



The Lion's Roar

Thursday / October 5 / 2006

Important Dates

Thursday, October 5

Parents' Committee Meeting
8:30 am

Thursday, October 5

Technology Cmte. meeting
3:30 pm

Monday, October 9

Columbus Day Holiday
No School

Thursday, October 12

Marketing
Cmte. Meeting
8:30 am

Thursday, October 19

Development Cmte.
8:30 am

Thursday, October 19

School Photos
9:30 am

Thursday, October 19

Admissions
Open House 1 4:00-6:00 pm

Thursday, October 26

Parent Education Collaborative-
Library 8:30 am

Friday, October 27

Parent Conferences
1:00-4:00 pm
Saturday,

Wednesday, November 1

Parent Conferences
No School/Day of CORE

Saturday, November 4

ISEE Exam

Mondy-Wednesday November 6-8

Sixth Grade to Farm School

Friday, November 10

Veterans Day- No School

Sunday, November 19

Admission Open House
4:00-6:00 PM

Wednesday, November 22

Thanksgiving Break begins
12:30 PM

Monday, November 27

School resumes

Wednesday, November 29

Parent-Faculty Dinner
6:00-8:00 PM

From the Chair of the Board of Trustees / Erich Schumann

*From the Head of School / Nancy Harris Frohlich

October 2006

Dear Advent Families,

Already into our second month of school, we have much going on in our small community. I am delighted to report that Starr Snead has joined our team as our Acting Development Officer. Having worked in and consulted with Independent Schools nationwide for more than 30 years, Starr is the penultimate professional. She has met with the Board, administration, Parents Committee, and co-chairs of our Development Committee, in preparation for the Annual Fund. Traveling to Advent from Charleston several times each month, Starr can be found in our new Development office, next door to the Art Studio, or in and about the School. Look forward to hearing from both Starr Snead and from the Committee about exciting plans to come.

Gatherings have begun with Third-Sixth Graders inspired by a PBS documentary, "The New Heroes." We are learning about individuals who, as a result of a single person's drive, are making a world of difference in the day-to-day lives of their peoples. Lower grades Gatherings are focusing on preserving our environment. From noticing the beauty in their natural world to generating ways to care for our Earth, the youngest children at the school are becoming staunch activists.

Our children in every grade are connecting with students in India as we begin Project 20/20. The Advent School and Fabindia School (Rajasthan) are collaborating to solve the problem: "Education for All." Posing a challenge to its schools nationwide, NAIS invited paired schools across the globe to come up with solutions to one of the problems Richard describes in his book, High Noon: 20 Global Problems, 20 Years to Solve Them. A group of dedicated teachers, including Christine Size, Amanda Bock, Amanda Golden, Denise Bogosian, Neil Taylor, and Arati Pandit are meeting weekly to spearhead the project. If you are interested in reading the book that spurred this work on, we have multiple copies! Expect monthly updates on our work with our partner school in India.

Each year the Elementary School Heads' Association meets to work on pertinent issues in schools today. I will be in Chicago from October 21-24 for this year's discussions about Mathematics and Differentiated Instruction. This year's speakers include the people who developed the "Chicago" Math curriculum and Carole Ann Tomlinson, specialist in differentiating instruction. I am eager to continue learning about how we can refine the teaching of mathematical concepts to our students.

For the first time this year, our Fifth Grade class will be taking an overnight trip to Ellis Island, to support their study of immigration. Curriculum in every classroom is growing, and this study is heading in important new directions. Looking deeply into the life experiences of those who came through Ellis Island, Fifth Graders are using primary sources to help them fully understand a critical period of U.S. history. Along with their field experience in New York, they will explore issues of immigration in today's world. We take pride in the ways Advent children can relate history to current day dilemmas. Making these critical connections enables graduates of The Advent School to play an informed role as the leaders and decision-makers of the future.

With warm regards and praise for our excellent teaching staff,

Sincerely,

Nancy Harris Frohlich, Head of School

News from the Specialists

***Science** / Susan Coolidge and Tooey Rogers

Lion's Roar-Science:

Grade 1-The First Graders are continuing their study of plants and more particularly, seeds. Must seeds always have soil, water, and light to grow? The First Graders are experimenting to answer these questions. And they have Radish Buddies! These buddies are radish seeds planted in tiny baggies that hang around the students' necks. The students can watch the changes that occur as their buddies grow.

Grade 2: Second Graders are knee deep in their exploration of birds. They have used all manner of human tools – pliers, tweezers, chopsticks and slotted spoons – as examples of bird beaks to pick up seeds, ants and other bird food. The students have also been bird watching in the Boston Public Garden, highlighted by seeing a blue jay chasing a red tailed hawk – and, of course, Romeo and Juliet, the two mute swans. Ask your Second Grader about the Mass Audubon Owls who visited the classroom.

Grade 3:The Third Graders are learning more about MR. FAB (the acronym for the five vertebrate groups). After a review of mammals and fish which were studied last year, the students have begun an in-depth study of birds. Adaptation is one of the threads of our study, and, of course, birds offer many examples of fascinating adaptations. After leaning how to use a field guide, the Third Graders will head outside to bird watch using the guides for identification.

Grade 4: Fourth Graders are in full swing with the human skeletal system. They have made shared skeletons and are finding out just what a femur, coccyx and patella are. They have also explored what it would be like living without a skeleton. Ask them about the types of joints – hinge, pivot, sliding, and ball in socket – that we have in our bodies.

Grade 5 the past three weeks the Fifth graders have taken a whirlwind journey from the Big Bang to the first vertebrate animals on Earth: the jawless fish. The next stop was cartilaginous fish and a perennial favorite: sharks. With partners, the students researched specific sharks, and then presented their information to the rest of the class. Adaptation is an important thread of our animal study, and sharks, with their millions of years on Earth, are a perfect example of successful adaptation!

Grade 6: Sixth Graders have made molecules out of atoms (is there any other way?) and explored what it means for molecules, particularly H₂O, to go through physical changes between Earth's three primary states of matter: solid, liquid and gas. They have even worked with very cold molecules of CO₂ that sublime from a solid to a gas. Ask them about the solid CO₂.

Lion's Roar-45th

Library / Amanda Bock

***Art** / George Anastos

From the Studio First up. There is a lot of excitement in throughout the school regarding the Local Art Global Heart project. Every child will be part of creating art for this large piece of work that will be hanging at the New Charles MGH T-stop on the Redline. Look for more information on how you can help this project be successful.

ECC the children are exploring with opaque and transparent materials. In class we will continue to weave, draw and paint.

Kindergarten: In class the children will continue with exploring with materials. We will sculpt with clay and make pottery.

First Grade: In class the children will study the fall colors and build a large three-dimensional tree for their classroom.

Second Grade: The children will connect their flight studies in the studio. They will create a kite that is decorated with drawings of their favorite birds.

Third Grade: In class we will connect with the classroom Native American studies. The children will make a loom and sculpt pottery out of clay.

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Fourth Grade: The children will connect their Egypt studies in the studio. They will draw and design their own mummy. They will study color, shapes and patterns that are used to describe the culture.

Fifth Grade: Connecting with their classroom studies, the children will create a self-portrait to make their own passport.

Sixth Grade: In the studio the children will create a piece of medieval stained glass. In class the children will also be creating a mask using paper Mache. The mask will be a self-portrait that has the look of medieval times.

Please feel free to come visit the studio when you have time. I have created a Morning open studio for your convenience. This will happen one Thursday a month. The time is 8:30-9:30am -- October 12, November 16, December 7, January 11, February 15, March 22, April 5, May 17, June 7

***CORE Program/ Sharon Knox-Hutchinson**

CORE has plunged into its study of Massachusetts. We divided the state into three areas of study: rural, urban and seacoast. We started in the rural area focusing on farming. We have talked about farm production and created a mural of things grown on a farm. We have created artwork using apples and corn to make prints. We are now moving on to urban areas and began on Friday taking a walk in our neighborhood sketching homes and gardens. Our year is off to a good start and we continue to be outside a great deal and will be as long as good weather lasts. Dress accordingly.

ADVENTures: The first session is well underway and I am thinking about Session 2. If you have any requests or suggestions for classes please be in touch @ skh82st@aol.com .I will be sending out enrollment forms later in October. Prompt sign up is very helpful. The next session of ADVENTures begins on November 6, 2006. November 1, 2006 is Parent Conference Day at Advent. School is closed but ADVENTures will offer an all day program at CORE. The day will run from 8:30 am - 5:30 pm. All children will attend P.E> in the morning. Please wear sneakers. Pizza will be served for lunch and snack will be served. The charge is \$60 for the day. Forms will be sent out later in October. Keep in touch and let me know how the programs are working for your child

***Physical Education / Anthony Pascetta and Marco Bonilla**

K: is working with footwork drills and games that help advance this concept. The children are becoming familiar with the gym and it's components. They are very energized and a pleasure to teach. Tag games and problem resolution in the form of rocks, paper scissors is being implemented for fairness.

Grades 1 and 2: Both classes are involved in upper body movements and fitness. Large exercise balls are being used to advance muscular building and coordination.

Grades 3, 4, 5, and 6: I am very pleased with our new warm-up procedures. This year we have implemented reading of instructions to their program. The children have a better understanding of the activities as they think through what it is that is being asked of them. Their jump roping has improved exponentially over previous years. All grades have been engaged with building up their endurance with various such as fitness kickball, (not just any kickball game, ask your child), cross country running and large exercise balls.

Weather providing, we will continue with a program and then move into soccer skills and team games such team handball.

*****Please make sure sneakers are worn for class. Open backed sneakers do not qualify as appropriate footwear.*****

Equipment Alert: While cleaning your houses and you notice old bicycle helmets, I would be willing to take them off your hands.

***Music / Rebecca Fiarman**

Are there any parents who play instruments? I am looking for parents who would be willing to share their musical interests with THE ADVENT SCHOOL students. If you play an orchestra instrument, a folk instrument like the dulcimer, guitar, ukulele, mandolin, or banjo, if you play an instrument from a country covered in one of the classroom theme studies, like China, Japan, Egypt, Greece, Central America, Ireland, Scotland, or other parts of Africa, OR ANY other instruments. Also, if anyone can demonstrate how to work with synthesizers, computer composition programs, music sequencing, or ANYTHING RELATED TO MUSIC, please LET ME KNOW! I would really like to have you in, and so would the students! I will be generating a list this month, so I hope to hear from you sooooooon!

Students in grades 2 through 6 have launched into their "musical" theme studies. The Second Grade is learning bird songs, the Third Grade is learning Native American Songs, The Fourth Grade is learning Arab music and dance in relation to modern Egypt and Ancient Egypt, The Fifth Grade is learning immigrant songs, the Sixth grade has been talking about their spring musical, but then will be learning about the Medieval era and acting. The younger grades have been reviewing concepts introduced throughout last year and exploring music through song, dance, games, and classroom discussion. It is SO GOOD TO BE BACK! -RLF

News from the Specialists (cont'd)

***Español / Maria Acuña**

Hola! El otoño ya llegó! Kindergarten will be learning objects in the classroom. We will mix it with the previous unit: colors to say objects and their colors. First Grade will learn how to say "Yo estoy feliz" (I am happy) and express other feelings in Spanish. Second Grade will continue to work with the present progressive and activities in the school: "Yo estoy dibujando" (I am drawing).

Third Grade will be learning demonstrative adjectives : this, that, these, those and get totally lost in the world of singular and plural. Fourth Grade will continue to describe people using the verb to be, to have, to like in the present tense.

Fifth Grade will be learning almost every feeling known to humans in Spanish! The challenge? conjugating three verbs: to feel, to have, and to be for all subject pronouns in the present tense. (This is a review of the present tense before we plunge into the past tense) Sixth Grade will be working with the verb to go to express the future. We have a new Spanish intern that comes every Thursday and helps me teach the Sixth Grade. Her name is Kendelle Martin. She is studying education with a major in Spanish at Suffolk University. It's been great for me to have her around. I can talk to someone about Spanish, what I am planning, get her input on everything, and brainstorm together new activities. It has also improved classroom dynamics, making it possible to have whole group time and half group activities (half group means we each work with three or four students, giving more opportunity for individual attention and conversation.)

Culturally speaking we will venture into "The Day of the dead" a holiday celebrated in Mexico since Aztec times. We will also learn halloween vocabulary as I mix it with many of the units we are learning. Another happening in Spanish which we are all very excited about, is that we'll be hosting our very first Alien Election! This project came to be when Eli from third grade brought me a poster about Urix (an alien) running for president. Basically in less than five minutes Fifth Grade, the class that I was teaching when Eli came in, had designed the entire project. Every student that wishes to participate will create their very own alien. We will hold primary elections per grade and decide on a candidate for every class. Then at the same time as presidential elections, we will vote for an Alien President and Vice President. I will of course use the opportunity to bathe them in election related Spanish vocabulary. BUUUUUUUUye! ¡AHHHHHHHHHHdios!

News from the Classrooms

***ECC**

Kindergarten

***First Grade:**

***Second Grade**

***Third Grade**

***Fourth Grade**

***Fifth Grade** Advent School is very excited and honored to be involved with the NAIS Challenge 20/20! J F Rischard wrote a book in 2002 called High Noon: 20 Global Problems, 20 Years to Solve Them. The National Association of Independent Schools picked up on the that Rischard set forth and created the collaborative project called "Challenge 20/20" where a school in the US is partnered with a school abroad to work together toward a solution to one of these 20 problems. Advent has partnered with the FabIndia School in Rajasthan, India, to work towards the global problem of Education for All. FabIndia is located in a very rural and remote area of India where schools are scarce. The school was begun by textile importers John and Bim Bissell to provide education particularly to girls in the area that previously did not have access to schools or the money to attend them. Girls' tuition is subsidized or waived at FabIndia, thus enabling more families to send their daughters to school. This week all Advent students, either individually or as a class, wrote a letter to the students of the FabIndia School, telling them about what their morning routines are like and about their educational experiences. We are expecting the same to come from the students in India soon. After we have become more acquainted with our new friends we will begin discussions on what we can do to together to help more students in India have access

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to an education. Please stay posted for the next exciting development in this project. We have a few copies of High Noon if you would like to read the book that inspired this project. Please also check out the NAIS website for more information by searching for "NAIS Challenge 20/20."

***Sixth Grade**

News from the Administrators

Director of Education / Arati Pandit

***Admission Office/ Jaime Bard**

Admissions season has officially begun at The Advent School! Our parent guides have been busy giving daily tours and we're gearing up for the Open House event on Thursday, October 19th from 4-6 pm. Please let me know if you are interested in volunteering to help out for the event.

In community news, there have been some wonderful meetings over the past few weeks with Hill House, The Children's Museum and various other local organizations about possible partnerships.

As for the T-project...it is really gaining some momentum! The Beacon Hill Street Fair was a great success - a big thank you to all who volunteered and helped out! A lot of people and organizations are becoming very excited about our project and are hopping on board.

The Kindergarten and ECC groups have been working very hard on organizing a materials drive and, together, we are heading the Children's Museum to explore their recycling center.

The next T - art (Local Art ~ Global Heart) steering committee meeting is on Friday, October 6th from 7:45 - 8:15 am in the library. All are welcome. This is a big year for Advent: it's our 45th Birthday! This is an important time our school to reflect on the past, look toward the future, and celebrate who we are and what we do.

***Parent Committee**

As a reminder to all, the Parents Committee meets on the first Thursday of each month at 8:30 in the library, and all are welcome to attend.

October 26 marks the first of Advent's four Parent Education Collaborative presentations for the 2006-07 school year. The school's new librarian, Amanda Bock, will speak on the topic, "*Living Literate Lives: Experiencing the Library with Children.*" The presentation begins at 8:30 a.m. in, where else?, but the library.

As fall begins its retreat, the winter holiday season can't be far behind, and the committee is looking ahead to how best to continue in the traditions of the school's commitment to giving back to the community. We invite parents to think not only in terms of our local community, but to take a global perspective as well. Parents who have ideas and/or suggestions are encouraged to let your individual class parents know or email the Parents Committee at advent.parents@gmail.com in time for the committee's November 2 meeting

From the Front Desk / Robin Wilson

October 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday / Sunday
					1
2	3	4	5 <i>Parents' Committee Meeting 8:30 am</i> <i>Technology Cmte. Meeting 3:30 pm</i>	6	7/8
9 <i>Columbus Day</i> <i>No School</i>	10	11	12 <i>Marketing Cmte. Meeting 8:30</i>	13	14/15
16	17	18	19 <i>Development Cmte. 8:30 am</i> <i>School Photos 9:30</i> <i>Admissions Open House 4:00-6:00 pm</i>	20	21/22
23	24 	25	26 <i>Parent Education Collaborative Library 8:30 am</i>	27 <i>Parent Conferences 1:00-4:00 pm</i>	28/29 <i>Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday at 2:00 a.m.</i>
30	31 <i>Halloween</i>				

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October 5, 2006

November 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday / Sunday
		1 No School Parent Conferences Day of Core	2	3	4/5 ISEE Exam
6 Sixth Grade to Farm School	7 Sixth Grade at Farm School	8 Sixth Grade at Farm School	9	10 Veterans' Day No School	11/12
13	14	15	16	17	18/19 Sunday (19) Admission Open House/ 4:00-6:00pm
20	21	22 Thanksgiving Break begins at 12:30 pm <i>No Core or ADVENTures</i>	23	24	25/26
27 School Resumes	28	29	30	1	2/3