



# The Runkle News

Newsletter published weekly by the Runkle PTO

Submissions by Wednesday, 12:00 pm to [runklenews@brookline.k12.ma.us](mailto:runklenews@brookline.k12.ma.us)

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March 28, 2011

## WE HAVE A CHALLENGE!

A few Runkle families have come together to offer the PTO Annual Fund a special opportunity to raise up to **\$4,000** from a challenge pledge in the next 3 weeks.

### Here's how it works:

Make a donation *in any amount* and it will generate an additional donation of \$100! 40 more donors will raise the full \$4,000 for Runkle's teachers and students.

### Join us today!

There are four easy ways to give:

1. Have your child give your donation to Beatrice in the main office.
2. Mail a donation to the PTO Annual Fund at Runkle, 194 Boylston St. Brookline, MA 02445.
3. Drop off your donation at the Runkle office front desk.
4. Give securely online at <http://www.runkle.org/ptoannualfund>

Thank you,  
Sharone Jelden and Valerie Godhwani, Co-chairs PTO Annual Fund

## From the Principal

Dear Families,

### MCAS...

We are very proud of our students who have been involved in the MCAS testing this week! They are taking care to do their best and there has been a positive, "can do" attitude pervading throughout the school.

### Student Highlights...

\*CONGRATULATIONS to our Co-ed Soccer team who won their first game 11-7!

\*Eighth Graders who had been working with their Kindergarten partners had the opportunity on Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup> to share the children's book they had written with their peers and parents. Each student author and illustrator shared their "About the Author" bio and gave an introduction to their book including relevant themes and the inspiration for their story.

### This Week's Events

#### Parent Coffee with Principal

(3-5 Parents/Guardians)

Tues., March 29, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

#### Parent Coffee with Principal

(6-8 Parents/Guardians)

Thurs., March 31, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

**MCAS Testing** (see schedule below)

### MCAS Schedule

LONG COMPOSITION (GRADES 4 and 7 only) make-up day: Thursday, March 31

GRADE 4 - Monday, March 28, and Tuesday, March 29

\*Fourth graders in Mr. Sugarman's class also shared their work on Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup> through the "Change Seekers" project. At M.I.T. students learned how to use what they knew about circuits to create quiz boxes. When the correct answer is chosen, the circuit is closed and the green light glows. Students were dressed as the "change seeker" they learned about (J.F.K, Harriet Tubman, Harry S Truman to name a few) and were eager to share what they learned with their visitors.

\*The entire third grade also shared what they had been learning last week on Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, when their mystery mammals were revealed! Some of their work will be visible by visiting the links provided by the third grade teachers shortly as well.

### **This week...**

\*LOST AND FOUND WALK....On Friday, we will have a Lost and Found Walk where the items left in the Lost and Found bins will be on display for students to reclaim their belongings. I have taken pictures of the items and will be putting them on the website in the early part of this week so that you can browse through them as well. A Connect Ed message will be sent to you when the pictures have been uploaded.

\*BUILDING PROJECT...On March 17, 2011, I had the opportunity to go on a tour of the building on Druce Street. There is a short video available on the website that will give you a glimpse inside. I will continue to do this throughout the project so that we can share in the experience of watching the transformation of Runkle School!

Have a wonderful week!

Sincerely,

Vanessa C. Beauchaine, Ed.D.

From the PTO

GRADE 6 - Wednesday, March 30, and Friday, April 1

GRADE 7 - Monday, March 28, and Tuesday, March 29

GRADE 8 - Wednesday, March 30, and Friday, April 1

## **Runkle Japanese Bake Sale on Friday, April 1st to benefit Japan Quake relief efforts**

Japanese rice balls, maki rolls, cookies, and other baked goods will be sold in the morning and afternoon:

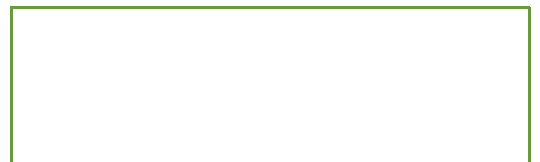
- 7:30am to 7:50am at Cafeteria, 7:50am - 8:00am the gym
- 2:20 to 2:50 at Cafeteria

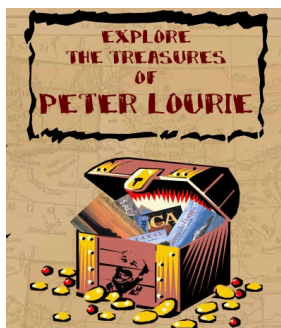
## **Japan Quake Relief Donations**

1. [American Red Cross](#): donations through American Red Cross will be sent to the Japanese Red Cross Society).
2. [The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City- JapanEarthquake and Tsunami Fund](#). The fund will direct 100% of your donation to disaster relief efforts.
3. Text-to-Donate for JapanEarthquake and Pacific Tsunami Relief Efforts. [Click here for details](#)

## **Preorder a Runkle Yearbook Online**

Go [here](#) for details and online ordering. When the books come in June they will be delivered to your child's classroom.





## **NEXT MONDAY: Runkle Reads presents Author PETER LOURIE visiting 4th and 5th grades!**

Author, Photographer, and Adventurer  
Peter Lourie

**Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, Runkle Library , 6:30-8  
pm**

*THIS AUTHOR VISIT IS FUNDED BY  
THE RUNKLE PTO (MADE POSSIBLE BY PARENT  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PTO ANNUAL FUND), AND THE BEF  
SAKER FUND*

Peter Lourie, extraordinary adventurer and nonfiction writer, is coming to Runkle, funded by the PTO and BEF Saker Fund, as part of Runkle Reads. He begins his special presentation at 6:30 pm in the Runkle Library. RED will be selling pizza and refreshments from 6-6:30 pm to benefit their Tuition Assistance Program.

4th and 5th grade students and their parents will not want to miss this special evening. Please consider reading one or more of his books before April 4. (Each 4th and 5th grade classrooms will have a selection of titles to borrow. ) Mr. Lourie's website is [www.peterlourie.com](http://www.peterlourie.com)

Please look out for last week's backpack notices with details about buying books. The Runkle PTO is facilitating the sale of four of Mr. Lourie's books. The first book that a student purchases, subsidized by the PTO, costs only \$5. All other books will be sold at a discount. Be sure to return the form with cash or check to your child's teacher by Monday, March 28.

## **MATH AND SCIENCE NIGHT: Consider Getting Involved!**

**We are looking for people to join the organizing committee running Math and Science Night at the end of April (Friday evening TBA). This popular Runkle School event consists of fun math and science demonstrations, run by Runkle students, families, and local universities.**

**You could contribute in a variety of ways:**

- **Use your university contacts to arrange science or math demonstrations; or invite guest speakers**
- **Run an activity yourself (or volunteer a friend's name to run an activity!)**
- **Help with publicity for the event**
- **Participate in the logistics of the actual event (ordering rental tables; coordinating volunteers; food sales, etc.)**

**We'd love to hear from you! Please let us know if you are interested by emailing [minikolluri@yahoo.com](mailto:minikolluri@yahoo.com)**



**Attention  
ALL Runkle  
Parents**

*Runkle Extended Day (RED) will be selling RUNKLE SCHOOL sweatshirts and t-shirts (in addition to coffee and munchkins!) at the morning K-2 meetings every Friday. Sweatshirts are \$35 and t-shirts are \$15. ALL proceeds benefit RED's Tuition Assistance Program.*

*Thank you!*

## **SEPAC NEWS**

### ***Supporting Challenging Kids support group***

Fridays, 10-11:30 a.m.  
Brookline Public Safety Building, 350  
Washington St.  
Meetings are free and registration is not required. For more information, contact [rachaelelisabeth1@gmail.com](mailto:rachaelelisabeth1@gmail.com)

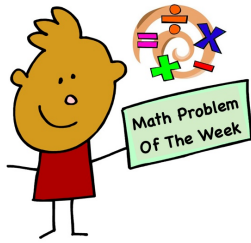
### ***Transition to College Panel Discussion Tues., March 29, 7-9 p.m., BHS MLK Room***

BHS college counselor Joan Casey and a group of parents who have been through the transition to college (with students on IEPs and 504 plans) will discuss their experiences and how to help students with learning disabilities survive and thrive in college. Joan will also talk about alternative paths to college from high school. For more information, contact SEPAC BHS liaison Lisa Guisbond at [guisbond@mit.edu](mailto:guisbond@mit.edu)

### ***Assistive Technology Fair/Workshop, Tuesday, April 12, 6-8 p.m., Lawrence School***

We'll offer a variety of speakers and demonstrations on various forms of assistive technology, designed to help students with a range of disabilities. There will be demonstrations of apps for smart phones and ipads. Presenters will include All Tech, Easter Seals, and Cambium (maker of the Kurzweil Educational Systems).

# From 7th/8th Grade Math Teacher



## Math Problem of the Week

### Who Pays for Dinner?

Daniel is having dinner with a friend. He buys five dishes and his friend buys three dishes. At the last minute another friend comes to eat with them and pays \$4 for his share of the meal. If all the dishes have the same value, how should the money be divided between Daniel and his first friend?

Here is last week's question and solution:

**Problem:** The average house price in Boomtown rose 30 percent each year for the last five years. If the average house price is currently \$250,000, what was the average house price five years ago?

**Solution:** Approximately \$67,332. If P was the average house price five years ago, then the current average price is  $1.3^{5P}$  or  $3.71293P$ . Thus,  $250,000 = 3.71293P$ , so  $P = 250,000 / 3.71293$ , which equals \$67,332.27

*From Eric Lass, 7th & 8th grade Math Teacher*

## From the Community

### BROOKLINE TOWN-WIDE SOCCER CLEAT EXCHANGE NEXT WEEK

Get ready for soccer!  
This year's cleat exchange times and locations are as follows.

#### Collection:

Tuesday and Wed., April 5 and 6, 7:45-8:00 a.m. in each k-8 school

#### Exchange and Sale:

Thursday, April 7, 7:40-8:00 a.m. in each k-8 school

#### Pooled exchange and sale. cleats collected from all schools:

Thursday, April 7, 6:30-8:00 p.m. - BHS lobby

Saturday, April 9, 9-11 a.m. - BHS lobby

Clean out your closets and donate your used soccer cleats, exchange used cleats for new (used) cleats, or buy donated cleats (still only \$5/pair!) in time for the spring soccer season. Cleats remaining after the exchange will be donated to soccer programs for disadvantaged youth, and money collected will help fund Brookline Recreation soccer scholarships. Help everyone enjoy soccer for less!  
Shin guards may also be donated, exchanged or purchased (for \$2), and soccer balls (deflated, please) may be donated for Haitian youth.

*Volunteer adults and students are still needed!* Please contact

SEPAC is looking for volunteers to gather information and opinions and start to develop a guide to local special education providers. Please contact Rachael Wurtman, SEPAC co-chair at [brooklinesepac@gmail.com](mailto:brooklinesepac@gmail.com) or go to [www.brooklinesepac.org](http://www.brooklinesepac.org)

**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.

### SUMMER TUTOR AVAILABLE

Please contact Kristen Haynes  
[Kristen\\_haynes@brookline.k12.ma.us](mailto:Kristen_haynes@brookline.k12.ma.us)

### POGO STICK FOR SALE

Top of the line. Little-used Vurtego V3 pogo stick, yours for \$200. Retail for over \$325. Call 781 768 6030

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Ready for Spring? Book a spring photo session, senior photos included. Amara Cohen Photography (Runkle parent) is booking sessions now! All sessions booked with [Amara Cohen Photography](http://AmaraCohenPhotography.com) now through April 15th will receive a complimentary 11 x 14 as well as a reduced session rate. Location of your choice, within 30 miles of metro Boston, MA. Contact Amara at 617-799-6008 or [amaracohenphotos@gmail.com](mailto:amaracohenphotos@gmail.com).  
[www.amaracohenphotography.com](http://www.amaracohenphotography.com)

### PIANO LESSONS

Would you like to learn how to play the piano? Are you already learning, but need a little help between lessons? Brookline native (Runkle '02 and BHS '06) and Vassar graduate with a music degree. Reasonable rates. Students of all ages. Please contact Jeremy Shiman at [jshiman@gmail.com](mailto:jshiman@gmail.com) or 617-792-6917

[pueda@comast.net](mailto:pueda@comast.net) or [tiffanyrinne@gmail.com](mailto:tiffanyrinne@gmail.com).

**Brookline Adoptive Families Together Meeting**, *Mon. March 28, 7-8:30pm, Brookline Public Library, 361 Washington St.*

More information: Lori Baeumler Adoptive Families Together, Kid's Net and KINnections Program Coordinator  
MSPCC 99 Summer St. Boston, 617- 587-1522  
[lbaeumler@mspcc.org](mailto:lbaeumler@mspcc.org)

**Stage Soup: Theater Programs for Kids and Teens in Brookline Village**, *Inner Space Annex, 17 Station St., Brookline*

A new theater program in the neighborhood. We will play a wide variety of fun and crazy theater games that help develop confidence, quick thinking, and creativity. Attend one of the following FREE DRAMA WORKSHOPS next week to get your first taste of the Soup: Wed. March 30 or Thurs., March 31, 3-4:20pm for ages 8-12 or 4:30-5:50pm for teens  
More information: [www.stagesoup.com](http://www.stagesoup.com) or call Ryan Bailey at 617-735-5664

**Art Barn: The April Fools' Weekend FUN-RAISING GALA EVENT**, *April 2, 2011 6pm - 9pm, The Maliotis Cultural Center, 50 Goddard Avenue, Brookline*

Featuring the Artbarn Staff, Interns & Friends in: TEN IN A BED (A Fractured Fairytale). Adapted from the classic children's book  
Live Auction & Silent Auction. A special performance by Artbarn's Horsin' Around Improv Troup. An evening of entertainment for the whole family! Tickets: \$20 in advance & \$30 at the door. RSVP by email to [info@artbarn.org](mailto:info@artbarn.org)

**"Tweets and Tweens: A Dialogue and Parents Guide to Kids' Use of Facebook, Twitter and other Social Media."**

*Tuesday evening, April 12, at Brookline High School (MLK room)*  
Want to know what your kids are doing online? The Sher Parent Education Series invites you to join Dr. Michael Rich, "The Mediatrixian," director of the Center on Media and Child Health at Children's Hospital Boston and Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School, and clinicians from the Brookline Community Mental Health Center, for a lively and informative discussion. For information and to RSVP call 617-277-8107 or visit [www.brooklinecenter.org](http://www.brooklinecenter.org)

**Swim at Kirrane Aquatics Center during April vacation!**

Both Lap and Family swim will be available April 18th - April 22, noon-8pm. For more information about upcoming swimming programs, please call the Evelyn Kirrane Aquatics Center front desk at (617) 713-5435.

**MELA-O Training (Massachusetts English Language Assessment-Oral) for K-12 Classroom Teachers and Specialists**, *Brookline Town Hall, Room 111*

Category 3 of Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) Training,  
Presenter: Mindy Paulo, Brookline Public Schools. This training will prepare participants to take the qualifying test for administering the assessment that is used to evaluate the English speaking and listening skills of limited English proficient (LEP) students.~ The

*Massachusetts English Language Assessment - Oral* is administered by observing students performing academic and social tasks in the classroom over a period of time. Free for Brookline Educators - all materials will be provided. Further details and registration: <https://cfweb3.smartedu.net/brookline/pd/> Register by May 9th.

**Join the Red Sox on the Road, June 10 - 12**

Travel to Toronto's Rogers Centre (formerly the Sky Dome) Baseball Stadium to see the Red Sox vs. the Toronto Blue Jays. All participants are required to have a valid passport to go on this trip. Please register by May 1, 2011. To register or for more information: <http://www.brooklinerec.com> [www.brooklinerec.com](http://www.brooklinerec.com) or call 617.730.2069

**NEWS FROM B-PEN  
(BROOKLINE PARENT EDUCATION NETWORK)**

***The Secret Lives of Young Adolescents: An Evening for 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents***

**March 30, 7-8:30**

**BHS Roberts/Dubbs Auditorium**

On March 30, B-PEN (Brookline Parent Education Network) offers a special program for parents of Brookline 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> graders, "**The Secret Lives of Young Adolescents: Why NOW is the time to discuss substance use, healthy relationships and internet behavior with your 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grader.**" This event features a panel of Brookline High School Peer Leaders, social workers, health teachers and AWARE educators discussing some of the issues today's middle school kids are dealing with - alcohol experimentation, marijuana and tobacco, sex, and internet use and cyber bullying. The goal is to encourage parents to talk to their middle schoolers and send them home with some effective conversation starters and talking points for making a meaningful connection. To RSVP or for more information, contact coordinators June Harris ([jharris@brooklinema.gov](mailto:jharris@brooklinema.gov) 617-909-6935) or Karen Campbell ([kcampbell@brooklinema.gov](mailto:kcampbell@brooklinema.gov)).

***ATTENTION PARENTS OF Runkle and Lincoln 5<sup>TH</sup>-8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS: Let's Be Honest - Communication in Families that Keeps Kids Healthy, April 12, 7-8:30 p.m., Lincoln School Auditorium***

Did you know that as parents we are the greatest influence on our children's decision making regarding relationships and sex? No matter how well the schools educate our kids, they still need to hear about values and sexuality from us. Planned Parenthood's acclaimed "Let's Be Honest" is an evening presentation and community conversation designed to help prepare parents and other caregivers~create an environment of trust and comfort in talking with their children about sex and sexuality. By providing parents with useful skills, information and resources, this lively, refreshingly direct program can empower parents to feel competent and successful in their role as the primary sexuality educators of their children. Positive communication between parents and children helps establish family and individual values, enabling young people to make healthier, safer and better-informed decisions related to sexuality.

decisions related to sexuality.

**Let's Be Honest** is designed for parents of children in middle school, with talking points that range from understanding puberty to managing peer pressure and media influences to promoting healthy relationships and self-esteem. Bring your questions and your curiosity and join us for what promises to be an engaging, eye-opening conversation. To RSVP or for more information, contact B-PEN coordinators June Harris ([jharris@brooklinema.us](mailto:jharris@brooklinema.us)) or Karen Campbell ([kcampbell@brooklinema.us](mailto:kcampbell@brooklinema.us)).

## APRIL 5 IS "WELCOME TO TEEN LIFE" FOR 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENTS

B-PEN (Brookline Parent Education Network) invites parents and guardians of current 8th graders to "WELCOME TO TEEN LIFE: Parenting Strategies for Entering the High School Years" Tuesday, April 5@ 7 pm in Brookline High School's Martin Luther King Room. This presentation by adolescent development specialist Joani Geltman uses humor, insight, psychology and storytelling to help parents understand the unique physical, social/emotional and cognitive changes that occur as young teens prepare to enter high school.



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