

Lowell Lowdown

November, 2009

James Russell Lowell School is a community of learners.

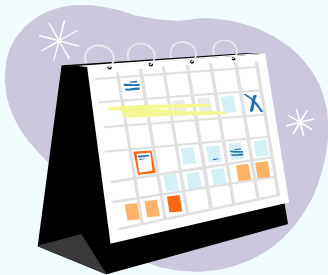
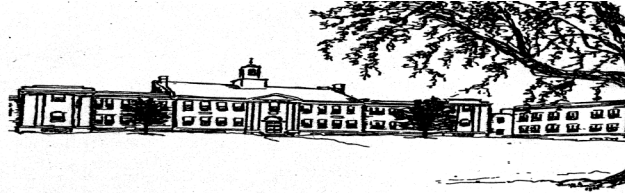
As a caring and responsible community:

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.



Upcoming Events

- ◆ Nov 17th - Evening Teacher Conferences
- ◆ Nov 18th - Half Day School for Teacher Conferences
- ◆ Nov 24th - Site Council meeting at 7:00pm
- ◆ Nov 25th - Half Day School
No Lunch Served
12 Noon Dismissal
- ◆ Nov 26th-27th Thanksgiving Holiday Break
- ◆ Dec 15th-21st - Book Fair
- ◆ Dec 18th - Winter Wonderland event
- ◆ Dec 24th-Jan 1st - Holiday Break

From the Principal's desk

Wishing you and yours a
Happy Thanksgiving!



LUNCH NUGGETS!

The milk we serve at the schools, all flavors, does not have artificial growth hormones.

As of January 2010, Garelick will have completed the change over in the package and recipe of all our milk. The carton/ bottle will say "Our Farmers Pledge not to use Artificial Growth hormones" They are also removing the High Fructose Corn Syrup from all flavors.

Also, please note that this months November school menu was the last hardcopy distributed from school. You can now access the menu, as well as lunch applications, by logging onto: www.watertown.k12.ma.us/food. We ask that you please not call the school for menu information.

As always, if you should have any questions, please call Food Services at 617-926-7756.

LOWELL SCHOOL WEBSITE:

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

From the Nurse's desk



VISION AND HEARING SCREENING

Vision and hearing screenings are in progress and almost completed for all grades.

Vision screening should be performed approximately every 12 months in elementary school to detect any vision problem. If a student wears glasses, he or she must wear glasses when tested. Students with a family history of color vision problems and those who are having problems seeing colors should be tested by a vision specialist.

Screening tests are not diagnostic; they merely identify students who may need further attention by a primary care provider, ophthalmologist or audiologist.

Parents/guardians of all children who do not perform satisfactorily on a vision or hearing screening are notified by the school nurse. Parents need to follow up and provide for any comprehensive exam.

Yours for a healthy school year,
Mrs. Taverna

THE LOWELL LOWDOWN BULLETIN BOARD



Fourth Graders Go Green...

Our 4th graders are going green by trying to saving those trees. How? Well, by recycling paper, of course!

As part of their community service project this year, fourth graders in Miss Garabedian's, Mr. Gould's, and Mr. Vachon's classes are responsible for the recycling paper efforts. The students are taking this very seriously and doing a great job of being responsible in collection efforts.

From ESL:

Mrs. Horrigan & Mrs. Bailey are available for additional questions from conferences on Friday mornings (Nov. 13 & Nov. 20) from 8:20-9:00 am in room G15. There will be an ESL parent meeting on Friday, Dec. 4 from 8:20-9:00 am in Room 116. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Bethan Bailey
ESL, Gr. 3-5

Box Tops collection funds for the October 31st submission date was \$303. Keep collecting those Box Tops for a contest that will take place in Jan/Feb 2010!

Sign up at the BOX TOPS website and earn Box Tops for our school! For each new person that signs up, the school will receive 5 Box Tops. If 20 new parents register, it earns our School \$10! So please be sure to visit this website:

<http://www.boxtops4education.com/one/default.aspx>

As of Nov 16th only 2 families have signed up. It only takes a minute to register and you will be helping the school!

Calling all Volunteers!

There are many areas of the school that needs volunteers: the library and help getting materials photo copied for classrooms are just two of many ways you can help at the school. Contact the PTO if you are interested in volunteering!

School Site Council News

Lowell School Site Council Meeting:

The Lowell School Site Council will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 24, 2009 at 7:00 pm. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate. The agenda for the meeting includes the following topics:

"FeedForward" -- *What improvements have been suggested by the Lowell community during the last month?*

"Lowell, Did You Know?" – MCAS and MAP assessments in the Lowell School

SIP/Subcommittee Progress Updates:

- * School Website Improvements
- * Communications Planning
- * Annual Family Survey
- * Assemblies
- * Awards & Recognition
- * Annual Schoolwide Service Learning Project

For the full agenda, you can go to the Site Council link off the Lowell School web site:

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



PTO Announcements

Thank you! Thank you to everyone who baked and donated items for the Election Day Bake Sale! It was a great success. Also, thanks to all who participated in our recent catalog fundraiser – the money we raised goes directly to the school to support learning and to foster community!

PTO Website! The web address is: www.watertownlowellpto.com You can also contact the PTO using this email address: 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!

Lowell School Family Event: December 18th Winter Wonderland Family Night at 6:30 pm – all are invited to join in the fun and volunteers are needed! See the PTO website or contact Jen Shea for details.

Book Fair: Raise money for the school and encourage your children to read by participating in our upcoming Book fair by Bookends, on December 15th through December 21st – see the PTO website or Angela Horrigan angela.horrigan@libertymutual.com for details and ways you can help.

J R Lowell PTO Night with the Providence Bruins: Sunday January 24th the Providence Bruins vs. Springfield Falcons. Tickets are \$18. In addition, all Students in the group will receive a FREE P-Bruins hat - Friends and family welcome! Deadline to purchase tickets is January 12th, 2010. Contact Lars Fossel at lfossel@comcast.net Game time is at 4:05pm at the Dunkin Donuts Center, Providence, RI.

ART ROOM NEWS/Mrs. Lochiatto

Recycle, Recycle, Recycle!!

The art room is a great place to recycle materials. We have been using egg cartons for paint palettes, small yogurt containers with lids to store glue, newspaper to dry our brushes, wrapping paper for

collages and yarn for weavings.

Other materials that are always needed are Kleenex (tissues), hand sanitizer, sponges, wipes and glue sticks.

Thank you for your contributions!

Anna Lochiatto



The Lowell School Annual World Tour Assembly: Next Stop, South Africa!

Following up on our successful first World Tour Assembly to Mexico last year, the Specialist Teachers (Art, Library, Music, PE, and Technology) will once again be collaborating on our second annual all-school World Tour Assembly.

This year, the 4th and 5th grade students will be studying the country and culture of South Africa. The assembly will be in May and will offer a mix of musical performances, arts and crafts, exhibits, dance and game demonstrations, literature celebrations, and multi-media presentations.

If you have personal knowledge and/or experience of South African culture that you would like to share with our students, please contact one of the Specialist Teachers. We will be sending out a request for artifacts for our showcase closer to the assembly.

Eileen Donahue, PE
Anna Lochiatto, Art
Elizabeth Phipps, Library
Anthony Spano, Music
Anne Sudbay, Technology
