

**COLUMBUS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
37 HICKS AVENUE  
MEDFORD, MA 02155  
(781) 393-2177 TDD (781) 393-2374**

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**Mrs. Joan Yaeger, Principal**



February 1, 2012

Dear Columbus School Families,

Happy February! We have been enjoying such a mild winter...could this continue?

I would like to thank all of you for your cooperation with the  
**“RULES OF THE LOOP”**

I do need to remind you that there is **NO PARKING** on East Albion Street on the outside of the **“LOOP”**. The area is clearly marked with posted **NO PARKING** signs. The reasons for this are:

- **EAST ALBION STREET IS A TWO WAY STREET. WHEN CARS ARE PARKED IN THAT AREA IT IS VERY DIFFICULT FOR CARS TO PASS IN EITHER DIRECTION. THIS CREATES A SAFETY HAZARD AND SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACTS TRAFFIC.**
- **EMERGENCY VEHICLES CANNOT PASS WHEN CARS ARE PARKED IN THIS AREA WITH TWO LANES OF TRAFFIC UNABLE TO MOVE OUT OF THE WAY.**
  - ❖ *Would you want your child or loved one to be the one waiting for an ambulance?*

***THANK YOU FOR MODELING THE BEHAVIOR YOU WANT YOUR CHILD TO LEARN BY RESPECTING EACH OTHER, THE POSTED SIGNS, AND RULES OF THE LOOP.***

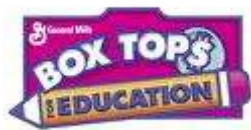


- **Medicines, Vitamins, Cough Drops:** Mrs. Roberto, our school nurse, has asked me to remind you that ALL prescription drugs necessary during the school day MUST be registered with the school nurse. Over the counter drugs such as vitamins, cough drops, nasal spray etc. MUST be left at home. Children are not allowed to keep any prescription or over the counter drugs on their person at school. This is for the safety of all children.



### Community Service

- ❖ **Community Cupboard Food Drive:** A table is set up in the foyer of the school. Throughout the month children and school staff donate non-perishable food items to be delivered to the Community Cupboard Food Pantry in Medford. Once a month children help to weigh and pack the food. I am asking at this time that you only send in canned goods. In the cold weather food in cardboard or other paper-based coverings is a temptation to the little mice that live outside in the fields. ***They are not invited to our school!***
- ❖ Additionally Columbus School families donated hundreds of dollars in the names of their children's classroom teachers in lieu of holiday gifts! Thank you!



Please continue to send in your box tops! This is an easy way for our school to earn money!

### Professional Development

In keeping with the school districts literacy plan teachers in all grades have been participating in professional development for the following programs that are designed to improve reading and writing skills. During the month of January our teachers were

privileged to participate in demonstration lessons and group discussion regarding the Lucy Calkins “Units of Study”. Ask your child about some of his or her writing projects!

***Words their Way: Word Study in Action, Developmental Model (K-5)***

This program covers the five developmental stages of word study: Emergent-Early Letter Name, Letter Name, Within Word Pattern, Syllables and Affixes, and Derivational Relations.

Lucy Calkins : ***Unit of Study for Teaching Writing (K-5)***

**MCAS**

MCAS testing will take place in March (ELA Grades 3-5) and April (Math Grades 3-5, Science –Grade 5). A ***tentative*** testing schedule is below.

I hope you have a happy healthy February! As always please call me at 781-393-2177 ext. 3506 or email me at [jyaeger@medford.k12.ma.us](mailto:jyaeger@medford.k12.ma.us) with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Joan M. Yaeger

***REMINDER!!!!  
PATRIOTS OR PAJAMA DAY!!!!***



***ON FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2***

***CELEBRATE THE NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS (OR  
THE TEAM OF YOUR CHOICE!) BY WEARING  
YOUR FAVORITE SPORTS OUTFIT!***

***OR***

***CELEBRATE BY WEARING YOR  
PAJAMAS!***

***CHILDREN WILL BE ABLE TO  
PURCHASE A HOODSIE AT LUNCH FOR 25  
CENTS!***