

COLONIAL SCHOOL
FRIDAY FLYER



PELHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NOVEMBER 2004

PELHAM, NY 10803

NOVEMBER 1 – NOVEMBER 5



Honor The Veterans

REMINDERS:

School
is Closed
Thursday
Veterans Day
For
Superintendent's
Conference
Day

FROM THE OFFICE:

• **The word of the month is:
CITIZENSHIP**

• We practiced being good citizens as the week at Colonial began in an exciting way with a **whole school Election for President** of the United States. **Thanks to the PTA** we had an election where every student was able to cast their ballot at our "polling place" (formerly the Printing Press). Colonial's vote, however, did not mirror the country, since Senator Kerry was the overwhelming choice! It was a great experience for the children.

• On Monday we also had a visit from author **Colleen Carroll** to our Kindergarten and First Grade students. Ms. Carroll has written a series of books called "**How Artists See**" which are designed to teach children about the world by looking at Art and about Art by looking at the world. The themes she presented (respect and cooperation) were aligned with our Character Education program. **Her books will be available at the Colonial Book Fair and she will be there to sign them on Monday Nov 8 from 11:00 -1:00. Thanks to Mrs. Baird** for arranging this visit.

• **Community Visitation Day** was a great opportunity to come to Colonial and visit our wonderful classes. 50 people took advantage of this day and we thank them for participating. Remember! Election Day is always Community Visitation Day!

• Our **First Graders** participated in a wonderful program called **Hands on Science with "Mr. Magnet."** It was a great way to have students really understand scientific concepts in a fun way. Thanks to Mrs. Nardone for arranging

for this program.

• My second "**Coffee and Conversation**" dealt with the topic discussed at Pelham University "**Too Much of a Good Thing: Raising Children of Character in an Indulgent Age.**" We had a lively and informative discussion. Please make plans to join me at my next "**Coffee**" which will be held on December 16th from 9-10 AM in the Library.

• **Lianna Jarecki, a Marine Biologist, who also happens to be the cousin of Mrs. Ellen Chandler, took time out of her busy schedule to visit Class 3D. What a great experience to be able to see and speak to a "real" scientist! Thank you!!**

• Next week is a busy one, so please mark your calendars.

We begin the week with the **Colonial Book Fair on Monday and Tuesday.** It will be held in the Library and the hall right outside the Library.

Site Based Council will meet on Monday, November 8th at 3:20 PM in the Library.

The next PTA meeting is **Tuesday, Nov 9th.**

• There will be a **special Parent Meeting** on Wednesday, Nov 10th at 7 PM at Prospect Hill Auditorium. The Topic is the "**Rebecca Sitton Spelling Program.**" This Spelling Program is currently being integrated into our Language Arts program at all the elementary schools. The objective of the program is to help students transfer correct spelling into their everyday writing and develop spelling logic. We are trying to create "Everyday Spellers" instead of just "Friday Spellers." A representative from the company will be there to introduce the program to families and help them to be supportive of their children's learning. I urge you to

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attend this important meeting to find out more about this exciting program.

David Osborn, from St. Paul's Church, will return to Colonial on Friday, November 12th to speak to all of our students. We look forward to his Historical presentation. Thanks to Cultural Arts for arranging this program.

FROM THE CLASSROOM:

Kindergarten The kindergarten classes met a new Letter Person: "Mr. G" and his gooey gum. We read Mr. G's stories, including one about garbage and recycling.

The Psychology Intern, Ms. Adiam, began a conflict resolution program called "Kelso's Choice" with the kindergartens. Kelso is a frog, and he helps us make choices to avoid and resolve conflicts. This week, we learned the difference between a "big" problem and a "small" problem. K-G introduced this month's Word of the Month, **CITIZENSHIP**, to the K-2 classes. They talked about six characteristics of a good citizen. On Election Day, all of the kindergarten students demonstrated citizenship when they voted for their favorite Letter Person. Mr. M was the overall favorite.

We hope our visitors enjoyed Community Visitation Day.

Grade 1 The first graders have all begun our new weekly homework assignment - **The Home Reading Program**. Remember your child may read books on his/her level or you may read aloud to your child. If the book is long, your child may read a chapter or two or several pages from the book each night. Remember to indicate the chapter name/number or page numbers read on the title page form, if your child isn't reading an entire book that night. We expect the child to fill out the title page form in his or her own writing. In science, The first graders continue their study of magnetism. We had a very special treat on Wednesday when a visiting scientist presented hands on lessons on magnetism to each class individually. The children learned about magnetic force and strength and terminology such as attract, repel and magnetic poles. They all took home two small magnets to continue the fun at home. Enjoy the weekend!

Grade 2 The second graders learned first hand what the voting process is all about. On Monday, the second grade students joined the rest of the students in Colonial school and placed their vote for the next president of the United States. The students were also involved with many activities relating to the election process and learned about the government. What are the three branches of government? Ask your child. The second grade will be visiting **Museum Village on Wednesday, November 17th. The permission slips are due** no later than Wednesday, November 10th. We are looking forward to this trip. Have a great weekend!

Grade 3 Third Graders are reviewing many spelling patterns and grammar rules as part of the Rebecca Stitton Spelling Program. Our lessons have included the various sounds letter combinations can make. **Ask us about the [ou] combination** and the many sounds it creates. Our word charts are filling up and we look forward to using these vocabulary words in our writing.

The third grade continues its **reading/writing study of memoir**. We are reading many books written in memoir fashion and we are modeling those crafts in our own pieces. Check out *Ruler of the Courtyard*, a great book teaching memoir and the use of incredibly descriptive words called adjectives!

Grade 4 This week was a very busy, but also a very fun week in the fourth grade. **We completed our chess lessons** on Wednesday with Mr. E. The students have learned a lot more about the game and strategies with his help. With the Presidential Election happening, the students learned a bit about the electoral college and participated in Colonial's vote for president.

Both classes have completed the book, *Enormous Egg*, and we have begun our unit on short stories. We continue our preparation for the ELA exam by doing various listening exercises. In Math we are working on division with remainders. Please continue practicing the multiplication and division facts with your children.

This week in Social Studies we had our quiz on Natural Resources and in Science we were tested on leaves and the Sun and Earth.

A reminder that next week we will be visiting the annual **Book Fair**. On Thursday, November 11th, there will be no school because of the Superintendent's Conference Day. Have a great weekend!

Grade 5 We continue to prepare for the **New York State Social Studies test** which will be administered on Wednesday, November 17th and Thursday, November 18th. This two part test will consist of multiple choice, constructed response questions and a document based essay question.

In math class we continue to explore geometric concepts. This week the students enjoyed learning more about **geometry** through the use of manipulatives like geoboards, compasses and protractors.

In **DARE** class Detective Hynes discussed the negative physical and emotional effects of drug use. The children learned about how to make a wise decision and the various ways to respond when put into a situation concerning experimentation. **Reminder: Book Fair** for both classes will be on Monday, November 8th. Times: 5P at 10:30 and 5G at 11:30. Have a great weekend!

Schuyler Thank you for coming!
I liked the little movie

I really liked the presentation
from
Sasha

Lianna,
Thank you
so much. We
were on the
edge of our
seats.

Thank
you
from,
Nathan

Ross Thank I Liked it

you liked the presentation!

Tim
Thanks
bye.

Colin
thank you
bye

Andrew
Thank you
bye

Thank you
so much
Lianna
Diana

Thank you so much for
coming and showing up the
slide show!!
from Rachel



Schuyler Thank you for coming!
I liked the little movie!

I really liked the presentation.
From Sasha

Lianna, you Thank you so much. We were on the edge of our seats.

Thank you from Nathaniel

Ross Thank I liked it.

Emm Emmel THANKS I liked it

Thank you for coming I liked the slideshow
Ryan

Thank you for coming from Addie

Thank you for coming It was cool.
Sally

Tim Thanks bye.

colin thank you bye



Andrew Thank you bye

Thank you from JACK

Thank You So Much for coming! I want to visit the Island!
P.S. You are a good marine Biologist.
From, [unclear]

Thank you it was fun.

Thank you So much Lianha
Diana

Thank you so much for coming and showing us the slide show!!
from Rachel