



# NECP News

April 2010

## One Step at a Time

### Preschool Contact Information

Lisa Robinson, Coordinator [Lisa\\_Robinson@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:Lisa_Robinson@newton.k12.ma.us)  
 Phyllis Lewis, Administrative Assistant  
 Newton Early Childhood Office: .....617-559-6050  
 Lincoln-Eliot Classrooms:.....617-559-9550  
 Education Center School Nurse  
 Jennifer Civin: .....617-559-6070  
 Lincoln-Eliot Nurse's Office  
 Sue Schy: .....617-559-9554

\*Please contact the Education Center School Nurse if your child is absent from school at either the Education Center or Lincoln-Eliot. If your child attends Lincoln-Eliot, also call .....617-559-9550

Contact the NECP PTO at [necppto@gmail.com](mailto:necppto@gmail.com)  
 President and Treasurer: .....Deb Rooney  
 Sally Foster contact: .....Susan Cable  
 Newsletter Editors: .....Urmila Parlikar  
 Michelle Fawcett

Dear NECP Families,



I want to begin by thanking you for sharing your curious, delightful, engaging, and smiling children with us this school year. It has been amazing to see them grow, learn, and begin friendships.

Last September, many of you attended our Annual Parent Coffee on the first day of school. At this coffee, I asked each of you to think about your hopes for your child's year in preschool. Here's what you had to say...

- "Learn patience and how to work together."*
- "Expand her horizons in an enriching environment."*
- "Become more comfortable in his own skin and feel better in new situations."*
- "Ask for help."*
- "Be excited to go to school!"*
- "Try new things without me next to him!"*
- "Play with her peers and not cling so much to me."*
- "Become good at sharing."*
- "Keep loving school."*
- "Make friends and be happy."*
- "Be more flexible."*
- "Potty train!"*
- "Channel her emotions well in preschool."*
- "Be a leader."*
- "Stand up for herself."*
- "Love school."*

I hope that you have observed, along with me and your child's teachers, that these hopes did come true along with many other wonderful skills, concepts, and abilities! All of the preschool staff look forward to continuing to foster your child's confidence, friendships, and love of school!

Happy spring,

Lisa Robinson

## Event Calendar

<b>April 14</b>	Curious Creatures PTO In-School Enrichment Event <a href="http://www.curiouscreatures.org">www.curiouscreatures.org</a>
<b>April 19-23</b>	No School-Spring Vacation!
<b>May 7</b>	Staff Appreciation Luncheon 12:30-2:00pm Ed Center, Rm. 210
<b>May 18</b>	PTO Meeting 7:30-8:30pm Ed Center, Room 210
<b>May 31</b>	No School-Memorial Day!
<b>June 9</b>	Year-End Picnic, Raffle and Silent Auction Ed Center Playground 5:30-7:00pm

**Note:** Parents and siblings are always welcome to attend the In-School PTO Enrichment events.





We need help from:  
 Moms, Dads,  
 Grandparents, Aunts,  
 Uncles, Cousins,  
 Friends!

## Year-End Picnic, Raffle and Auction!

Wednesday, June 9th

5:30–7:00 p.m.

Ed Center Playground

As the end of the school year approaches, so does the Year-End Picnic, Raffle and Auction. The picnic is a great chance for you and your kids to relax and spend time with other NECP families.

The picnic is a pot-luck, and we welcome your contributions! Sample a variety of international delicacies prepared by NECP parents. The PTO will provide pizza, drinks, and popsicles.

The Year-End Picnic is also a big PTO fundraiser. You'll have a chance to bid on items at the silent auction, and we'll be selling raffle tickets for prizes to be announced at the end of the picnic.

The funds we raise will be used to fund the expenses for the 2010-2011 school year, including in-school enrichment activities, family fun events, and stipends for teachers, specialists and staff.

**We could really use your help!**

*Please consider:*

**\*Donating an item or two for our raffle and auction.** This could be a handmade item, any new or unused item, or a gift certificate to one of your favorite Newton stores, restaurants, spas, salons, etc. Please know that we are happy to receive any item you wish to donate.

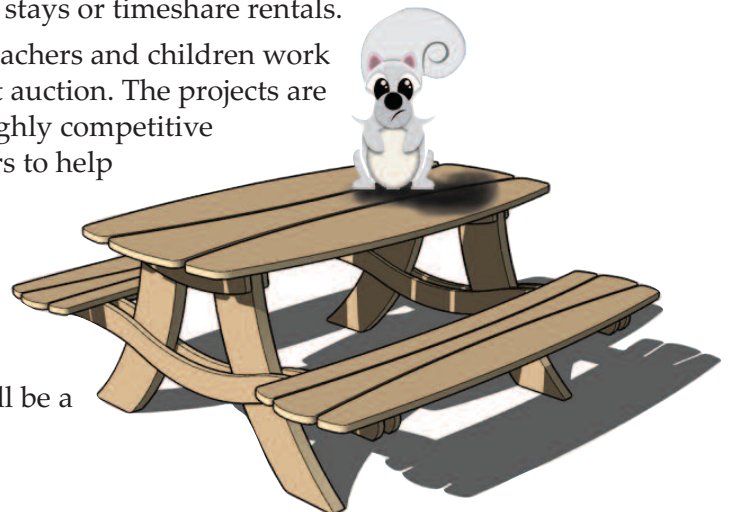
**\*Soliciting items for our raffle and auction.** If you have a business or know people who can donate, please tell them about our event and solicit a donation for the Preschool. We have a request letter that you can send or give to businesses. We also have a master list of businesses that we have solicited in the past. Please feel free to check with us to avoid duplications. Email us at [necppto@gmail.com](mailto:necppto@gmail.com) if you have any questions, would like a copy of our request letter, or to check if we have contacted a certain company.

Items that are sure to get high bids include sports tickets, gift certificates to local restaurants, electronics (ipods, iphones, Gameboys), and travel-related items such as hotel stays or timeshare rentals.

**\*Coordinating the classroom silent auction projects.** The teachers and children work hard to create personalized classroom projects for the silent auction. The projects are wonderful keepsakes. And they are sure to inspire some highly competitive bidding! We could use a volunteer to work with the teachers to help coordinate these projects.

Helping out in other ways. Please contact the PTO at [necppto@gmail.com](mailto:necppto@gmail.com) if you would like to help distribute raffle tickets. We could also use your help with set up, clean up, or serving during the picnic.

With your help, the Year-End Picnic, Auction and Raffle will be a success! Contact [necppto@gmail.com](mailto:necppto@gmail.com) to help.





Thank the teachers  
and the staff for  
their dedication and  
love they have for  
our children!

## Volunteers Needed for Staff Appreciation Luncheon!

Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>  
Ed Center, Rm. 210

Have you been looking for a way to show the wonderful NECP teachers and staff how much their hard work and dedication mean to you? If so, the Staff Appreciation Luncheon is your chance! The luncheon is a great opportunity for the NECP teachers and staff to sit back and enjoy themselves. And it's an even better opportunity for NECP parents to show their gratitude!

Once again, NECP parents and professional chefs Jen and Todd Heberlein have offered to prepare the food. And we could use your help too!

### Here's how you can help:

Contribute dessert, paper goods, beverages and other items. Look for sign up sheets outside your child's classroom.

- Set up for lunch** (11:30–12:30)
- Serve lunch** (12:30–2:00)
- Clean up** (2:00–2:30)
- Babysit** (12:00–2:30) – two to three parents are needed to assist NECP student with lunch and during playtime so that their parents can help out during the luncheon.

If you can help us express our gratitude to the NECP staff by helping make this event a success, please e-mail [necppto@gmail.com](mailto:necppto@gmail.com) and let us know how you can participate.

Please get involved to show the NECP teachers and staff how much their hard work and dedication mean to you!

Contact the PTO at [necppto@gmail.com](mailto:necppto@gmail.com) to help.



## Nurse's Notes

Dear Families,

It's time to get outside and experience the warmer weather and longer days. Make sure your family stays healthy this spring and summer with these great outdoor health tips.

**Remember to Slip! Slap! Slop!** to prevent the sun from damaging your skin and potentially causing cancer in the future.

**Slip on a t-shirt:** A t-shirt over a bathing suit or other sleeveless shirt is a great way to help block some of the sun's rays.

**Slap on a hat & sunglasses:** A brimmed hat and sunglasses help protect the face and eyes.

**Slop on sunscreen:** Apply SPF 15 or higher sunscreen before going outside, and reapply at least every two hours, even if it is cloudy.

For more information, contact your School Nurse or visit



[www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/skin](http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/skin)

**Use a bug repellent** that protects against ticks and mosquitoes to prevent diseases like West Nile Virus and Lyme Disease.

Different products work against different bugs. It's important to look at the "active ingredient" on the label. Products with DEET or permethrin are recommended for protection against both ticks and mosquitoes.

Some repellents, such as picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus, have been found to provide protection against mosquitoes, but have not been shown to work against ticks.

Read label directions carefully and use as directed. DEET products may be applied to skin or clothing. Permethrin products are intended for use on clothing, shoes and outdoor gear and should not be applied directly to skin.

For more information about ticks, mosquitoes, and the diseases they cause, visit the Massachusetts Department of Public Health website at [www.mass.gov/dph](http://www.mass.gov/dph). Click on "Public Health Fact Sheets" and choose the topic you are interested in learning more about.

**Wear a helmet** when riding a bicycle or scooter, using in-line skates or other manually propelled wheeled vehicles.

Helmets should be properly fitted

For more information, visit [www.mass.gov/dph/injury](http://www.mass.gov/dph/injury) or contact your School Nurse.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Civin, RN BSN

617-559-6070



## NECP Summer Program Now Enrolling

This summer, the NECP will be offering an integrated preschool summer program for preschool-aged children with and without disabilities. Classrooms will include an average of 16 children with a variety of learning styles.

Theme-based explorations will provide children with experiences in art, music, physical education, literacy, math, and science.

**The goals of the NECP summer program are:**

To include all children in an inclusive, supportive, and engaging learning experience

To promote a love of play, friendship and learning

To meet the individual and unique needs of all children

The preschool summer program will be held at the Education Center, 100 Walnut Street, in Newtonville.

This location offers a variety of playground equipment in an enclosed safe area. The Gath Wading pool is a short walk and a fun place to cool off.

The summer program will run for six weeks, from July 6<sup>th</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup> (Tues–Fri during week 1, Mon–Thurs weeks 2 to 6). You may sign your child up for one or more weeks. You may also indicate a schedule preference: 9:00–12:00 (\$120/week) or 8:30–1:30 (\$200/week). Scholarship information is available upon request.

Spaces are limited so please call or email Phyllis Lewis (617-559-6050 or [Phyllis\\_lewis@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:Phyllis_lewis@newton.k12.ma.us)) or stop by the office to pick up a brochure.

If your child qualifies for summer services based on their IEP, he or she will be assigned to a summer program classroom. Please speak with your child's teacher for more information.



## Family Fun Event a Great Success!

Thanks to everyone who joined us on Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> for NECP's Family Fun Event at the Lincoln-Eliot school gym.

Big Joe the Storyteller was a huge hit with the kids (and adults)! Kids also decorated crowns and visors and enjoyed snacks and drinks.

Family Fun Events are sponsored by the NECP PTO and are free to all families.



*Big Joe*



### Big Joe Gets Our Preschoolers Moving!

Big Joe entertained our Pre-Schoolers at a special in-house event sponsored by the NECP PTO! The children were delighted to listen to the creative stories Big Joe is well known for. It is amazing to see all of the children so happy and passionate about his stories!



# Community Notes

## 18th Annual Newton Heartbreak Hill Youth Race

Sunday April 18th, Noon-3p.m. This race is one mile, up and down Heartbreak Hill. Pre-registration is required. Youth 9-18: \$10. Adults 19-90: \$12, Wheelchair athletes: \$10, Family Walk: \$10 First 500 registrants receive a free t-shirt. All registrants receive a race medallion, seedling tree and a free ticket to pre-race pasta/pizza party on Saturday, April 17th at 5:30 at Newton City Hall. Sport celebrity appearances include photo-ops with "Pat" the New England Patriots Mascot and face painting by the N.E. Revolution cheerleaders. For more information or to register: [www.newtoncivicpride.org](http://www.newtoncivicpride.org). Questions? 617-527-8283.

## Bringing Down the House at Newton North

Bringing Down the House: A fun-filled retrospective of student and community life at Newton North. June 4-6, before the building closes its doors for the last time. "Bringing Down the House" celebrates the more than 30 years of high school life at Newton North. The weekend features a free Open House from Noon-5 p.m. on Saturday, with a walk down memory lane on Main Street, memorabilia displays, video and music clips, alumni gatherings, art activities, live music, dining and the Great North Yard Sale. Other festivities include a Theatre Ink retrospective on Friday night, Jubilee concert on Saturday night and Alumni Jazz Brunch on Sunday morning. Times and ticket prices for these events will be announced soon. Organizers are looking for volunteers to help plan and execute the commemoration. Please email [klgrannan@northptso.org](mailto:klgrannan@northptso.org) or phone 925-324-4519 for more information on the event or to get involved.

## Community Preservation Committee

The CPC will hold a public meeting on April 28, 2010 at 7 p.m. (tentatively in Newton City Hall Cafeteria, but please confirm final location by calling 617-796-1144 on April 27-28). The agenda includes updates on the current proposed amendment to the Community Preservation Act; program planning (including updating Newton's Open Space & Recreation Plan); and long-term project evaluation. No proposal working sessions or votes are scheduled. For details, contact Alice Ingerson at [aingerson@newtonma.gov](mailto:aingerson@newtonma.gov), 617-796-1144.

## Emerson College Summer Speech and Language Program

Emerson College, Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders, will be offering a 6-week speech and language therapy program to students in the City of Newton with documented need for services. Supervised graduate students in speech-language pathology will provide individual, one-on-one therapy, twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from July 6th through August 12th at the Newton Education Center. The fee is \$325 for 12, one-hour sessions. Spaces are limited. Applications will be available from school speech-language pathologists in March or by contacting Laura Glufling-Tham at Emerson College: 617-824-8318 or [laura.glufling\\_tham@emerson.edu](mailto:laura.glufling_tham@emerson.edu).

## Haircuts for Children with ASD at Strands Hair Studio

Are haircuts particularly difficult for your child on the spectrum? The Autism Alliance of MetroWest is thrilled to announce a new partnership with Strands Hair Studio, located at 855 Worcester Road in Framingham. Strands is launching a new "Strands of Support" program which will offer hair cuts coupled with professional behavioral support for your child. You can call and make an appointment on Mondays from 3:00 to 6:00 pm and experience a private, sensory-friendly haircut. The staff at Strands will follow your child's lead in terms of haircut readiness and, with the help of a behaviorist, will provide visual and emotional support to make it a successful experience. The Autism Alliance will also offer a social story and visual supports that will be available to clients prior to their appointments. The salon will not be open to any other clients during this time.

There will be no charge for these haircuts. The Autism Alliance and the Division of Autism will be covering the cost.

If you are interested please call Autism Alliance at 508-652-9900.

## Hospitality Homes

Here's a great way to make a difference and get an enriching experience. Out-of-town patients receiving treatments at Boston's top-notch hospitals often need short term accommodations...a home to come home to. If you have a spare room, please consider Hospitality Homes, [www.hosp.org](http://www.hosp.org).



## Mason-Rice's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Mason-Rice Elementary School is celebrating its 50th Birthday from 1–4 p.m. on Saturday, May 1st 2010 (rain date May 2nd). Current and former families, alumni, faculty and community members are all welcome to help us celebrate! There will be children's games, great food, live music, a chorus production, tours of the building, and ceremonial cutting of the cake and presentations by Principal Mark Springer.

For more information on the 50th birthday, email [MasonRice50@gmail.com](mailto:MasonRice50@gmail.com). Go to Facebook at Mason Rice 50th to see who are getting reconnected, post old pictures, and read what other alumni remember about Mason-Rice.

## Mother's Day Walk for Peace

Every year, thousands of people from across the state gather for the annual 3.6 miles Mother's Day Walk for Peace. 'The Walk', held this year on Sunday May 9th, was started in 1996 by Tina Chery after her 14 year old son, Louis, was killed on his way to a "Youth Against Gang Violence" meeting near his Dorchester home. Funds raised from 'The Walk' go to The Louis D Brown Peace Institute to educate young people about the importance of peace and to provide crisis management and counseling to Boston families impacted by violence. For more information, visit

[www.louisbrownpeaceinstitute.org](http://www.louisbrownpeaceinstitute.org) or contact [JosieGreene49@comcast.net](mailto:JosieGreene49@comcast.net) or 617-513-0130.

## Newton Children's Cooperative Nursery School Fundraiser Concert

Get ready for some sing-along, dance-along, laugh-along family fun in this rockin' musical journey through classic kids' tales and original songs with Debbie and Friends ([www.debbieandfriends.net](http://www.debbieandfriends.net)). Parents and kids join in this interactive variety show.

Thursday, April 22, 2010 10:30 a.m.

Hyde Community Center, 90 Lincoln Street, Newton Highlands, MA 02461

\$6 in advance, \$8 at the door - children under 1 free.

Tickets available at Learning Express, Newton Centre starting Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. For ticket information, call 617-527-8539.

## Newton Community Education April Vacation Programs

April Vacation Programs with Newton Community Ed for all ages, from Babysitting Certification for older kids to programs for elementary and toddler kids. See what Newton Community Ed has to offer at:

[www.newtoncommunityed.org](http://www.newtoncommunityed.org) or call 617-559-6999.

## Newton Schools Foundation Dinner

"Food and Wine for the Soul --- Technology for the Schools"

Join special guests Mayor Setti Warren and Shelley Chamberlain, Newton Public Schools Director of Information Technology for a night of fabulous food and wine pairings and an impressive demonstration of new 21st century technology currently being used in our schools. All funds raised will support the Newton Schools Foundation's campaign to outfit every NPS classroom with 21st century tools in support of Newton's strategic goal of 21st century teaching and learning.

Friday, April 30, 7–9 p.m. at the Charles River Country Club

Ticket/donation: \$75 per person, 100% tax deductible.

Purchase tickets at: [http://www.newtonschoolsfoundation.org/news%20and%20events/2010/wineforsoul\\_dinner.html](http://www.newtonschoolsfoundation.org/news%20and%20events/2010/wineforsoul_dinner.html). Or contact Tori Filler at [tori\\_filler@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:tori_filler@newton.k12.ma.us) or 617-559-6120.

## Newton South DJs

Two Newton South Juniors have started a new DJ company specializing in Bar and Bat-Mitzvahs, Birthday and Sweet 16 Parties, Graduation Events, Family Functions, Holiday Parties and School Dances. The M&A DJ Company will bring to you a successful dance party or background music for any type of event. High quality professional equipment and an array of enjoyable music for all occasions. Prices start at \$300 per function. For booking information, contact Alex at [vwlyon@verizon.net](mailto:vwlyon@verizon.net) or 617-866-3871.

## NewtonPAC Meetings

100 Walnut St, Room 210, Newtonville, MA at 7:30 p.m. Light refreshments and networking begin at 7:15 p.m.

*Thursday, April 15:* Dr. Joseph Moldover will speak on Understanding Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing. What do the tests measure, and what do the results mean? The seminar is particularly intended for parents whose children undergo neuropsychological assessment to determine the presence of special learning needs. Dr. Moldover discusses the concepts and theories behind testing, different types of tests, understanding test results, and important questions to ask when your child participates in testing. Dr. Moldover is a developmental neuropsychologist specializing in the evaluation of children, adolescents and young adults.

*Thursday, May 6:* Academic Strategies in Newton High Schools: the Who, Why, When, Where, and How! — presentation by Ann Walker, Walter Lyons and staff...plus, vote for PAC Officers!



Wednesday, June 16: Awards and brainstorming for 2010-2011 year

For more information about the Newton PAC or to join our online discussion group, please email [info@newtonpac.org](mailto:info@newtonpac.org) or visit our website at [www.newtonpac.org](http://www.newtonpac.org).

## Pan Mass Challenge Kids/Teens Ride

Calling all kids to participate in the 5th annual PMC Newton/Needham/Brookline Bike Ride to benefit the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Jimmy Fund! The event takes place on Sunday May 23, from 12-4 p.m. at 180 Wells Office Park in Newton. Teens (13 years+) can ride in the 17-mile teen road ride, which starts promptly at 12:30 pm. Kids ride starts at 1 p.m. and kids can ride as long as they want on the office park course. Post party celebration includes refreshments, music, games, kids activities, an awesome raffle, and more! The minimum fundraising amount per rider is just \$50, but wouldn't it be great to raise additional donations? Build a team with friends, school or teammates, and make a long lasting difference in the fight against cancer.



Note: 12 year old sixth graders who are advanced, strong riders can participate in the Teen Ride at the discretion of their parents.

Take action today! To ride or volunteer, go to [kids.pmc.org/nnb](http://kids.pmc.org/nnb)

For information and volunteer opportunities, contact Jordana Alford ([jlalford@rcn.com](mailto:jlalford@rcn.com)), May Chiu ([mayfchiu@earthlink.net](mailto:mayfchiu@earthlink.net)), or Jane Quinn ([janequinn419@gmail.com](mailto:janequinn419@gmail.com)).

## Pet Sitting

Pierce Elementary School Family provides pet sitting. While you are on business trips, vacations, day outings, etc. give your dog a fun time too! Your puppy/dog will be well cared for while you are away. Your pet will be fed, walked, pampered, played with – in short, will be having fun! Two Pierce School Family kids, age 17 and 10, with experience with their own family dogs, look forward to taking care of your dog while you are away. They have been providing this service for the last few years and it works very well for the animals and the kids. Only one or

two dogs will be taken care of at a time. Reasonable rates. References provided. Contact: [EMagids@aol.com](mailto:EMagids@aol.com) or 617-527-6654

## Relay for Life

Now is the time to organize a team to benefit the American Cancer Society. The Newton-Brookline Relay this year will take place at Forte Park in Nonantum on May 22nd and 23rd. For more information or to register:

[http://main.acevents.org/site/TR?pg=entry&fr\\_id=23334](http://main.acevents.org/site/TR?pg=entry&fr_id=23334)

## Sensory Friendly Films

AMC Framingham 15 offers sensory-friendly films to families affected by autism, ADHD and other sensory-related concerns.

The program provides a special opportunity for families to enjoy their favorite films in a safe and accepting environment. The auditoriums dedicated to the program have their lights up and the sound turned down. Audience members are invited to get up and dance, walk, shout or sing!

We are so proud to be making a difference in the estimated 1.5 million

Americans living with an autism spectrum disorder by offering families a

chance to see a movie together - often for the very first time.

<http://www.autism-society.org/site/PageServer?pagename=sensoryfilms>

Upcoming Sensory-Friendly showings include:

May 22 - Shrek 4

June 26 - Toy Story 3+

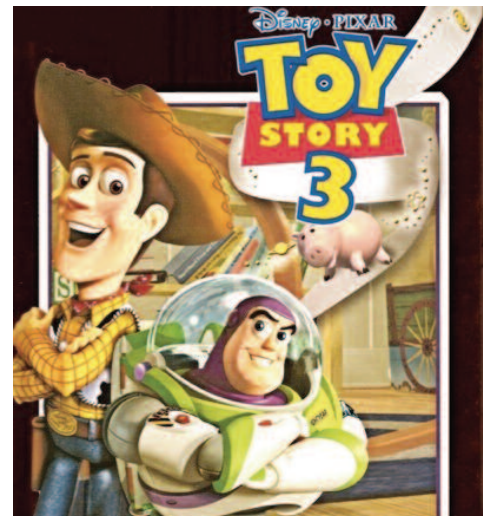
July 17 - Despicable Me

August 7 - Cats & Dogs 2

September 25 - Guardians of GaiHoole

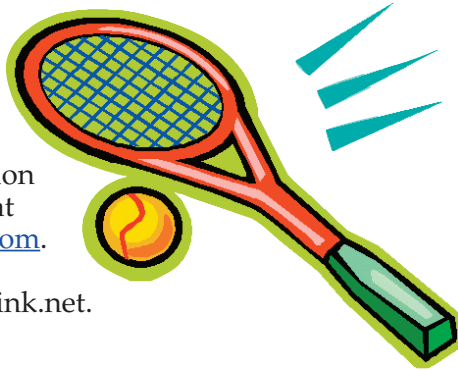
October 9 -The Zookeeper

AMC Framingham  
15. 22 Flutie Pass,  
Framingham, MA  
01701. 508-628-4404.



## Spring into Tennis

Registration is open for the Spring 2010 Tennis program. Clinics are available for kids and adults of all ages and levels. Classes are offered a.m. and p.m., weekdays and/or weekends. Some clinics begin the end of April and others, the beginning of May. For more information and to download a registration form, please visit us at [www.newtontennis.com](http://www.newtontennis.com). Questions? Email [newtontennis@earthlink.net](mailto:newtontennis@earthlink.net).



## Sunday School for Jewish Studies

The Sunday School for Jewish Studies is now accepting registrations for grades K-7 for the 2010-2011 school year. The Sunday School is an independent school offering a once-a-week program for children in the greater Boston area for over 40 years. Located at the Oak Hill School in Newton, our school is committed to providing a Jewish education that fosters a strong sense of Jewish identity for children and families with diverse traditions of Jewish observance. Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation is available but not required, and students may enter in any grade. Interfaith and nontraditional families are welcome. For additional information, please visit our website at [www.sundayschoolforjewishstudies.org](http://www.sundayschoolforjewishstudies.org) or call 617-264-8855.

## Summer Programs for Children at the Newton Cultural Center

Art and Music programs for children, with and without a caregiver for the summer

at the Newton Cultural Center, 225 Nevada Street, Newton.

### *Time for Partners*

For children ages 18 months to 4 years, with an adult.

Choose Mondays–Thursdays, 9:30–11:15 am

June 28–August 5

Music and art every day.

Mondays, \$100; Tuesdays–Thursdays, \$120

### *Summer Swing*

A drop-off program for children ages 3 to 6

June 2 –August 5, 9 a.m.–noon

2, 3 and 4-day options available

One hour lunch bunch available \$10 per day.

Art, music and creative movement program with different themes each week.

2-day, \$465; 3-day, \$665; 4-day, \$865

Call 617-527-8283 to register, or visit [www.newtonculturalcenter.org](http://www.newtonculturalcenter.org) for more information.

