



November 4, 2011

Dear Joyful Learning/Southbrook Academy Families –

It is amazing to think that the first week of November has come to an end! Halloween is a distant memory and turkey talk is upon us!

The **Joyful Learning** students enjoyed their costume parades and are already moving on to Thanksgiving! The planning for the annual Friendship Feasts is underway. There have already been some really fun turkey projects as well! Miss Jenn and Miss Laurie's classes had a wonderful time at Soule Farm on Wednesday! Thank you to all the parent chaperones for your time and energy! Preschool Progress Reports will be distributed early next week. As always, please feel free to contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns.

The **Southbrook students** had a very busy but very fun week! They started off with an exciting presentation on [A River Ran Wild](#) in the cafeteria. This kicked off our Historical Fiction component of the schoolwide theme. The 3B students presented their personal timelines; it was very interesting to see which events of their lives they chose to highlight. Our second graders were so excited to "dissect" different types of rocks to learn about their individual characteristics.

The **Sheep Pasture** field trip was a great success! Thank you to all the parent chaperones for your time and energy! The students had a wonderful time using Wampanoag tools, sampling their food (deer meat!) and experiencing their daily lives first-hand. My favorite part was the story about Moshup and how he created the fog over what is now Martha's Vineyard! This trip was a terrific tie-in to our theme of literature and this month's focus of Historical Fiction.

School Photo Makeup Day is scheduled for Monday, November 7. Please contact Valerie Perry at photobyvalerieperry@comcast.net to schedule a specific time or ask any questions. This is a wonderful opportunity to have sibling photos taken as well!

It is hard to believe that **Daylight Savings Time** is coming to an end! Please remember to set your clocks BACK an hour on Saturday night. It may be darker earlier, but who can complain about an extra hour of sleep!? The school clocks will be changed before we leave for the weekend so we will be right on schedule for Monday morning! This is also an opportunity for us to synchronize the outdoor clock with the lobby clock. We use the lobby clock to determine tardiness (any student arriving after 8:10 is considered tardy). We will try our best to keep the

outdoor clock in sync with the lobby clock so parents dropping off in the morning will be able to see if their child is tardy or not.

With the end of Daylight Savings Time comes the inevitable – winter and snow! Now, of course, snow arrived a bit early this year, but hopefully we still have some time before it really hits us! We will be working on updating our **School Reach** system. This makes an automatic phone call to all families at once, letting them know of a snow day or delay. We will be making a **test phone call on Friday, November 11th**. If you do NOT receive a phone call by the end of that day, please email me with the telephone number you would like us to call. We can call up to three phone numbers per family, so your home and cell phones will most likely get a phone call. Our phone number (508-697-9131) will appear on the caller ID; if you do not answer please check your voice mail – there should be a voice mail message. Please do not call the school when you see the number appear on that day – it is a test of our system.

Thursday, November 3rd marks the end of the first marking period. Teachers will be completing report cards this week to be distributed on **Thursday, November 10th**. You will be able to schedule a conference with their classroom teachers on **Wednesday, November 16th**, which will be an early release day for Southbrook.

Our **Parents' Association** continues to work hard! There will be a Friendship Feast for the Southbrook Academy students during their regularly scheduled lunch period on **Friday, November 18th**. Each class will be bringing a side dish, and the PA will provide the main course! They are also working on the Joyful Learning/Southbrook Academy night at the **Polar Express** at Edaville Railroad. We are also excited for our **Kindergarten Pot Luck Dinner** on Thursday, November 10th.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend in the sunshine! There aren't many fall weekends left and this one seems to be shaping up nicely! We will see you on Monday!

Sincerely,

Jennifer L. Berry
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