

STARS CLUB Happenings

NB Stars Club Newsletter Issue 2 March 2009



Session III Starts Wednesday, April 15th - Four meetings, cool kids, fun and enrichment for all!



Mrs. Twombly, Mrs. Stantial and Ms. Dutra listen to their colleagues share information in the PLC.

PLC Update!

What is a PLC? A Professional Learning Community (PLC) is a group of teachers that spend time together collaborating to improve instructional practice. Over the course of the past few Stars Club Session II meetings, the North Beverly teachers have been working diligently to analyze reading data and use the results to implement positive classroom interventions.

The progress that has been made by our faculty in such a short time can be credited to their hard work and to having this dedicated meeting time. It would take most schools a year to achieve what North Beverly has done in just a few months!

Thanks to all of the parent and community volunteers who make Stars Club and our PLC possible.

Warmly, Mrs. Brown

Session II Round-up

Stars Clubs, a new enrichment program run by parents and community volunteers here at NB, is at the end of its second Session and there is much to celebrate. We have significantly expanded the number of Clubs, allowing for smaller Club sizes and a broader range of topics offered. We have engaged community organizations and businesses in numerous individual Clubs. A fantastic new website can now be accessed directly from the school website and we have partnered with the city to display North Beverly art work in public buildings around Beverly (See p.2).

In Session II, we increased the clubs offered to almost 30!

The average Club size dropped to below 15 students and the variety of the Clubs selection guaranteed a fit for every child. Sport-based clubs are some of our most popular and despite the winter season preventing us from offering outdoor clubs, the kids enjoyed Karate, Gym Games, Introduction to Martial Arts, Fitness, and Dance. Sports Reporting Club was a perfect fit for kids who love sports and want to share their passion as sports journalists. Building, craft, and art clubs were well represented this session with Playdough, Art, Woodwork Building, LEGOS, Jigsaw Puzzles, Knitting, Redwork Embroidery, and Monserrat Art club. Learning new games, smart strategy and teamwork were emphasized in the Games and Games and Crafts Clubs. The Magic Club was a great introduction to the world of illusion. Instilling the passion for new scientific discovery and teaching the rigor of science was the goal of Hands-on Science, the Science club, and the Technology Clubs. History, geography and world cultures were the topics of the American Girls Dolls Club and two Travel the World Clubs. Healthy Cooking and Healthy Kids taught our kids some positive lifestyle habits. Reading is Fun inspired our children to enjoy books and storytelling. Finally, in the Leadership Club fifth graders were trained to assist and help lead some of the clubs.

Connection to the community was strongly emphasized this session.

Local businesses, such as Authentic Martial Arts and Mitchell School of Dance stepped forward to run Clubs. Ruthie Eastman of Montserrat College of Art led the Art club for grades 3-5. Many organizations have offered their support by donating materials as well as sending representatives as guest speakers. A list of all participating businesses and organizations can be found on our website.

The best example of dedication to the community and our children is the commitment of all the parents, grandparents, and educators who have volunteered their time to make Star Club a success. Thank you!

As we come to the end of Session II, we acknowledge our success but also strive for an even better future. In order to maintain and enhance this enriching experience for our children we need the help and involvement of the entire community. Session III is scheduled to start in April, and we are actively recruiting volunteers. This is an exciting chance for all of us to play an active role in our children's education.



Stars Club work and creativity on display at City Hall.

Stars Across Beverly Displays

Welcome to Stars Across Beverly! During the month of March, Beverly residents are being treated to creations made by our North Beverly Elementary students during Stars Club. Creations including: The "Star Reporter" Newspaper, building projects, pen pal letters and photos, Redwork embroidered blocks, jigsaw puzzles, arts & crafts and more are on display now at the Memorial Building, at City Hall (First floor, Third floor & in Council Chambers) and at the Beverly Public Library in the Children's Room. Bring your friends, bring your family and check it out! What a great chance to have our kids shine and highlight the great work we are doing at North Beverly!

Game Night Was a Winner!

Thanks to everyone for making our first Family Game Night such a success! We had a great crowd & a great night - everyone had a have fun time mingling, playing games AND we had about \$1,300 in sales! 50% of that comes back to North Beverly to support Stars Club! Awesome!

Special thanks to the 5th grade Guru Team: Eli Silverstein, Matthew Zieff, Sarah Andrews, Autumn Hannon, Katlyn O'Connor, Kyle Coughlin, Andrea MacLeod, Sierra Gelsomini and Ewan Sellars. These kids were a HUGE help to families and friends who were learning games--these kids really knew their games! Way to go!

Stars Club Website - Check it out!!

Thanks to Mike Cristoforo for creating a Stars Club website. With an objective of providing parents and the public with up-to-date information related to Stars Club, the site also provides specific info for Clubs like Cooking, Science and Reading is Fun! Read the latest Stars Newsletter, download lessons, newsletters and find fun links and helpful resources. Visit www.beverlyschools.org, go to the North Beverly Elementary School page and click "Stars Club Website". We're always looking for additional content - just contact Mike!

Get Psyched for Session III of Stars!

With the start of Session III only five weeks away, we are working hard to recruit Coordinators, Assistants and other volunteers to make it the best Stars Club Session yet! This session, with only four meetings, makes it a shorter time commitment for busy parents. Child care is available and we provide a "Guide to Stars Club" for Volunteers. Hope you'll consider joining us. See below for Club ideas! What's your idea?

- Sports Fanatics - Green Team
- Meet Your Elected Officials - Jam Session
- Board Game Blast - Gardening
- Passport/Travel - Arts Appreciation

Session III starts April 15th - just four Club meetings!

Clubs will be held Wednesday mornings, 8 - 9:30am on 4/15, 5/6, 6/3, and 6/17.

**Questions? Contact Antonella Cucchetti
antonellac@comcast.net**



Maria Cristoforo, Kyle Trask, and Ariana Townsend learn about the 4 states of matter in "Hands-on Science" Club!