

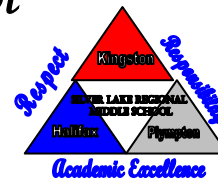


Silver Lake Regional Middle School

256 Pembroke Street, Kingston, MA. 02364

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“What we do for ourselves dies with us, what we do for others and the world remains and is immortal.”

~Albert Pine

WINTER

NEWSLETTER

2012

A Message from the Principal... Mr. Dupille

Happy New Year! As the end of the second term approaches, it is an opportunity to reflect on the first half of the school year. Did you reach your academic expectations? In September you may have hoped to earn a good grade in math, did you achieve your goal? Did you have a plan to help reach your goals? Were you able to follow your plan and did it help you achieve success? Reflection helps us to assess our successes and our areas for improvement.

As you continue to strive to reach your goals, I would like to ask each of you to do the following:

- Believe in yourself
- Work hard to achieve success
- Come to school on time and ready to work
- Create a path (plan) to reach your goal

In a study entitled *What Parents Can Do to Help Their Children Succeed in School* by OECD, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, it states that students spend only 9% of their lives from ages 5 to 18 in school. Universally, parents are the essential element to a child’s achievement in school.

What Parents Can Do:

- Attendance is a key to success (on time, every day)
- Read with your child
- Show interest in your child’s education (ask how their day at school went)
- Monitor homework
- Praise effort and hard work, not ability or talent (If a child succeeds, his or her success is due to hard work and effort)
- Send the message that education is a lifelong pursuit

When your child achieves their academic goals, school is more fun and they feel good about themselves. It may not happen overnight and it will require hard work and effort. However, if your child truly wants to improve

their grades, SLRMS has a great support system to help all students achieve success. Thanks for your support.

I would like to congratulate all the students, faculty and parents that participated in the many activities that our school sponsored this Holiday Season. The following contributions were made by our school community this school year:

- **Turkey Trot/Food Drive** – Local Food Pantry/Shelter
- **Jingle Ball Tournament/Toy Drives** – Toys for Tots
- **Giving Tree** – 90 gift bags given to SLMS students
- **Peer Leaders** – Coat Drive
- **Student Council** – Stockings for Soldiers
- **Team 8-3** – Blankets for Pets

TERM II



PARENT CONFERENCES January 31, February 1 & 2

Term II parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for January 31, February 1 & 2. Additional information will be sent home to parents/guardians.

TERM II

HONOR ROLL BREAKFAST Silver Lake Middle School Cafeteria

Friday, February 10, 2012

Grade 8 ~ 7:35 AM

Grade 7 ~ 8:20 AM

Parent/Guardians are welcome!

FULL COLOR YEARBOOKS

The **2011-2012 Silver Lake Middle School yearbooks** will be on sale starting **February 13 through March.**

You must pre-order to be guaranteed a yearbook.

Cash/Checks payable to: Silver Lake Middle School

A MESSAGE FROM... ..Nurse Beck

Teach children to WHACK the flu

Children are even more susceptible to the flu than adults. Along with recommending that parents and children get flu shots, Sam Stebbins, M.D., M.P.H. suggests:



Teach children **WHACK**

- **W**ash or sanitize your hands often.
- **H**ome is where you stay when you are sick.
- **A**void touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- **C**over your coughs and sneezes.
- **K**ep your distance from sick people.

People who sleep and eat well may be less likely to get sick because their bodies are more resistant to viruses and other germs, including bacteria.

Winter Cold Weather Safety

Skiing, hockey and snowboarding are very popular winter sports among adolescents. There are health risks and injuries associated with each of these sports that may be related to the cool temperature and exposure as well as the potential for injury.

Hypothermia is a condition where the body temperature drops four degrees Fahrenheit or more below the normal temperature range of 97.2 to 99.5 degrees. Adolescents may be at risk for hypothermia under the following conditions during the winter:

- Exposure to cold weather without proper protection against temperature, wind, rain, ice or snow
- Wearing cold and wet clothing for a prolonged period

Hypothermia occurs when the body's heat production cannot keep up with the heat loss. The process of heat loss is gradual. The teen with hypothermia may have the following symptoms:

- Cold hands, feet and face
- Shivering
- Listlessness
- Drowsiness
- Mental confusion
- Shallow breathing
- Stiff muscles
- Loss of consciousness

A clinician should see teens with these symptoms immediately. Active rewarming is necessary and this may require specialized equipment in a hospital.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school nurse, Carol Beck, R.N. at 781-582-3566 or cbeck@slrsd.org

DRAMA CLUB NEWS

The **Drama Club** is currently underway choosing a Musical Show for the *Spring Production.....*

Auditions will be held at the end of January with rehearsals in full swing come the beginning of February.....Stay tuned because this year's musical will prove to be an event you will not soon forget!!!

So mark your calendars NOW show dates are:

Saturday May 19 at 7:00 PM

Sunday May 20 at 2:00 PM

Blankets for Buddies

Team 8-3 would like to thank the Silver Lake Middle School community for their generous donations of blankets and sheets for the Blankets for Buddies program. We collected over 3 dozen large garbage bags filled with blankets which were donated to area shelters and will be able to make a small cash donation to PETA towards the purchase of a doghouse for a dog without shelter. Thank you for your kindness.

Special Thanks...

From the Physical Education Dept...

Ms. Gibbons and Mr. Evans would like to thank all the students, parents, faculty and staff who donated food items for our annual Turkey Trot/Food Drive. Although the weather did not cooperate for the Trot, it did not interfere with food donations! Mr. Dunn, Mr. Egan and Mr. Evans were able to deliver a truck filled with food to the local food pantry.

Congratulations to our Jingle Ball Champions

Congratulations to the SLMS and overall Jingle Ball Basketball Tournament Championship team who included Sam Kehoe, Mike Coombs, Connor Nocher, Will Eddy, Cam Jones, Emily Critch, and Andrew Alukonis.

Silver Lake Middle School students participate in HOOPS FOR HEART to raise money for the American Heart Association!

Did You Know? In fact, every year about 36,000 kids are born with hearts that aren't the way they should be (called congenital heart defects).

On Tuesday, February 14, Valentine's Day SLRMS will hold its 14th annual Hoops for Heart event 1:45 in the gymnasium!!

Students who participate in Hoops for Heart will raise funds that will be donated to the American Heart Association to help pay for new medicines for people with special hearts and to help doctors discover new medicines and treatments. Participating in Hoops for Heart will promote exercise that benefits the heart while doing something beneficial to the community. Our goal this year is to raise \$2,500.00!

Please help our students reach their goal of helping others! Participants will be looking for sponsors to donate any amount that can be afforded. No amount is too small.

For more information on this event please go to the school website at <http://www.slrmsd.org/slrms> and click on the Hoops for Heart Link.

Keeping up with the Art Club

Art Club has been a big hit this year at Silver Lake. There are many talented students who come after school and create amazing pieces of artwork. They also arranged an arts and crafts table for the faculty holiday party. The middle school art clubbers did a great job volunteering their time and helping the little kids make ornaments at the party. Coming attractions for the Art Club are wibe mural paintings and many other fantastic artwork which we will be hanging around the school. Art club meets every Tuesday from 145 to 245, feel free to come and open your imagination!

Art Class News

Not only are there very talented students that come to art club, there is also six seventh grade students whose artwork is being published in a book called "Celebrating Art". Many students from around the United States entered work into this competition to have their artwork published. *Congratulations* to Madison Lauder milk, Maya Wyatt, Peter Morgan, Lucas Gormley, Beatriz Whitehill, and Ryan Earle, for being

chosen to have their artwork published in this fall's "Celebrating Art" book. Having artwork published in a book is such an honor.

** Please stay tuned for this year's spring art show, which will take place sometime in May.

SLRMS Chess Club

Looking for something to do after school on the first and third Tuesday every month? Then why don't you join the chess club in room 316. The bi-monthly meetings offer the perfect opportunity to meet other students who like to play recreational chess games. If you don't know how to play, we'll teach you.



See the "club information" page of the school website or stop by Mr. Basile's room (room 316) for more information.

SLOBO

The Silver Lake Outdoor Bicycle Organization continues to have great Friday afternoon rides, night rides, and monthly weekend rides. Sure, the rain and cold may make the riding more challenging or even prevent us from going but that's part of the fun.



Recently, the club took part in the SEMANEMBA (southeastern Massachusetts chapter of the New England Mountain Bike Association) toy ride at the Blue Hills in Milton. The riders, with the help of Dick Maul's Bike Shop, donated a brand new mountain bike before they were given a guided tour of some of the great mountain bike trails in the park. Photos of the ride can be viewed at the club website.



You can access the site through the school website under "CLUBS".

New members are welcome to join SLOBO at any time and need only stop by room 316 to pick up an informational handout and consent form.

More information about the bike club can be found at the school website.

News from the Music Department

We are happy to announce that 98 chorus students performed "The National Anthem" at the Providence Bruins on Friday, January 6. This was our 5th time being invited to sing and we were excited to once again, represent SLRMS.

The following students were selected to participate in the Junior District Music Festival at Attleboro High School on March 9 and 10. This is a tremendous honor to be selected out of the many 7th and 8th graders who audition from across Massachusetts.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:
Rachel Bergeron, Sarah Binari,
Emily DeWolf and Patrick Kelley

Junior SEMSBA Music Festival Auditions are Saturday, February 4 at the Walpole High School for those students auditioning.

PTO News

Attention All Parents:

March Madness is just around the corner and we need volunteers. March Madness is a school dance sponsored by the PTO. Tickets are \$15.00 and it includes pizza, drinks, and other snacks. There will be a karaoke contest, basketball contests as well as a game between the staff and the students, and of course dancing with music from a DJ.

It will be **Friday, March 16** from 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm at the school. Anyone interested in helping with this event please contact Erin Kehoe at ErinKehoe139@comcast.net

From the Guidance Department. . .

As we approach the middle of our school year, we already begin the process of beginning to plan for the next one! On January 31, Elliott Glass, Director of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Program at Silver Lake High School and Meghan Weeks, CTE Guidance Counselor, will come to the Middle School to make a presentation to all three eighth grade teams about the CTE programs that are offered at the high school, and how interested students may apply to enter these programs.

Additionally, all eighth grade students will take a tour of the CTE wing during the first week of February, and there will be an informational evening for parents on Tuesday, February 7 at 7:00 pm in the High School Large Group Room as well. More information about the CTE presentations and parent night will be sent home to parents of eighth graders.

On Monday, February 27, Mrs. Donohue and Mr. Cucinatto will meet with all eighth graders to discuss the Silver Lake Regional High School Program of Studies. During these team-wide meetings, students will begin creating their ninth grade schedules and will also be given information regarding graduation requirements at the high school. Parents of eighth graders should look over the Program of Studies' with their children, and make every attempt to attend the Informational Evening for Parents of Eighth Graders, which will be held at Silver Lake Regional High School on Tuesday, February 28 at 6:30 pm in the High School Auditorium. Presentations given during this evening will highlight the classes that are offered, what parents and students can expect from ninth grade, and also how best to build a successful high school program. Lastly, right after we finish scheduling students for the 2012-2013 school year, we will enter MCAS season. Please be reminded of the following dates:

March 20	Grade 7 Long Composition
March 21	Grade 7 ELA I
March 22	Grade 7 ELA II
March 27	Grade 8 ELA I
March 28	Grade 8 ELA II
May 8	Grade 8 Math I
May 9	Grade 8 Math II
May 10	Grade 8 Science
May 15	Grade 7 Math I
May 16	Grade 7 Math II
May 17	Grade 7 History

Please make every attempt to have your child in school on these important test dates.

DATES TO REMEMBER

★ January 31	Parent/Teacher Conferences
February 1-2	
★ February 1-2-3	CTE tour (HS) for grade 8
★ February 7	CTE Parent Night – 7:00 PM
★ February 15	PTO Meeting – 7:00 PM
★ February 10	Term II Honor Roll Breakfast
★ February 10	Dance/Student Council Activity
★ February 20-24	Winter Vacation
★ February 28	Informational Evening for ALL Grade 8 Parents - 6:30
★ March 6	Grade Six Parent Orientation
★ March 7	PTO Meeting – 7:00 PM
★ March 8	Term III - Progress Reports
★ March 16	March Madness
★ March 20-21-22	MCAS – Grade 7 - ELA
March 27, 28	MCAS – Grade 8- ELA