

Hello Hastings Families!

Many thanks to all the Hastings families who made last week's Cultural Fair another great success! I especially would like to thank our parent volunteers who did everything from organizing student performances and bringing in food samples, to creating display tables, leading crafts, and hanging up Heritage Posters. We appreciate you donating your time and energy to bring our Cultural Fair to life. The fair was very well-attended, and everyone had a great time!

Tuesday, May 1, is the 45th Annual Hastings Purple Day! Purple Day is a long-standing tradition at Hastings School started by former fourth grade teacher, Peggy O'Neil back in 1973. Peggy started Purple Day in her fourth grade class to show her students that children can make a difference in the world by influencing others. They did this by asking another person to wear purple. Children wrote letters to others in town requesting that they wear purple on a particular day. Over the years, Purple Day spread from Peggy's class to all fourth grade classes, and eventually the entire school. The children celebrated with banners, parades, and purple streamers on the busses. An original song was written and performed in honor of Purple Day by Mike Nobel just for Hastings School titled, "One by One".

Today, students at Hastings celebrate Purple Day a little differently, but the message stays the same, that children can make a difference in their world. On May 1, students and staff will spend a portion of the day engaging in service projects in order to make a difference. This year, students will work outside taking care of our school doing things like planting, weeding, and spreading mulch, and preschool students will spread some cheer with a visit to the Westborough Senior Center. **Please have your child come to school wearing something purple on Purple Day!**

Thanks to all Hastings families who have been collecting Box Tops for Education. We have earned almost \$600.00 for our school so far this year. The class in each grade who collects the most Box Tops earns an extra recess period. The winners for the December-March collection period are:

- Mrs. Collins-Kindergarten (2nd time winners)
- Mrs. Hanna-Grade 1
- Mrs. White-Grade 2
- Mr. Salvemini-Grade 3

Third graders will be taking the MCAS English Language Arts tests on **Wednesday, April 25 and Thursday, April 26, from 9:00-11:30 AM**. Please help your third graders to do their best on these tests by making sure they get a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast. Thanks.

Finally, Hannah, a Grade 3 student at Hastings, won a School Spirit Day as a raffle prize at this year's HPG Winter Festival. Hannah's Spirit Day will be **Friday, April 27**. She has chosen for it to be a Pajama Day. All students are invited to wear their pajamas to school on Friday to show their school spirit.

Be sure to follow us on Twitter at [@beckerleighwps](https://twitter.com/beckerleighwps) for more news and information about our school, or check out our website at www.westboroughk12.org.

Sincerely,

Leigh Becker, Principal