

The Baldwin Broadside

VOLUME 4

DECEMBER 2011

Best Wishes for a Happy New Year!

Project Block and Community Block

by our 6th grade students in room 305 and 307

What do the sixth graders do on Friday afternoons? Sometimes during their project block, they play outside group games, sometimes they break up into smaller groups and solve logic puzzles on the floor, and other times they do creative projects that go along with some of the things that they are studying in other subjects, like social studies, math, language arts, or science. But what they always do is work on becoming a better community. This means working well together, communicating kindly and effectively, listening to one another, and encouraging everyone to be risk takers and try new things.

Sixth graders end the week with community block, a whole-group meeting where students acknowledge one another for working hard, respecting others, and taking risks. It is a great way to end the week, with positive comments and reflections about the week being shared among the group. If you get a chance, stop by one Friday afternoon and join in on our large circle. The sixth graders will be sure to welcome you into their community.

7th Grade Math Class

You probably recall a notice asking for unused business cards. Thank you to all who contributed. Ms. Plate's 7th grade class is using those business cards to make a Menger Sponge which supports understanding of self-similarity. The Menger Sponge is a fractal curve. Self-similarity means that the structure is made up of parts that look like small copies of the whole. You will find pictures on the school website under *School News*.

LineStorm

Our 8th grade students have benefited from the Baldwin Arts Committee! The Art Committee arranged for artist Pell Osborne to work with the students during their Social Studies block with an art program called LineStorm. LineStorm is an animation education program that is a perfect tool for project-based learning. Pell has been working with our students in Mr. Ryan's social studies class creating a digital flipbook project about the Middle Ages.

This program was funded by the *Baldwin Arts Committee*. Thank you!

Winter Concert

The final Baldwin middle school winter instrumental concert was held on Wednesday, December 14. Thank you to our teachers Patrick Wroge (woodwinds), Simon Watts (strings), Murray Tripp (brass), John Reynolds (choral) and the accompanist Michael Sherman. Our students put on an exceptional performance. The chorus delighted the audience with some wintertime songs including *Winter Fantasy*. Our 5th grade string students, who have been playing their instruments for only a few weeks did a remarkable job with *Ode to Joy*. The middle school strings were fantastic with *Dance of the Reed Flutes* from Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. And the middle school concert band played a few great numbers and finished the concert with *Green Day Tune*.

3.5.7.9. Musical Annie Jr.

Congratulations to the following students who have been cast in the Beyond the 4th Wall 3.5.7.9 Musical Series production of *Annie Jr.*:

Charlotte Rosenblum, Christnaly Clerfe, Cooper Kelley, Dylan O'Dell, Gwen Sadie, Kamaria Gooding, Lilly Senna, Lily Grob, Luka Berman, Mark Behnam, Nathaniel Reid, Peter Fulweiler, Safiyya O'Connor, and Sahra Nur.

The students will rehearse every Tuesday from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. and the performance will be February 10 and February 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the Peabody School Auditorium.

Announcing MOB Cafe (Men of Baldwin)

"Live to Give"

The boys in room 303 have been working very hard and are extremely motivated about the potential of the MOB Cafe. They opened for business last week and will be open every morning from 8:00 - 8:40 a.m. for parents and faculty (not students). They are located in the cafeteria and the menu includes coffee, hot chocolate, and baked goods. All profits will be given back to the Baldwin Community, for students and families that need extra support.

Coming Soon ... Baldwin Sand, Water and Bubble Museum!

Exploring water and sand is part of the Earth Science and Physical Science units in the kindergarten science curriculum. The students in Mrs. LaBounty's kindergarten class have been brainstorming about creating their own sand, water and bubble museum. Mrs. LaBounty asked the students how they should go about creating their own museum. One of the students thought they should visit a museum. After a few phone calls, all of the Baldwin kindergarten students will take a trip to the Boston Children's Museum on Friday before the December break to observe, investigate, explore and play in their Science Playground. In January, they will begin to create their own museum at school.

Harvard Museum of Natural History Classes

The students in *Ms. Payson* and *Mrs. McNulty's* third grade recently went to the Harvard Museum of Natural History to take a class called *Plants: Roots of Ecology*. In their life science unit, the students learn that plants are the foundation of ecosystems. During their visit to the museum, they learned about plant anatomy and photosynthesis. Many of our classrooms visit the HMNH for classes.

November All-School Morning Meeting

On Wednesday before Thanksgiving, we had an All School Morning Meeting. The meeting started with the pledge, led by 8th grade student Janoah Daley. Our 8th grade news team of Cristina, Ariana, and Hibah reported news from the classrooms. All of our kindergarten students shared their beautiful self-portraits. Prior to showing them, a group of students explained the process: They started by painting their hands and making hand prints as their background. Then, using a mirror, they created their faces and used to color them. Then they created textured paper to make their clothing. There are some beautiful pictures of their portraits on our website. Thank you to our Baldwin Middle School Leadership team for putting together another great assembly. The next all-school meeting will be January 13.

Pie Eating Contest

Also on Wednesday before Thanksgiving the Baldwin students participated in our 2nd annual pie eating contest.

This year's winners:

- Kindergarten - tie: Jake and Cairon
- 1st grade: Cory
- 2nd grade: Traver
- 3rd grade: Kaleb and Zoe
- 4th grade: Max and Mackenzie
- 5th grade: Elena and Peter
- 6th grade: Zack and Nusrat

7th grade: Andrew and Sahra

8th grade: Miguel and Dadjerry

There are pictures from the event on the school website under *School News*.



Thank you to a very generous community and to *Mrs. O'Leary's* kindergarten classroom. With your help, the school donated 11 very large garbage bags of women's, children's and men's winter coats to RESPOND Inc., a shelter in Somerville. RESPOND, Inc. partners with individuals,

families and communities to end the serious public health issue of domestic violence. RESPOND, a pioneer in the movement to end domestic violence, is New England's first domestic violence agency and the second oldest in the nation. They were overwhelmed by the donation. Thank you!

Thank you to *Ms. Logiudice's 5th grade* for promoting the food drive. They helped to collect 8 large boxes of food that went to the Cambridge Food Pantry.

Thank you to parents **Diana Feik** and **Victor Shing**. With the money from the Iggy's Bread Sales, they have donated \$100 to **MercyCorps**. MercyCorps helps families in the Horn of Africa survive amid a historic drought. The donation helps deliver clean water and essentials to families in need.

Thank you to our wonderful **Art Committee!** And thanks to our community for supporting them. The wreath sale was a great success and added the holiday spirit to our school. We are very lucky to have such a committed group of parents. The Holiday Wreath Fundraiser was a great success! This was a wonderful team effort and thank you to everyone who participated! Many thanks to *Sharon Bober Ruth Ruro, Miriam Tendler, Tracy Jean-Chronberg, Meg Swift, Susan Arnott and Emily Ehrenfeld*. A special thank you to *Silvia Rimolo* who designed the gorgeous handcrafted bows.

Thank you to the very talented and ambitious **8th grade parents** who hosted a delicious spaghetti dinner for our community! Thank you to the chef, *Adam Manachar* who made the tasty sauce and cooked many, many pounds of pasta. Thank you to *Bob Binstock* who managed the raffle. Thank you to *Mr. Ryan* who helped inspire the students. Thank you to the many families who helped. With their hard work and our generous community, \$3,500 was raised toward scholarships for the 8th grade Washington D.C. trip. **Congratulations** to parent *Judy Doran* who won the iPad!

Thank you to our VERY generous Baldwin families who answered the request from our School

Counselor Ellen Wingard to help other Baldwin families in need. Thank you for helping to make their holiday special.

Thank you to **Corey and Joy** for donating a laptop, software and printer. Their generosity was delivered to a student who did not have a computer at home.

How Can I Help My Child Become Mathematically Powerful?

Have fun exploring math as a family! Try to engage your child in home activities that use a variety of mathematical skills. Involve your child in activities that encourage measurement like cooking (fractions, volume, cups, tablespoons, following step-by-step instructions) and reading a thermometer.

COMING UP ...

Rindge Avenue Upper Campus Meeting

Meeting for parents/guardians and teachers with facilitator Ellen McLaughlin. Tour begins at 6:00 p.m. Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

Date: Thursday, January 12, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: Peabody School

Agenda: Engaging Learners in a New Environment



SAVE THE DATE: May 4, 2012

The 12th Annual Baldwin Student Red Sox Game vs. the Baltimore Orioles at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Roderick was able to reserve seats in the bleachers and the grandstand. Tickets will go on sale after February vacation.

Mark your Calendars!

2012 MCAS Dates

ELA Composition (grades 4 & 7) - *March 20*

ELA Reading Comprehension (grades 3-8) *March 20 - April 2*

Math (grades 3-8) - *May 7 - 22*

Science and Technology Engineering (grade 5 & 8) - *May 7 - 22*

Camp Meeting: Wednesday, January 4, 2012

If you are interested in helping with fundraising to help get Baldwin students to summer camp, please come to the meeting at 3:05 p.m. in room 215.

Baldwin School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Schedule

The Baldwin School Advisory Council (SAC) Meetings will take place on the second Wednesday of each month in the Baldwin Library, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. SAC Meetings are open to the public and are a great way to learn about what's happening in school.

January 11	April 1
February 8	May 9
March 14	June 13

**CRLS 8th Grade Information Night
January 19, 2012, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

Please join us on January 19, 2012 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the Arts Building at CRLS for the 8th Grade Information Night. Come learn about the exciting and engaging opportunities in the academics, arts, athletics and extra curricula offered to CRLS students. The agenda for the evening will include a presentation from Interim Principal Damon Smith in the CRLS auditorium (Fitzgerald Theatre) followed by a smaller group sessions with guidance counselor, deans, parents and current CRLS students. For more information contact: Greta Hardina, CRLS Parent Liaison, ghardina@cpsd.us



Upcoming Events

Monday, December 26 - Monday, January 2	December Break
January 3, Tuesday	School Resumes
January 4, Wednesday	Baldwin Camp Scholarship Meeting 3:05 p.m., Room 215
January 11, Wednesday	SAC Meeting 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Library
January 12, Thursday	RAUC Parent Meeting 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Peabody School Library
January 16, Monday	NO School - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
February 7, Tuesday	Report Cards Sent Home
February 8, Wednesday	SAC Meeting 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Library
February 20 - 24	February Break
March 6, Tuesday	Early Release Day School dismissed at 1:00 p.m.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

January 5, Thursday	Fashion Design Show 7:00 p.m. CRLS Black Box Theater
January 9, Monday	Piano Recital 6:00 p.m., CRLS Choral Room
January 13, Friday	DANCE/works 7:00 p.m., CRLS Theatre
January 19, Thursday	8th Grade Information Night CRLS Theater 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
January 24, Tuesday	Food Service Advisory Meeting 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. Kennedy-Longfellow School

Do you have a child that will be ready for Kindergarten for the 2012-2013 school year?

Any child who will be four years old on or before March 31, 2012 is eligible to enter kindergarten in September 2012. Please contact me and I will be sure that you get the Kindergarten registration packet. You can also register at school! Susan Tiersch, 617-349-4377 or stiersch@cpsd.us.

Tasty Choices Vegetable of the Month

January's vegetable of the month is **Orange**. Oranges are sweet, juicy and delicious. The correct name for an orange seed is a "pip". Oranges are high in vitamin C, contain some calcium and are a good source of dietary fiber.



For Parents ...

Bullying: A two-part series with Families First Parenting Educator, LaVerne R. Saunders

Are you concerned that your child is being bullied by others, or that s/he may be a bully themselves? These workshops offer ways to teach children skills to help them avoid being bullied or becoming bullies. Ms. Saunders is a Parenting Educator for Families First, specializing in the areas of violence prevention, anger management and bullying prevention.

Part I

Helping The Child Who is Bullied
Wednesday, January 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Part II

Preventing and Diffusing Bullying Behavior
Wednesday, January 25 at 6:30 p.m.
Main Library Children's Room, 449 Broadway
Free child care will be provided, but is limited.
Registration is required. For more information or to sign up, please call 617-349-4409.

Sponsored by the Greater Boston Early Childhood Resource Center of the Cambridge Public Library, the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care and Families First Parenting Programs.

BabyU

Attention parents in North, West and Agassiz Neighborhoods who have children 3 years old or younger, please sign up for Baby U! Parenting is hard work and every parent could use some support. Baby U offers weekly workshops and playgroups. Join them on Saturday mornings starting February 4, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon. You could win a \$400 cash prize and weekly gift certificates. Please register by calling 617-947-5044 or email BabyU@cambridgema.gov



Importance of Sleep

School age children require 10 - 11 hours of sleep. Increasing sleep can significantly improve youths' mood, attention and cognitive abilities while positively affecting hyperactivity and defiant behaviors.

Curbside Christmas Tree Collection

617.349.4800 www.cambridgema.gov/recycle

- Remove stand and decorations.
- Do not put in a plastic bag.
- Weather permitting, bare trees will be collected for recycling on your regular pickup day.
- Remember that collection is delayed one day during holiday weeks.



Title IX Girls Running Club 2012

For girls ages 9 - 15

Winter/Spring speed and strength work

When: Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. starting January 31 to March 20.

Location: Indoor track at Harvard University, 65 North Harvard Street
<http://www.titleixgirls.org>

Attention Boys Ages 8 - 16!

Free Saturday Program

The C.Y.S.T.E.M

Meets every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Starting on January 7, they will be located at the Moore Youth Center, 12 Gilmore Street

Visit the website at www.thecystem.com
email bestrong@thecystem.com

Attention Students in Grades 3-6

Sign up for Shoot Straight Basketball

Meets on Saturday, starting January 7, 2012 for 10 weeks at the CRLS Al Cuccoluto Gymnasium.

Cost: \$30

9:00 - 10:30 - grades 3&4

10:30 - grades 5&6

Must sign up by December 30

Contact the Cambridge Recreation Department, Bob Goodwin with questions.

Bright orange flyers were distributed to students.

Cold & Snowy Weather

The wintry weather is now here. All students should be dressed appropriately for the weather. Students are expected to participate in outside recess. Please let us know if you need winter outerwear.

Are you on the Baldwin School e-mail list?

Learn about events at the Baldwin School via e-mail. To subscribe, send a blank email to BaldwinPTO-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Classes resume Tuesday,
January 3, 2012

