

Estabrook Newsletter

September 3, 2009

Principal's Message

Greetings! We have had a very smooth and successful first week of school! Special thanks to all parents for your partnership and support. Starting Kindergarten, a new grade or a new school, is an exciting new world for any child. We are so proud of each Estabrook student's accomplishments this week!

Inside Estabrook School, there has been a peaceful and happy focus on entering school, establishing daily schedules and meeting new friends. I have been impressed with how well the students have transitioned into their new classroom routines. Already, I am seeing the Estabuddies help our kindergarten students, classrooms engage in morning circle time, recesses proceed smoothly and all grades delve into new learning opportunities. The joy of teaching and learning has begun!

This year, Estabrook will send home a weekly newsletter, which is intended to offer an update on Estabrook happenings. This newsletter will be a combined effort of Estabrook School and the Estabrook PTA. In September, paper copies of the newsletter will be provided at the end of each school week. Beginning Friday, October 2, 2009, Estabrook will provide an online version of the newsletter available on our school website <http://estabrook.ci.lexington.ma.us/>. If any family would like a paper copy to continue, kindly contact Mrs. Carfagno, Administrative Assistant at (781) 861-2520.

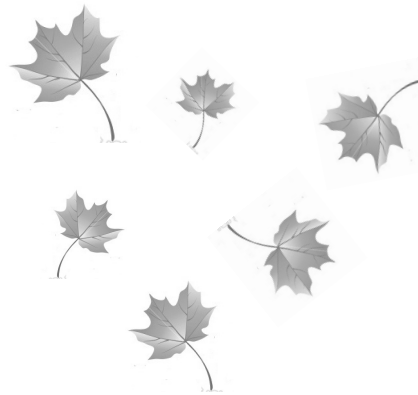
I look forward to sharing the joy of Estabrook School with you this year. There will be so much happening each week with new learning, events and initiatives. I am committed to keeping families up-to-date and will do all that I can to foster positive, open and proactive communication between school and home. While you will see me often at the start and finish of the school day, during in-school volunteering and at afterschool events, please know I am here for anything you might

need. You can reach me at the school telephone number (781) 861-2520 or by e-mail strach@sch.ci.lexington.ma.us. I am happy to help in any way I can, for anything you might need.

My best wishes for a lovely, long weekend. I look forward to seeing all students when school resumes on Tuesday, September 8, 2009, 8:45 a.m -3:15 p.m.

Warmest regards,

Sandra A. Trach
Principal



Save the Date for these upcoming events:

Estabrook Pizza Night

Wednesday, September 9 @ 6:00
Pizza dinner for the Estabrook Community
sponsored by the PTA
(see attached flyer for RSVP information)

Principal Coffee

Tuesday, September 15 @ 8:45
Come hear from Mrs. Trach about the
start of school and her plans for the year

Back-to-School Night

Thursday, September 17

Reception for all PTA Committee Chairs

Wednesday, September 30 @ 7:30 PM

Welcome to Our New Estabrook Staff

Please join us in warmly welcoming our talented new teachers and staff:

Ron Sanborn, Assistant Principal (.5)
and Math Specialist (.5)

Jenna Drisko, Kindergarten Teacher

Heather McConnell, Grade Two Teacher

Kelly Bayek, Grade Three Teacher (.5)
and Instructional Resource Aide (.5)

Heather MODOONO, Grade Four Teacher

Bethany Carragher, Resource Room Teacher

Brittany MODOONO, Physical Education Teacher
(formerly our Adaptive Physical Education Teacher)

Alana Silvey, Special Class Assistant / CARE Program

Linda Harrington, Kindergarten Assistant

Part-time staff:

James Kane, Adaptive Physical Education Teacher & Teacher
of two Physical Education classes at Estabrook School

Ken Gable, Teacher of two Music classes at Estabrook School

Arrival and Dismissal

Students are permitted to be dropped off at school no earlier than 8:15 a.m. Parents dropping their child(ren) off are asked to do so only at the yellow curb in the top of the bus loop. All students are expected to line up in their same designated areas from this week. At 8:30 a.m., students will be led inside the school by our staff. Parents are asked to say good-bye to their child(ren) outside of the school. The school day begins officially at 8:45 a.m. and classes,

routines and instruction begins immediately at that time. Students arriving after 8:45 a.m. are required to enter through the main front door accompanied by their parent. Students are marked tardy after 8:45 a.m.

School dismisses at 3:15 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Every Thursday, school dismisses at 12:15 p.m. Our dismissal procedures will remain the same:

Kindergarten students will be taken to the Music room daily for dismissal. Kindergarten parents are kindly asked to wait for pick-up on the patio, along the windows, near the side patio door. This allows our Grades 1-5 to fit onto the patio. After all classes have completely exited the side patio door, it will be opened for Kindergarten parents to enter and dismiss their children. Kindergarten parents are asked to exit out the same side patio door where they entered.

Grades 1-5 students will line up on the patio daily for dismissal. Parents picking up in person should make direct contact with the teacher before dismissing their child out of line. Parents engaging in live pick-up are asked to kindly display the name template in the passenger window or on the dashboard (child's last name, child's grade level circled.) This allows our staff to locate your child quickly and guide him or her to your vehicle. Kindly do not park in the driveway leading up to the school or anywhere in the bus loop. It is critical that the traffic proceed steadily and safely through the bus loop rotary.

Dismissal has been proceeding smoothly, completed in no more than fifteen minutes. We thank everyone for your help with our arrival and dismissal routines and helping to safeguard all students during these busy times of day.