



Most people say it is the intellect which makes a great person. They are wrong; it is their character.

*Albert Einstein*



*Kindergartener Elizabeth Scoble and second grader A.J. Sawyer proudly share their invention with their respective classes.*

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## Inventive Ideas From Norris Students



Mrs. Smith's kindergarten and Mrs. Diemand's second grade classes joined together to become "Inventors".

After reading the story "Not a Box" by Antoinette Portis, the children went on to discuss some interesting and even quirky inventions, both current and past. They worked in groups of 2 or 3 to create their own unique inventions. Some interesting ideas were:

- an automatic tickle machine
- a robot person to do whatever you asked
- an electronic fish tank cleaner

- a kid-sized snow blower
- a necklace cleaner
- a triple-bladed sword
- an automatic coat hanger
- an automatic dog feeder
- a robot that does your homework for you
- an all in one cake and cupcake stand

Children shared their creations and also elaborated on how their unit would operate.

Congratulations to possible future inventors from the Norris School in Southampton!



# Library Zone

## New Parent's Corner

You may have noticed a beautiful new rolling book shelf in our school's main lobby. The handcrafted cart was donated by Patrick & Luci Dalton. It will be the new home for our Parent's Corner – a library of books and other resources that we hope will be useful to Norris families. Parents and caregivers will sign books out for a two week period using a sign-out sheet which will be placed with the cart. A volunteer is currently being sought to periodically check to make sure books are being returned. (Please see Mrs. Mari if interested). Special thanks go to the Dalton family, the PTO for their ongoing support of the project and the hardworking library volunteers who helped get the books catalogued: Kate Cooper, Joe Zalot and Kelly Constantine.

## Aesop Fables Skits

Sounds of laughter mingled with the sounds of caw-ing, roaring and squeaking in the library this week as third graders brought centuries-old Aesop fables to life. Students worked in small groups to perform the skits and shared them with another third grade class. A special thanks to Ms diCurcio for making the character masks with third graders.

## Concert for Change Update

A total of \$339.41 was raised for Pennies for Peace during the Concert for Change. Thanks to everyone for helping with this important cause by attending the concert or donating pennies or books.



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## Important Announcements

### Lost & Found Items

A child's bracelet was found in the hallway. If you think it may belong to your child, please contact the school as soon as possible.

### Quidditch

The annual Quidditch match will take place on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow!

### Talent Show

The annual talent show will be held on May 6 at 6:00 pm. Don't miss this chance to see all the great talent at Norris School.

### Drama Club Production

The Drama Club performance will be on May 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Who knows? There just may be a future Oscar winner in the club!



### Request Tiger Talk by Email

If you haven't already signed up to receive Tiger Talk by email, please consider doing so by simply emailing Mrs. Carmichael at [mcarmichael@hr-k12.org](mailto:mcarmichael@hr-k12.org). For those Norris families who already have signed up, thank you very much!

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# School Committee Report

The School Committee met on March 15 and had our initial public hearing on the FY11 Budget. We are approaching this budget very cautiously and have prepared an initial budget that assumes level services with built-in payroll growth that occurs as a result of contractual obligations and non-contract step increases to support staff. The School Committee is scheduled to meet with the Board of selectmen and Finance Committee in a joint meeting on March 23 to discuss this year's revenue outlook and next steps in the budget building process.

Revenue guidance from the state is mixed. The Governor's initial budget contains no cuts for Chapter 70 Educational or Local Aid funds, but the Legislature recently advised that they will be recommending cuts to both accounts. The final numbers are usually somewhere between the initial projections, but it is still too early to rely on any of the numbers being discussed. The Legislature budget represents a 4% cut to Southampton's Chapter 70 and Local Aid revenues.

If you haven't already, please visit the Planning Board's Southampton Master Plan website. A link to a survey was recently posted to the site and is open until April 2. The survey only takes a few

minutes to complete and seeks your input on issues that will guide the Town's decisions for the coming decades. It is important that your input is counted regarding sidewalk locations, open space strategy, sign by-laws and a number of other issues discussed in the survey. There are paper copies available throughout town or you can complete it online at: [http://www.southamptonmasterplan.org/html/comm\\_survey.html#](http://www.southamptonmasterplan.org/html/comm_survey.html#)

Thank you for your understanding and patience in fulfilling the residency policy distributed over the February vacation. Residency will need to be affirmed yearly with your signature on a form distributed with the school opening packets. With your proof of residency now on file, only new residents will need to provide evidence going forward.

The School Committee was presented with a status update of the school wide Social Studies curriculum review led by Mrs. Salomao with input from teachers, administration and the regional office. A number of sample texts have been submitted by textbook vendors and the selection and purchase of new texts is scheduled to take place in time for the replacement of Social Studies/History books before school opens in September.



## Dates to Remember

3/30	Kindergarten Information Night 6:30
4/2	Half Day- noon dismissal
4/14	Half Day- noon dismissal
4/15	Quidditch
4/28	School Committee Meeting 6:00 pm

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## Kindergarten Information Night

The William E. Norris School will hold their kindergarten information night for the 2010-2011 school year on Tuesday, March 30, 2010 at 6:30. The informational parent meeting will be held in the school cafeteria. Children must be five years old on or before September 1st to be kindergarten eligible. For additional information please call the school office at 527-0811.



## **Ski Club**

Members of the 2010 ski club celebrate another great day for hitting the slopes.

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## **Breyer Memorial Scholarship**

A \$250.00 Arts scholarship has been established by the family of Michaeline H. Breyer. This scholarship is available to a Norris School student who would benefit from encouragement in the pursuit of the Arts. The funds from this scholarship would be awarded to a student who wishes to explore:

- Private Lessons in Dance, Poetry, Storytelling, Music, Art or Drama
- Instrument rental/purchase
- Summer or vacation camp in an art related field

Applications are available in the Norris School office.

*This is not a Norris School-sponsored event.*

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## **Ron Labrie Lions Breakfast**

MARCH 28, 2010 8:30 – 11 A.M.

Norris School Cafeteria

Tickets are available at Easthampton Savings Bank or you can call 527-3305 for more information.

*This is not a school sponsored event.*