

# *Seven Hills Chronicles*

## *&*

### *Beacon Prep News*

*October 23, 2009*

It looks like winter already. Can that possibly be true? Thank you for sending your child(ren) to school all bundled up. Except on rainy days, the children will be spending some time outdoors for recess every day. Please don't forget to send snowpants, gloves and hats with your child(ren) when we start seeing snow. When it gets dangerously cold, the children will be indoors for recess and all school activities.

On Saturday, October 24, 2009, if you have the opportunity, tune in to KTLK Radio (100.3 FM) between 4 and 4:45 p.m. to hear Miss O'Brien talk about Seven Hills Classical Academy and Beacon Preparatory School. We are all excited to hear her share all about the successes of our schools over the past few years. Callers are encouraged to share their stories as well! ☺

The good citizens we recognized at this morning's VIP Assembly, included:

Kindergarten: Joseph Mahan,  
Adeline Carson, Ella Doyle

First Grade: Tom Dudgeon, Zoe  
Quevli, Josh Hayes

Second Grade: Luca Amato, Ally  
Tieman, Justin Howard

Third Grade: Elliot Sambugaro,  
Aaron Thompson, David Holtzman

Fourth Grade: Eleanor Thell,  
Katherine Pearce

Fifth Grade: Kobe Session, Nate  
Beyerl

Beacon Prep's first all school assembly will be held on Friday, October 30, 2009 and the last Friday of each month. Please watch for the announcement of the first assembly's highlights.

This week, we'd like to give you a brief glimpse into what the children are doing during their Core Knowledge (Social Studies and/or Science) classes:

Kindergarten: Plants: What do plants need?

First Grade: Human Body:  
Muscular, Skeletal and Digestive System

Second Grade: Cycles in Nature:  
Seasons, Life cycle of a frog

Third Grade: Animal Classification

Fourth Grade: Ancient China  
including the Dynasties

Fifth Grade: Geography of the  
United States, State Reports

BP's Sixth and Seventh Grade:  
The significance of Labs and Lab  
Reports

We'd like to share a few more highlights from the week:

**MATCHING GIFTS:** We have been receiving generous donations from our parents both in response to the School Board's request for a consumable fee of \$35 per student as well as significantly greater donations for which the parent or friend's employer has a matching gift program. What we have learned is that these companies have limited charitable funding opportunities this year and they have chosen to narrow their focus on educational gifts. We want to thank our families for choosing to participate in their employer's matching programs. The school benefits tremendously from any contribution that it receives.

**HOT LUNCH & MILK:** November menus were sent home on October 14<sup>th</sup>

and are due today. Please submit your menus by Monday, the 26<sup>th</sup>, to ensure that your child(ren) will be receiving the meals of your choosing during the month of November. As a reminder, milk is fifty cents (.50) for a day. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions, comments or concerns that you might have regarding the lunch program.

*\*\*Students who forget to bring their lunch will be sent to the office and a call home will be made to ensure that every child is eating a lunch.\*\**

**BUSING:** Should you have busing issues and concerns, please contact the office to speak with our transportation contacts: Liz Ekholm and Chris Bewell. We appreciate your support and, as always, welcome suggestions and/or questions. If you have immediate concerns—e.g. the bus just drove by your stop and you're quite positive you saw your child sitting in the third seat waving at you as it drove by, please contact Monarch Bus Company directly at 612-238-8080.

**CLUB CLASSICS:** The clubs started this week and are going smoothly! If you are still interested in having your child participate, please contact Mr. Peterson and he will advise as to availability. Report cards are coming out soon, and progress reports for Beacon Prep are out. Please be advised that one of the before school opportunities is an enrichment club facilitated by Mr. Peterson. He would be more than happy to welcome students on Tuesdays and Thursdays to assist with homework or challenging concepts. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Peterson at [bpeterson@shcamn.org](mailto:bpeterson@shcamn.org).

**SPANISH and LATIN:** If you have an interest in having your 5<sup>th</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> grade child join the Spanish and/or Latin enrichment classes, please let Ms. Pollis ([epollis@shcamn.org](mailto:epollis@shcamn.org)) for Spanish and/or Mr. Ball ([tball@shcamn.org](mailto:tball@shcamn.org)) for Latin know and they will be happy to provide you with any details that you might need.

**MUSIC:** Mrs. Wood has issued her first newsletter. It has been posted along with this week's *Chronicles*. Please take a moment to catch up on what your children are learning in Music and be sure to chat with her or him (or them) regarding the instrument and composer of the month. Additionally, contact Mrs. Wood [kwood@shcamn.org](mailto:kwood@shcamn.org) should your child have an interest in participating in choir or band. Mark your calendar. This year's Winter Program is scheduled for the Thursday after Thanksgiving—December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009☺!

**UNIFORMS:** Please continually refer to the uniform policy to ensure compliance. Classroom teachers have been asked to send gentle reminders for those students who are showing up out of uniform. Please contact the office if you have any questions. Students are not allowed to wear hoodies, gym shoes (on gym day, the children are to switch from their dress to their gym shoes for gym class only), different colored shirts under their uniform shirts that stick out, khaki pants that have strings, pockets on the sides, etc., sweatshirts that are not blue (for Seven Hills) or red (for Beacon Prep). Please do a double check on uniforms before sending your child(ren) off to school each day. Repeat uniform violations being brought to the administration's attention will result in a

parent communication regarding compliance.

PICTURE Re-Take DAY: Picture re-takes are scheduled for Thursday, November 12, 2009.

TEACHER COMMUNICATIONS: Please be advised that, due to construction, teachers do not have immediate access to telephones. Barring an emergency, calls made to the office result in a message being placed in a teacher's mailbox. Thus, if you call the school for things such as collecting homework for a sick child, please understand if the teacher is not able to respond to your message on the same day that you call it in.

We encourage e-mail communication as the best way to connect with a child's teacher. Additionally, we send the school's newspaper out each week via e-mail only and are contacting VIP parents via e-mail when possible. If the office does not have your current e-mail address, please let us know.

Parent Teacher conferences are being scheduled for the week of November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please watch for information regarding conference procedures. Your child(ren)'s teachers should be sending something home this week, if they haven't already. Returning families will recall that it is a school policy that no report cards be sent home with a student or mailed home. We feel strongly that a face-to-face parent/guardian conference is a critical factor in the ongoing personal and academic success of all children. We appreciate your support.

SEVEN HILLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The board of directors will be having its November meeting on

Tuesday, November 3, 2009, at 6:30 p.m., here at the school. Agendas for the meetings will be posted on the main office door approximately one week prior to each month's meeting.

BEACON PREP BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The board of directors will be having its November meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., here at the school. The Beacon Prep Board is looking to expand its membership as there are currently only 5 members. Should you have an interest or know of anyone who would like to participate on the school's board of directors, please have them contact Meghan Butler, the Board President, at [mbutler@tcfbank.com](mailto:mbutler@tcfbank.com).

As always, the agenda for the meetings will be posted on the main office door approximately one week prior to each month's meeting. School board meetings are public meetings and all are welcome and encouraged to attend.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS: We just love our parent volunteers! Thank you to all of you who are volunteering in the classroom, during lunch and recess and with projects that you might be doing at home. Please contact Mrs. Emery ([cemery@shcamn.org](mailto:cemery@shcamn.org)) to share your availability to come in and help out. As always, we are particularly grateful for any help we can get during the lunch hours—come have lunch with the kids and help us ensure the safety of all students☺!

Are you a 1<sup>st</sup> Year Student Family at SHCA/Beacon Prep? Want to connect with other first year families? Please contact Amanda Boe, [arboe@frontiernet.net](mailto:arboe@frontiernet.net), if you have any

questions, are looking for or would like to be a mentor parent.

**DROP OFFS & PICK-UPS: HELP!!**  
Please drive with caution and follow staff directions when picking up your children at school. The morning drop-offs are going great and we thank you for your assistance it making that 'event' safe for all of the children. The afternoon pick-ups continue to be a challenge as we attempt to navigate between the cars that are lined up and the parents who are choosing to park and walk their children in between cars. We are, again, asking that pick-up parents take advantage of the car pick-up line, particularly now that inclement weather is upon us. Our children's safety is our concern.

**EARLY ARRIVALS:** As a reminder, no drop-offs are allowed prior to 8:45 a.m. Please make every effort to have your child here as close to 9:00 a.m. as possible. If you happen to let your child off early, please remind her/him or them that they are expected to be on their best behavior—no running, playing ball indoors, etc. At 8:45 a.m., there is staff in the entry area to monitor student behavior.

**ENROLLMENT:** Please share with your family, friends, neighbors and community how happy you are with Seven Hills and Beacon Prep! Believe it or not, we have some space in Beacon Prep's 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades.

**\*\*please remember that we promote a nut-free environment for our students—be sure to check granola bars, lunchables, etc., when deciding what to pack for lunch or to send for snacks\*\***

**Seven Hills School Mission Statement**

***Seven Hills Classical Academy provides students with a classical education in an academically rigorous environment designed to promote strong citizenship and life-long learning.***

**Beacon Prep School Mission Statement**

***Beacon Preparatory School creates a unique community by engaging students in a rigorous, content-rich curriculum with an emphasis on Classical, liberal arts education. We promote pillars of character development including integrity, honesty, and self-confidence while embracing the individual needs and development of our students.***

**SHCA School Song**

**SHCA**

***That's who we are!***

***We are the best and brightest by far!***

***Roman Eagles all stand proud.***

***We're not afraid to shout out loud!***

**SHCA**

***Happy are we!***

***Learning, sharing, community.***

***We're the best of all the rest.***

***SHCA are we...RAH, RAH!!***

**BPS Rays School Song**

**BPS Rays,**

***that's who we are!***

***Beacons of light, Rays seen from afar!***

***BP Rays, we shine so bright!***

***We're not afraid to do what's right!***

**BPS Rays,**

***Helpful are we!***

***Working, sharing, community!***

***We'll achieve, yes, we'll succeed!***

***BPS Rays are we...RAH! RAH!***

***Can you sing the school song?***

***Enjoy what is looking like one of our last Fall weekends☺!***