



HORACE MANN MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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YARD SALE:

Don't forget to save the date—May 8—Yard Sale Day. We need household items, books, toys, and clothes. We'll also have special gift baskets and vendors who will be selling wonderful items for Mother's Day Gifts. Come for lunch—we'll be selling hot dogs, hamburgers and other delicious items.

PARENT CONFERENCES:

March 18th and 19th. Remember early dismissal on those days—students will be dismissed at 10:40.

SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL:

March 19th and 20th. Tickets are just \$10.00—sold at the door—7:00 p.m.

MCAS DATES:

March 22	ELA Practice Test—All Grades
March 23	7th grade long composition
March 24	ELA Session 1—All Grades
March 25	ELA Session 2—All Grades

May 11	Math Session 1—All Grades
May 12	Math Session 2—All Grades
May 18	Science Session 1—Grade 8
May 19	Science Session 2—Grade 8

GOOD FRIDAY: School closed—April 2

MICCA PERFORMANCE: Orchestra on April 9th at 5:00 p.m.

SPRING VACATION: April 19-April 23

FRANKLIN EDUCATION FOUNDATION—TRIVIA BEE:

April 29 at 7:00 p.m.—Thomas D. Mercer Auditorium at Horace Mann Middle School

PARENT MEETING: For parents of incoming 6th graders—May 6th—6:30-7:30 p.m.

TRIP TO BROADWAY: Saturday, May 8th.

YARD SALE: Saturday, May 8th.

PCC MEETING FOR MAY: Thursday, May 13th.

HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE:

Franklin Public Schools, Lifelong Learning Institute, Franklin High School invite all 8th grade students to participate in The High School Experience, Class of 2014 this summer during the week of August 9. It is a wonderful opportunity for kids to meet students from the four middle schools, become acquainted with freshman teachers and other important personnel, and learn how to "survive high school".

Please see <http://franklin.k12.ma.us/hm/HighSchoolExperience.pdf> for more information.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (SEPAC) :

Next meeting is March 17, 2010: Executive Dysfunction: Helping Your Child Succeed Academically and Socially

Executive functioning includes a child's ability to regulate his or her attention, emotions, and behavior, as well as her ability to plan and organize tasks. Executive control difficulties are the hallmark feature of Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder but are also often experienced by children with learning and developmental disabilities and can undermine a child's academic performance and social success. Neuropsychologist, Jessica Benetti-McQuoid, Ph.D., from the Integrated Center for Child Development, will provide an overview of this collaborative process and how it can help your child.

All meetings are held at the Franklin Municipal Building, 355 East Central Street, 3rd floor training room. This workshop is free and open to the public. For more information about future events, upcoming workshops and being added to our confidential email list, visit www.Franklin.ma.us/SEPAC

NEWS YOU CAN USE:

WWW.FRANKLIN.MA.US/AUTO/SCHOOLS/FPS/FLYER/DEFAULT.HTM

Please see flyers and announcements for Franklin Public School children and their families on this website.

Friday Lego Club at Horace Mann Middle School- Chandler Creedon, Advisor



Seven years ago I was talking to a student trying to get him to join an after school activity. He thought about it and responded there was nothing here that he liked. Tell me what would you like to do, I asked? "Legos, I like to build with Legos," was his response. "I am sorry to say we don't have Legos here," I answered back.

As luck would have it, that weekend I was traveling and ended up walking in a mall somewhere here in New England. Before my eyes was a huge store selling nothing but Lego products. I went inside and walked around a bit. I was amazed by the kits and the models of things that could be crafted with Legos. I decided I would buy two general boxes of mixed Lego pieces.

Monday Morning I found my Lego student and told him to bring a friend to the conference room on Friday after the close of school. Horace Mann now had a Lego club! From this very small beginning, we now have a Lego club of anywhere from twenty four students, to days when there are more than seventy-five after school for the Lego club. It is an absolute joy to watch students come to the cafeteria and craft little Lego bricks into wonderful Lego creations. The creativity is powerful. Other skills such as learning patience, the correct way to ask for something, saying "please and thank you" are all hidden within the activity.

One section of the trophy case has bloomed into the Lego Club using the whole expanse, to showcase our creations.

To keep us creating, the Lego Club is looking for Lego pieces. Any and all pieces no longer needed at your house would be enthusiastically welcomed here. Random bags or boxes of Lego's would mean so much. We will give them a wanted home. We will treat them with respect and even wash them before we add them to our collection.

The other day, I was wondering why the glass on the Trophy case was all smudged? I happened to be standing near the case when the second and third grades from Oak Street walked by from their recess time. Each student who stopped to point toward a creation added another small smudge. Each student told his or her friend in line, that someday they too would be part of the Lego club. Hearing this I know I made a good investment with the first two boxes of Legos. Any help with donated pieces would be such an advantage to all our students. Thank you in advance.