



The Runkle News

Newsletter published weekly by the Runkle PTO

Submissions by Wednesday, 12:00 pm to runklenews@brookline.k12.ma.us

School main phone number: (617) 879-4650

Absence line: (617) 879-4249

Website: www.runkle.org

Newsletter Editors: Amy Bacon, Shalini Kasida, Alison Reeves

Issue: #14-11

December 5, 2011



Thanks to the more than **25%** of the community who have already donated! We're making progress, so let's keep going. **Your participation matters.** For more information about the Runkle PTO Annual Fund and how to donate [click here](#).

The Runkle PTO Annual Fund 2011-2012 Campaign

PTO Annual Fund: Your participation matters

The PTO Annual Fund is our only fundraiser. It benefits the entire Runkle School.

- We have raised \$24,295 so far. That's 44 percent of the way to our goal! A huge THANK YOU to all the families who have donated so far.

We would love to see EVERY family make a contribution to this vital fund, **because your participation really does make a difference!**

So far this year, the PTO Annual Fund has already helped fund stipends for every classroom, field trips including 1st grade apple picking, student planners for 5th-8th grades, the PTO Yellow Pages, Astronomy Night for 4th-6th graders and parents, and Native American Perspectives for 4th grade (see photo of the teepee below!).

This week, the Annual Fund will pay for the ever-popular Gingerbread House decorating, Chinese Ribbon Dancers, and author-illustrator Giles LaRoche for 3rd graders. Starting December 15th, there will be a 6-week, after-school, drop-in art class for 6th-8th graders, paid for by the PTO Annual Fund.

Please send in a check to be delivered to the front office or give online [here](#).

Thank you for your support!

Valerie Godhwani and Julie Heuberger
Your Annual Fund Co-Chairs

PTO MESSAGE OF THE WEEK:

Don't miss Gingerbread Houses on Fri. Ask your 1st, 3rd & 4th graders about PTO-sponsored enrichment activities! Also, early dismissal on Thurs.

From the Principal

Dear Families,

Building Project

On November 23, 2011, the Runkle Building Project Committee met to discuss eight proposed options that the architect assembled to address the Runkle School abutters concerns about the height, quantity, and placement of the mechanical structures on the roof. Each option was broken down into the costs in terms of time and delay as well as the impact on school programs and the degree of remedy for the abutters. Most of the options were not acceptable as the costs were too high, they would cause a significant delay to the project or they caused major changes to the programs at Runkle such as removing the Music Room. There are a few options still left for the Committee to consider that would mitigate the impact of the structures on the neighboring properties with little or no impact on the ability for Runkle to open on Druce Street in September 2012.

On December 5, 2011, there will be a Building Committee Meeting at 8:30 a.m. for a presentation of the playground equipment to be installed on the Druce Street site, followed by a follow up discussion of the roof top structures. As I know that there have been many questions about this issue, I will be sure to update you as any decisions are made.

There is also another Building Committee Meeting scheduled for December 16, 2011 to discuss the parking plan. I know that this is an area of concern both for residents in the immediate Runkle area as well as for the staff members. Please continue to look for updates in the Runkle News.

December Happenings...

Last Friday, Dan Cripps from Native American Perspectives came to Runkle and set up the giant teepee in the gym. Each fourth grade class had an opportunity to go inside and learned so much from Mr. Cripps who easily captures the attention of our students with his extensive knowledge and sense of humor!

This week, we have two exciting presentations as well. On Wednesday, our First Graders will see the Chinese Ribbon Dancing assembly. Chiao Bin Huang will be performing for the students AND will also teach them to do some of their own dances. On Friday, December 9th, Giles LaRoche will be here to work with the Third Graders in conjunction with their structures unit and in conjunction with Ms. Gallo-Toth and Mrs. Ortiz. Mr. LaRoche creates "paper relief" works of art, which retain their three-dimensional appearances in his books. The third graders will have an opportunity to experiment in his style with the assistance of Mrs. Ortiz as well.

Thank you to the Runkle PTO for making all of these special events possible for us! You have truly enriched the students' experiences across the grades--THANK YOU!

Sincerely,

Vanessa C. Beauchaine, Ed.D.
Principal

This Week's Events

Runkle Building Committee Meeting

Mon., Dec. 5

8:30 a.m.

Brookline Town Hall

Selectmen's Conference Room, 6th Flr.

PTO Meeting

Tues., Dec. 6

8:05 a.m.

Runkle Cafeteria

Chinese Ribbon Dancer

Wed., Dec. 7

First Grade Presentation

Early Dismissal (K-8)

Thurs., Dec. 8

12:30 p.m.

Giles LaRoche Visit

Fri., Dec. 9

Runkle Library for Third Graders

Gingerbread House Making

Fri., Dec. 9

2:30 p.m.

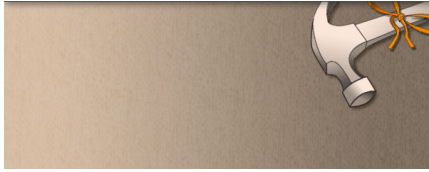
Runkle Cafeteria

Last Friday, Dan Cripps from Native American Perspectives, sponsored by the Runkle PTO, came to Runkle and set up the giant teepee in the gym for all fourth grade classes!



Annual Runkle Toy Drive

From the PTO



RUNKLE BUILDING COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Attention Runkle Parents:

The next Runkle School Building Committee meeting will be held on **December 5 at 8:30 a.m.** at Town Hall, Selectmens' Conference Room, 6th Floor.

AGENDA

- 8:30 a.m. Approval of Meeting Minutes
- 8:35 a.m. Determine date of next meeting(s)
- 8:40 a.m. Playground equipment presentation and schedule
- 9:10 a.m. Roof-top equipment Discussion

For more information about the Runkle Building Committee, including schedules, past meeting minutes, and reports, click [here](#).



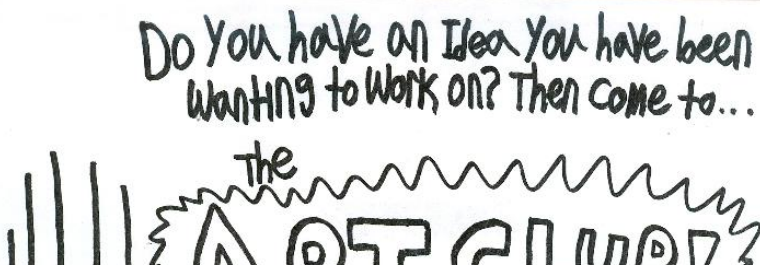
Gingerbread House Making Friday, December 9 2:30 p.m.

This free, PTO-sponsored activity is open to all ages. See below for information regarding sign-ups. Children in K-2 must be accompanied by an adult.

There are a limited number of remaining seats for this project. To sign up, email AmyHummel@rcn.com with your child's name, class and grade in the subject line. If your child is in RED on Fridays, state that as well. We will try to accommodate everyone, but sign-ups are on a first come, first served basis. You will receive a confirmation email on Tuesday, December 6 acknowledging your child's participation.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

Middle School Drop-in Art Club, Grades 6, 7, and 8
Fully sponsored by the Runkle PTO



Dec. 5 through Dec. 20



Please consider donating a NEW, unwrapped gift for our toy drive. These gifts will be targeted to individual homes through the Brookline Housing Authority. Gifts for infants through teenagers are appreciated. Gift cards and movie passes are especially helpful for the older children. Each year they tell us how important these gifts have been to so many kids. Donations can be left in the bin outside the main office.

Questions?

Contact josie.petersen@gmail.com

CYBER SAFETY TALK: How to Navigate Cyberspace Safely

Mon., Dec., 5, 7 - 8:30 pm
Devotion School Auditorium

Digital citizenship is quickly becoming the newest buzzword used in conversations around cyber safety. But what does it really mean to be a responsible digital citizen? A local expert in cyber security will lead the first in a series of highly informative and interactive conversations. You will walk away with new information, greater understanding, and tools to help you and your family stay safe online. For more information please email devopto@gmail.com

Save the Date! Brookline's Summer Opportunities Fair

One-stop shopping for all your summer camp needs.
Sunday, January 29, 2012. 12:00 - 3:00 pm
Tappan St. Gym, Brookline High School

Runkle Gear Has Arrived!





Thursdays, starting December 15, 2:30 pm-3:30 pm

Come with an idea you have been wanting to work on. This club will provide an environment where students can work on their own ideas, with guidance from Runkle Art Teacher Mrs. Ortiz and input from peers. Students can work independently or with friends, and time will be given for sharing and encouragement from peers in the group.

See Mrs. Ortiz (alaina_birden@brookline.k12.ma.us) in the art room if you are interested in joining. Classes will be held 12/15, 12/22, 1/5, 1/12, 1/19, 1/26.

From the Classroom

Bi-Monthly Runkle Math Challenges

There are 2 new problems posted on the Runkle Math Challenge Board. We encourage all students to give it a try. Thank you to the students who have been submitting answers; we'd love to see even more participation. Good Luck!

Level 1 (K-2): Shoes, Socks and Bare Feet

There are 12 people in a room. 6 people are wearing socks, 4 people are wearing shoes, and 3 people are wearing both.

How many people are in bare feet?

Level 2 (Gr. 3-6): Five Digit Guess

Use the clues to figure out the mystery number!



Buy sweatshirts, hats, water bottles, and bags at the Friday assembly or through RED. All proceeds benefit the RED tuition assistance program.

Two Ways to Honor a Teacher and Support the Brookline Education Foundation!

The Magic Beans in Coolidge Corner
Wednesday, December 14th, 6-9 p.m.
Just in Time for the Holidays-The Magic Beans Store in Coolidge Corner is sponsoring a night of shopping for BEF supporters, with 10% of the proceeds of all sales going to the Brookline Education Foundation!

Give a Gift in Honor

During this time of end-of-the year giving what better way is there to honor a teacher than with a donation to the Brookline Education Foundation. Let your child(ren)'s teacher(s) know that you recognize their efforts by giving to the organization that seeks out and supports innovation and leadership among teachers and administrators from preschool through grade 12. Your gift enables us to provide educators with opportunities for continued professional and personal development and touches the teachers you honor in a very special way. In the words of a Runkle School teacher:

"The BEF has helped me and other recipients (specialists and regular education teachers) of the EmPOWER writing grant to provide explicit writing instruction based on executive functioning skills. I love providing small group and full class lessons in grades 4-8th and seeing how the teachers carry over these strategies across the curriculum."

Please visit www.brooklineeducation.org to honor a teacher today!

CLASSIFIEDS

Please note: *The Runkle News* and PTO have not researched and are not responsible for the services, products, and/or requests made in these ads.

Use the clues to figure out the mystery number:

This even number is greater than 2000 but less than 77777.

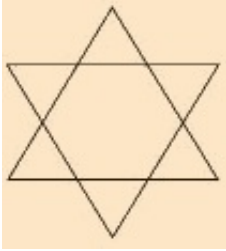
The digit in the thousands place is 3 times the digit in the ten thousands place.

The ones digit is less than the ten thousands digit and the ones digit is also a prime number.

The hundreds digit is half the sum of the ones, thousands, and ten thousands digits.

Lastly, the tens digit is the product of two other digits.

7th and 8th Grade Math Problem of the Week



Hexagon

Lew is playing darts on a star-shaped dartboard in which two equilateral triangles trisect the sides of each other as shown. Assuming that a dart hits the board, what is the probability that it will land inside the central portion of the hexagon?

Note: This problem is from Eric Lass, 7th/8th grade Math Teacher, and is different from Michelle Schweiger's Runkle Math Challenge for grades K-2 and 3-6, which offers challenges twice a month. See <http://www.lassmath.com> for other problems.

From the Community

Pierce School Presents Cole Porter's *Anything Goes*

Thurs., Dec. 8; Fri., Dec. 9 at 7 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Pierce Auditorium, 50 School Street

Tickets: \$7 at the door

Freelance Players Present *Hamletta*

Fri., Dec. 9 and Sat., Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. Sun., Dec. 11 at 2 p.m.

The Park School, Brookline

Something's rotten in the state of Denmark! Rock 'n' roll super star "Hamilton King" has suddenly been put out of commission and his teenage daughter, Hamletta, is freaking out.

B.H.S. Freshman Play *Shipwrecked! An Entertainment*

Dec. 7 at 3:30 p.m., Dec. 8 & 9 at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 10 at 3:30 p.m. &

7:30 p.m. Black Box Theater. Tickets: \$5

B.H.S. Winter Concert

Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m. Roberts/Dubbs Auditorium.

Tickets \$5, FREE TO ALL ELEMENTARY STUDENTS.

NANNY POSITION OPEN

Friendly Runkle family is looking for a caring nanny for their baby boy and 7 year old girl. Full-time position (40 hours a week), flexible starting date. Contact by email pasjlkiks@gmail.com (spelled P-A-S-J-L-K-I-K-S)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to emily.dolbear@gmail.com by emily.dolbear@gmail.com | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Runkle PTO | 50 Druce Street | Brookline | MA | 02445