

**We Are Crew**



***Wood Hill Middle School***

***An Expeditionary Learning School***

**Celebration of Learning**

**Thursday**

**June 5, 2008**

**8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

**11 CROSS STREET ANDOVER MA 01810**

## *Introduction and Purpose*

Welcome to Wood Hill Middle School. We are proud to present our Celebration of Learning. This is a chance for the students and teachers of Wood Hill to exhibit their work related to Expeditionary Learning. As you visit the various rooms and locations throughout the building, please enjoy the work displayed and feel free to ask the students to tell you about their accomplishments. This is a learning opportunity for our visitors and our students. Thank you for taking the time to visit with us today!

Breakfast will be served in the cafeteria from 8:00-10:00am.

## Hierarchy of Curriculum Structures

***Learning Expeditions*** are long-term, interdisciplinary thematic studies that comprise a coherent set of investigations and learning experiences. They include multiple projects, fieldwork and service.

***Investigations*** are shorter studies that often center on a case study, which allows students to investigate in depth a particular aspect of the topic.

***Projects*** are structures for teaching essential skills and content, and lead to the creation of high quality products for an authentic audience.

## Core Practice Benchmarks of Expeditionary Learning

**Learning Expeditions:** Curriculum is organized around compelling topics derived from content standards. Through in-depth investigations of rich themes and projects, students construct deep understanding and skills, and create authentic products.

**Active Pedagogy:** Effective and engaging instructional practices make expedition content come alive. Learning expeditions and best teaching practices together support critical literacy, promote character development, create a sense of adventure, spark curiosity, and foster an ethic of service.

**Culture and Character:** We are crew, not passengers. Structures and practices bring the community together and promote shared understandings. Students are well known by adults and peers and character expectations are fostered in every aspect of the school.

**Leadership and School Improvement:** Leaders create a professional learning community focused on teaching and learning and aimed at improving student achievement and school culture.

**Structures:** The school schedule is designed for optimum student learning and adult collegial work.

## Expeditions, Investigations, and Projects

### ***6 East (8:00 -9:00)***

Rooms 024, 030, 033, 034, 036

Amy Brady, Kathy Conti, Frank DeFusco,  
Lisa Miller, Steve Tisbert

6 East students will be displaying their Science Fair projects. A collection of work that they produced in other academic classes will also be exhibited.

### ***6 West (8:00 – 9:30)***

Rooms 001, 003, 004, 007

Laura Stella, Patience Trainor, Joan Veznaian

Students will have a sampling of their work to share during Wood Hill's Celebration of Learning. These projects have been derived from their academic classes, and include the fruits of their learning from Egypt and India, writing samples, science fair projects, mathematical tessellations, and portfolios of year-long learning, to name a few. Please plan on stopping by the 6 West wing between 8:00 – 9:30 am. Hope to see you then!

### ***Student Support I (8:30 – 10:00)***

Room 113

Karen Donato

Open classroom with student work displayed. Light refreshments.

### ***Student Support II (8:00 – 9:00)***

Rooms 015

Ashlee Lefebvre, Lisa Mosquera, Ann Marie Sheehy,  
Andrea Judge, Maripat Moriarty

This year's Celebration of Learning will involve our students' parents helping their children with our classes' weekly cooking club. Students will follow a recipe to make pancakes which they will then enjoy eating with their parents. After breakfast, parents are welcome to stay and watch their children complete their daily work schedules.

**Enjoy the numerous  
collections of student  
artwork displayed  
throughout the building.**

**7 East (8:30 -10:00)** Rooms 124, 130, 133, 134, 136  
Katie Bent, Chris Brodeur, Chip Gregory  
Betty Singleton, Donna Sunderland, Thyra Sherman

Welcome to Team 7 East!

Please help us celebrate our completed and continuing work from 8:30-10:00 AM this morning.

Here's what you'll find as you travel through our wing:

Ms. Sunderland's room:

*Trail Blazing Video and Walk-a-thon Video*

Ms. Bent's room:

*Social Studies projects on display*

*Caesar Trial Pictures on display*

Mr. Gregory's room:

*Live poetry readings*

Mr. Brodeur's room:

*Pictures of field guide/website work in action*

*Microscope PupilCAM's in use*

*Plant specimens on display*

Hallway:

*Guatemala Picture Display*

*Math Walking Rate Charts*

*Walk-a-thon Picture Display*

*Student Essays on Lockers*

Thank you for visiting with us!

**7 West (8:30 -9:30)** Rooms 104, 107  
Paula Eichner, Dene Kouletsis, Carol Weldin,  
Linda Gibbs

Parents are cordially invited to Team 7 West team area from 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM for a guided walking tour of the year's expeditionary work, Operation Beautification.

**8 East (8:00 – 10:30)** Rooms 224, 230, 233, 234, 236  
Jane Anthony, Brian Carey, Scott Govoni,  
Laura Desjardins, Kim Lieberman

Team 8 East will showcase the work of an investigation focusing on Social Injustices through a look at period music, art and literature from the 1930's as part of the students reading of To Kill a Mockingbird.

Also, the 8 East team will be featuring various works of the students:

- Ms. Anthony showcasing student Weather Books and Human Body Books
- Ms. Desjardins showcasing Writing Folders
- Mr. Carey showcasing War of 1812 Newspapers, U.S. Foreign Policy Timelines, Civil War Letters to the Editor and Memorial Day Investigation.

Finally, after the student presentation of their Social Injustice Expedition students and parents will participate in a game of 20 Questions where each subject area teacher will create 20 questions as a review of the past year. Each homeroom along with their parents will form teams in a friendly competition in their attempt to answer the most questions correctly.

**8West (8:30 -10:30)** Rooms 203, 204, 207  
Christine Hill, David Lawrence, Karen Parker

Team 8 West invites all poetry lovers to our AM Poetry Slam. From 8:30-10:30, students will be sharing original selections of various types of poetry. In addition, our website on the human body, *gotbodies.com* will be up and running. In further "Celebration of our Learning", students are also preparing a photographic display of some of our most memorable moments together during the past year.

## **Physical Education**

Jim Saalfrank, Amanda Watson

Gym

The Physical Education staff has developed a video of an activity that most students had the opportunity to try out in a recent class. The new activity is called Streetsurfing. It is a relatively new sport that combines the skills of skateboarding, surfing, and snowboarding all rolled into one Waveboard. It allows the students to try an activity that is new, fun and exciting. Participants were working their core muscles without even thinking about the workout. It was a great activity and I hope the buzz that filled the school made it home and hopefully it provided some interest into getting outside and becoming more active.

So come on down to the cafeteria to check out some students in action both on the TV and in person. We will have some students demonstrating their skills near the cafeteria. All this will be taking place during breakfast. 8:00-10:00

## **Health**

Harry Jones

Rooms 115

Welcome all to the "Celebration of Learning" please feel free to stop by the Health classroom and observe a collection of work by the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> classes anytime between 8:30-10:30.

Over the past couple of weeks the 6<sup>th</sup> grade has been learning about assertive behavior and has constructed "Johari Windows" to better understand their interpersonal communication and relationships.

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes are concluding their teaching episodes where they are uncovering the realities involved in the misuse and abuse of various categories of drugs. During this project the students were asked to become the teachers and educate one another about a certain category of drug. Both classes will also be transitioning into their last project where they will be scripting speeches on a topic of their choice that pertains to optimal health.

I look forward to seeing and conversing with you all.

## **Media, Art, Music,**

Dorothy Natoli, Z Soffron, Gina Murray

8 East Team Area

While they read Harper Lee's classic novel, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, in the Language Arts classroom students have been investigating both local and national topics prevalent to American culture in the 1930's with a focus on prejudice and social injustice. Students participating in the visual art component of the investigation are creating dynamic pieces of art addressing current social issues such as poverty, AIDS, genocide, and animal rights, in contrast to the dominant social issues of the thirties. Please stop by the art room to view these works in progress. Students participating in the music investigation have written or arranged blues and jazz music to reflect the musical styles and social issues of the early 1900's through the Jazz Age. The groups will be performing their pieces upstairs in the 8East corridor. Students involved the research component in the library media center will exhibit displays from their investigation of various topics including: The Great Depression, The New Deal, the Andover Flood, treatment of minorities, and, entertainment and sports figures of the decade.

## **World Languages**

**Spanish,** Norma Villarreal

Room 215

**Grade 6** – Puppets, Primer Book of Numbers and Colors, Greetings Comic Strips, Spanish fortune tellers

**Grade 7** – Tri-fold Reports on Spanish Speaking Countries

**Grade 8** – Quinceañera Expeditionary Work

**Latin,** , Laura Leach

Room 201

**Grade 6-** Famous Roman Monuments; student-made models and trifolds.

**Grade 7-** Hand crafted thrones designed for the Roman gods.

**Grade 8 -** Mosaics and catapults

**French,** Patricia Gregory

Room 213

8:00 AM – Presentation of National French Contests awards. Followed by a showing of "The Lion King" video. Grade 6 French student research projects on display.

# Mary O. Pottenger School

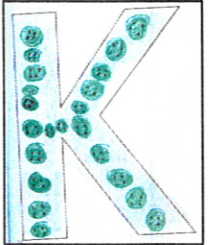


## Arts Across the Curriculum Exhibition Night

Wednesday, June 4, 2008  
6-7 p.m.

## KINDERGARTEN

Kristina Pho  
Kathleen Hudak  
Nelly Jones  
Rooms 7, 8, & 10



### Exploration of Food

*Our expedition focused on food. Our first hands-on experience was our visit to McCray's Farm. There we saw farmers harvesting crops and raising animals for food! Our excitement grew when we started integrating food into our classroom curriculum. We read books about food and learned about the importance of nutrition. We sorted food on the food pyramid, learned foods from A-Z, and practiced reading and writing. Through literature, we learned fun recipes which we used to prepare foods in our classroom. Yummy! Most of all, we learned to make life-long healthy choices.*

## FIRST GRADE

Kathleen Paulin  
Christine Scibelli  
Abigail DeJackome  
Edith Montanez  
Gymnasium



### Children's Lives Now and Long Ago

*Students learned about life here in Massachusetts almost 200 years ago: homes, schools, farm life, clothing, food and food preparation, jobs, games, and music. We read books, visited Old Sturbridge Village, churned butter, recreated a day in school, designed a calendar, and produced a coloring book.*

## SECOND GRADE

Lisa Murray  
Angela Hottin  
Room 16



### Cultures from Around the World

*Students have been learning about different cultures by reading traditional folktales. We have been focusing on the different foods, celebrations, and music of China and Africa while sharing our individual cultural heritage. We were able to do African beading, take a Tae Kwon Do class, and participate in a cultural luncheon. Please come see our masks from around the world and take home a copy of our "Recipes from Around the World" cookbook!*



## SECOND GRADE

Anne Rzewnicki  
Room 18



### Cultures from Around the World

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Catherine Adona  
Room 20



### The Insect World

*Students have learned about the insect world. Each student has done an in-depth insect report describing the insect, its habitat, and interesting facts about their insect of choice. Students have made multiple drawings and paintings of insects and their habitats.*

## THIRD GRADE

Katherine Henries  
Kevin Jones  
Adriana Dane  
Colleen Kelly  
Room 15, 17 & 19



### Native American Life

*The grade 3 expedition consists of three investigations pertaining to Native American living. Students learned about the daily lives of Northeastern Native tribes, completed a field study at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum in Connecticut, and created written and artistic products to display their learning. The expedition continued with the investigations in Pilgrim settlements and the conflicts that followed for both Natives and settlers. Third grade students also came to understand how stereotypes can be formed and unraveled. They now know that "Native Americans" were not just a part of history; this is a culture still present in today's world.*

## FOURTH GRADE

Bethanne Steil  
Room 2



### Real World Geometry

Students discovered how geometric shapes and lines are seen all over in our everyday life at school and at home. We identified geometric shapes, figures, and lines in our classroom, school, and in our homes. The students then drew their "real world" objects which might be a hat and then identified one geometric term relating to their pictures, which might be parallel lines. As a class we put together a Real Life Geometric Coloring Book for our first graders to use within their learning of geometry.

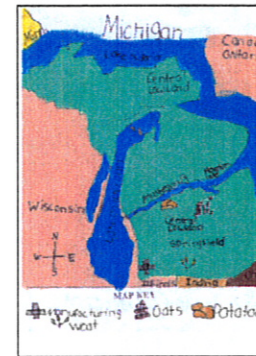
Julie Orr  
Bridget Romani  
Room 4



### Immigration

Students learned about the countries where their families immigrated from. The class read and discussed the book Immigrant Kids by Russell Freedman. The book explained the challenges of moving from one country to another. The class then researched the country that their family came from. The students interviewed family members to get a first hand account of what the experience of immigrating was like. They also worked on a family tree, the flag of their country, and a map in which they labeled important geographic places. Please come to room 4 and view our work on immigration.

Michael Cieboter  
Room 6



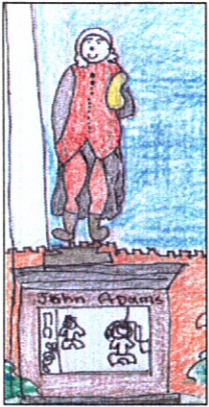
Springfield, USA

Students learned about the five themes of geography by studying Springfields across America. Students corresponded with every Springfield Mayor throughout the country, gathered information, collected artifacts, read books, and visited our own Springfield History Museum. Students incorporated math skills by calculating and estimating distances between our city and other Springfields. Our writing component involved writing recipes to demonstrate "how to" writing, creating travel brochures to show their understanding of persuasive writing, and writing stories to explore skills in narrative writing. Please stop by to see our class atlas, writing, and Artifact Museum created by the entire class.

\* Our exhibition about Washington, D.C. will also be on display. You will be dazzled by our marvelous work!

## FIFTH GRADE

Kimberly Jones  
Room 1



### The Revolutionary War from Both Sides: The Colonists vs. the British

*Students did an in-depth study about the events leading up to the Revolutionary War. We wanted to learn the "whole story" so we read many texts, viewed primary documents, and studied historical art work. We will visit the Freedom Trail in Boston in order to learn both the Colonial and British perspectives of these events.*

Andrea Lanzillo  
Room 3



### The Boston Tea Party

*Students learned about The Boston Tea Party. They will be re-enacting what happened before, during, and after this historic event up to the enforcement of the Intolerable Acts. Students did an in-depth study of the people, places, and events of the Revolutionary War. They are looking forward to their field study on The Freedom Trail in Boston on June 6. Performances at 6:15 and 6:40 p.m.*

Angela Beamon  
Daisy Arrechea  
Gymnasium

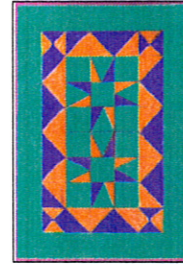


### Famous African Americans

*The students in room 5 researched famous African Americans, especially those pertinent to Massachusetts' history and the American Revolution. Students then created billboards and speeches based on the lives of these significant historical figures.*

## SUPPORT TEACHERS

Betzaida Ortiz  
Room 12



### Geometry and Quilts

*Students learned about mathematical and geometrical concepts designing and creating quilts. The quilting experience taught the students about symmetry, balance, colors, shapes, and needlework.*

Marisa Creel  
Room 6



### Climate Study

*Students from room 6, grade 4 participated in a year-long investigation of cities and regions of the United States. Part of this investigation included the topic of climate. As an extension, students visited the Botanical Gardens at Smith College. Students were given a tour of climate-controlled greenhouses and viewed plants found in various climates of the United States. Each student took pictures of these plants and made sketches. Enjoy their beautiful and professional photographic work.*

Joyce Welch  
Room 13



### Animal Identification

*Students have been learning about the animals on our planet. We play matching games and also identify the animals. We have a great animal book we are coloring, too!*

## SUPPORT TEACHERS

Jeanmarie Leone  
Room 12

### Book Writing

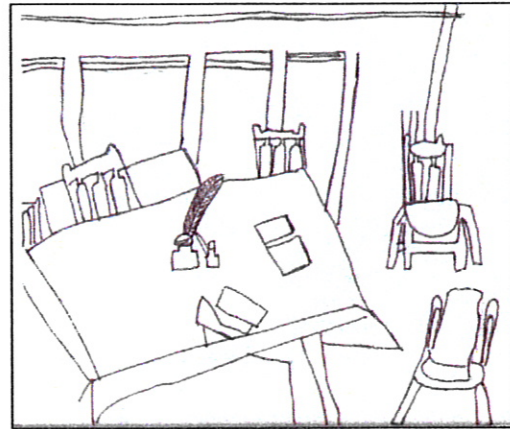
*The students worked on writing books all year. They will exhibit two books. Nonfiction: Trees: Bud Burst/Leaf Drop – A Global Climate Change Long Term Ecological Research Study. In conjunction with Dr. John O’Keefe, Harvard Forest, Harvard University, students observed and documented the timing and sequential stages of bud burst in the spring and leaf drop in the fall to determine the length of the growing season. Tracking growing season length and timing helps scientists to determine the effect of global climate change.*

*Fiction: Folktales. Multicultural folktales, particularly in the African and Asian traditions, have been studied and retold as original folktales illustrated by our wonderful student artists. Students learned the writing process: story web, draft, revision, and final copy. Join us around the campfire in the forest/jungle as we read and tell our folktales.*



Thanks to all of Pottenger School’s hardworking and creative teachers and students who helped make this Arts Across the Curriculum night possible.

Mary O. Pottenger School  
Presents:



Arts Across the Curriculum  
Exhibition Night

**Wednesday, June 4, 2008**

**6-7 p.m.**

**Mary O. Pottenger School**

Students and Families,  
Please join us for a  
fun and exciting evening.



Students and teachers will share their art projects  
inspired by their learning in math, science, social  
studies, reading, and writing.