Students, Families, Administration, Faculty, Staff and the PTA.
- Mrs. Duffy, Lisa B. Forman and Lynn Zaffino for helping create the book displays in the media center and town library.
- Mr. Cooper and Mr. Russo for creating the “Songs for Tolerance” CD.
- Peter, the maintenance supervisor
- Mr. B and the Cafetorium staff

The Cafetorium windows filled with the students’ “Tolerance Teaches Togetherness” projects reflect the commitment our children share about understanding tolerance and accepting one and other’s differences.

“On the International Day For Tolerance, let us pledge to be always open to others, in heart and in mind...and to live together in peace with one another as good neighbors...” -- Kofi Annan, United Nations Secretary General (1997-2006)

THE HOLIDAY SCOOP

Fairfield Christmas Tree Festival Runs Dec. 4-7th

Easton's Ellen Waugh is tri-chairing this year's event to benefit the Center for Women and Families. Please visit <http://fairfieldchristmastreefestival.org/festivaldetails.html> for full schedule of events including several for children.

Children's Holiday Party at the Easton Public Library is Sun., Dec. 7th

The Friends of the Easton Public Library will be host their annual Children's Holiday Party on Sunday, December 7th, from 3 to 5 pm in the Library's Community Room. Children will have the opportunity to make a holiday craft and then participate in Kabosh, an interactive and dynamic musical duo. Refreshments, including desserts and beverages, will be served. There is limited space so be sure to reserve your spot for this popular event by calling the Easton Public Library at 261-0134.

Holiday House Tour is Sat., Dec. 6th

Don't miss Easton's annual Holiday House Tour on Saturday, Dec. 6th, from 10:30 am to 3 pm. Come stroll through six private Easton homes decorated in holiday splendor! While touring, be sure to make a cookie stop at Easton's Bradley Hubbell House where you will also find fresh wreaths for sale. The tour ticket is \$30 and proceeds benefit the Easton Public Library. If desired, take a leisurely lunch break at the Community Room and enjoy a tasty meal catered by Panino's (lunch: \$10). While there, take advantage of early holiday shopping opportunities as local artisans will have on display and for sale their handmade goods, and fresh wreaths will also be for sale. For more information, please call the Easton Public Library at 261-0134. Advance purchase of tickets is appreciated. Childcare is available at the ECC (below).

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

- **Vacation Camp:** Fri., Nov. 28th -- 8 am – 6 pm, members \$50/non-members \$60
- **Breakfast with Santa** (followed by optional "Kidless Shopping Day" – below); 9:30 – 11 am; \$5 donation per child; call for reservations
- **Kidless Shopping Day;** For ages Kindergarten and older. Sat., Dec. 6th; 11 am – 4 pm; \$35/members; \$45/non-members

Girl Scouts Collecting Gently Used Toys for Hospitalized Kids

Clean out your toy room before the holidays! Easton Girl Scout Troop 31244 is collecting gently used toys for children who are hospitalized. Items accepted include books, toys and board games (provided they are in good working order and have all the pieces), DVDs and VHS tapes, stuffed animals, puzzles. A drop box will be located in the SSES lobby *through Friday, Dec. 12th*. Please call Christine Wegener at 371-5628 or Stephanie Frangenes at 372-5333 with questions.

ELF's School Teachers are Really Special (STARS) Program

Information and forms are at <http://eastonlearningfoundation.org/stars.html>

Save the Date: Joel Barlow's Second Annual Jewelry Auction is Fri., Jan. 16th, 2009

Snow date: Sat., Jan. 17th. Questions to Lee Skalkos: iskalkos@region9ps.org or 938-2508 x1167

The Scoop Scoop

ssesscoop@yahoo.com

Contact Cathy Dunsby at above email or 292.3692. Final 2008 issue is Dec. 10th. Deadline: the Sat. before publication.

Important Websites

www.er9.org/sses/

www.eastonpta.com

www.er9.org