



# Hancock Hullabaloo

Hancock Nursery School  
 Newsletter Editor ~ Judy Kelley

Winter 2011  
[www.hancocknurseryschool.org](http://www.hancocknurseryschool.org)

## From the Director's Desk

Every year at this time I come up with the same list of New Years' resolutions, exercise more and loose twenty pounds. So I decided this year would be different and I would focus on the gift of time. I would find more time for myself, spend more time with family and friends and savor the time I share with your children. Your children are a most precious gift, not only to you, but to all of the staff of Hancock Nursery School. They are the hope for the future! I saw this essay a while back and wanted to share it with you.

### ***If I Had My Child to Rise Over Again...***

*I'd finger paint more, and point the finger less.  
 I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes.  
 I would care to know less, and know to care more.  
 I'd take more hikes and fly more kites.  
 I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play.  
 I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars.  
 I'd do more hugging, and less tugging.  
 I would be firm less often, and affirm much more.  
 I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later.  
 I'd teach less about the love of power,  
 And more about the power of love.*

*Diane Loomans*

Thank you for the gift of your beautiful children! Wishing you a very happy, healthy and prosperous new year.



## Important Dates

Date/Time	Event
Wednesday, February 16 <sup>th</sup>	Special Extended Day
February 21 <sup>st</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup>	HNS Closed Winter Recess
Friday, March 4 <sup>th</sup>	Carnival Night
Monday, March 7 <sup>th</sup>	HNS Closed - Professional Day
March 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup>	School Pictures
Wednesday, March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Special Extended Day
Wednesday, April 13 <sup>th</sup>	Special Extended Day
April 18 <sup>th</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup>	HNS Closed Spring Recess
Wednesday, May 18 <sup>th</sup>	Special Extended Day
Tuesday, May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Flatbread Fundraiser

# Pre-K Parents

During the month of March you will receive an invitation to attend a kindergarten orientation evening sponsored by the Lexington Public Schools along with an information form that must be completed by their preschool teacher. Please be sure to complete the face sheet and sign all necessary areas. Although kindergarten is eight months, I believe parents should acknowledge that kindergarten is ahead, but stress that the fun parts of summer will happen first. When upcoming change is talked and discussed too early it can result in anxiety and even sleep issues. Remember you wouldn't tell your child about a trip to Disney that is planned several months away. If you can remain positive and calm about the transitions ahead your child will feel more comfortable and confident when entering kindergarten.

To help your child with important skills for kindergarten, try some of these simple activities:

- **Read, Read, and Read Some More!** You know your child likes to hear the same story again and again - so have fun picking out a new picture or letter to talk about each time, or ask your child to "read" a favorite story to you - even if he doesn't really know how to read words yet.
- **Practice the Alphabet: Sing the ABC song**, sometimes skipping letters to see if your child knows the right order; or say the ABCs and stop and see if your child can continue. Sound out letters, and talk about words that begin with a letter. When you are running errands with your child, play games in the car, having your child pick out letters on signs and items in the grocery store.
- **Name That Thing:** Help your child learn how to describe how things look and what they do by playing the "Name That Thing" Game. Example: Ask your child, "What's round and you bounce it?" (Answer is, of course, ball), or "What has four legs, a long nose, and floppy ears?" (Answer - yes, an elephant).
- **Counting in Every Day Activities:** At the grocery store, have your child count how many items you put in the cart, and ask how many there would be if you add one or take two away. Count the number of red cars you see on a short trip to visit a friend. Read books about numbers and counting.

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## Flatbread Fundraiser



Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> HNS will be having a fundraiser at Flatbread in Bedford. A portion of the cost of each pizza **either dine-in or take-out will be donated to HNS.** Come out and enjoy dinner with your family and HNS friends. Flatbread is located at 213 Burlington Rd, Bedford, MA (781) 275-8200

## LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW...

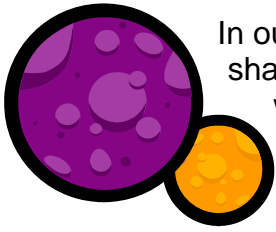
Here are our Red Room friends enjoying icicles while frolicking on the mound of snow outside the playground.

## Tuition Rates 2011 – 2012

There will be no increase in tuition rates.

2 day	\$2,507
3 Day	\$3,586
4 Day	\$5,191
5 Day	\$6,396

## Yellow Room M/W/F



In our room, we are learning about shapes. To recognize circles in the world, we went on a scavenger hunt in the classroom. This is what was found.

Dylan - wheel on a truck  
Emi- cracker  
Emily - doll's eyes  
Ethan - coffee pot  
Hyunho - top of water pitcher  
James - plate  
John - key ring  
Julia - block  
Keigo - easel magnet  
Peter - orange  
Rebekah - spoon  
Veronica - knob on kitchen sink

## Family Breakfasts

Mark your calendar for upcoming Family Breakfasts:



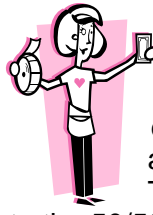
Green Room – February 14, 2011  
Yellow Room (M,W,F) – February 16 2011  
Orange Room – April 8, 2011  
Blue Room – May 4, 2011  
Red Room – Mother's Tea - May TBD  
Yellow Room (T / TH) - TBD

You will receive an invitation & more detailed information. This is an event your entire family should not miss.

## Yellow Room T/TH

We are so pleased to welcome Ellie Beatty, our new Yellow Room lead teacher. She lives with her husband Dave in Newton, has two sons in college, one graduating in May. She also has a Master's Degree in Preschool Special Needs and has been teaching in public and private schools in Marshfield, Boston, and Newton for many years. She also loves the outdoors, art, reading, swimming, and especially enjoys working with young children! Please take a moment to stop by, welcome her to HNS and introduce yourself.

## HNS Parent Committee



On Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, Cathy and Wilbur Swan hosted the "Hancock How do you do?" Parent Social. It was wonderful event attended by staff, current parents, alumni and incoming parents.

Thank you for your generous contributions to the 50/50 raffle. We are happy to report that HNS is now \$2,700 closer to a new fence for the playground and the Sheth's family 6 year old son was the winning ticket holder.

Save the Date...Hancock Annual Carnival will be on Friday, March 4th!! Bring the whole family for a night of fun! Volunteers needed, please see sign-up on bulletin board.



The LexFUN Consignment sale is in May. Look out soon for more information on how to donate used clothing and toys for HNS to consign. You drop it off....and we do the rest! We will tag it and sell it! 1/2 proceeds to LexFUN, 1/2 to Hancock! Last year we raised over \$700 for room improvements. Any questions? Want to help out? See Jackie Lupone or Alissa O'Shaughnessy

## Green Room

Over the holiday break, the Green Room got a facelift! The walls were painted two soothing shades of green and the windows' trim was painted white.

Also, the dressing area/library (which used to be called the Rainbow Room because of its different colored walls) was also painted green and new shelving was put in by Mrs. Andrews' husband, Ross (thanks!).

The class had a fun time looking around the room during a Morning Meeting and talking about what was the same and what was different about the room. Their powers of observation were tested and they passed with flying colors!



If you have a moment, take a peek inside and see if you can notice a change or two.

Mr. B.