



October Newsletter

Walter S. Miller Elementary School

Neshaminy School District

Paul Mahoney, Principal October 2011

Office 215.809.6360 Nurse 215.809.6366 Guidance 215.809.6365 www.neshaminy.org



October Highlights

OCTOBER 6	SCHOOL PHOTO DAY Picture Envelopes Sent Home
OCTOBER 6	PTO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND FAMILY BOOK FAIR 6:30—8:30 PM
OCTOBER 21	PTO FAMILY FUN NIGHT 6:30-8:30 PM
OCTOBER 31	HALLOWEEN FESTIVITIES IN PM - More Information To Follow



Dear Parents and Guardians,

September 17th is the birthday of our government, the date on which delegates to the Philadelphia Convention signed the United States Constitution. **Constitution Day** is a time to celebrate not only its birthday, but the ideals included in this great document, including Liberty, Equality, and Justice. Our school celebrated Constitution Day on Friday, September 16 with a variety of activities. After Girl Scouts, **Carly Craige**, **Katterina Cherrington**, **Jenna Dixon**, **Maya Johnson**, and **Alexandra Strugariu** presented the flag, students and staff recited the Pledge of Allegiance. All students then sang and “hand signed” the Preamble song. Classroom teachers also delivered relevant lessons with students on this day. Many thanks go to **Ms. Rhydderch** and **Mrs. Waterson** for preparing students to sing the Preamble.

Sincerely,

Paul Mahoney
Principal



On August 25th, room D-3 was jam-packed with the newest members of the “**Miller Family**” as we held our **Annual Kindergarten Open House**. Our “brand new” kindergartners had an opportunity to meet their teachers, **Mrs. Pecuch** and **Mrs. Stumer**, the Principal, and Guidance Counselor. What was the highlight of the morning? The **Complimentary Bus Ride** provided by the **District’s Transportation Department**!



Parking Lot Procedures . . .Safety First

Many thanks to all of our Miller parents who are cooperating to make the “Drop Off” and “Pick Up” of our students a safe procedure. Here are some tips to help us make our school parking lot safe for our students, parents, and staff.

- If your child is a busser, please allow him/her to ride the bus. At times of inclement weather, you may “sit” with your child at the bus stop in your car rather than driving him/her to school.
- You have the option of NOT coming into the parking lot. You may drop your child off near the flag pole area on Cobalt Ridge Drive South. There is a crossing guard at this corner, and your child will be safely crossed to the walkway that leads to the school.
- When dropping your child off, avoid the “valet type” drop off. Two cars may “unload” at the same time at the Cafeteria Entrance. If you are “waved through” to the bus port, MANY cars may “unload” at the same time. Our children are certainly capable of walking the few steps to the door. If there is a back-up on Cobalt Ridge Drive South at the LIGHT, consider going RIGHT on Cardinal Road. This road will also lead to Oxford Valley Road.
- If your child is a WALKER, let your child walk! Children enjoy walking together. It is a social experience and allows your child to develop independence while having fun with neighborhood friends and classmates.
- **Do NOT double-park in the lot.** This just creates additional traffic issues.

AHERA Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act

“Neshaminy School District has engaged Eagle Industrial Hygiene Assoc., Inc., to fulfill the requirements of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), 40 CFR Part 763, Subpart E. This law requires that each Local Education Authority (LEA) engage EPA accredited individuals to initially inspect and subsequently reinspect every three years all student and staff accessed areas for the presence of both friable and nonfriable asbestos containing materials (ACM) and to develop an Asbestos Management Plan from the information developed from the building inspections. All areas of our facilities were inspected for asbestos-containing materials.

The Management Plan provides a description of the amount, type, location and condition of all ACM found in these areas. The Plan also contains a detailed schedule of responses and activities for handling the ACM. The Management Plan is available for review by interested parents, faculty and staff in all school offices during business hours.”

*Sincerely,
Barbara Markowitz, Acting Business Administrator*



“Breakfast is Served” at Walter Miller Elementary School each day from 8:30—8:50 AM. The cost is \$1.00. Students receiving “Free and/or Reduced Lunch” are eligible for a “Free and/or Reduced Breakfast”.



NO DOGS, PLEASE!!!

Please...DO NOT bring dogs or other pets to the bus port during student arrival or dismissal. Some students are afraid of dogs, and other students have allergies. With nearly 400 students entering and leaving the building, we are also concerned about the safety of your pet.



Mrs. Kelly Dougherty
Title 1



Ms. Hillary Rhydderch
Music Teacher—Days #4 & #5



Mrs. Yazmine Adamson
Librarian—Days #2 & #3

Welcome new Miller staff!!!



Ms. Jessica Story
Librarian—Days #4 & #5



Mrs. Cynthia Connolly
School Counselor



Mrs. Alice Eder
Instructional Assistant



Mrs. Yvonne Usewicz
Clerk Typist



Cafeteria Staff:
Mrs. Ronda Davenport, Cook
Mrs. Mary Piuma, Dishwasher



**Mrs. Angela Chiesa, Ms. Jamie Volponi,
Mrs. Maria Heffernan, Ms. Darlene Magill,
Ms. Kathy O'Brien, and
Mrs. Pauline Wojnar**
BCIU STAFF—B-6

Art Notes

Mrs. Potter and Mrs. Loizos are very excited to begin another wonderful year in the art room. We have created new and exciting art projects for this school year that we are certain the students will have a great time creating!



At the beginning of the school year we are already in need of the following materials:

- Empty coffee containers/tins
- Egg cartons
- Dry cleaning plastic

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact us!

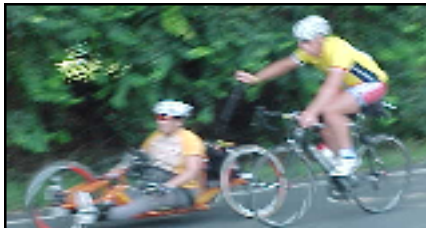
spotter@neshaminy.k12.pa.us (Mrs. Potter)

dloizos@neshaminy.k12.pa.us (Mrs. Loizos)



Ride to Recovery!

Miller students cheered on the more than 300 cyclists participating in the **Ride 2 Recovery 9/11 Challenge** as they rode passed the Walter Miller School on Monday, September 12. The cyclists began their 530 mile trip at the World Trade Center and completed their ride eight days later at the Pentagon. The cyclists were extremely receptive to the rousing cheers as they pedaled by the school.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Miller Library is actively looking for volunteers to support our school library program. Volunteer tasks include reshelving books and organizing the bookshelves. No experience is necessary but we hope that you would be willing to help out once or twice a week. Grandparents are also welcome to inquire. Please contact **Mrs. Adamson** at 215-809-6360 or yadamson@neshaminy.k12.pa.us if you are interested. Thank you!



BAND and ORCHESTRA!



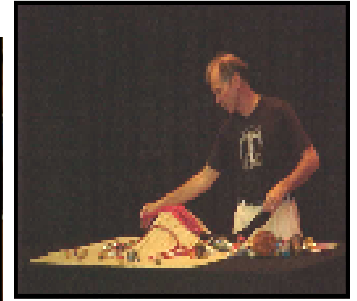
Beginner band lessons start either **Monday, October 3rd or Wednesday, October 5th**. Schedules were posted by the classroom teachers the last week of September. Band rehearsals for 2nd year advanced 5th grade members start on Wednesday, October 12th at 7:40 AM. I can be reached at: trussell@neshaminy.k12.pa.us

The string **Orchestra** program begins for children in third grade and up. Contact Mr. Steve Kyle for questions regarding the orchestra program at: skyle@neshaminy.k12.pa.us

NOTE FOR ORCHESTRA AND BAND STUDENTS AND PARENTS: IF YOUR CHILD FORGETS THEIR INSTRUMENT, YOU MAY DROP IT OFF IN THE OFFICE ON LESSON DAY. IT IS UP TO THE STUDENT TO CHECK IN THE OFFICE **BEFORE** HEADING TO THEIR LESSON. THE OFFICE STAFF **WILL NOT** INTERRUPT CLASS TO INFORM THE STUDENT THAT THE INSTRUMENT WAS DROPPED OFF!



On September 15, Quiet Riot presented a character education assembly entitled, “**Your Seven Strengths**”. Through the use of mime, comedy, storytelling, drama, improvisation, music, sound effects and audience participation, Quiet Riot explored the importance of feelings, good health, friends, interest, imagination, group, and positive thinking. Thank you to the PTO for sponsoring this assembly.



Counselor's Corner

Welcome to the new school year at Walter Miller Elementary School! I am very excited to be a part of your child's experience and honored to become a member of this great school community.

Our theme this month to promote positive behavior by way of our Neshaminy “Takes Pride” initiative is Trustworthiness. Trustworthiness is necessary to develop positive relationships with others. Trustworthy people are honest, reliable, loyal, and stand up for their beliefs. They live by their principles no matter what others say, and they have the courage to do what is right even when it's hard to do or failure might result. Parents can teach trustworthiness through modeling trustworthy behavior. Another way to teach your child how to be trustworthy is to praise him/her for being trustworthy. Praise your child when he/she tells the truth knowing a punishment might result, turns in something he/she found that someone else lost, is willing to try again even if he/she failed, gets ready for school on time, keeps a promise, or returns something that he/she has borrowed.





I look forward to getting to know you and your children in the weeks ahead. I am committed to assisting all students reach their academic, social, and emotional potential. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 215-809-6365 or via e-mail at cconnolly@neshaminy.k12.pa.us.

Mrs. Cynthia Connolly, School Counselor



October 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Day #1	4 Day #2	5 Day #3 School Store Gr. 1, 3 & 5	6 Day #4 School Picture Day!  PTO General Membership Mtg. 7-8 PM and Book Fair 6:30-8:30	7 Day #5 DIBELS TESTING KINDERGARTEN	8
		4-Sight Testing Grades 3-5				
9 Fire Prevention Week 	10 Day #1 PTO Athletic Apparel Sale Begins	11 Day #2	12 Day #3 Market Day Pickup 3:30—4:30 PM Columbus Day	13 Day #4	14 Day #5	15
16	17 Day #1	18 Day #2	19 Day #3 School Store Gr. 2, 3 & 4	20 Day #4	21 Day #5 PTO Family Fun Night 6:30—8:30 	22
23	24 Day #1 Athletic Apparel Sale Ends	25 Day #2	26 Day #3	27 Day #4 NHS Roadies 1:30 ALL Grades	28 Day #5	29
30	31 Day #1 Halloween Parade 1:45 Info to follow Happy Halloween 					

NOTE: DAY ROTATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE IF SCHOOL IS CLOSED UNEXPECTEDLY!