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Audubon School Newsletter

November 5th Issue

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Note: all photos included are of Audubon students, staff, families, extended community and physical grounds.

We welcome photo and content submissions from Audubon families and extended community by the 25th of each month for inclusion in following issue.

Upcoming Events/News

Report Card Pickup Day/SIPAAA Survey for ALL Audubon Parents—Nov 8th

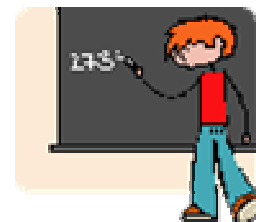
Don't forget to pick up your child's report card from their classrooms on Nov 8th. Doors open at noon. Parents can visit their children's rooms, speak one-on-one with teachers about their child and pick up report cards. Teachers take a break from 3-3:45, during which report cards can not be picked up and conferences will not be held. From 3:45-6pm report card pickup will recommence. Parents are encouraged to come early to avoid the 5pm rush. Report cards are picked up in person for the 1st and 3rd quarters of the academic year, but are sent home with children for the second and fourth quarters. Report cards not picked up on report card pick-up day will be available in the office the following day, but conferences with teachers will then have to be scheduled individually. Please go to the office and request a Spanish-speaking translator if you need one. **ALSO! At report card day, Audubon is looking for help from EVERY Audubon parent, in the form of completing a SIPAAA (School Improvement Planning to Advance Academic Achievement) survey.** Parents can do this online in the school's media lab or receive a hard copy from their child's teacher. This survey MUST be completed on report card pickup day. All completed surveys will be entered in a raffle to win fun prizes.

LRE Meeting—First Week in November (TBA)

Audubon's LRE committee (Least Restrictive Environment), is planning "Unique Week: We all Think Differently", for the first week in December. Their next meeting will be the first week in November. Please email LRE Committee Chairperson and Audubon parent Mary Kurczak at kurfam4@comcast.net, if you're interested in attending a meeting or receiving meeting minutes. Meetings take place in the Audubon Community Room. Audubon's LRE committee works to support children with differing abilities and help their integration into the general education classroom, an initiative which enriches and supports the entire school community.

Family Math Night—November 15th

Family Math Night will be held on Thursday, November 15th from 5:30-7pm. Come join families of K-5th graders in the community room and cafeteria to learn ways to promote learning math and make math fun! Thank you to the Audubon staff who comprise the Math/Science Committee: Ms. Chan, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Valenzuela, Ms. Tuck, and Mr. Urgel.



Classroom Painting—November 17th

Audubon needs all of its classrooms painted. In order to do this, the school is organizing a schoolwide classroom paint date, November 17th, with both morning and afternoon shifts. This will be arranged by room parents, who will gather 6-10 **parent volunteers from the classroom and donations of approximately \$350 per classroom** for painting supplies and materials. On the morning of the 17th, all supplies will be ready in the rooms, and there will be refreshments. If you'd like to help, but don't know who your room parents are, please email

stephanietaiber@sbcglobal.net. **If you are a room parent** and would like to start working on this but need help getting started, please reply to this email. Child care will be provided. More info to come.

Local School Council Meeting—November 27th (COMMUNITY WELCOME)

6:30 Audubon Community Room. Find out what's happening at Audubon. Public input welcome. The LSC is comprised of the Principal, several teachers, parents and community members. Audubon's Local School Council still has an **opening for one community representative**. If interested in this position, contact Audubon Principal John Price at 773-535-5470 or LSC Chairperson Linda McBride at mcbridelk@aol.com.

Kitsch'n Dinner Fundraiser—November 28th

On November 28th, Audubon School Families can come share the retro vibe as they raise funds for rising psychedelic minds! Kitsch'n on Roscoe (2005 W. Roscoe) will donate 50% of the food & beverage dinner revenues from this event to Friends of Audubon School. Simply call the restaurant at (773) 248-7372, identify yourself as an Audubon family and make a reservation at a time that is best for your family. You can make a reservation beginning as early as 4:30pm that day or any 15-minute increment after that. A special menu of scrumptious dishes and kids' entrees will be available. Thank you Audubon Parents and Kitsch'n Owners John Young and Helene Albert for your fun accommodations and providing the opportunity for a great community-building and fundraising event.



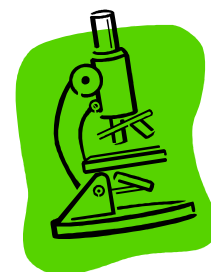
PGA Masters Ticket Online Auction Kick Off—November 28th (COMMUNITY WELCOME)

Golf lovers, come one, come all! On October 28th at the Kitsch'n on Roscoe Fundraiser, Audubon will kick off an online auction for an AMAZING 2008 PGA Masters Golf Package, generously donated by Audubon Parent Alex Pramenko of VIP Sports Marketing (www.vipsm.com). The package includes a pair of VIP tickets to the final two rounds of the 2008 Masters Golf Championship in Augusta, Georgia April 12th and 13th, 2008. These tickets include entrance both days to Augusta National Golf Club and all-day use of the company's VIP Corporate Village located directly across from the Main Pedestrian Entrance to Augusta National Golf Club. The Corporate Village is a two-story pavilion with a 2nd floor outdoor sundeck and a lounge complete with couches and TVs. Also included is Continental Breakfast, Gourmet Lunch and Afternoon Buffet, Top-Shelf Open Bar, Official Masters Programs and pairing sheets, and daily Masters Souvenirs. You'll soon be able to view

more details of the package at an online auction link, but bids will not be accepted until November 28th. The package has been valued at \$10,000, but the minimum bid value will be set below that. When the auction goes live, please consider the golf enthusiast in yourself or your loved ones and pass the link (TBA) on to friends, family and professional colleagues who are also golf enthusiasts.

Annual Science Fair—November 30th (COMMUNITY WELCOME)

Join us November 30th, 9am-11:30 am, as Audubon 6th-8th graders exhibit their scientific expertise at the annual Audubon Science Fair. Projects will be displayed in the second floor hallway and in some 2nd floor classrooms. Judging will begin at 8:45am just prior to opening up the Fair to the public at 9. Upon visiting, please sign in in the school office and then follow the signs to the Science Fair on the second floor. We're looking for up to 50 parent judges to assist on this day. No serious scientific expertise required. There will be a continental breakfast for judges at 8am, then Fair organizers will review the rubric with the judges, and then judging will begin at 8:45am and last until 11:30am. If you're interested in serving as a judge, please complete either of the attached judge documents and email it to assistant principal Greg Zurawski at gazurawski@cps.edu, or drop it off in the front office. Judges do not need to be available the entire time, but they should list their time restraints on the form so that we know how many projects we should assign them to judge. We would really like to encourage our Pre-K - 5th grade parents to participate as judges, as it is the upper grade students (grades 6-8) who are competing in the Fair, and it is not ideal to have parents judging their own kids.



Barnes & Noble Book Fair Fundraiser—December 8th (COMMUNITY WELCOME)

Save your holiday book shopping for December 8th, when you can join Audubon families and friends at Barnes & Noble, 1441 Webster, for a special day to benefit Audubon. For all customers who make a purchase on this day, 9am-11pm, and show an Audubon voucher (attached to this email) at the register, Barnes & Noble will contribute a percentage of net sales directly to Audubon. We also encourage you to give a voucher to your neighbors, family, and friends, as anyone can present a voucher and earn money for Audubon. However, vouchers will not be available that day AT the store. At the store, there will be fun activities and entertainment for the whole family, including arts & crafts, Musical Magic, Reading Time with Reading Buddies, Story time with several special guest readers, Puppet Show with Kate Thomas, Story time and Book Signing with G. Riley Mills (author of Sawdust and Spangles), Zephyr Dance Company and Story time and Book Signing with Jane Kurtz. Don't miss the fun! Thanks to Audubon Parent Ellen Ericson for her very hard work on arranging this great fundraiser!



High School Open Houses—Various Dates

8th graders, 7th graders, 6th graders—It's never too early to start thinking about high schools! Touring high schools is not only a great way to get a snapshot of a high school you might be interested in attending, but also for learning the differences between high school and middle school in order to be more prepared academically and socially. If you're interested in a high school not listed below, please contact the school in which you're interested in order to find out about Open House. If you have any questions about admission to these or other high schools, please email Audubon's guidance counselor, Ms. Rebecca, at karebecca@cps.k12.il.us, who is available every day at school to answer questions. The below list is NOT comprehensive. Also the following link is a new resource for some of our neighborhood high schools, including a downloadable high school application. <http://aldertrack.typepad.com/hsapplications>.

Date & Time	School	Phone number
Nov 2 nd 6-8	Guerin Prep	708-453-6233
Nov 2 nd 8:45, 10, 11:15	Von Steuben	534-5100
Nov 4 th 1-4	Northside College Prep	534-3954
Nov 10 th 10-1	Holy Trinity	278-4212
Nov 11 th 12-3	Gordon Tech	423-5014
Nov 17 th 9-11	Uplift	534-2875
Nov 18 th 12-3	Lane	534-5400
Nov 29 th 6-8	Gordon Tech	423-5014
Nov 29 th 6-8	Guerin Prep	708-453-6233

Dec 5 th 6:00	Chicago Academy	534-0146
Dec 7 th 6-8	Prosser	534-3200
Feb 7 th 6:00	Chicago Academy	534-0146

Recent Events/News

Parents and Teachers Night Out—October 16th

Thank you to all of the Audubon Parents and Teachers who joined us at Riverview Tavern for our Parent-Teacher Mixer! It was fun to get to know new parents and new teachers.

Cubs Great Ryne Sandberg at Audubon—October 26th (COMMUNITY WELCOME)

Many Audubon and neighborhood families had a brush with greatness last Friday, when they came out and met with Cubs Hall of Famer Ryne Sandberg on the Audubon Playground. Sandberg was in the neighborhood promoting RCN internet, cable and phone services. He also made appearances at several other locations around the neighborhood, including Mulligans and Volo, before setting out to “reverse trick-or-treat” on several blocks in Roscoe Village, knocking on doors and giving out candy.



RVN Halloween Party at Audubon—October 27th (COMMUNITY WELCOME)

Thank you Audubon teachers and families for coming out to the Roscoe Village Neighbors Halloween Party at Audubon last Saturday. Following a neighborhood parade along Roscoe, approximately 300 families enjoyed pizza, sandwiches and cookies, donated by Robey's, Piazza Bella, Costello's, Rudy's, Pete's Pizza and Jimmy John's, and also beverages donated by Pepsi, through the help of Roscoe Village resident Steve McCrystal. Teachers also came out in greater numbers than ever to lead activities and crafts, games and songs. What a great community event! Thank you RVN for your very hard work in putting together this fun Halloween day! (*Fabric Ghosts at left with Ms. Whitney and Ms.*



Nicholson, and Glitter Spider Webs at right with Ms. Kamil and Ms. Harbottle were among the activities.)



Principal for a Day—October 30th

On Oct 30, Chicago Public Schools held its annual Principal for a Day (PFAD) Program. As part of this program, Audubon was fortunate to welcome five Principals for a Day, including Com-Ed Representative Mrs. Paula Conrad, UNISYS Corporation Representatives Mr. Nathan Paige and Mr. Claudio Boyks, Cabrera Capital Markets Representative Mr. Brian King and GreatBanc Representative Mr. Vaughn Gordy. These special guests took a tour of the school, visited classrooms, met teachers and administration, all in an effort to learn what makes Audubon such a vibrant community and an excellent academic institution, and in some cases to explore partnership opportunities. Thank you to the entire Audubon staff and students for welcoming the guests into the classrooms and exhibiting the school's “Commitment to Learning”.

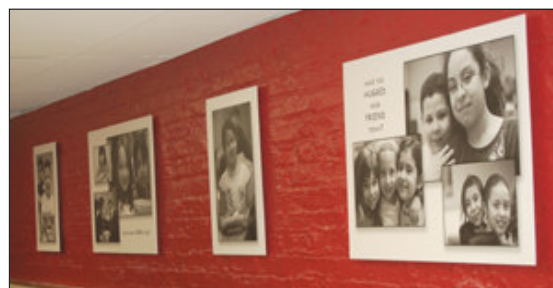
Education on Education—November 1st (COMMUNITY WELCOME)

Thanks to the dozens of neighborhood families who attended the 6th Education on Education seminar, produced by the Roscoe Village Education Coalition designed to give local families as many answers as possible about public school education in the neighborhood. This time the event was hosted by Jahn School (3149 N. Wolcott), and families considering both Audubon and Jahn Schools were able to ask questions about curriculum, educational philosophies, class size, preschool programs, after school programs and more. Staff from both schools were on hand to answer questions, including Audubon and Jahn principals, assistant principals and several teachers. Thanks also to 32nd Ward Alderman Scott Waguespack for his opening presentation about the value and successes of our neighborhood schools. Thank you to Jahn School for hosting and to Roscoe Village Education Coalition for your hard work on this event.

Additional Announcements

Lunchroom Photo Mural

If you have not stopped into the lunchroom to see the fantastic new photo project that adorns the walls, please do so. This is a wonderful display of our student community, the camaraderie, lunchroom socializing and general school atmosphere that is such a meaningful part of our children's daily experience at Audubon. Thank you to Audubon Parent Stephanie Taiber for her countless hours assembling this unique and beautiful artistic display. Thanks also to local professional photographers Scott Shigley and Naveena Valley, who donated their services, and to local Formato Printing, who donated a portion of the printing services.



8th Grade Trip

Maria LaGrimas, mother of an Audubon 8th grader would like to host a discussion with other 8th grade parents about the 8th grade trip. If you would like to join her, please email her at lagrmary@cs.com.



Audubon Around the World Bulletin Board

By now, you may have seen the "Audubon Around the World" bulletin board in the hallway outside the office. The board celebrates and encourages our students' love for geography and travel. Photos of Audubon students wearing Audubon gear may be submitted on an ongoing basis to update this board. You can email your digital photos to Michele.owens@gmail.com or bring prints into the office and put them in the APTP mail slot. Thank you to Audubon Parents Michele Owens, Sherri Tonzzi and Laura Engel who created this fun display.

Reading Buddy Program

Did you know that Audubon has a great Reading Buddy Program, which pairs 5th graders with Preschoolers? Once a week, the older students are modeling reading and the enjoyment of reading for our newest literature lovers.

Professional Resource Room Needs Volunteers

Audubon is looking for a few parent volunteers to help prepare the professional resource room for use. This would involve inventorying and creating a spreadsheet of books available for check-out, and also receiving and preparing new books for check-out. This could be a project that is done during school time or after school, and is something that could be done an hour at a time. If you're interested, please reply to this email. **Thanks also to neighborhood resident Tina Sullins** who donated 2 wonderfully comfortable leather arm chairs to make the professional resource room more accommodating for teachers doing work there.

Parent Volunteers Needed to Assist in Library

Media teacher Ms. Bowens has requested a parent volunteer (or two!) once or twice a week to assist her by straightening up the library and helping students check out books. Volunteers for library cleanup would be welcome anytime between 8am and 6pm. And volunteers for book check out would be welcome anytime between 8:15 and 1:30. If you are interested in helping out once a week, once a month, or even once a year, please speak with or email Ms. Bowens at rovershiner@cps.edu.



Target Card Program

As many of you know, Audubon participates in Target Corporation's Take Charge of Education program. When you get a Target Charge card and designate Audubon as your recipient school, Audubon receives a percentage of your Target Card purchases. There are currently 84 card holders who have designated Audubon as their school. In the last 6-month period, Audubon received \$361.27 from this program. With the holiday shopping season nearing, there has never been a better time to join. Go to www.target.com/tcoe for more information.

Mother Goose Story Time (COMMUNITY WELCOME)

For the last 5 years, Mother Goose Story Time, led by Audubon parent Kathy Argentar, has been meeting every other week on Thursday mornings in Audubon's community room. It is a wonderful gathering for neighborhood children, ages 3 and under, accompanied by parents and caregivers. After story time, children participate in a craft project and have a snack. This year, Audubon parent Caryn Hoffstedt will be leading the group. Please join us! If you are interested in reading on one of the following dates or leading a craft, please email Caryn at D2CHI@sbcglobal.net. The group meets from 9:30-10:15 on the following dates: 11/15, 11/29, 12/13. Mother Goose Story Time is funded by Audubon School.



Vote for Neighborhood's Hamlin Park to Win Makeover (COMMUNITY WELCOME)

Our neighborhood's Hamlin Park (Damen and Barry) is one of 14 Chicago Parks competing to win \$25,000 in improvements. Staples is teaming up with the Chicago Bears to provide \$25,000 for improvements to a Chicago Park District Park. Chicagoans can visit www.StaplesDreamPark.com between noon on Oct. 23, 2007 and Dec. 31, 2007 to vote for their area park. The park receiving the most votes will win \$25,000, the second-place park will win \$10,000 and the third-place park will receive \$5,000 to help with park improvements. The 11 remaining parks will each receive \$1,000. Voters will also be automatically entered into a drawing to meet Charles Tillman at Soldier Field for the announcement of the Dream Park Challenge with the Bears winner this winter. **Please go online and Vote for Hamlin Park!** We can do this!

Audubon School

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Audubon Parent Teacher Partnership

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The Audubon Parent Teacher Partnership Email Newsletter is sent, on an opt-in basis, to approximately 400 Audubon Families and community members, including current Audubon families, neighborhood families, LSC board members, local business supporters and staff. If you know of any parents or community members who are not receiving these emails but you think would like to, please reply to this email. Parents without access to email can pick up this newsletter in the school office and in the "Take One" box outside the school's Hoyne Avenue entrance. Please reply to this email if: 1) you are a parent or teacher with an item you'd like to be included in this e-newsletter, 2) you have any questions about the content within, or 3) you'd like to be removed from this email list.