

Granger Gazette



November 2011



Dear Granger Families,

I hope that this newsletter finds you all in good health with electricity and running water. Granger was one of the first schools in Agawam to receive power during last week's storm recovery efforts. Granger is coming out of the storm unscathed other than the tree damage in the park out front. The October 29th snowstorm has had an incredible impact on Western Massachusetts. I have a feeling this is a storm we'll be telling our grandchildren about someday.

I would like to thank Mr. Eric Lunden and Mrs. Amyanne Checca for volunteering their entire day on Tuesday, November 8th. They assisted in keeping voters to the gymnasium area only while school was in session for the safety of the children.

The weather is very unpredictable these days. Students will be going out for recess even when it is chilly out. Please dress your child appropriately when it is cold weather with a winter coat, hat and mittens.

When children have days off from school it is beneficial to have your child read daily (or be read to) and practice math facts or play math games. This helps to keep their skills sharp and to avoid any skill regression when school isn't in session.

I hope that you all have a delightful November filled with things to be thankful for.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Cheryl Salomão

Parking Lot Issues At Dismissal



There continues to be parking lot issues in the back lot at dismissal time. I am asking that all parents abide by the parking lot guidelines that are listed below. These guidelines have been in place for many years

and when people choose not to follow procedures it creates difficult situations. I am hoping that everyone at Granger will respect and obey the parking procedures. It is important to lead by example of following the school rules for our children.

Kindergarten (and siblings) – Children will be dismissed to the **courtyard** from the back corner door in the courtyard. Please come to meet your child.

1st grades – (and siblings) will be dismissed to the **courtyard** and parents should come inside the fence to meet their children.

2nd & 3rd & 4th grades – Children will be dismissed to the parking lot side (**Springfield Street**) of the building. Parents should **pull up along the curb starting at the far end of the main building**. Please stay in your cars and your children will find you. We need to keep the line moving.

After School Playground Use – If you choose to stay after dismissal to use the playground with your children **please pull your car to the side of the parking lot** to allow for other cars to exit the parking lot.



Safety in Physical Education

Class

To the parents and guardians of Granger students:

The safety of your children during physical education class is taken very seriously in the Town of Agawam. We are required to adhere to the following policy (#JICB): "To ensure the safety of all students, the School

Committee prohibits the wearing of jewelry in physical education classes for grades K - 12." Please help your child remember to remove all jewelry, including earrings of any kind, on days that they are scheduled for P.E. Thank you for your cooperation!

Sincerely,

Mr. Rist, Physical Education Teacher

Gift Card Fundraiser



- **Order forms have been sent home.** They can also be found on the PTO web page of the school's website.
- **Due date: November 28**
- **Pick up dates: November 21** (for orders submitted by first due date of 11/4) **and December 8** (for orders submitted by 11/28)
- **Orders can be placed online at www.scripzone.com** using the instructions that were sent home with the order forms. The instructions are also on the PTO web page.
- **All orders** (placed online or by order form) **need to be paid by check only.**
- The option to **order gift cards year-round** will still be available.

Magazine Drive



Thank you so much for supporting our Magazine Drive! If you have purchased a magazine as a gift for someone, the PTO will happily provide a **gift certificate** you can wrap and present to the lucky recipient.

Please e-mail grangerptofundraising@gmail.com and a certificate will be provided to you.

The drive has been extended due to the storm. Orders are now due Wednesday, November 16th.

Happy reading!

Vegetable/Cranberry Drive



The Granger PTO is proud to announce we will collect **canned vegetables and canned cranberry sauce** for the Agawam Jr Womens Club Holiday baskets from **11/30-12/12.**

This is a great way to give to those in our community who are in need. Thank you in advance for your continued support!!!



Attention Parents of Grades K-2

Renzulli for Home???

The flyers have come home... but what is this all about?

How can my child use Renzulli at home?

There are lots of great learning activities available to your child using Renzulli, but it is hard for the younger grades to access them independently until their technology and reading skills have developed a little more. With a little supervision and assistance, you can open up a lot of these activities to your child.

I plan to offer some parent training opportunities to share with you how you can help your child access these learning opportunities. The second training session for Grades K-2 has been scheduled!

When: Monday, December 5th, 12:30 – 1:15

Where: Granger School, Room 22

How to sign up: E-mail Mrs. Kitty Albright at

Kalbright@agawamteachers.org

Please sign up so I can notify you if there is a schedule change!

Enrichment



The first enrichment program that took place Oct. 28, McDonald's: A Friendship Adventure with Ronald McDonald, was a great success! The children really enjoyed the show and learned valuable lessons about friendship and bullying. The next enrichment program will take place on **Tuesday, December 6th**. It is entitled, **Animals & the Environment** delivered by Mobile Ed. Productions, Inc. Students will learn about the impact that humans have on animals in terms of pollution, habitat, destruction, hunting, and the pet industry.

Calling All Bakers!



Thank you to all who baked and worked the Bake Sale table during elections. **The bake sale raised \$397.50!!!** All of this money benefits our children at Granger! Bakers will be needed **Friday, December 9th**, for Teacher Appreciation and **Friday, December 16th** for our Holiday Party. Thank you!!!

*****PLEASE SEE REVERSE PAGE FOR IMPORTANT DATES!!!!*****



Important Dates to Remember:

11/16: Magazine Orders Due

PTO Meeting 6 p.m.

11/21: Gift Cards ordered by November 4th will be available for pick up

11/23: Half Day (Dismissal at 11:50)

11/24 & 11/25: No School (Thanksgiving Recess)

11/28: Gift Card Orders Due

11/30 - 12/12: Canned Vegetable/Cranberry Food Drive

12/5: Renzulli Parent Training 12:30 - 1:15

12/7: PTO Meeting (Superintendent, Mr. Sapelli, will be there to answer questions)