

HENRY BARNARD SCHOOL

Rhode Island College's Laboratory School

November 2005

Principal's Newsletter

Principal: Dr. Tibbetts
Assistant Principal: Mr. Starr

456-8801
www.ric.edu/hbs



Second graders using the computers.

Technology

Thanks to the HBS Computer Committee we are continuing to make progress with all of our new technology. The computers and printers are in the classrooms and the laptops should be available for use this week.

Since some of our software requires sound, speakers and headphones have been ordered for each classroom. This combination of speakers and headphones will allow for multiple use of the computers. Some of the software or audio discs can be shared using the computers with speakers. Some students using headphones will be able to use the computers, but the sound effects will not distract others.

The headphones will be available for all students to

share. If parents desire, they may have their child bring in a set of headphones from home. The jacks for the headphones are standard and used by CD players, computers, etc.

Since the Newsletters will no longer be sent home with the students, they will not have a chance to read them. Parents may want to use this opportunity to discuss relevant issues with their children.



Preschoolers using technology.

Technology and the Newsletter

This is the first Principal's Newsletter that we have attempted to send to parents via email. Once the "send" button is pushed it will be exciting to see what happens and how many "bounce back". Due to the fact that we have more than 300 email addresses in the system, please do not reply to this (or any) Newsletter mailing. Dr. Tibbetts and Mr. Starr may be reached at rtibbetts@ric.edu or fstarr@ric.edu.

The Newsletter is written in Word, and should be able to be opened as an attachment. If it cannot be opened as an attachment, try dragging it to your desktop or

opening Word before trying to open the Newsletter.

We would prefer to send the Newsletter and other announcements to families via email. Email delivery ensures that documents are not lost in a child's backpack and reduces the amount of paper we use. However, families without email access will receive a copy of the Newsletter via US mail. If you received a paper copy of the Newsletter but have an email address, please send your email address to [sstamand@ric.edu](mailto:ssstamand@ric.edu) or jlusignan@ric.edu.

HBSPA Email

Cooperating with the RIC Technology Department, the Henry Barnard School Parents' Association will now have email addresses through the College. If you would like to reach an officer of the Parents' Association via email, their new email addresses are listed in the adjacent column.

HBSPA Email:

President: HBSPApresident@ric.edu
Vice-President: HBSPAvicepresident@ric.edu
Treasurer: HBSPAtreasurer@ric.edu
Newsletter: HBSPAnewsletter@ric.edu
Secretary: HBSPAsecretary@ric.edu
Yearbook: HBSPAyearbook@ric.edu
Family Activities: HBSPAFamilyactivities@ric.edu
Fund raising: HBSPAfundraising@ric.edu
Room Parents: HBSPARoomparents@ric.edu



School Cancellation

If school must be canceled because of inclement weather, it will be announced on the radio (WPRO, for example) and on television (Channel 10, for example). Most local radio and TV stations are now sharing this information for their morning announcements. The Henry Barnard School will automatically:



- 1) close if Rhode Island College is closed,
- 2) delay if Rhode Island College delays,
- 3) close if the Providence public schools close, and
- 4) delay if the Providence public schools delay.

In these instances, the Henry Barnard School may not be announced separately.

There are two **additional methods** to

learn about school delays and closings. Both are available at www.turnto10.com. By logging on and then clicking on "Announcements: Closings and Delays", this non-HBS site will let you check school closings and delays. If you check the list of schools for our status, don't forget to check the status of the Providence Schools. The same site also offers a free email service. This service will send you an automatic email for delays and closings within minutes of the decision. If you opt for the email notification, it is recommended that the Providence Public Schools be used as your "school or institution". It is possible to sign on a second time and also use Henry Barnard School as your school.

Breakfast for Lunch

Chef Vinny has announced that the cafeteria will be offering specials on Wednesdays in November. On November 2nd and 30th, he will prepare

French toast and sausage links as the main lunch entrée, and on November 16th it will be waffles and sausage patties.

Sixth Grade Survey

During Curriculum Night, and the following day, a survey to gather information about the interest in re-establishing a sixth grade at Henry Barnard School was distributed. The overall survey return rate was high at 47%, with a 63% return rate from our current fifth grade families.

Survey Results

Grade

	P	K	1	2	3	4	5
HC	4	16	14	5	3	10	6
MC	2	4	4	8	4	3	8
LC	2	3	3	3	1	1	4
NC		3	1	4	1		6

HC=High Commitment MC= Medium Commitment

LC= Low Commitment NC= No Commitment

The results indicate that there were six families who were highly committed, while eight families stated a medium commitment to having their children attend sixth grade at HBS. There was more interest at fourth grade (highly committed), but less at third and second grade. Interest rose again in the first and second grades.

When we began the conversation about a possible sixth grade the target number for class size was eighteen to twenty highly committed students. The survey results do not yield sufficient commitment to support the recommendation to reinstate a sixth grade in September 2006.

On November 18, at 8:30, fifth grade parents are invited to the HBS cafeteria to meet representatives from private and public schools. The reps will be sharing info about their middle school programs.



Practicum student and third graders.

Faculty Changes

On November 18, Ms. Caprio will begin her maternity leave. All of us wish her and her family the best!

The recommendation for her replacement for the remainder of the school year is Ms. Margaret Adair. Ms. Adair has been an assistant teacher at the Henry Barnard School in our preschool program since 2003. Prior to joining our faculty, Ms. Adair taught kindergarten for one year and preschool for one year.

With Ms. Adair being recommended to teach kindergarten an opening will be created for an assistant teacher in Mrs. Ripstein's preschool classroom. We have begun to invite possible candidates to the school, and will be making an announcement very soon.

Principal's Newsletter

Henry Barnard School
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Providence, RI 02908

Phone:
401-456-8801

Fax:
401-456-8128

Web:
www.ric.edu/hbs



Ms. Mullaly, our student teacher in kindergarten.

College Students

One of our responsibilities as a laboratory school is to provide a site for college students to practice their future craft. The Henry Barnard School welcomes student teachers and practicum students into our classrooms. We expect that all of our students respect college students as if they are teachers.

This semester we have had four student teachers: one each in kindergarten, second grade, third grade, and in art. We have also had many practicum classes at the school. In our early childhood rooms the practicum classes are once a week, but in some of the other rooms the practicum students are scheduled twice a week. Practicum students are usually juniors, and teach small groups

of HBS students. The following practicum classes are being conducted this semester.

Class	Practicum subjects
Ms. Kingsley:	Mathematics
Mrs. Ripstein:	Mathematics
Mrs. Aroesty	Sci/SS & Reading/LA
Ms. Caprio	Sci/SS
Mrs. Walsh	Sci/SS
Mrs. Manninen	Sci/SS
Mrs. Bloom	Sci/SS
Mrs. Amaral	Mathematics & Reading/LA
Mrs. Capraro	Mathematics
Mrs. Andrews	Health & Reading
Mr. Oldstein	Mathematics
Ms. Malone	Health & Reading
Mrs. Roberts	Health
Ms. Fennessey	Reading
Mrs. Leach	Mathematics
Mr. Janaway	Physical Education
Mr. MacCubbin	Music
Mrs. Otto	Reading/LA

Calendar of Events

November

- Nov. 7 Professional Development Day
No School for Students
- Nov. 8 Friday Schedule
- Nov. 11 Veteran's Day - No School
- Nov. 18 Presentations for Fifth Graders (and their parents) about Schools for Sixth Grade
8:30 AM
- Nov. 22 First Trimester ends
- Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Recess - No School

December

- Dec. 2 HBSPA Meeting - 8:30AM
- Dec. 7 Progress Reports
- Dec. 9 Parent Teacher Conferences
No School for Students
- Dec. 22 Winter Recess - No School

November 3, 2005

Continuation of school photographs!!
{The photograph sessions were suspended when we lost electricity on October 25.}