

**FRANCIS W. PARKER CHARTER ESSENTIAL SCHOOL**  
**& THEODORE R. SIZER TEACHERS CENTER**  
49 ANTIETAM ST DEVENS, MA 01434  
TELEPHONE (978) 772-3293 FAX (978) 772-3295 [www.parker.org](http://www.parker.org)

**Friday Announcements**

**Friday, January 27, 2006**

*You are cordially invited to attend—*



## *An Evening with the Stars*

*Wednesday, February 15, 2006*

*7:00 – 8:30 pm*

*Francis Parker Charter School*

*Presented by Division 1 M.S.T. students*

**ATTENTION PARENTS AND STUDENTS WHO DRIVE TO SCHOOL**

Please remember when driving in the grounds at Parker to observe all traffic signs, these include driving the correct way around the circle, not parking in the fire lane or in handicap parking spaces and observing the speed limit which is 5 mph.

**Applications for Enrollment at Parker for September, 2006  
Deadline is Wednesday, February 1**



**We are accepting applications for enrollment at Parker in September, 2006!  
If you have another child at home who will be applying to Parker, you do need to fill out an application form by the Wednesday, February 1 deadline.**

Please call the main office or stop by and ask for an application packet. The Information Session is not required for siblings although they are definitely welcome to attend if you wish.

If you have any questions please email, telephone or stop by the office and speak to Deborah Merriam, Academic Dean, [deb@parker.org](mailto:deb@parker.org) or (978) 772-3293. Thank you.

**COMING SOON**

**January, 2006**

Monday, 30 – Faculty Planning Day, no classes  
Monday, 30 – Trustees Meeting at 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**February, 2006**

Wednesday, 1 – Applications due for enrollment for September, 2006  
Wednesday, 1 – PEF Auction meeting at 7:00 p.m. in Room 2  
Thursday, 2 - New semester begins  
Thursday, 2 – Final Information Session at 4:00 p.m.  
Friday, 3 – Junior College Trip to Hampshire College and U. Mass. Amherst

**CALENDAR**

**PLEASE MARK THESE DATES! (Subject to change)**

**February, 2006 (Continued)**

Monday, 6 - Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, 7 – Admissions Lottery at 3:45 p.m.  
Tuesday, 7 - HAC meeting at 7:00 p.m. (Tuesday, February 28 snow date)  
Tuesday, 7 – Band Concert at 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, 8 – Gateway Celebration 12:30 – 1:30 P.M.  
Tuesday, 14 – Division 1 Play  
Wednesday, 15 – Evening with the Stars, Division I MST night 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

**February, 2006 (Continued)**

Thursday, 16 – Division 1 Play  
Friday, 17 – Noon dismissal  
Monday, 20 - President's Day (no school)  
Tuesday, 21 - Friday, 24 - Winter Recess  
Tuesday, 28 – HAC meeting at 7:00 p.m. (Snow date)

**March, 2006**

Wednesday, 1 – Junior Parent Information Night for Jon, Tom and Clay's advisories  
Thursday, 2 – Parker Matters Parenting Workshop – Assistant District Attorney Nora Mann – Internet Safety  
Wednesday, 8 – Spring Conference Day – No classes  
Thursday, 9 – Junior Parent Information Night for Tricia and Jim/Meghan's advisories  
Monday, 13 – Board of Trustees at 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, 15 – Noon Dismissal - Faculty Planning  
Thursday, 16 – Snow date for Junior Parent Information Night  
Wednesday, 22 – PEF Grant Requests Due  
Tuesday, 28 – MCAS Testing  
Wednesday, 29 – MCAS Testing  
Wednesday 29 – PEF Meeting at 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, 30 – MCAS Testing

**Thank you!**

Many thanks to the anonymous donor who brought in to the school two 8mm tapes and some 2006 planners, to the family of Colin and Kelsey Hanrahan for their donation of disposable cameras and to the family of Laura Farr for their donation of an electric pencil sharpener, 8 mm tapes and several boxes of pencils. We greatly appreciate your kindness.

**Red Cross Blood Drive!**

A huge thank you to all of the students, teachers, and parents who donated blood and volunteered their time at our blood drive this past Wednesday. The final results aren't quite in yet, but we had over sixty people come in the door and we estimate we collected fifty units of blood--that's 150 people we have helped! Special thanks to parent, Julie Gesin and to Deb/March's, Alyssa's, Liz's, David/Pedro's and Meghan/Frank's advisories. Here's hoping this becomes an annual tradition!

Thanks, Debbie Osofsky, Advisory Coordinator

***PARKER OUTREACH COMMITTEE***

The Parker Outreach Committee would like to thank the Parker Community for their support and donations! With the success of the bake sale during the Fall play and the money donated to us by the Division I Spirit Committee, we were able to send the NOW College Prep School, in Houston, Texas, over \$300 for sports equipment. The NOW College Prep School educates displaced students from Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. They sent a thank you letter to Parker letting us know just how much they appreciated the money we have raised as a community!

***CAN YOU HELP?***

- For my senior project, I am looking for people to interview for an audio documentary I am producing. I am interested in talking to people who have strong or unusual opinions about the consumption of meat -- either in favor or opposed. If you are willing to be interviewed and tape recorded, please contact me!  
Ben Dube, 978-877-0451 or 978-448-9461 or ben\_dube88@yahoo.com
- Parker is looking to hire some additional part time cleaning help. The hours would be 6 - 10 Monday through Friday. If you know of anyone who might be interested please contact Nicky at 978 772 3293 or nicola@parker.org
- **We are still in need of a few more 8 MM tapes.**

## ***DIVISION III***

As a result of the snow day this past Monday, the end of the first semester has been postponed until Tuesday, and the second semester will start on Thursday. The college trip for juniors and the senior project work day will be still take place on Friday, February 3rd.

### **This week's course updates are from March's A/H classes.**

As the semester is about to come to a close, Division 3 Mass Media and Collage are completing their final projects.

Mass Media is finishing the semester producing individual radio programs. In the style of an NPR segment, students are writing text, conducting interviews and incorporating ambient sounds. The editing is almost complete and each student's program will be burned to a CD to go into their portfolio.

Collage classes are illustrating multi-paged childrens' stories. They are being assessed for the use of collage materials and consistency of style and image from page to page. These stories are starting to be installed in the hallways of the school. Feel free to come in and "read" the visual images!

## ***MATH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY***

### **Math, Science and Technology - Division I**

COW #9 The Constellation Model was handed out last Friday, January 20 and is due back in this coming Tuesday, January 31. This week in Math and Science students have been working on modeling, proportional reasoning and scaling.

*Special Note:* Progress Reports are being written. Please remind students to hand in any past due work ASAP!

### **Reminders!!**

- COW #9 The Constellation Model DUE Tuesday, January 31
- REVISION WEEK January 31 – February 3 ....revise COW #8 Reasons for the Seasons
- Students will also need a tri-fold presentation board by Friday, February 3, 2006.
- Assignment completion continues to be an on-going issue. Homework notices were sent out before the holiday break and continue to be sent. We need your support.
- MARK YOUR CALENDARS ....Wednesday, February 15, 2006...you don't want to miss this!

### **Division II MST**

Although we have not been in our normal class configurations due to Gateways, students have had lots of work to do! They have been practicing their skills with quadratics and writing an essay about the interactions of human body systems. All classes will have an Anatomy ICCA early next week.

## ***ARTS AND HUMANITIES***

### **A/H Division I**

We the People of Division One, in order to make a more perfect Arts and Humanities class, have continued our study of the creation of the US Constitution. Ask students about the challenges with the Articles of Confederation and why people argued for the Constitution. Classes then looked at the Constitution, "translating" it into language that modern middle-schoolers would understand.

Classes have also been talking about the essay assignment that will be due before vacation, and many students have completed brainstorming assignments (or have them due next week - check homework web sites for specific details of each class).

Finally, we have started our study of photography, the arts strand of this unit. Students probably brought in photos from home as a starter class, and they will be learning about how photography works and the different techniques of the art form in coming weeks.

## **A/H Division II**

This week in Division 2 A/H we celebrated many mid-year gateways, and we would like to congratulate all of our Division 2 students who are moving on and up to Division 3! We would also like to remind our Division 2 students of all of the assessments in their future. Research folders and OPs will be completed next week. Students should all be working on their synthesis and annotated bibliography, as well as preparing their presentations. Students are also working on section 4 of "Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl." Our AE assessments are also just around the corner. AEs will be presented on Monday and Tuesday, February 13th and 14th. Also, students who plan to turn in a fiction piece to be assessed should be working on completing their 5-7 page paper. A reminder - that students do not have school on Monday, January 30th. Have a great long weekend!

## **WELLNESS**

### **Alan's Wellness class**

In Alan's classes, students played team handball and went to the Teen center for ping pong, pool, and futsal. For Health, students saw a skit and plotted out how conflict escalates with behavior and feelings. We talked about ways to de-escalate a conflict.

### **Deborah's Wellness class**

This week Deborah's Wellness classes were disrupted due to mid-year gateways. When students were present, they participated in physical activities. Next week we will take a look at dealing with anger and conflict resolution. In physical activity we will start our basketball module.

### **Laura's Wellness class**

This week in Wellness class we played volleyball and will go sledding. Next week we will play basketball and run the gauntlet to increase cardiovascular fitness and muscular strength as well as flexibility. In Health class we will learn about what escalates conflict and how feelings escalate during conflict. The students will plot a conflict on a "conflict escalator" and journal about how feelings escalate during conflict and how they are affected by conflicts. Next week in Health class we will explore the degrees of anger and the role anger and other feelings play in conflict.

## **SPANISH**

### **Division I:**

#### **Grado septimo:**

Esta semana estamos estudiando el verbo estar (to be) en relacion con adjetivos personales.

This week we are studying the verb estar (to be) plus personal adjectives.

#### **Grado octavo:**

Esta semana, estamos estudiando los verbos de cambio de raiz (O-UE) a travez del cuento del Ratoncito Miguelin. En la proxima semana vamos a escuchar la musica del cantante chileno Victor Jara.

This week, we continue to study stem-changing verbs (O-UE.) through reading the story of "Miguelin The Mouse." Next week, we will listen to the music of the Chilean singer, Victor Jara.

#### **Grado noveno:**

Esta semana, terminamos los proyectos de LEER y ESCRIBIR en la unidad 2. Los estudiantes hicieron una evaluacion del curso. Tambien, estudiantes cumplieron sus gran puertas. Felicidades.

This week, we finished the final READING and WRITING projects. Students completed a course evaluation. Congratulations to those students who gatewayed!

### **Division II**

This week in Division 2 Spanish, students continued to work on their group projects interpreting parts of "Bajo la Alameda." They met in their groups despite the schedule changes because of gateways, and they will finish recording their masterpieces on Tuesday. We congratulate all of those students who have completed their mid-year gateway ¡Felicitaciones!

### **Division III.**

Esta semana, nosotros presentamos un discurso que se trataba de la imigracion estadounidense y la m.i.r.a. Pronto, vamos a comer en un restaurante.

This week, we debated immigration in the United States. Soon, we are going to eat in a restaurant.

## ***LUNCH MENU - Week of January 30***

**Monday:** No School

**Tuesday:** Cheese Ravioli, Broccoli, Rolls & Butter, Fruit Dessert, Milk

**Wednesday:** Pizza Day, 2 slices, salad, fruit & milk \$3.50 (\$1.50 a slice a la carte), drinks & snacks available

**Thursday:** Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Tomato Soup, Fruit Dessert, Milk

**Friday:** Sloppy Joes, Curley Fries, Baby Carrots, Fruit Dessert, Milk – Vegetarian option is Veggie Burgers

## ***WIN FREE SKI PASSES FROM FRANK'S!***

Every Wednesday at Gathering for the next 5 weeks, Frank's Cafeteria will be giving away a FREE pair of day passes to Mount Wachusett Ski Area.

To enter, just purchase and use tickets to buy your breakfast or lunch in the cafeteria. Write your name on the back of your ticket - this is VERY IMPORTANT! The lucky winner will be drawn from the previous week's tickets (Wednesday through Tuesday).

Breakfast tickets cost \$7.50 for 5 and are good for a muffin, bagel, yogurt, (available daily) or a breakfast sandwich, waffles, hot pockets or french toast (selection varies daily), and includes milk and a small orange juice. It's a real bargain for \$1.50!

Lunch tickets cost \$17.50 for 5, or you can buy a single ticket in the cafeteria at break time for \$3.50. A lunch ticket will get you either a hot lunch or a large salad lunch, or you can use them on pizza day to buy 2 slices, a salad, milk, and fruit. Another great bargain!

Don't forget to write your name on your tickets! Good luck, and thanks for eating at Franks!

## ***LOST AND FOUND***

The Lost and Found box in the hallway to the gym is overflowing again. Please check to see that you are not missing any clothing and if so, check the box.

### **FOUND ITEMS IN THE OFFICE:**

- DVD of Sleepwalkers by Stephen King. Please come to the office.
- 1 USB drive found in the library (looks like a pen top with cord)
- 1 cell phone
- Various earrings
- Purple and silver padlock
- Silver bracelet
- Orange and grey striped material jeans belt

## SPORTS UPDATE

### Sports Schedule for Week of January 30, 2006

<u>Date</u>	<u>Parker Team</u>	<u>Practice/Game</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dismissal from class</u>	<u>Bus Leaves</u>	<u>Game Time</u>	<u>Pick-up</u>
Mon., 1/30	Boys Varsity	Practice	SMS			5:00	6:30 at SMS
	Girls Varsity	Home vs. S. Lancaster	JC			4:30	6:00 at JC
	Boys JV	Practice	SMS			5:00	6:30 at SMS
	Girls JV	Practice	LW			4:00	6:00 at LW
	Boys MS	Practice	School			3:30	4:45 at school
	Girls MS	Practice	School			4:45	6:00 at school
Tues., 1/31	Boys Varsity	Away vs. Bethany Christian	See website		4:00	7:00	9:15 at school
	Girls Varsity	Away vs. Bethany Christian	See website		4:00	5:30	9:15 at school
	Boys JV	Practice	SMS			5:00	6:30 at SMS
	Girls JV	Home vs. N.C. Charter	LW			4:30	5:45 at LW
	Boys MS	Practice	School			3:30	4:45 at school
	Girls MS	Practice	School			4:45	6:00 at school
Weds., 2/1	Boys Varsity	Practice	School			TBA	TBA
	Girls Varsity	Practice	OH			2:00	4:00 at OH
	Boys JV	No practice					
	Girls JV	No practice					
	Boys MS	No practice					
	Girls MS	No practice					
Thurs., 2/2	Boys Varsity	Away vs. S. Lancaster	See website	3:05	3:15	4:30	6:15 at school
	Girls Varsity	Practice	JC			<b>6:00 AM</b>	
	Boys JV	Practice	SMS			5:00	6:30 at SMS
	Girls JV	Practice	SMS			5:00	6:30 at SMS
	Boys MS	Away vs. Bromfield	See website	3:05	3:15	3:45	5:15 at school
	Girls MS	Practice	School			3:30	5:00 at school
Fri., 2/3	Boys Varsity	No practice					
	Girls Varsity	Home vs. Tahanto	SMS	2:45		3:30	5:00 at SMS
	Boys JV	Practice	LW			4:00	6:00 at LW
	Girls JV	Home vs. St. Bernards	SMS			5:15	6:30 at SMS
	Boys MS	Practice	School			4:45	6:00 at school
	Girls MS	Practice	School			3:30	4:45 at school

School = Parker

SMS = Shirley Middle School (Devens)

LW = Lura White School (Shirley)

JC = Job Corps (Devens)

OH = Orchard Hills (Lancaster)

Please contact Ben Benoit, Parker School Athletic Director, with any questions at (978) 772-3293 Ext. 114 or at [bbenoit@parker.org](mailto:bbenoit@parker.org).

## ***FOR THE COMMUNITY***

### **LEARN HOW NOT TO BECOME A VICTIM**

Sign up for a self defense class, no experience necessary. This class will be taught by Masters and Black belts, (including Parker parents, Steve and Gillian Draleau) from the Tae Kwon-Do Karate club. The Tae Kwon-Do Karate Club is a non contact traditional club that has been in existence since 1977. This class will include proven and common sense techniques that we can all use every day. There will also be one on one training on defending yourself should you become a victim. The class is open to all adults and children 14 and older. The class will be held at the Shirley Middle School on Friday April 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 9pm. The cost is \$25 per person and all proceeds will benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Space is limited so advance sign up is requested. Don't wait, space will be on a first come basis. To reserve your space please send a check for \$25 made payable to the National MS Society, along with your name and phone number to,

Gillian Draleau  
40 Catacunemaug Rd,  
Shirley, Ma 01464.

For further information please call Gillian at 978-425-2539 or email [athdara@verizon.net](mailto:athdara@verizon.net). By learning to make your life safer you will be contributing to help save a life of someone else.

## ***PARKER ESSENTIAL FUND***

### **Jumbaro's Gifts & Things**

A Parker parent and owner of Jumbaro's Gifts & Things, has offered to contribute 20% of all sales received from Parker parents to the Parker Essential Fund. You can purchase some very unique gifts and support the PEF at [www.jumbaros.com](http://www.jumbaros.com).

## ***PARKER AUCTION***



We need more people to help get the Parker auction off the ground. The auction will be held next fall to raise money for the Parker Essential Fund, which supports educationally enriching programs for student at Parker.

Please join us as we plan and develop this important fundraiser. We will be meeting next Wednesday, February 1st at 7:00 in Room 2 at Parker.

# And the winner is...

Parker Road Race  
Logo Contest Raffle Winner

**Congratulations to Jamie Tremblay  
Who wins one free Parker Road Race T-shirt  
with the new winning design!**

Parker Road Race Logo  
Winning Design

**Design #3  
“Sneaker with Flame on Black”**

Your vote mattered. Thanks to everyone who participated in the contest!

And thanks again to Kristin Conant, a Parker Parent, for volunteering her professional talent and designing inspiration!

## **‘Boxtops for Education’ and ‘Cartridges for Kids’**

Dear Parker families we have two great new programs coming to Parker to help raise money. Box tops for education and Cartridges for Kids. We would like families to start clipping box tops from foods they already buy and send them into Parker, for every box top we receive Parker earns \$.10. This is a great way for us to earn extra money with very little to do. Also Cartridges for Kids is a great program that helps the environment while helping the school to raise money. Cartridges for Kids recycles empty inkjet cartridges, laser cartridges, used cell phones, laptops with power cords, and PDA (Palm Pilots). Please bring these recyclable items to school and Parker will earn money. This is a great program, it not only helps the school but it keeps a lot of unnecessary trash out of our landfills. If you have any questions please contact Carrie Juma @ 978-537-7671 or for more information on these programs go to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) and [www.cartridgesforkids.com](http://www.cartridgesforkids.com)

**April, 2006**

Tuesday, 4 – HAC meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, 5 – Senior Project Exhibition Night  
Monday, 10 - Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, 14 - Early Release (noon dismissal)  
Monday, 17 - Patriot's Day (no school)  
Tuesday, 18 - Friday, 21- Spring Recess

**May, 2006**

Monday, 15 - Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, 17 – PEF Grant Requests Due  
Sunday, 21 – 11th Annual Parker Road Race and Springfest  
Tuesday, 23 – MCAS Testing  
Wednesday, 24 – MCAS Testing  
Wednesday 24 – PEF Meeting at 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, 25 – Graduation Portfolio Due for Seniors  
Friday, 26 - Early Release (noon dismissal)  
Monday, 29 - Memorial Day (no school)  
Tuesday, 30 – MCAS Makeup Testing  
Wednesday, 31 – MCAS Testing

**June, 2006**

Friday, 2 – Last Day for Seniors  
Tuesday, 6 – HAC Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, 7 - Noon dismissal - Graduation (6:00 p.m.)**  
Tuesday, 13 - HAC Meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
Monday, 19 - Trustees Meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, 23 - Last Day of Classes (or earlier)  
Monday, 26, Tuesday, 27 and Wednesday, 28 - Faculty Work Days (or earlier)