



www.cobbmeadowschool.org

March 2006

The Cobbler

a newsletter of the Cobb Meadow School

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What's New

OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, April 8th,
10:00am to noon

Parent Night
Thursday, March 26th
Starting at 7pm Topic to be
decided.



Maple Sugaring

Jim says we will boil next week, Thursday for sure, and either Wednesday or Friday also. Yippee!! Many people had already noticed the woodpile collecting, and now the teepee/tripod is up. Jim works hard to bring us sugaring, and we are very lucky that he is so enthusiastic about bringing this to the children. We are very blessed to have Jim and Libby in our community. If you have time to spare for this task let me know. Tending the fire takes all day, cutting the wood and hauling the sap are great fun, and labors of love, and also can be hard on your back. Speak with Anne or Jim if you would like to help with this sweet job.

Dear Parents and Families,

Happy March! We have already experienced several mud days, puddle days, mucky hot cocoa of mulch and ice breaking with well aimed and dropped rocks days. I am not sure if this is then end of winter, but the wet is just as wet as if it were. Thank you for all the spare clothes and patience and understanding. Your children love to be out in the fresh air, able to experiment and stir and pat the mud about. They are pouring and scooping and totally involved in the world of nature while they measure and mix. Some snow suits/rain pants are up to the task and other's are not, and we just go with the flow, and help out with the soggy.

I may have mentioned that after the New Year last year I noticed such a change in the way the children came together to play. This year, I did not see that change until after our February break. Since then we have had several interesting mornings of play. First of all, on a Monday when many children were absent and we had six children, they were as busy and occupied as if they had been many. It can happen that such a small group is difficult for the children who are present. Secondly, here is a rhythm that has been occurring regularly: We will have about 13 children present, and several activities going on. There may be an elaborate pair of row houses, complete with front and back parlor, a ball and stick game with 3-4 payers and no one bopping anyone, accidentally or on purpose, a few children helping me and Ivy. This form will be hold for a while, and then something will bring all the children together at one activity, often coloring, where they will color and talk. Most recently the conversation was on people they knew who had died. The group was sharing, taking turns, and listening to each other. I thought the group already played well together, but the weeks since the February break have been incredible.

Love Anne

Request To All Parents

Thank you to those who have already returned re-enrollment forms for next year. I intended to add a line to the letter this year, requesting that you return the form to me and tell me that your child is moving on, if that is the case. As it is I am in the awkward position of guessing in regard to the children who do not have forms back in. Please write me a note and let me know where your children will be attending in the fall, if not CMS. If your child is moving on, but a younger sibling will be coming up in their place- you may use the reenrollment form, and also let me know soon. Thank you.

Open House

Cobb Meadow School held its first open house on March 4th, and we will be having another on April 8th. The school was full of people on the 4th, and although it is difficult for all of us to extend our work week by another day, there were so many helpers and supporters, that it was not an unbearable load for anyone. We did not have many, many potential applicants, but we are a small school, and each child who does apply and enroll is a big step toward full enrollment. Please pass along word about the April 8th open house to anyone you think may be interested.

Goodbye

Bridget's last day of school was the Friday before February Break. I was not sure until that day if her break would be complete or 90%. At school we began talking about how Bridget would be working at Sunnyfield Farm, and that her mom would be starting a school at her house. Our story the week before she left, was about a wonderful garden and a beautiful butterfly that hovered about, sometimes playing, and sometimes heading off to collect nectar high up in the tops of the trees. Maureen says that their farm and home school program seems so far to be going very well.

Eli Pond's parents have decided to withdraw him from Cobb Meadow. I did not have advanced notice of this change and have not said anything to the children yet.

Substitutes

Ivy will be away March 22-24, at a conference for planning urban communities. We will have substitutes those days, and although each day is being covered by a different person or persons, they are all familiar faces.

Parent Teacher Conversation

I would like to talk with all of you, even if over the phone, so please be thinking of a convenient time. I will not be having another Monday at Ivy's, but we could find a time at Cobb Meadow, or maybe your house.

Parent-Child Playgroup

A Parent-Child Playgroup is now organizing at Cobb Meadow School for parents and children 18 months to 2.5 years old. It will run for six consecutive Wednesdays, March 15th-April 19th, at Cobb Meadow School in Dublin, NH from 2:30-4:00pm. The cost for the six week session is \$65 and it will be led by educator Nancy Macalaster. Please call 603-525-4678 to register.

You can always check: www.cobbmeadow.school.org for additional information and downloads.

Wish List

*PUSSY WILLOW OR
FORSYTHIA*

I would love to force more pussy willow and/or some forsythia in our classroom. Do you have some to share??



*Cradled cozily,
cradled deep,
wrapped in the
warm earth, baby
seeds sleep.*

*Light we shed on
you, light divine,
seeds in the
darkness twinkle
and shine.*

*Dream till the
Spring sun
climbing the skies,
Shines through the
darkness and bids
you arise.*



School Calendars

Remember to keep your Cobb Meadow School calendar handy. If you have lost it let me know. Calendars can also be downloaded and printed from our website.