

Upper School Parents' Association March 2009 Newsletter

Dear Upper School Parents:

Saturday, February 7th was the wholly successful Mystery Dinner!

Many thanks to the 150 attendees for joining the event and bringing appetizers and beverages to the appetizer party. A big thanks to all the dinner hosts for opening their homes, for their exquisite preparations, and for making such a wonderful evening possible. An event like this makes us realize of how lucky we are to have such a talented and generous parent body. Thank you all again for making this a fun, enjoyable event that hopefully we will repeat next year!

Last Wednesday, February 25th, the PA hosted Dr. Catherine Steiner-Adair at the PA meeting. She talked to US and MS parents about her research and real life stories, and left us feeling emotionally smarter and equipped with new strategies for helping raise emotionally strong, savvy, and resilient children. She also talked about keeping kids safe—lock up your alcohol, keep track of your children, and never leave your house unattended. Work as a community to keep kids safe. Many thanks, Dr. Steiner-Adair!

Sincerely,

Anne Lovett, Sonia Parisca, Lisa Aulet, Tammy McLeod, and Maria Lopez

WHAT'S GOING ON THIS MONTH?

**BB&N BOOK CLUB hosted by US director Jack Knapp
Wednesday, March 11 at 7:00 p.m., Upper School Library**

We will be discussing *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell. This group is open to anyone interested in participating. The only requirements are willingness to read and an interest discussing subjects inspired by the reading. Come and express your own interpretations. Hope you will join us!

**US Parents' Association Meeting
Wednesday, April 15 at 6:30 p.m., Upper School**

You are cordially invited to our next US Parents' Association Meeting for an evening with Dr. Richard Light, presenting "**How to Get the Most Out of the High School and College Experience.**"

*Richard J. Light is the Walter H. Gale Professor of Education, with a Ph.D. in statistics from Harvard. Dr. Light studies ways to help high school and college undergraduates students succeed. Light's recent book, *Making the Most of College*, won the Stone Award for the best book on Education and Society. At Harvard, Light is leading a consortium of America's leading colleges and universities in a new initiative called The Forum on Excellence and Innovation in Education. Light is an elected Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, elected Member of the National Academy of Education, former President of the American Evaluation Association, and has won the Lazarsfeld Award for distinguished contributions to science policy. He teaches courses on higher education policy.

MARCH IN THE ARTS!

**Upper School Art: Spring Work from every medium
Friday, April 3 to Friday, April 17**

Come see the talent!

**Upper School Spring Concert
Saturday, May 2 at 8:00 p.m.**

Grace Episcopal Church, 76 Eldredge Street, Newton, MA

The Winter Musical: *Babes in Arms* by Rodgers and Hart

Thursday, March 5 at 3:30 p.m.

Friday, March 6 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 7 at 3:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Upper School Theater

This quintessential "Hey kids, let's put on a show!" musical boasts one of the greatest scores ever written. Set at a summer stock theatre, the plot concerns a group of young apprentices and their conviction to mount the original revue they've created while dodging the underhanded attempts of the surly theatre owner to squash their efforts at every turn. Further complications are provided by the overbearing stage mother of the beautiful ex-child star and the inflated ego of a hack southern playwright. But of course the show must go on, and so it does in a resolution of come-uppance, reconciliation, and romance.

For tickets call: 617-800-2260.

In the Gallery Downstairs:

Ron Pownall: *Photos from the Summer of 1968, Democratic National Convention*

Monday, February 16 – Monday, March 2

Duncan Smith '48: Mobile Sculptures

Wednesday, March 4 – Wednesday, April 1

In the Gallery Upstairs:

Advanced Photography classes: Photo Projects February 18-March 13th

SAFE HOUSE PROGRAM

BB&N continues the Safe House program at the Upper School. Our director, Jack Knapp, strongly endorses this initiative as a way to promote the safety of our students at an age when risky behavior can be a serious issue. Joining this program will never guarantee the safety of our teens, but at least it will serve to remind us that the BB&N community has minimum safety standards that recognize Massachusetts State Laws regarding underage alcohol drinking and arms possession. We recommend that parents, besides considering this program, have conversations with their teenagers about safety issues including alcohol and late-night activities.

[Click Here](#) to read Boston Globe's recent article: *Two deaths, 1 close call stir fears of teen parties.*

[Click Here](#) for Safe House Agreement and Safe House Family List (on Knightline).

ON-GOING PROJECTS

Bivouac Bank: The Biouvac Bank is up, running, and accepting donations to offset the expenses of next fall's 9th graders for their wonderful wilderness experience. We are looking for sleeping bags, raingear, jackets, work gloves, rubber boots, tarps, eating utensils—these items can be things your family has used and won't use again. We will be collecting items in December and again in early August. Donations would be greatly appreciated! Ready to donate? Contact Sonia at sparisca@comcast.net.

Zack McLeod: Dinner or groceries for the McLeod family. Zack is doing much better. He continues at Spaulding Rehab Hospital, working very hard. The McLeods appreciate the dinners and groceries enormously; it has been a tremendous help. Thank you to everyone who has helped so far. If you want to join BB&N's food brigade for the McLeods, [Click Here](#) for to the doodle link.

Special Lunches: Special Lunches at the Upper School Cafeteria consist of a series of lunches organized by region or theme with the aim of expanding the culinary knowledge and enjoyment of our students. Past events include Diwali Festival (Festival of the Lights) and Latin American Day. Parents contribute by providing menu ideas, donating typical sweets, decorating, and/or helping the day of the event (2 hours).

Next Special Lunches include: Chinese New Year, Mardi Gras, Cinco de Mayo and Caribbean Soul. If you want to get involved contact Nonna Gale at nonnagale@earthlink.net.