



O'Donnell Middle School, Stoughton



VOLUME 70

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Message from OMS PTso:

As a PTso, we had a couple of quiet months and now we're ready to greet the New Year with a passion! We hope you all had a wonderful December break and are off to a great start in 2010!

**Our next PTso meeting is
Wednesday, February 10th 7-8pm
OMS Media Center
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

A guest speaker will talk about **Internet safety**.



Put your creative thinking caps on... if you can come up with this year's Staff Appreciation theme you'll win a PRIZE! The first week in May is Staff Appreciation week.

The PTso does a great job at showing their appreciation to OMS staff members by offering a week-long theme celebrating them! Examples of themes we have had in the past are World Champs Baseball and a fun filled carnival week complete with slushes and popcorn! ã And just because you may win the prize for coming up with the theme doesn't mean you have to run the whole weekã unless you want to :) This week is a collaborative effort by many volunteers. If you can't make the meeting but want to have your theme considered then email your idea to us! We will have a vote at the meeting.

We look forward to seeing you February 10th! --OMS PTso Exec. Board



Oms PTso 4th ANNUAL HOLIDAY SHOPPING DAY

We had over 300 people attend our Annual Shopping Day, which made \$5,000 for the OMS. Thank you to the many volunteers that helped to make this a successful event and to all of you who attended!

Preferred Customer Cards

The Stoughton Chamber of Commerce has once again offered to give each PTso member a Preferred Customer card (\$15 value!). If you have signed up for the PTso and would like a card that offers discounts at many places throughout town, please email us at oms_ptso_news@verizon.net. You can get a complete list of discounts at stoughtonma.com.

Yearbooks

Don't miss the memories!

Yearbooks can be ordered at the office for \$20 each. They will be on sale until March 1st.



OMS PTSO News



Spelling Bee

The 50th Annual **Spelling Bee** sponsored by the Stoughton Woman's Club will be held February 11th at 9am in the OMS Media Center. Ask your child if he/she is a participant. Students will know if they will participate once they have had their team preliminary spelling bees.

School Dance



Stay tuned for more details about our Spring School Dance coming up early March!

SYC Early Thursdays

Every early Thursday at the O'Donnell Middle School, free fun games are held. Past activities include basketball, guitar hero, kickball, and even a field day! Open to all Stoughton youths in grades 6-8. Students must have a permission slip to participate. You can get one at the office OR get one from their website:

www.stoughtonyouthcommission.org

News You Chose

Do you have an idea you'd like to share with all our PTSO members? Would you like to see it in the PTSO Newsletter?

Please email your ideas to

OMS_PTSO_NEWS@verizon.net

From the School Nurse

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Since we are at the half way point in our school year, I have a few reminders to keep everyone healthy and safe.

1. Stoughton Public Schools has the following medication policy: Over the counter medications must be supplied to the school and will be given with a parent note or signed consent form in the nurse's office. Prescription medication may be given at school with a signed Physician order. This order can be faxed to me at 781-344-4065 or brought in. The medication must be in the original pharmacy container. **NO MEDICATION SHOULD BE SENT TO SCHOOL IN A BAGGY IN THE KIDS POCKET!** Kids may carry their inhalers on them if they have an M.D. order stating this and signed parental consent, in my office. Please call me with any questions about this policy, I have it typed out in a letter and can send one home per request. 781-344-7002 ext. 6161
2. Please keep kids home with a fever over 100 degrees; they must be fever free for 24 hours with no Tylenol or Motrin.
3. If kids complain of something and their siblings are home sick please keep them home, even for 2 hours and send them in late if no vomiting or fever.
4. Thank you to the 6th grade parents that have sent in physical forms for next year. I will need one for every student entering 7th grade. A copy of this policy was sent home with kids 3 weeks ago AND it is on the web site.
5. Parents or guardians must come in and sign out kids at the office if they are being sent home for an illness, then come to the nurse's office which is 2 doors down from office.

Thank you so much for all your help it has been a pleasure getting to know the students and their parents.

Sincerely,

Sue McDonnell, RN, BSN

OMS PTSO News

Ice Safety Precautions

A Public Service Announcement brought to you by mass.gov

Before we experience a tragedy that is unfortunately too common this time of year, it is important that we remind everyone, particularly children, of the dangers of unsafe ice, said MEMA Director Don Boyce. When lakes, ponds, streams and rivers throughout the Commonwealth freeze over, the temperature may continue to fluctuate above and below freezing, making ice conditions very uncertain. People may be a bit impatient to venture out on the ice for skating, hockey, ice fishing and other winter sports. We highly recommend the use of recreational skating areas provided by your local communities. It is very important to exercise precaution and common sense.

Always check with your local police, fire or park department to ensure that safe ice conditions exist. However, due to the uncertainty of ice conditions and the dangers presented, many departments will not endorse the safety of lakes, ponds, streams or rivers. The strength and thickness of ice should be known before any activity takes place.

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- Never go onto the ice alone. A friend may be able to rescue you, call 9-1-1 or go for help if you fall through the ice.
 - Always keep your pets on a leash. If a pet falls through the ice do not attempt to rescue your pet, go for help.
 - New ice is usually stronger than old ice. As ice ages, the bond between the crystals decays, making it weaker, even if melting has

not occurred.

- Beware of ice covered with snow. Snow can insulate ice and keep it strong, but can also insulate it to keep it from freezing. Snow can also hide cracks, weak and open ice.
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- Slush is a danger sign, indicating that ice is no longer freezing from the bottom and can be weak or deteriorating.
- Ice formed over flowing water (rivers or lakes containing a large number of springs) is generally 15% weaker.
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- Ice seldom freezes or thaws at a uniform rate. It can be one foot thick in one spot and be only one inch thick 10 feet away.
- Reach-Throw-Go. If a companion falls through the ice and you are unable to reach that person from shore, throw them something (rope, jumper cables, tree branch, etc.). If this does not work, go for help or call 9-1-1, before you also become a victim. Get medical assistance for the victim immediately.
- If you fall in, try not to panic. Turn toward the direction from which you came. Place your hands and arms on the unbroken surface, working forward by kicking your feet. Once out, remain lying on the ice (do not stand) and roll away from the hole. Crawl back to your tracks, keeping your weight distributed until you return to solid ice.

By following safety procedures, you can be safe and enjoy the many winter activities offered by the great outdoors.

OMS PTSO News



BoxTops For Education

Visit www.btfе.com to sign up to support the ROBERT G O'DONNELL MIDDLE School.

Send in your BOXTOPS!!! We will be sending another shipment at the end of February! so gather them up and send them in!

Mark them with your child's grade level because

The grade level that brings in the most boxtops will have a DAY OF FUN in June!

Grade 6 is in the lead but grade 7 is not far behind

Campbell's Soup Labels

Send in your Campbell's labels and earn FREE STUFF for our school! See



www.labelsforeducation.com for details about this program.

Register your Stop & Shop card at

A+
bonus bucks

www.stopandshop.com/aplus and designate the Robert G. O'Donnell Middle School, ID # 07752 and start earning money for our school just by shopping at Stop & Shop something you probably already do! See the last page of the newsletter for more detail.

OMS PTSO School Store Attention Students!

Need a last minute school supply? A pencil? A pen? Check out the OMS PTSO School Store.



The store is open every Monday during all lunches.

This is not a for-profit service. The PTSO simply wants our students as prepared as they can be. The items we offer are at very minimal cost.

Show your school spirit!



Spirit Wear For Sale

Stoughton Lounge Pants	\$20
Stoughton Girl's Gym Shorts	\$10
Stoughton Baseball Hats (light gray and black)	\$12
Stoughton Baseball Hats	\$12
Hooded Sweatshirts (gray and black)	\$25
Long Sleeve T-Shirts (black and gray)	\$15
T-Shirts (black and gray)	\$10
Stoughton Black Sweat Pants	\$20
Stoughton Stadium Blankets	\$25

For \$5, you can have your Spirit Wear embroidered/monogrammed!
To order, email Maria Bough at Mariabaugh@yahoo.com

OMS PTSO News

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

February

- 04 Term 2 Report Cards Issued
- 10 PTSO meeting 7pm
- 11 Stoughton Woman's Club Spelling Bee
- 12 School Closes at end of day (regular full day)
- 15-19 February Vacation**
- 22 Back to School
- 24 Grade 8 Scheduling Night SHS Auditorium 7pm
- 25 Spring Picture Day



March

- TBA Spring Dance
- 04 Early Release 11:32am/term 3 mid-terms issued
- 10 PTSO meeting 7pm
- 17 Evening of Jazz--OMS & SHS Jazz Bands SHS Auditorium 7:30pm
- 22 ELA MCAS Begins grades 6, 7 & 8
- 23 ELA Long Comp MCAS grade 7

2009 – 2010 PTSO Meetings:

The PTSO meets once a month from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the OMS Media Center.

ALL ARE WELCOME! Please come and share your ideas

*The meetings for the balance of the school year are:

Feb. 10

Mar. 10

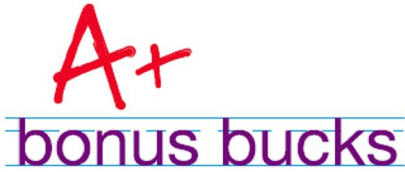
Apr. 14

May 12

Jun. 8

*meetings are subject to change.

OMS PTSO News



Dear Parents:

Welcome to the start of a new school year and another year of A+ Bonus Bucks. Starting October 9, 2009 through March 25, 2010, O'Donnell Middle School will have the opportunity to earn cash through Stop&Shop A+ Bonus Bucks Program.

All you have to do is:

Log on to www.stopandshop.com/aplus to register online

OR

Dial 1-877-275-2758 to register your card over the phone

After you register your card, each shopping trip at Stop&Shop using your Stop&Shop Card earns CASH for our school! Each month, the amount of CASH awarded will be updated on the Stop&Shop website. You can track the amount of points you earn for our school by checking your grocery receipt and online when you create an account at stopandshop.com. Our school will receive a check at the end of the program. The money can be used for any of our school's educational needs.

Remember, even if you registered your card last year, you must re-register this year for our school to receive credit. Attending to this simple process makes a HUGE difference to our school. We need your support.

Please be sure to register your card to benefit the Dr. Robert G. O'Donnell Middle School using ID #**07752**

Also, don't forget to encourage your friends and relatives to do the same. It could mean the world to our children.