



North Park Horizons

Seeking 21st Century Equity and Excellence



GO HOME EARLY DRILL

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2011

*Buses will leave at approximately 2:45 pm. *Parent pick-up will be no later than 2:15 pm. *All doors will be locked at 2:30 pm until the drill is completed. *If you arrive after 2:15, you will not be able to pick your child up until the entire drill is completed.

Please be informed that students will ride their **regular bus** to their usual destination unless notified by a parent/guardian. Students could be arriving home as much as 30 minutes before their normal time or buses could be delayed because of the ongoing road closures.

Health Office

By Patricia Jacco, School Nurse

What is the flu? Influenza (the flu) is an infection of the nose, throat, and lungs caused by influenza viruses. There are many different influenza viruses that are constantly changing. They cause illness, hospital stays and deaths in the United States each year. The flu can be very dangerous for children. Each year about 20,000 children younger than 5 years old are hospitalized from flu complications, like pneumonia.

What are the symptoms of the flu? Symptoms of the flu can include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills, fatigue and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea. Some people with the flu will not have a fever.

How can I protect my child against the flu? To protect against the flu, the first and most important thing you can do is get a flu vaccine for yourself and your child.

- Vaccination is recommended for everyone 6 months and older.
- It's especially important that young children and children with long term health conditions get vaccinated.
- Caregivers of children with health

conditions or of children younger than 6 months old should get vaccinated.

A new flu vaccine is made each year to protect against the three flu viruses that research indicates are most likely to cause illness during the next flu season. Flu vaccines are made using strict safety and production measures. Over the years, millions of flu vaccines have been given in the United States with a very good safety record.

Happening This Month!

- 10/6 School Pictures
- 10/7 GO HOME EARLY DRILL**
- 10/10 NO SCHOOL COLUMBUS DAY
- 10/11 NPE PTA meeting 7:00 p.m. Library
- 10/13 BOE MEETING 7:00 p.m. RRS
- 10/14 Fire Safety Day
- 10/26 Harvest Pops Concert 7:00 p.m. (FDR)
- 10/27 BOE Meeting 7:00 p.m. District
- 10/28 Halloween Party



From the Principal

It is hard to believe we are already in October. I am pleased to say that the children are settled into a routine and are working hard in the classrooms. They are excited about the new books that were purchased over the summer for their reading instruction (as are the teachers!).

I would like to invite all of you to the October PTA meeting on Tuesday, the 11th at 7:00. I will be speaking about North Park's "Academic Story", including the results of the NYS assessments in ELA, Math and Science, as well as what we are doing as a district and as a building to meet the increased challenges for our students.

You might notice that we have slightly modified our North Park Pledge this year. Because of our work with the Healthy Highways program that addresses fitness, nutrition and character development, we have added the Healthy Highway Pledge into our own. The addition reads: "I promise to make one healthy choice everyday to keep my engine strong!" I encourage you to ask your children each night what healthy choice they made that day.

I look forward to seeing you at one or more of our October events!

The North Park Pledge

I pledge to have the courage to do the right thing, to care about myself, my friends, my family, and my school, to show respect by using kind words and actions, and to take responsibility for my own behavior and learning. I promise to make one healthy choice every day to keep my engine strong. I pledge to do this even when no one is watching.

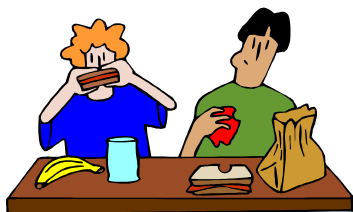
Vol 4 Number 2

hydeparkschools.org/npe

October 2011

School Meal Prices for the 2011-2012 School Year

Elementary Breakfast	\$1.25
Reduced Breakfast	\$0.25
Adult Breakfast	\$2.16
Elementary Lunch	\$2.50
Reduced Lunch	\$0.25



Absence Notes

Please don't forget to send in your child's absence note when they return to school after an illness.

- Be specific about what symptoms your child had during his illness.
- Your child's full name and classroom teacher's name.

Dismissal Notes

Please include in your dismissal notes:

- Child's full name, printed
- Name of teacher
- Sign and date (print name under signature)
- Time of pick-up
- Bus route number to new destination

BOOK NOOK

BY SARAH FELDMAN



I have had an exciting first few weeks at North Park Elementary and I could not ask for more enthusiastic students, who are eager to borrow library books! Here are some highlights: The kindergarten students have been learning how to borrow and return books and loved hearing the funny story, "I Took My Frog to the Library" by Eric Kimmel. The first graders thought of safety tips for the library inspired by the book, "Officer Buckle and Gloria" by Peggy Rathmann. The second graders have been learning the importance of alphabetical order in the library and had fun guessing the next animal in the alphabet in Judy Sierra's books of poems, "There's a Zoo in Room 22." Ask your third grader to tell you the full name of "Rikki Tikki Tembo." We read this Chinese folk tale and explored the 300's section of the library. Students in 4th and 5th grade have been reviewing how to log on to the computers and navigate through the library Web page to reach our catalog and other online resources. Fourth grades have also been reviewing different types of reference books and how to find information using an index. The fifth graders used critical thinking to solve folk tale mysteries and stories that stretch the truth by manipulating language. They also learned to create their own comic books using an

educational Web site.

I hope that parents and guardians will visit the library to say hello. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer some time in the library. I enjoyed meeting parents and guardians at the parent coffee evenings and I look forward to getting to know you better during the coming months.

PTA Happenings By Denise Davino

It's time for the PTA's annual Fall Pictures! Life Touch Photographers will be here at North Park on Thursday, October 6, 2011 taking portraits of the children. All proceeds benefit the PTA.

Please join us for the next NPE PTA meeting on Tuesday, October 11, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. Our guest speaker will be Lisa Hecht, Principal of North Park Elementary School. Ms. Hecht will discuss New York State Assessments. Refreshments will be served.

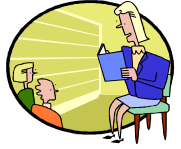
Mark your calendar for lots of fun at the PTA's annual Halloween Party on Friday, October 28, 2011. There will be plenty of candy, games and a costume parade! The Scholastic Book Fair will be open during the party in the library. All proceeds help to benefit the library. If you can help out with the party or book fair, please call 889-8159.

Reading Room

By: Katie Niezgada

How Do I Know My Child is Choosing the Right Level Books?

When a child is practicing their reading independently they should be able to read approximately 95% of the words. If they are choosing books that are too hard, it could be counterproductive to their reading progress. It means that they will have to stop too often to figure words out. This can lead to frustration and interfere with their understanding.



Solution #1 (Quick fix): Use "The Five Finger Rule"

- Have your child turn to any page of your book and start reading.
- Every time he or she does not know a word, put a finger up.
- If he or she gets to the end of the page and you have five or more fingers up, the book is too hard. Instead, read the book aloud to your child or put it aside and try the "Five Finger Rule" again in a few months.

Solution #2 (More Advanced): Ask for your child's Guided Reading Level (GRL) and use the Scholastic Book Wizard.

- Ask your child's teacher for his or her Guided Read-

ing Level (it'll be a letter from A-Z)

- Go to the following website: <http://bookwizard.scholastic.com/tbw/homePage.do>
- If you have a particular title in mind, enter it in the box under "Quick Search." If the Guided Reading Level matches your child's level or is a few letters below, it is a good fit for independent reading.
- If you are interested for looking for more books at your child's level, click on "Leveled Search." You will have to set "Guided Reading" as the "Reading Level System."

Good Counsel

By Marla Sherman

Parent Pointers for Helping Children Succeed in School

Jim Fay of Love and Logic Institute, Inc. suggests these pointers for helping your child in school:

- Show the same amount of love for your children regardless of their success in school.
- Show sadness rather than anger when they have trouble at school.
- Spend some time each day talking with excitement about your work and your day. They will want to imitate you and will soon begin to talk about school and their day.
- Take turns reading to each other every day.
- Have your children teach you

something they have learned at school. Do this once per week.

- Encourage your children to do things that "charge their batteries." Encourage them to try many different activities as a way of discovering interests and talents.
- Provide a time and place for homework. Expect that they will study. Allow them to study either by writing the assignments or thinking hard about them for a reasonable amount of time.
- Have your children bring home papers. Be sure to praise the right answers.

Lunch & Recess

Breakfast costs \$1.25 per meal.

Lunches cost \$2.50 per meal.

Grade	Recess	Lunch
1/2	10:50	11:15
5	11:10	11:35
K/1*	11:40	12:05
*Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Gray		
3	12:05	12:30
K/1*	12:25	12:50
*Mrs. Boryk, Mrs. Farrere, Mrs Semancik		
4	12:45	1:10

If you are packing your child's lunch, please include a napkin, fork and spoon as needed!

Fizz Ed Facts

Visit the PE Website

@www.hydeparkschools.org/NPE/pe.html

North Park PTA Membership \$6 for an individual or \$10 for two family members

Name: _____ Contact # _____

E-mail: _____

Student name(s), Teacher(s), & Grade(s):

- Arts in Education
- Brotherhood Pageant
- Book Fair
- School Pictures
- Family Fun Night
- Fundraisers
- Halloween Party
- Holiday Fair
- Parent Socials
- New Parent Folders
- Newsletter

- North Park Nights
- Parents As Reading Partners (PARP)
- Popcorn Day
- Pre-School
- PTA Membership
- Reflections Program
- Science Fair
- Staff Recognition
- Student Directory
- Web Page
- Yearbook

*If you have questions about any of the events, then do not hesitate to contact Charlotte at the e-mail listed, northparkpta@gmail.com, or any PTA officer—
Michele Liguori, President, Suzi Faber, Vice President, Lisa Philips, Treasurer, Charlotte Apuzzo, Secretary

