

# Hope School



"Where Children Come First"  
October 2008 Family Newsletter

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Principal

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## Message from the Principal

The month of September was jam packed with activities as Hope School started the new school year. The PTA sponsored a visit from Marvelous Marvin who taught our students about the systems of the body in a fun and amusing way. His poetry and silly antics made all of us laugh! We are grateful for the generosity of the PTA.

The teachers and I have begun our work at becoming better writers by participating in an Embedded Writing Institute. So far we have met a couple of Friday mornings before school to write in our journals and share with each other. We feel that improvement of our personal writing will improve the writing instruction that we offer our students.

Students in grades 3-5 have been working on the State NECAP Assessments and students in all grades have been screened with a program called AIMS Web. AIMS Web assessments will be very useful in identifying students' strengths and weaknesses and will help us to plan and provide appropriate instruction.

We have completed all of the mandated emergency drills including evacuation and lock down procedures. Our students did a wonderful job cooperating and following instructions. I feel confident that all students and staff will be able to carry out the necessary procedures should an unexpected need arise. October promises to be another busy month. I hope to see many of you at the PTA Pumpkin Carving Night scheduled for Friday evening on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget to wear your costume! Ms. Mowry



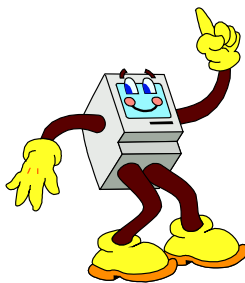
Marvelous Marvin dances with the skeletons.

**NO SCHOOL**  
~Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup> ~  
**Teacher Inservice**

Teachers will be learning more about the AIMS Web Assessment program and it's application to the Response to Intervention process.



**NO SCHOOL**  
~Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> ~



## Hope School Website

Please check out the Hope School Website! You can view the school menu, PTA News, student handbooks and a copy of the Family Newsletters. Simply go to: <http://www.scituateri3.net/hope/>

## Social Skills Groups

Mrs. Ricci, our school psychologist, is in the process of scheduling a couple of social skills groups to work with her for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour on Mondays for 6-8 weeks. The groups are designed to focus on social/friendship making skills. Permission slips have been sent home with all students. We will make our selections from those students whose parents have given us permission. It is anticipated that we will be able to conduct several rounds of these groups. We will accommodate as many students as possible during the school year.



The School Improvement Team had its first meeting on October 1<sup>st</sup>. We had a lively discussion about the external factors that may affect teaching and learning at Hope School. Members of this year's team are: Parent Representatives - Donna Petrarca, Donna Bonneau and Jacqueline Bartlett, Teacher Representatives - Riley Callan and Marissa Gauvin and Ms. Mowry. Anyone is welcome to attend our meetings. Look for a date and time in the monthly family newsletter.

## District Report Card

Check out Hope School and Scituate District Report Cards on the RI Department of Education Website: <http://www.ride.ri.gov/> "A quick guide for families" is also available on the site. We are very proud that all five of our schools have made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in reading and mathematics.



## Important Upcoming Events



Monday, October 6 - PTA Meeting  
6:30, Library (Art Room Babysitting)  
Oct 7, 8, 9 - NECAP Testing  
Grades 3-5 Mathematics  
Tuesday, October 7 - School Committee Meeting  
7:00 Scituate High School Library  
Thursday, October 9 - Fire Safety Assembly  
9:30 AM Grades K-2

## October 10 & 13 ~NO SCHOOL~

Tuesday, October 14 - PTA Walk-a-Thon  
During Recess Time  
Wednesday, October 15 - Town Council Meeting  
7:00 PM Hope School Gym  
Wednesday, October 15 & Thursday October 16 -  
NECAP Testing Grade 5, Writing  
Thursday, October 16 - AM Kindergarten Fieldtrip to  
Salisbury Farm

## October 20 - 23 ~PTA Book Fair~

Monday, October 20 - PM Kindergarten Fieldtrip  
To Salisbury Farm  
Friday, October 24 - PTA Pumpkin Carving Night  
6:30, Cafeteria

## October 27 - 31 ~Student Council and PTA Food Drive~

## Tuesday, November 4 ~ No School, Election Day~

Thursday, November 5 - School Committee  
7:00 Hope School  
Friday, November 7 - 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Ends

## Tuesday, November 11 ~No School, Veterans Day~

Tuesday, November 18 - Report Card Distribution