

# Lowell Lowdown

November, 2008

**James Russell Lowell School is a community of learners.**

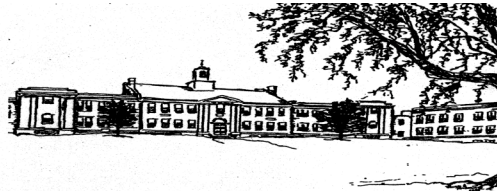
As a caring and responsible community:

We **care** about ourselves, others, and our learning environment,

We **share** our thoughts and feelings in kind and respectful ways,

We **dare** to try our best, be creative and explore new ideas.

We care, share, and dare.



## Principal's Corner

I would like to take a few moments to remind all parents and guardians about the necessity for properly supervising our children on the playgrounds after the academic school day finishes. Faculty and staff have other professional responsibilities at the close of the student's day. There are also no nursing services available after 2:30 p.m. Recently, inappropriate behavior on the playground during these hours has been reported. After school hours, adequate supervision must be provided by parents or guardians. No child without a parent or guardian should be on the playground after school.

In order to be consistent (and therefore not confusing to children) here are some recommended guidelines for after school play:

- Use the playgrounds appropriately – encourage walking between playground equipment
- Rough play is prohibited (no pushing, shoving, fighting, throwing objects, horseplay, tackling others)
- Climbing trees is not allowed
- Please speak up to other children who are misbehaving (speaking up is hard to do, but it helps set the tone for a safe and respectful playground)

Remember... 'it takes a village'.

Thank you.

## Site Council News

Next meeting is on November 25, 2008 at 2:45 p.m. in the library. This is an opportunity for parents and teachers who cannot make an evening meeting to participate.

## Reminder

Don't forget to save your Box Tops for Education. It is a great way for you to help the school raise money without much work! The PTO will be having a Box Top Event in January/February 2009. More info to come.

## The Tree Story

The Town of Watertown's Tree Warden, Chris Hayward, has determined that the big, old beautiful silver maple trees at the foot of the Orchard Street hill are diseased and have become a hazard. One large limb has fallen, with others likely to follow. Mr. Hayward will be at the Lowell School on Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m. to talk about the condition of the trees and listen to your ideas about moving forward. Our children's safety and the maintenance of the beauty of this property are important to us all.

## PTO News

In conjunction with the school service learning projects, the PTO will once again sponsor the Lowell School Bazaar to be held on Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The event is held during the school day to celebrate the children's service work. Children earn 'Kindness Credits' for their efforts and are able to make small purchases of trinkets and hand-crafted items with this special currency.

We are looking for volunteers to work on that day as well as crafters and donations. Every Friday morning until the event, crafters meet in the cafeteria. If you can, stop by and lend a hand! If you would like to help in any way, contact Linda Tracy at [tracy92@rcn.com](mailto:tracy92@rcn.com)

Service learning projects by grade level are:

- PreK – Lowell gardens
- K- Cradles to Crayons
- 1st- Tree planting project
- 2nd- Brigham House entertainment
- 3rd- UNICEF, Recycling, Cell phones donation project
- 4th- Supporting literacy in Uganda
- 5th- Sunrise Home gift baskets

The PTO will also be holding our annual Scholastic book Fair from Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> through Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. A schedule will follow in the backpacks. It is a great way to support your school while doing some shopping!

## Dates to Remember

### November

Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup>

PTO Meeting, 2:45pm

Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup>

Picture Make Up day

Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup>

½ day- Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup>

Parent/Teacher Conferences (evening)

Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup>

Site Council Meeting  
2:45pm

Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup>

Noon Dismissal

Thurs-Fri, 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>

Holiday – No School

### December

Monday, 1<sup>st</sup>

School Committee, 7pm

Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> -5<sup>th</sup>

Scholastic Book Sale

Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup>

PTO Meeting, 7pm

Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup>

Site Council Meeting, 7pm