

# Lowell Lowdown

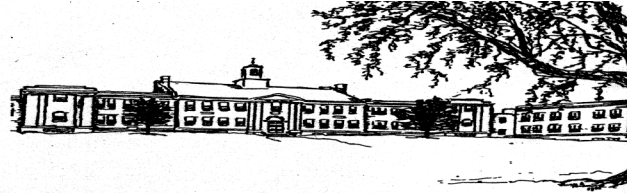
APRIL 2010

James Russell Lowell School is a  
community of learners.

As a caring and responsible community:

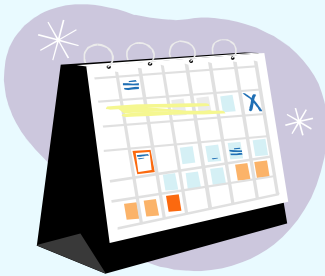
We **care** about ourselves, others, and our learning environment,  
We **share** our thoughts and feelings in kind and respectful ways,  
We **dare** to try our best, be creative and explore new ideas.

We care, share, and dare.



**LOWELL SCHOOL WEBSITE:**

<http://www.watertown.k12.ma.us/lowell/index.html>



## Upcoming Events

- ◆ April 5<sup>th</sup> - Coffee Cake Fundraiser Ends
- ◆ April 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> - MCAS English Language Arts testing continues
- ◆ April 10<sup>th</sup> thru April 26<sup>th</sup> - Watertown Art Show at Watertown Mall
- ◆ April 16<sup>th</sup> - Assembly - Science Show Theme (Michael Bent)
- ◆ April 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> - Spring Vacation
- ◆ April 30<sup>th</sup> - Spirit Day: Earth Day
- ◆ May 4<sup>th</sup> - 9:00am South Africa Assembly
- ◆ May 11<sup>th</sup> - PTO Meeting (at 2:45pm & 7:00pm)
- ◆ May 14<sup>th</sup> - Media Impact Parent Presentation
- ◆ May 15<sup>th</sup> - KIC performance at WMS
- ◆ Early May - Staff Appreciation Week
- ◆ May 10<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> - MCAS Math/Science testing takes place

## From the Principal's desk

We all need to work together to make the end of the day pick up as smooth and safe as possible. It is very important that we all understand the following:

- Parents/guardians or other designees are expected to pick up their children at the close of school at **2:30 p.m. on full days and 12:15** on Early Release days.
- If a child is not picked up by 2:40 p.m., or **ten minutes** after dismissal, the child will be taken to the school's office. Teachers frequently have meetings directly after school and cannot wait with children beyond this time.
- A phone call will be placed to the home, work or emergency numbers in an effort to make contact.
- If a child is not picked up by 2:45 p.m. or **fifteen minutes after dismissal**, the child will be placed in the Lowell Extended Day Program, where the appropriate supervision will be provided for safety.
- A **late fee of 10.00** will be charged for the first 15 minutes and 10.00 for each additional 15 minutes or part thereof. **This fee is due at time of pick-up.**

The supervision of students who are late pick ups require in-house procedures to ensure safety. Here is what will happen on the school side. The classroom teacher, or designee, walks with student to the front office. Date, Time, Name, Room # are logged on "Late Pick up after Dismissal" form. All actions from the office are recorded. If the student is placed in LEDP's care, the receiving staff person will acknowledge responsibility with a signature.

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## FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE



PTO Parents Event Committee is hosting a series of discussion groups. Our next presentation is on:

- Friday April 16<sup>th</sup> - Response to Intervention
  - 8:20am start
- Friday May 14<sup>th</sup> - Media Impact

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### MCAS English Language Arts (ELA) Testing Continues

The third, fourth, and fifth grade students at the Lowell School will be participating in the state-wide MCAS English Language Arts assessments on the following dates. **We will be starting promptly at 8:30 AM.**

Tuesday	04/06/2010	Gr. 5 Reading Session 1
Wednesday	04/07/2010	Gr. 4 Long Comp makeup
Thursday	04/08/2010	Gr. 5 Reading Session 2

Below are some suggestions to help you support your child(ren) through the testing process.

- Make sure your child has a good night's sleep
- Make sure (s)he eats a good breakfast each morning
- Send in a healthy and nutritious snack and drink
- Remind your child of your confidence in him/her
- Explain that this is an opportunity in which (s)he can show what (s)he already knows
- **Help them to get to school on time**

We will remind them of the different strategies in test taking and reaffirm the message that they just need to do their best work as always. The Mathematics and Science/Technology/ Engineering portions of the MCAS will take place between May 10th and May 27th, 2010. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Thank you!

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## THE LOWELL LOWDOWN CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS!

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On Tuesday, May 4th at 9:00 a.m. the specialists' team will be presenting the Second Annual Lowell School World Tour Assembly. This year, we are traveling to South Africa. Featured in the assembly will be 4th and 5th grade musical performances, exhibitions of arts and crafts, dance routines, sports demonstrations, folktale readings, and multi-media presentations.

If you have any South African artifacts (arts, crafts, etc.) that you would like to donate temporarily (from now until May 4th), we would love to add them to our display showcase. Please mark the artifact clearly with your family name and drop it off with one of the specialist teachers.

In addition....we are looking for 4th and 5th grade parent volunteers to hang art work in the gym on Monday May 3rd at 1:30. If you are available you can email Mrs. Lochiatto at:

[alochiatto@watertown.k12.ma.us](mailto:alochiatto@watertown.k12.ma.us)

Thank you,

Ms. Donahue, Physical Education  
Ms. Lochiatto, Art  
Ms. Phipps, Library  
Mr. Spano, Music  
Ms. Sudbay, Technology

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## Art Room News

The annual Watertown Art Show will run from April 10-April 26, 2010 at the Watertown Mall. The theme this year is "Famous Artists" and the elementary schools will host the center island. Opening reception will be Monday, April 12th from 6-8 pm. Students will receive a letter if they are exhibiting work. This is an all school event and everyone is invited to view works from grades K through 12. Mark your calendar and come enjoy an evening to support the arts. Hope to see you there!!



Anna Lochiatto



## KIC Musical - date change!

Kids In Common, one of the after school programs, will be doing a Wizard of Oz remix for our annual musical! It will include a mix of music and criss-crossed story lines from: The Wizard of Oz, The Wiz and Wicked.

The show takes place on **Saturday, May 15th at the Watertown Middle School!** Be ready for some cameo appearances by some of your Lowell School teachers! **FREE ADMISSION**

## Welcome to Vocabulary

### Research Says...

"We use words to think; the more words we know, the finer our understanding about the world."  
~ Vocabulary Development, Steven Stahl

Try this at home...



Vocabulary word - **proper**

If something is proper, it is the right or correct way of doing it.

hand.

*Ask your child to demonstrate the proper way of shaking someone's*

Try this at home...



Vocabulary word - **cooperate**

If you cooperate with someone, you work with them or help them to get something done.

*Recall with your child a time when you cooperated to do something. Think of another project you could do together.*

Mrs. Toledano, Reading Teacher, the Lowell School

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## PTO Announcements

**The Original Boston Coffee Cake Fundraiser March 25<sup>th</sup>-April 5<sup>th</sup>:** Coffee Cake sales will end on April 5<sup>th</sup> and delivery is expected on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Please see Kara Flynn if you have any questions.

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Day fundraiser update:** Thanks to all those that donated their time and money to make our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Day fundraiser such a huge success! Nearly 200 people were in attendance, helping us to beat our goal and raise over \$4600! This event could not happen without the generous support of our local businesses. Please do what you can to patronize them throughout the year. If you purchased an auction item and haven't paid yet, please drop the check off in the PTO mailbox. Thanks!

**Spirit Day - Friday April 30<sup>th</sup> - Earth Day:** Spirit Day will be held on Friday April 30<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Earth Day and the arrival of spring! Watch your backpacks and emails for more information.

**Next PTO Meeting - Tuesday May 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:45pm and 7:00pm:** The next PTO meeting will be held on Tuesday May 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:45 and 7:00 pm in the school library. As the school year winds down, this will be an important opportunity for all parents and teachers to review this year's activities and begin to make plans for next year. We look forward to seeing you there!

**JOIN THE PTO!** The PTO is currently seeking parents for a variety of open positions beginning in September. It is the mission of the PTO to enhance the academic experience and build community among the students, parents and teachers at the Lowell School. As a PTO Board member, parents plan and organize a variety of social activities, events and fundraisers - this is your chance to get involved! If you are interested in any of the following positions, we invite you to submit your name, the position you are seeking, and a phone number/email address to the PTO mailbox outside of the school's main office or via email at: [watertownlowellpto@gmail.com](mailto:watertownlowellpto@gmail.com) by Friday April 30<sup>th</sup>.

We are currently seeking applications for the following 2010-2011 PTO Board positions:

- President (1 year term)
- Vice President (1 year term with second year as President)
- Treasurer (2 year term)
- Secretary (2 year term)
- Grade Level Coordinators in K-5<sup>th</sup> grades (1 year term each)

If you have any questions about the PTO or specific positions, please feel free to contact any of the current PTO Board members - we would be happy to speak to you! You can find a list of the current PTO Board members on the PTO website at: [www.watertownlowellpto.com](http://www.watertownlowellpto.com)

**Staff Appreciation Week!** Coming in early May, Staff Appreciation week events. Pam Dennison is looking for volunteers to assist her in the planning. Please contact her directly at [pcotter@rcn.com](mailto:pcotter@rcn.com) or you can email the PTO email address at [watertownlowellpto@gmail.com](mailto:watertownlowellpto@gmail.com)

**T-Shirts and Sweatshirts!** The PTO still has a few Watertown t-shirts and sweatshirts available for sale - order forms are available outside the main office - get them while supplies last!

**Family Dues!** It's never too late to turn in family dues. We'll take them all year, any year! Just drop your dues in the PTO mailbox or give to any board member.

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# **Box Tops Collection Event Winter 2010 W I N N E R!**



CONGRATULATIONS MS. MCCORMICK'S 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE CLASS!



Adeline Becker, Lauren Cole, Patrick Corbett, Chloe Ellis, Emily Furtado, Olivia Haggerty, Andrew Hayek, Catherine Holt, Kimberley Horrigan, Jamie Kurth, Jennifer Lawlor, Ashley Lopez-Vasquez, Tyler Malovich, Nick McDermott, Johann Mendez, Stephen Munroe, Kyla Ostiguy, Larry Pellegrini, John Shea, Ms. McCormick (teacher) and Mrs. Dally (instructional assistant)

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

UNIQUE AUCTION ITEMS • DOOR PRIZES • LOTS OF LAUGHS



Award-winning comedian  
**Dena Blizzard**  
has performed at  
comedy clubs across  
the country and her  
TV appearances  
include *The View*,  
and *Last Comic  
Standing*.

THIRD ANNUAL

# COMEDY NIGHT & Silent Auction

FUNDRAISER FOR CUNNIFF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**THUR, APRIL 8, 2010 • 7:00PM**

HIBERNIAN HALL, 151 WATERTOWN STREET, WATERTOWN

**TICKETS: \$10 IN ADVANCE (\$15 AT THE DOOR) • SEATING IS LIMITED SO RESERVE NOW**

Save the date, get a baby sitter, and treat yourself to a night out!  
This fundraising event is intended just for adults.

Contact Nancy Muldrew 617-923-9215 or Susie Hughes 617-923-3552  
to purchase tickets in advance or for more information.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

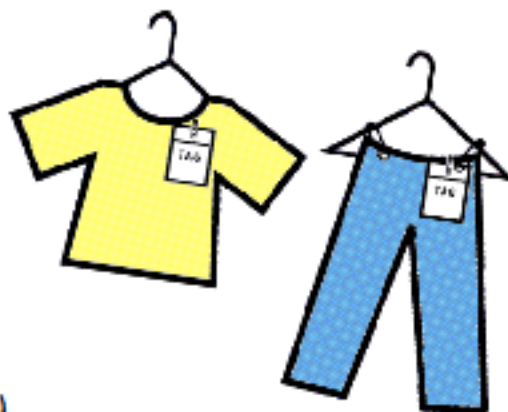
SPONSORED BY THE CUNNIFF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO, WATERTOWN, MA



# Gently-Used Children's Clothing & Sports Equipment Sale

**Saturday, April 10**  
**10:00am - 1:00pm**

Hosmer School Cafeteria  
One Concord Rd., Watertown, MA  
(617) 926-7740  
(located off of Mt. Auburn St., via 71 bus line)



**GREAT  
SELECTION OF  
CLOTHING  
FROM BABY TO  
SIZE 16**

Sponsored by the Hosmer School PTO



Items for sale include: jackets, hats, tops, pants, shoes, cleats, ice skates, dance shoes, baseball bats, helmets and much, much more!  
Most items - \$3.00 each! ...or 4 items for \$10.00

**CASH ONLY**