



North Park Horizons

Seeking 21st Century Equity and Excellence



Health Office

Save The Skin You Are In!!

By Patricia Jacco

May is skin cancer awareness month. When you are having fun outdoors, it is easy to forget how important it is to protect yourself from the sun. Unprotected skin can be damaged by the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays in as little as 15 minutes. Yet it can take up to 12 hours for skin to show the full effect of sun exposure. Even if it is cool and cloudy, you still need protection. UV rays, not the temperature, do the damage and clouds do not block UV rays.

Help prevent skin cancer:

1. Wear long sleeves and pants in the sun.
2. Wear a wide-brimmed hat.
3. Use sunscreen with the number (SPF)15 or higher on parts of your body not covered by clothes.
4. Wear sunglasses to cover your eyes.
5. Stay in the shade.

Remember: The sun's rays are strongest between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., so it is especially important to protect your skin during these hours.

Safety First!

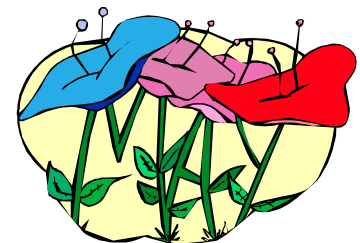
As we move into the warmer months, children will want to wear summery clothing, including sandals, shorts, etc. We have already had some students coming to school wearing clothes that are either unsafe or inappropriate for the school setting. Please be aware of and follow the school dress code:

- * NO flip flops at any time
- * NO open-toed shoes or sandals. (The only appropriate sandals are those with closed toes and heel straps)
- * Shorts need to be of reasonable length
- * Shirt straps need to be a minimum of 1". While this may seem necessary for older students only, in order to be consistent, the rule applies to all students K-5.
- * Hats may not be worn in the classroom

If students come to school with open sandals or flip flops, they will not be allowed to play at recess. If they come wearing something deemed inappropriate for the school setting (ex. very short shorts) a phone call home will be made. A safe environment conducive to learning is our top priority! Thank you for your cooperation.

Happening This Month! May 2011

- 5/3 TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY
- 5/4-5/6 GRADES 3-8 ELA ASSESSMENT
- 5/9 3RD GRADE MEET THE INSTRUMENT NIGHT FDR 7:00 P.M.
- 5/11-5/13 GRADES 3-8 MATH ASSESSMENT
- 5/12 BOE MEETING 7:00 P.M. DO
- 5/17 BUDGET VOTE BOE ELECTION HMS 6:00 A.M.—9:00 P.M.
PTA MEETING 7:00 P.M.
- 5/20 SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT FORUM 6:00 P.M. (HPE)
- 5/25 SCIENCE NIGHT GR 3-5 6:30-8:00 P.M.
- 5/26 BOE MTG 7:00 P.M. (DO)
- 5/30 NO SCHOOL MEMORIAL DAY



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
- Name of teacher
- Sign and date (print name under signature)
- Time of pick-up
- Bus route number
- Destination address

Lunch & Recess

Breakfast costs \$1.25 per meal.

Lunches cost \$2.25 per meal.

Grade	Recess	Lunch
3	10:50	11:15
1/2*	11:15	11:35

*Mrs. Brocks, Mrs. Langenau, Mrs. Beyer, Ms. Valletta, Mrs. Ferris

5	11:35	12:05
K/1*	12:05	12:25

*Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Semancik

K/1*	12:25	12:50
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*Mrs. Boryk, Mrs. Ferrere

4	12:45	1:10
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If you are packing your child's lunch, please include a napkin, fork and spoon as needed!

Good Counsel

by
Marla Sherman

Developing good organizational skills is a key ingredient for success in school and in life. Although some people by nature are more organized than others, anyone can put routines and systems in place to help a young child "get it together." Here's a list of strategies that you can use to help your child get—and keep—his life under control.

1. **Use checklists.** Help your child get into the habit of making (and keeping) a very basic "to-do" list. Use checklists to post assignments, household chores, and reminders about what materials to bring to class. Crossing completed items off the list will give them a sense of accomplishment.
2. **Organize homework assignments.** Before beginning a homework session, encourage your child to number assignments in the order in which they should be done.
3. **Designate a study space.** Your child should study in the same place every night. This doesn't have to be a bedroom but it should be a quiet place with few distractions.
4. **Set a designated study time.** Your child should know that a certain time every day is reserved for studying and doing homework. The best time is usually not right after school—most children benefit from time to unwind first.
5. **Keep organized notebooks.** Help your child keep track of papers by organizing them in a binder or notebook.
6. **Conduct a weekly clean-up.** Encourage your child to sort through book bags and notebooks on a weekly basis.
7. **Create a household schedule.**

Try to establish and stick to a regular dinnertime and a regular bedtime.

8. **Keep a master calendar.** Keep a large, wall-sized calendar for the household.
9. **Prepare for the day ahead.** Prior to bedtime, pack schoolwork and books in a book bag and set out clothing for the next day.
10. **Provide needed support while your child is learning to become more organized.**

The Book Nook by Alice Dawson

The library is running like a well-oiled machine. Classes come in for lessons in the Dewey Decimal System, to learn the difference between fables, legends and fairy tales and to do research for larger reports. During Technology time we are supplementing and reinforcing skills necessary to complete projects assigned by the classroom teachers. Book and supply orders are placed and processed. Materials are taken out, returned, and placed back up on the shelves. We help with teacher's requests, student questions, keep track of the digital and video cameras. We troubleshoot issues with TVs and DVD players as well as computers. A multiple copy room is stocked and maintained. We read stories to the young ones, play Jeopardy with the older ones and have fun with everyone!

Unfortunately and sadly, it is the last year in the Library for both of us: Mrs. Dawson because she has decided to retire and move onto other adventures out in the Big Wide World; Mrs. Shaughnessy because the elementary library TA position has been cut, however, she will remain in the building as a TA. Next year there will be one new librarian in the library doing all of these things on her own (or at least attempting to do so). Please be patient! We wish her well!

PTA Happenings

**By
Denise Davino**

April's PTA Scholastic Book Fair was a great success! Many thanks to the parents, and teachers who shopped and volunteered!

Over 140 children from North Park participated in PARP, Parents as Reading Partners, during March/April. Thanks to the PTA, for the very first time, these children were able to select their own free book on the last day of the Book Fair right from the shelves, instead of those which had always been pre-selected in the past.

North Park's annual Staff Appreciation Week is May 2-6, 2011. The PTA has planned a week of special events to thank all of the staff for their hard work and dedication. Friday, May 6, 2011 is The Staff Appreciation Luncheon. If you can help out through donations or volunteering, look for more information which will be sent home with your children.

Join us for the next North Park PTA Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Library on May 17, 2011. Ms Hecht

will be presenting the results of the North Park Homework Survey. Refreshments will be served. Please remember the Budget Vote at Haviland Middle School on May 17, 2011. If you would like to volunteer to help out during Staff Appreciation week, please call Denise Davino at 889-8159.

The Reading Room

**By
Beth Richardson**

Reading during the summer months is one of the most important academic activities that will help students retain what they have already learned. Favorite books and new books that are not too difficult will help children read words and sentences more quickly. The more children read, the more confident they are while reading. This then allows the students to focus on what they are reading.

Summer programs and activi-

ties around books are not difficult to find in our area. Check out the library nearest you for a summer program or just to check out books. Children often have a favorite author or series of books and this will help them become "hooked" on reading. Another way to help your child understand what they have read is to ask one or more of the following:

1. Tell me about your favorite part of the book.
2. How did the story end?
3. How would you change the ending?
4. Who was your favorite character in the book? Did you like the character? Why or why not?
5. What kind of connection can you make to the book you read?
 - A. Connect to yourself.
 - B. Connect to another book

Whatever you do over the summer, encourage your children to read every day!

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

Name: _____ Contact # _____

E-mail: _____

Student name(s), Teacher(s), and 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—

