

Lowell Lowdown

JUNE 2011

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,

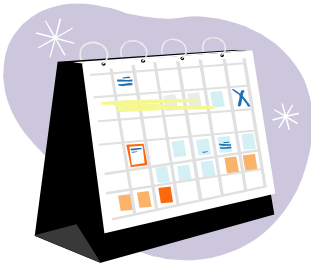
We **dare** to try our best, be creative and explore new ideas.

We care, share, and dare.



LOWELL SCHOOL WEBSITE:

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



JUNE

- ◆ Jun 6 Monday School Committee Meeting at Town Hall 7:00pm
- ◆ Jun 7 Tuesday Spring Concert at Watertown High School 7:00pm
- ◆ Jun 7 Tuesday Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Hearing at Town Hall 7:00pm
- ◆ Jun 10 Friday Recognition Assembly - school gymnasium 9:00am
- ◆ Jun 10 Friday 2011 Watertown Relay-for-Life at Victory Field 6:00pm - 8:00am
 - Website: <http://www.watertownrelay.org>
- ◆ Jun 14 Tuesday PTO Meeting in Library 7:00 pm
- ◆ Jun 16 Thursday *End of Year Lowell School Picnic* 2:30-5:30
- ◆ Jun 18 Saturday Town-wide Block Party at Victory Field 4:00-7:00pm
 - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Town-Wide-Block-Party-Watertown-MA-Sat-618-4-7-PM-Victory-Field/207251455979958>
- ◆ Jun 20 Monday 5th Grade Graduation 1:00pm
- ◆ Jun 21 Tuesday 5th Grade Luncheon/Field Day
- ◆ Jun 21 Tuesday Site Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- ◆ Jun 24 Friday Last Day of Before and After School Program!
- ◆ Jun 27 Monday LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - Early Dismissal 12:15 SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!
- ◆ Sept 6 Tuesday WELCOME BACK - First day of 2011-2012 School Year

Watertown Public Schools Summer Program 2011

Watertown Public Schools is pleased to present an exciting program of options for students who are looking for interesting and enriching activities this summer, while strengthening their academic, verbal, and social skills. Classes will be held at the Hosmer School.

Sliding scale tuition fees are available to Watertown Residents.

The complete catalog is available at the bottom right of the [Hosmer Elementary School Website](#)

To view the activity offerings click on [Summer Program 2011](#)

For a registration form click on [Summer Program Registration 2011](#)

Questions? Contact:

Student Services, 617-926-7766 bstewart@watertown.k12.ma.us or

Beth Sahakian at 617 923-7653, bsahakian@watertown.k12.ma.us .

State-Wide Parent Survey

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education invites the parents of all public school children to complete an online parent survey. The Department wants to know about the efforts made by each public school to help parents feel welcome as a partner in planning their child's education. The survey should take ten minutes to complete. Survey results will provide your child's school with answers about parent-school partnerships, transitions, and family training.

To begin the survey, you will be asked for your child's school district, and school name. If more than one child in your family attended school in the selected school district during the current school year, please fill out one survey per child. You can complete the survey by going to:

<http://www.MAparentsurvey.com>

Your survey answers will remain anonymous. Please complete the survey and submit it online by Thursday June 30, 2011.

Thank you in advance for your help with the survey.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

June 27th is a half day for students.

- Dismissal times:
- Elementaries – 12:15
- Middle School – 11:45am
- High School – 12pm

We will miss you!

At the close of school there are many “good-byes” and “see you soon’s”. I just want to take a moment to thank Mrs. Kherlopian and Mrs. Samaria for sharing their talent and passion teaching with us here at the Lowell. We have been so lucky and you will be so missed! May your retirements be as fulfilling and as magnificent as your careers.

Three years ago, we were extremely fortunate to have Ms. Erica Simons join our faculty. Sadly for us, Erica is returning home to Seattle. Though we can understand her need for family, we will be unlikely to cross paths with such a kind, dedicated and passionate colleague again. As you rejoin your first family, please do not forget your Lowell family, who loves and respects you deeply.

“END OF THE YEAR PICNIC” ***THURSDAY, JUNE 16TH*** ***2:30 - 5:00 P.M.***



Rain date: Thursday June 16th

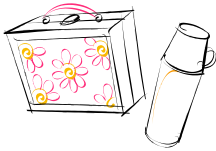


Bring the whole family!

Sausages, hotdogs, fried dough & drinks for sale

DJ and lots of fun activities for the kids

Sponsored by the JR Lowell PTO



LOST AND FOUND



HELP! The lost and found shelves are overflowing! Please take an opportunity to visit the "Lost and Found" area during drop-off or pick-up. The Lost and Found is located on the lower level in the stair well. Upon entering the school at the main doors, proceed straight ahead, through the doors and down the stairwell.

Any unclaimed clothing, lunch bags, water bottles, hats, gloves, mittens and other articles will be donated to a shelter at the end of the school year!



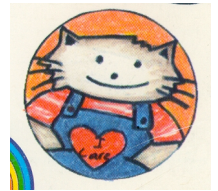
FROM GUIDANCE:

Another pitch for the new Lowell Guidance Blog:

<http://lowellguidance.blogspot.com/> Please check it out if you have not already!

Caring School Community (CSC): We are continuing our lessons in school; please ask your child about what they are learning.

Building Bully Free Schools: After finishing up our Guidance lessons with Grades 3, 4, and 5, I am now visiting the Kindergarten classes while they are at library. I Care Cat® and I are talking about naming our feelings, "reading" our friends' feelings, and learning a fun song from the Second Step® Curriculum. Please ask your child to teach you the song - it comes with some wonderful American Sign Language. We hope to post a video on the Guidance website soon.



As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns! Ms. Knight

End Dates of Courses for Kids programs!

Monday June 20 th	Engineering with Legos
Tuesday June 14 th	Math Games
Wednesday June 15 th	Spring Adventure
Thursday June 16 th	Morning Reading Club (runs Tuesday & Thursday)
Thursday June 16 th	Knucklebones
Friday June 17 th	Karate

THE LOWELL LOWDOWN CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS!

Art Room News



We have had an exciting year in the Lowell art room. Picasso was our feature artist for the "Teachers Discovery Exhibit". We learned about his life and works. Our Original Art Works fundraiser was a success. Thank you to all the parents that purchased products to support our PTO. The Watertown Annual Art Exhibit had such a great turnout this year that we ran out of vanilla ice cream for the first time ever. We ended our year with grades 4/5 all school "World Tour" assembly on India. Music, dance, sports, storytelling and artworks were shared by many. Thanks to all the volunteers that helped to make it a success. As the year comes to an end students will be taking home the rest of their art projects. Have a wonderful summer and enjoy sharing their works with them. Anna Lochiatto

Pre-K / K News

Kindergarten picnic (date TBA)! Look for information to come home in your child's folder!

Ms. Brown's PreK/K:

We are going on a field trip to the Franklin Park Zoo on 6/8.

Mrs. Tarr's PreK/K: were inspired by a March trip to Boston Children's Theatre, to present for their families a performance of SHIVERS, a Frog and Toad story by Arnold Lobel. We performed for families on Friday June 3rd, at 8:50AM. In addition, there will be other performances offered to K-2 classes.

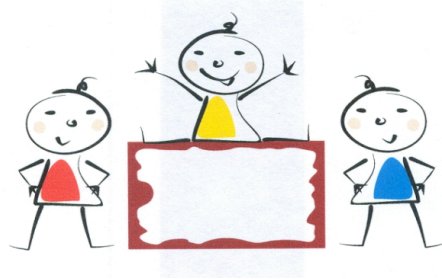
PreK/K will be joining the K classes on a field trip to Franklin Park Zoo on June 8th.

We will be visiting the Watertown Fire Station in June (date TBA).

Our final class event will be a Mad Hatter's Tea Party in the classroom, during the last week of school (date TBA). Parents and PreK/K students should attend this party wearing a themed hat, based on a character or incident from "Alice in Wonderland". A letter will be sent home with suggestions for hats, and art materials will be available for those families that need them.

ADULT HELP NEEDED: PreK/K and some K children are hoping to plant a garden outside the playground by the George Street parking lot. The ground is too hard, with many rocks and weeds, so adult help is needed to help dig and prepare the soil. If any parents (*from any grade level*) would like to be a part of this project, please see Mrs. Tarr. Thank you so much if you can help. We may be asking for plant donations once the soil is ready for planting, so anyone that is dividing plants in their own gardens, please think of helping to beautify our school grounds. Any help or donations will be very gratefully received.

Lynne Tarr



Fall 2011-2012
LEAP Registration

Before and After School packets
available.

Contact

Laureen Raftes or Bob Galante
at

[617-926-7779](tel:617-926-7779)

and

Beth Sahakian at [617-923-7653](tel:617-923-7653)



Town Wide Block Party



Saturday June 18th 4 - 7 PM
Victory Field on Orchard Street

Bring your own Picnic*, Blanket and Chairs!



Fun for all ages!



Games, Music and Square Dancing!!

Hosted by
Watertown Community Foundation



For more information contact:

Doreen Dawson at demdawson@rcn.com



*No food provided,
No alcohol allowed



PTO Announcements

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 member, parents and teachers plan and organize a variety of social activities, events and fundraisers during the school year.

If you have any questions about or for the PTO, 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:

<http://teacherweb.com/MA/WatertownLowellElementary/ParentPortal/apt4.aspx>

Family Dues! Just drop your dues in the PTO mailbox or give to any board member. (Yes - we are still collecting for the 2010-2011 school year!)

Elections: If you are interested in running for any of the positions on the PTO, please put your name in the PTO Mailbox at the front entrance.



Yes, you....we are looking for all of those parents who can help!
Volunteering can be whatever you can

do, feel comfortable with and want to do.

- Time (an hour at the Ice Cream Social or Faire on the Square),
- A skill (for example the newsletter, Box Tops, organizing, etc),
- Organizing and running or just getting involved in one PTO event (it might be your idea and you want to make it happen),
- Assisting teachers by coming in to help make copies of homework and study papers for classrooms,
- Helping to set up PTO events and school assembly events,
- Being part of the cleanup crew at any event,
- Taking responsibility for the PTO Bulletin Board at the front entrance.

These are just a few of the ways you can help. You are part of the Lowell community.

We need your help to be successful and make our school community stronger.

Success in life has nothing to do with what you gain in life or

accomplish for yourself. It's what you do for others.

-- Danny Thomas

KEEP COLLECTING BOX TOPS & LABELS FOR EDUCATION OVER THE SUMMER!



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

2011 SUMMER BOX TOPS CONTEST IS ON!

Within the next two weeks Box Tops for Education and Campbells Labels for Education collection bags and envelopes will be sent home with each child. Those with kindergarten children will receive their packets in the mail. Be on the lookout for them and start collecting now!

NOTE: if you have any Box Tops that have a June 2011 expiration date, please drop them in the Collection box at the front doors of the school. Thank you! Happy Collecting!

CAMPBELL'S LABELS FOR EDUCATION

The Lowell Elementary School is collecting Campbell's Labels For Education (LFE) this year. Don't throw away any of the LFE's from participating products: Campbell's soups, Franco-American, V-8 products, Pepperidge Farms, Prego Sauces, etc.

For a list of participating products, use this link:
<http://www.labelsforeducation.com/participating-products.aspx>
Want to help? Contact LFE Coordinator: Angela Horrigan
(ahorrigan@gmail.com)

