



Backpack Express

*The weekly newsletter from Crossroads Academy, an independent school
serving grades K-8 in Lyme, NH*

June 8, 2010

Calendar of Events

June	11	Fri	Culminating Final Assembly, BCC, 8:15 am; Field Day
	14	Mon	4 th grade field trip to Magic Wings, 7:45 am - 2:45 pm
	15	Tue	6 th grade field trip to Burlington, VT, 7:00 am; 3 rd grade class trip to The Fells, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm
	14-15	Mon- Tue	7 th and 8 th grade class trip to Montreal
	15	Tue	6 th grade class trip to Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 7:00 am - 7:00 pm
	17	Thu	No classes for 8 th graders, graduation rehearsal, BCC, 9:00-11:00 am, 12:00 dismissal , 8 th grade graduation, BCC, 1:00 pm, No AK or AS Program
	18	Fri	Move-Up Ceremony, K-7 th grades, BCC, 8:30 am, dismissal to follow, No AK or AS Program

Head's Note

Dear Parents,

The 2009–2010 school year is coming to a conclusion. We have so much to celebrate as we end our nineteenth school year. Year-end projects are culminating and trips are in the planning stage. It is a fun-filled and exciting time of the year!

Graduation takes place at 1:00 pm on Thursday, June 17th. All families are invited to attend. (Children who wish to attend must be accompanied by a parent.) This beautiful ceremony is the capstone of the Crossroads experience. Please come!

I hope that you will be able to attend our Move-Up Ceremony on Friday, June 18th. This celebratory event is not to be missed! It will begin at 8:30 am. We invite you to join us for a casual reception under the tent after the ceremony. We anticipate that the festivities will conclude around 11 am. From there, it's officially "summer" for the children!

With thanks to all of our parents, we celebrate the conclusion of another productive and enjoyable year of partnership with our Parent Association. I know that you will join me in thanking Gretchen Curtis for her tremendous leadership. We have accomplished a great deal this year; you will see a list of our many accomplishments at our Move-Up Ceremony. The big news from the PA this week is about the playground. Janna Genereaux, with the help of parents, teachers, and students, has helped us to envision a new play space. With the support of the Parent Association, we will be able to make this dream a reality. Many of you may know that the PA has been setting aside funding for playground equipment for many years; some of these resources will go toward this project. The new play space will be located in our amphitheater and will feature a number of natural features that will encourage imaginative, active play. This play space will become a natural extension of our content-rich program. Here, students visualize re-enacting Odysseus' adventures in *The Odyssey*, building the Great Wall of China, and creating cave drawings. We will selectively harvest some trees near our bridge as resources for this playground. By doing so, we will create a second space; this one will

become an outdoor classroom/picnic area along the edge of the brook. Our hope is to have the play space ready to use by the fall!

As we wind up our year, our thoughts and best wishes go to all of our graduates and departing families. They will remain in our hearts, and we know that they will take with them so many gifts from our community. Almost weekly, we hear from former parents and students. They tell us about how our school has made a difference. Last week, Heidi Robbins wrote this to me, "Crossroads gave me a real love of learning. In particular, it taught me to be fascinated by the intersection of subjects." Now at Princeton, Heidi is in the predicament of wanting to study comparative literature, Swahili, French, art history, and global health policy! Ben Yoshikawa, just one year out of Crossroads, is featured in the alumni section of our website. To learn more about Ben's outstanding first year in a military academy, just follow this link to our website:

<http://crossroads.shgroup.net/index.php?page=84§ion=5>

I look forward to the final days of the school year with you and your families. — All the best, Jean

Community Service, Virtue, and Psalm for This Month

June Virtue: Kindergarten - fifth grades: *Wisdom* is knowledge of things that matter. Sixth - eighth grades: *Justice and Prudence* is wisdom, integrity, and respect. Psalm 90 vs. 1-2; 12-14

School Notes

Crossroads Community Calendar: Please go to <http://www.crossroadsacademy.org/> and click on the calendar icon and for the library please go to <http://library.crossroadsacademy.org>.

Egg Drop Contest: This event will take place on Thursday, June 10th, which will be the day before field day. All students are welcome to take part in the annual Egg Drop contest. See information sheet for more details. — Mrs. Grenier

Field Day: This will take place on Friday, June 11th. We are looking forward to a fun-filled day of activities. To make the day run smoothly, please take a minute to read the parent letter regarding field day and what your child should bring to school for field day. Thank you for your support. — Mrs. Grenier



LET'S GO Crossroads Academy! So far there are only four families signed up on our Prouty Team! Many of you may be signed up on other teams and that's great; all the money goes to the same place, The Norris Cotton Cancer Center, one of the best research and patient care facilities there is right here in the Upper Valley! BUT, if you have not already registered and you want to be part of this AMAZING event, please JOIN the Behnkes and the rest of OUR TEAM. With roughly one hundred families, we ought to be able to "field" a team of just fifty walkers and bikers and raise \$10,000! To date we have four families (fourteen team members) registered and more than 10 percent of our fund raising goal. If you have questions about registering, or if you have never done The Prouty before and want some advice on fund raising, don't hesitate to e-mail me at: springhorn@aol.com or call 603.298.6064. Even if you won't be in town, you can be a "virtual" rider!

Crossroads and Social Media: To enhance our use of technology to communicate with the Crossroads community and boost our marketing efforts, we are hoping to increase our use of social media. To that end, Crossroads has three new, exciting features on the Web that have been added recently. You can check out the first one, which is a video clip of the fifth grade's presentation of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," on the Crossroads website. Click on the following link and scroll down to the month of April: <http://crossroadsacademy.org/index.php?section=4> As well, Crossroads now has its own account on YouTube. You can find the same video clip at this link to YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3r8u-BFMac> Special thanks go to Dave Kotz who generously donated his time and expertise to create and format this clip for us.

Finally, we are now on Twitter! We hope you will choose to "follow" us on Twitter as we move forward with this popular way of communicating. In the meantime, please click on this link to see our first "tweets" <http://twitter.com/CrossrdsAcademy>.

We are planning to add more videos on YouTube and our website of exciting Crossroads happenings in the future, and we'd be grateful to have any interested parents help us with this endeavor. In fact, if you'd like to help increase Crossroads use of social media by creating video clips or in any other way, please contact me at marion.frazer@crossroadsacademy.org. We'd love to hear your ideas and benefit from your interests and expertise as they relate to how social media could benefit Crossroads. — Marion Frazer

Families Interested in Carpooling for '10-'11: As we all know, carpooling can be convenient. It also reduces traffic in the parking lot, alleviates pollution with fewer cars on the road, and enables the sharing of the cost of high-priced gasoline. If your family is interested in carpooling to/from Crossroads for the 2010-2011 school year, please e-mail me at marion.frazer@crossroadsacademy.org. I will compile a list of interested families and post it soon by the family mailboxes in order for you to contact other interested families before the school year begins. — Marion Frazer

To Families Who Use the Bus: Pierson's Transportation will bus students to school in the morning of the last day of school, *but will not be back to drive them to Hanover/Norwich after the Move-Up Ceremony*. Hopefully this will not be a hardship for anyone as we are hoping to see you at the Move-Up Ceremony anyway, and you then can drive your children home. Families who are scheduled to ride the bus on Friday afternoons have already been billed for the June 18 afternoon ride; please deduct the cost of that ride from your check when you pay your most recent bill from Pierson's. Finally, as a reminder, Pierson's will accommodate our early dismissal on Thursday, June 17 and will be here at noon that day for the Thursday afternoon riders. —Darlene Gautreau

Middle School News

Sixth Grade Field Trip: The driver for the bus company will be transporting the sixth graders to Burlington on Tuesday, June 15th. Due to construction, he feels that it would be best to allow an extra fifteen minutes for wiggle room. Please plan to have your child at Crossroads and ready to board the bus at 7:00 am.

Graduation: The graduation ceremony for the eighth grade will take place at 1:00 pm on Thursday, June 17th at the Bancroft Campus Center. All of the Crossroads community are invited to attend this lovely event. Immediately following the ceremony there will be a reception for graduates, parents, and their invited guests in a tent at the Bancroft Campus Center. All sixth and seventh graders should plan to attend the Crossroads Graduation Ceremony. The ceremony generally runs about one and a quarter to one and a half hours. Sixth and seventh grade students should be picked up at 2:15 pm. If you would like your son/daughter to stay after school and get dressed for graduation here on that day, please let me know so that we have enough teachers available for supervision. For sixth and seventh graders attending, the dress code is the following: Boys should plan to wear a dress shirt and pants. Girls should plan to wear skirts or dress pants and a light colored blouse or a dress. The graduates should wear the following: Boys should wear khaki pants with a white shirt and tie, and girls should wear pastel colored dresses or skirts and blouses. Parents and guests should plan to park at the Bancroft Campus Center, and faculty/staff have been asked to park at the Klee Building. Please do not park on Route 10. — Doris LaMontagne