



# outside the box

THE HOBOKEN CHARTER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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ELEMENTARY 05.16.13

### Important Dates:

- Monday – Thursday, May 13 – 16 – NJASK Testing for Grade 3
- Monday – Friday, May 13 – 17 – NJASK Testing for Grade 3
- Thursday, May 16 - Parent Association Meeting at 7:00 pm – Sts. Peter and Paul
- Friday, May 24 - 1:00 dismissal for Grades K-12 (no after school)
- Monday, May 27 – School Closed for students in grades K-12
- Monday, June 3 – Dress Rehearsal for the Summer Gathering – Details to follow
- Tuesday, June 4 – Summer Gathering (rain date on Wednesday, June 5)
- Wednesday, June 12 - Board of Trustees Meeting – 7 p.m.
- Thursday, June 13 - Professional Development – 1 p.m. dismissal for students in grades K-12
- Thursday, June 20 – Field Day (rain date on Friday, June 21)
- Thursday, June 20 – June 25 – 1:00 p.m. dismissal for Students
- Monday, June 24 – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation – St. Matthew Lutheran Parish Hall at 4:00 pm
- Tuesday, June 25 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation – St. Matthew Lutheran Parish Hall at 4:00 pm



**Empty Bowls was a Success!**  
Thank you to everyone who participated.

**THE HOBOKEN CHARTER SCHOOL CORDIALLY  
INVITES FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO OUR ANNUAL  
SUMMER GATHERING CELEBRATION ON TUESDAY, JUNE 4<sup>th</sup> AT FRANK SINATRA  
PARK AT 6:00 P.M. TO SEE AMAZING PERFORMANCES BY OUR K-12  
STUDENTS LED BY OUR  
FABULOUS MUSIC TEACHER MR. GAVARNY**



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**Field Day is Thursday,  
June 20<sup>th</sup> at Pier A Park  
for K-12.**

Calling all families! ~  
HCS needs to hear from you!  
Attached you will find a letter that you need  
to fill out and return to the main office  
regarding enrollment for the  
2013-2014 School Year



# KINDERGARTEN CLASS NEWS - May 2013

**Language Arts:** Now that we have learned all the letters of the alphabet, we have been studying "word families." We will also continue to work in our guided reading groups.

**Math:** With 1st grade fast approaching, we are practicing our addition and basic subtraction facts within 5 to make sure we are all set for 1st grade! We will begin reviewing 3D shapes, learning about odd/even and exploring with greater than and less than!

**Science:** April showers bring May flowers and May flowers bring along butterflies!!! Our classroom is the new home to 10 caterpillars that we are raising to become beautiful butterflies!! We have learned all about their life cycle and what they need to live a healthy life. Once they are full grown, we will be releasing them outside in the park. Watching them grow has been very exciting!

## **THE PENNY HARVEST/ Care Cans WERE A SUCCESS!!! TOTAL: \$106.00!**

Our field trip to the homeless shelter was a great success!!! We hand delivered all the supplies that were bought with the \$106.00 we collected through our Care Cans. We were able to help the shelter by providing plastic silverware, paper plates, napkins, paper towels and plastic bowls, plastic cups, and cleaning supplies...much needed supplies!!!

### *Where Did The Time Go?*

Kindergarten has officially begun the countdown until the last day of school. There is an exciting energy in the air that makes it difficult to focus this time of year., but we will continue tackling new material and respecting class rules. We will be doing lots of outdoor activities to help us release this energy.

**Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!**

*We can not thank each and every kindergarten family enough for all your generous donations of snacks and classroom supplies this past year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.*

*Also, many thanks for your caring, cooperation, and support over the past school year. You have helped make this a great year! Have an amazing summer!!!*

*- Courtney, Marie, and Cait*



Keep your eyes open for a permission slip for our last field trip and for information about Summer Gathering and our Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony!

## News from First Grade

**Wow!** It's hard to believe that May is already here! With second grade fast approaching, the children have been busy learning and practicing all of the skills that they will need to keep them the "super students" that they are.

**Math** - The children continue to practice breaking down two digit numbers by their tens and ones values, and then completing addition and subtraction equations. They are also learning all about word problems, and identifying the important information within each and whether to add or subtract. They are becoming "math wizards!"



in-

**Reading and Writing** - The theme for the past few weeks has been poetry. The children have learned that poems can not only rhyme, but they can be about nature, about feelings and about events. They are learning to write poetry "through a poet's eyes," and use their senses to describe the topic, along with learning poetic writing techniques such as line breaks, and creating a picture with their words.



**Service Learning and Empty Bowls** - One of the annual events that Hoboken Charter School focuses on is Empty Bowls. Our class focused on the issue of homelessness and how we could help. Beginning in March, the class decided to raise money for our project by selling Valentine cards and school items. After all of the counting was done, the class decided to use the money to create "I Care" kits for residents of the Hoboken Homeless Shelter. Each kit contained shampoo, soap, socks and other toiletry items. We were able to present them to the residents of the shelter during

the Empty Bowl luncheon that was held on May 4<sup>th</sup>. The children also created a wonderful mural that was displayed at the Empty Bowls luncheon depicting "Who is homeless?," "How did this happen,?" and "How I Can Help!" The children did a fantastic job on this project and demonstrated, once again, their understanding of the event and how each person can make a difference!

**Social Studies** - Thank you to all of the parents who were able to join us on our trip to the Children's Museum in Paramus. While there, the children were able to explore many of the services that you find in Hoboken, such as the Fire Department, a post office and even a grocery store. The children had a wonderful time!

As we come to the end of the school year, we would like to thank our first grade families for all of the support you gave, not only to your child, but to us. With your help, we were able to rebuild the classroom quickly, and even add books to our library - that were already leveled!

Thanks again!

Have a wonderful summer!

Jackie Piersanti

Courtney Collins



# 2nd Grade News

Check out our pictures of working on our Empty Bowls mural and cheering on our friends at the pep rally!

We are in our last unit of math on geometry and graphing. Students will be identifying characteristics of quadrilaterals, pentagons, and hexagons and will be learning how to make line plots and bar graphs.



## Science

We are wrapping up our recycling unit! The students are working on a school wide project to encourage more recycling in the school.

## Writing & Reading

We are studying poetry in both reading and writing as the last units of the year. We are floored by the poetic talent in the classroom. We will be studying poetic elements like imagery, similes, tone, rhythm, repetition, beat, and much more!

## Social Studies

We will be taking a trip to the Hoboken Historical Museum on May 31st to practice our geography and mapping skills.



## Classroom Wish List

- Kleenex
- Clorox wipes
- Hand Sanitizer

# News from the Third Grade



## An exciting month in the life of third grade!

### Poetry Publishing Party

This month the students studied poetry extensively. They learned how to rhyme, create rhythm, and build meaning into their very own organic poems. They published their anthologies at a French style coffee house complete with hot chocolate, pastries, and berets.

### Pep Rally

The third grade showed their school spirit at HCS's first pep rally. They enjoyed dancing to YMCA and listening to the awesome Pep Band play the Final Countdown.

### Mystic Whaler Trip

The third grade voyaged along the Hudson River on the Mystic Whaler! The students learned sea shanties, how to raise a sail, details of the Hudson River's pollution, and got to meet some of its wildlife. We all had a great time bonding on the beautiful sunny day.

### Campfire Storytelling

As a way to end our fairytale, myth, and fable unit the students wrote their very own. They shared them while sitting around the campfire and "toasting" marshmallows



## **Upcoming Units**

**Math:** More area and multiplication

**Reading:** Roald Dahl Unit

**Writing:** Interview Writing and other Genre Writing

**Science:** Hudson River Ecosystems

**Social Studies:** Hudson River geography and changes over time

## **Upcoming Events**

Wednesday, May 22nd: Carnegie Hall Trip

Thursday, May 23rd: Rescheduled Alpine Hike Trip please bring a bag lunch!

Friday, May 24th 1 P.M. Day

Monday, May 27th: No School

**Tuesday, June 4th: Summer Gathering**

**Friday, June 7th: Moving-Up Day**

**Thank you so much for all of your contributions and support for our Sloop Trip. We were able to raise the entire remainder through all of your and the students hard work! We are looking forward to many exciting end of the year activities. Please visit our website for weekly updates! [hcsthirdgrade.weebly.com](http://hcsthirdgrade.weebly.com)**

**Warmly,**

**Miss Bobb and Miss Berger**

4th Grade Tribune  
Ms. Leahy & Miss Foschini

May, 2013

Wish List  
Needed for Lenape Museum

- \*Brown Clothes or Fabric (sheets, felt), any size (will not be returned)
- \*Paper Plates
- \*Shells
- \*Dried Beans
- \*Feathers
- \*Model Magic (natural colors)



Field Trips:

Carnegie Hall Concert:  
5/22/13 (morning trip)

Lenape Village: 5/23/13 (all day trip, leave school by 8:30; drop-off at Hoboken bus stop at approx. 3:30)

\*Chaperones welcome

Upcoming Dates:

Friday, May 24th-1:00 Dismissal  
Monday, May 27th-No School  
Tuesday, June 4th-Summer Gathering

May/June Units of Study:

**Math:** Capacity; Multi-step word problems

**Writing:** Poetry and Plays

**Science:** Sound, Light & Heat

**Reading:** Poetry and Plays

**Social Studies:** Lenape Indians



Having fun  
at the pep  
rally!





## Pictures from our trip to the Hoboken Historical Museum

We were investigating maps to determine reasons why and how immigrants were coming to Hoboken.





# Hoboken Charter School

*A K-12 community of learners, the Hoboken Charter School seeks to develop the academic, artistic, personal, and civic growth of all its members through its commitment to service learning and learner-centered education.*

April 23, 2013

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We are checking with all of our families to see if there is anyone who may not be returning next year, thereby making an additional space available to those on the January 12, 2013 lottery waitlist. If you are definitely sure you will be making alternate arrangements for next year and will not be returning to HCS, please sign and return the form below as soon as possible, but definitely before June 1, 2013.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,  
Maria Spinella  
Lottery Facilitator

My child/children, will not be returning to the Hoboken Charter School for the academic year 2013-2014, feel free to give my spot for next year to a family waitlist.

<u>Child's name</u>	<u>Current grade</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

I am considering other options for my child/ren (listed below), but am not yet prepared to give away my spot(s).

<u>Child's name</u>	<u>Current grade</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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