

The Mustang Messenger

The newsletter for parents, students and teachers of Maple Road Elementary School

June 2009

Dear Maple Road Family,



This last issue of the “Mustang Messenger” finds us in the midst of our many year end activities. 2008-2009 has been an outstanding school year, due in no small part to the wonderful support of our incredible PTO. All of our special events

from assembly programs to TREPS to activity nights to the Book Fairs to the fantastic Sixth Grade Musical “Beauty and the Beast, Jr.” were supported by the PTO, so my primary message is an enormous “THANK YOU!” Quite simply, we couldn't do it without you! You're the best and I know it isn't easy to give so generously of your time, money, and talent to provide these enriching “extras” that add so much to our students' educational experience. I want to encourage all of my students (and their parents) to participate in our Summer Reading program. You have received the forms and suggested book lists to help guide your children's choices and there are prizes, certificates, and a new incentive program for students who complete and hand in their forms. Think of it as joining a “Mental Fitness Center.” Your children will be exercising their minds, stimulating their creativity, and being immersed in a refreshing “pool” of imaginative ideas, good writing techniques, and models of the English language that will hone their own writing skills as they absorb all that reading has to offer.

Our percentage of participants in Summer Reading has not increased in recent years, despite our offers of painting ourselves blue and gold, dying our hair, spending the day on the roof of the school, kissing pigs, and the like, so this year we plan to try something different. Several of the other buildings have been very successful by having a special party just for their Summer Readers. We are

thinking about an outdoor Pizza Party or an Ice Cream Social that will also include some games and activities. We will let you know the details before the end of school.

The end of the school year is always bittersweet for the teaching staff. As I've often said, there are very few careers where each year is marked by such specific beginnings and endings, except ours. Saying farewell to our Sixth graders, many of whom we have watched grow from adorable little five-year-olds into poised young ladies and gentlemen on the brink of adolescence, is especially difficult, even though we know they are ready to move on to middle school. Once the last bus has circled the driveway for the last time and the horns and shouted cheers have faded away, the school suddenly becomes very dark and quiet. Without the children, it's just a big, empty building that only comes alive when they are here. So, yes, we'll miss them -- and you, too! Have a safe, relaxing, healthy summer. Enjoy having your children home with you more. Thank you for sharing them with and entrusting them to all of us at Maple Road.

See you in September!

Warmest regards,
Faith Delaney
Principal

A Note from the PTO President

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I can't believe the end of the school year is already here....I don't know where the time has gone! As always, June brings to a close another wonderful year of activities and learning at Maple Road School. To put things into perspective, take one look at our kindergarten students and you can see how dramatically they have changed during the ten months they have been in school. These bright young boys and girls have come out of their shells and are ready for a full day of school next year. Our sixth graders, all of

whom have grown and matured, are ready to branch out to a new school and the rest of our students move along gracefully into another year of "soon to be memories" at Maple Road. As many of you know, I am going to be taking a step back from my position as PTO President. After having spent four years on the Executive Board, I will be happy, and a little relieved, to take on a less demanding role within our organization. The experience has, however, been a wonderful one. I am so grateful for the many PTO members who have offered their continued support and look forward to remaining quite involved, since I will be at Maple Road for another six years. Although my name was on many a list, without the parental support I received from all of you, our PTO would not be the wonderful organization it is today. Not that I want to single out anyone, however, a very special thank you to Kristin Simm for being my "side-kick" during this journey to keep Maple Road the best elementary school in the district. I know Kristin will do a wonderful job leading the PTO in her final two years at Maple Road. Thank you also to Karen Sajban, Patricia Porta and Kristin Nevin....it has been a pleasure volunteering with you. To all the Maple Road staff and families....have a wonderful, safe summer enjoying your children....see you next year!!

Elizabeth Crisafulli
PTO President

PTO Executive Board

- Elizabeth Crisafulli - President**
973-697-2462 - crisafullis@msn.com
- Kristin Simm - Vice President**
973-697-5695 - ksimm@optonline.net
- Karen Sajban - Treasurer**
973-208-0477 - ksajban@optonline.net
- Patricia Porta - Corresponding Secretary**
973-208-5863 - pmp1164@aol.com
- Kristin Nevin - Recording Secretary**
973-728-4433 - kristinbrowne@optonline.net

From the Treasurer

Attention Chair people, Committee members: Please submit all Expense Reports for 2008 - 2009 to Karen Sajban by July 15, 2009. The Fiscal End-of-Year is July 31, 2009 and all expenses must be recorded.

Please submit to the Treasurer's box in the office before June 19th or, mail to me at the address below, after June 19th!

Karen Sajban
5 Post Brook Rd. South
West Milford, NJ 07480

Call Karen @ 973-208-0477 or email: ksajban@optonline.net with any questions!

It has been a pleasure serving as Treasurer for Maple Road School for the past 4 years and as a PTO parent for the last 14!! Looking forward to 1 more year at Maple Road and wish all a great summer! Best wishes to next year's Executive Board.

Karen Sajban, PTO Treasurer

Media Center Message

By: Mrs. Mary Keyser

The new Maple Road School Media Center is the hub of activity. Every student has been actively involved in technology from first grade "My Favorite Color" Excel graphs to grade 6 "The Olympian Gods" Publisher brochures, The kindergarteners have been practicing logging on to the computers and going on to starfall.com on the Internet Congratulations to the fourth graders who have completed the learning.com program.

The Maple Road School media center web page can be found at http://www.wmtps.org/maple/inmr/media_center.htm and has a place especially for parents which includes links to the best children's books of the year and James

Patterson's "Readkiddoread.com."
<http://www.readkiddoread.com/home>

Summer reading is just around the corner! The 2009 summer reading recommended lists were sent home but can also be found on the Maple Road School web site at <http://www.wmtps.org/maple/inmr/index.htm>.

Thank you Mrs. Rodums and the Student Council for your generous book donations from the book fair. Remember the best way to become a better reader is to READ, READ, READ!

Spring Photos

Spring photos went home on Thursday May 21st. All monies and/or unwanted photos should be sent back to school ASAP. If you have any questions please contact Sharon Rodums at srodums@optonline.net

Remember, a portion of your purchase price goes to the Maple Road PTO to help fund activities for the students!

Thank You Maple Road

As the school year draws to a close we have been reflecting on all that our family has been through since this time last year. Although it was a difficult year, things are definitely looking up and we have certainly learned how many incredible friends we have. Thank you so much to our extended family at Maple Road. Students, parents and teachers alike have been extremely kind and giving to us and we are so grateful. The delicious meals that were lovingly prepared and delivered made such a huge difference especially to our children (they didn't have to survive on a constant diet of macs and cheese!) The help with rides to activities and playdates, the babysitting and the overall support given to us was unbelievable. Thank you so much for reaching out to us with cards, prayers and words of support. We will never forget your generosity and kindness.

God bless you and your families- have a safe and wonderful summer!

Kristin and Joe Nevin

Polcari's Prescription

By Mrs. Eileen Polcari

Talking To Children About Swine Flu (H1N1)

Concern over Swine Flu can make children and parents anxious. Acknowledging some level of concern, without panicking, is appropriate and can result in people taking actions that reduce the risk of illness. Helping children cope with anxiety regarding the flu requires providing prevention information without causing alarm. Teaching positive preventive measures, talking with them about their fears, and giving them a sense of control over their risk of infection can help reduce anxiety.

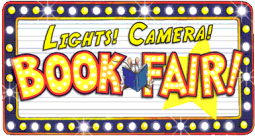
Toward that end, these specific guidelines are offered.

1. Remain calm and reassuring. Children will react to your verbal and nonverbal cues.
2. Make yourself available. Your children may need extra attention from you and want to talk more about their concerns.
3. Know the symptoms of swine flu. Symptoms include fever, sore throat, and cough. Some people have a runny nose, fatigue, body aches, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.
4. Review basic hygiene practices. Good hygiene includes frequent hand washing, covering mouths with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and not sharing food or drinks.
5. Be honest and accurate.
6. Monitor television viewing. Constantly watching updates on the status of the flu can increase anxiety.
7. Communicate with your school. Let your school know if your child is sick and keep them home.

Early elementary school children need brief, simple information that should balance Swine flu facts with appropriate reassurances that their schools are safe and adults are there to help keep them healthy. Upper elementary

and early middle school children will be more vocal in asking questions. They may need assistance in separating reality from fantasy. Discuss efforts of school and community leaders to prevent germs from spreading.

Spring Book Fair



The Scholastic Spring Book Fair was held the week of May 18th. I'd like to thank the many volunteers who helped make this event such a success: Barbara Tartarilla, Mary Hall, Laura Lauritano, Lori Germano, Gail Graf, Lorraine Slifer, Regan Fagan, Lulu DeBlock, Julia Hammell, Lynn Noble, Darleen Maurer, Dawn Janecek, Pat Gangi, Tina Cipriano, Jennifer Weiss, Debbie Fernbacher, and Sally Goldberg. I'd also like to thank Barbara Edwards for her wisdom and guidance, her support and encouragement helped tremendously.

During the book fair we will hosted a fundraiser called "One for Books". I'd like to thank Mr. & Mrs. Loonkar for their generous donation that enabled us to give away many books to those who were in need.

VotEd Spring '09

VotEd occurred this Spring and the students have spoken!! The school budget for the 2009-2010 year was APPROVED, the 3 winning candidates for the West Milford Board of Education were JOHN AIELLO, GREGORY BARBER and BARBARA CARTER, 175th Anniversary look for the WM Bear will be as a COWBOY for the "Maple Road Mustang" mascot and any extra money would go an ANIMAL SHELTER.

Many thanks to the parents who helped make this all possible: Jennifer McIntyre, Kathy DeAngelis, Dawn Janecek, Sharon Rodums and Jennifer Weiss. It is great for the children to see that their sentiments matter.

News from the Land of Literacy

By: Rosemary Rescigno

Battle of the Books Competition 2009



Early June brought the annual Battle of the Books Competition to Maple Road School. Thanks to a grant from the West Milford Education Foundation, the third and fourth grade students, under the advisement of the Reading Specialist, Mrs. R. Rescigno, participated in a motivating reading incentive program called Battle of the Books. In 2008-2009, 32 third and fourth graders volunteered to read 15 novels as part of a reading team. Seven teams were formed and the members elected a Captain. Over a period of several months, the teams divided the titles up among their members and read and created practice questions. Team 1 consisted of third graders, Delia VanWart – Captain, Michael Haggerty, Lauren LiVigne, Nicholas Gangi, and Sarah D'Urbano. Making up Team 2 were third graders John Jacobs – Captain, Jacob Russell, Audrey Leibig, Megan Hubbard, and Joe Levine. Third graders Kayla Yuhas – Captain, George Buntzen, Christian Kubelle, and Taylor Hughes competed as Team 3. Team 4 consisted of fourth graders Samantha Batavia – Captain and Craig Todd, and third graders Madison McIntyre, Stefanie Batavia, and William Granata. Alex Metcalf – Captain, Gavin Burns, Jeremy Noble, and Ryan Pych

are third graders on Team 5. Team 6 was an all-Fourth Grade team with Noah Rodums – Captain, Hana Salvacion, Kaitlyn Locantore, Jarod Acanfrio, and Alexei Masanko. Finally, Team 7 filled with fourth graders had Lukas Graf – Captain, Danielle Homer, Jordan Schmidt, and Antoni Seredyniecki.

The Semi-Final Battle occurred on Thursday, June 4, 2009. After the obligatory 10 Rounds of competition Teams 2 and 7 were named the Finalists after accumulating the greatest number of points.

On June 11, 2009, the Final Battle was waged in the all-purpose room. Mrs. Corsaro, Mrs. Maglio, Mrs. Delaney, and Mrs. Rescigno acted as timekeeper, scorekeeper, judge, and questioner respectively. After a grueling competition Team 7 reigned victorious and the members were each awarded a distinguished trophy. Both the victors and the runners-up received ribboned medallions. All in attendance were greatly impressed by the performances, competitive spirit, and good sportsmanship of the contenders. Great job, Readers!

Classroom Clips

What's going on in your child's classroom

Kindergarten

Mrs. Melissa Varian

It is hard to believe that our school year has almost come to an end. In the remaining few weeks, we will be reviewing our high frequency words and word families. We will also read some fun summer stories and complete journal writing.

In Math, we will continue to focus on subtracting strategies and counting by fives and tens using a hundreds chart.

Students will continue to study the country of Japan through art, technology, and literature. We will also review the importance of summer safety.

Students will receive a summer review packet of different skills to practice. This packet is optional, but encouraged. Please review letters and letter sounds, high frequency words, and word families with your child. Also, please

continue to focus on number recognition and writing numbers throughout the summer. It is important to keep reinforcing these skills. Finally, read with your child each day and review a little bit each day making it a part of your summer routine

I want to thank everyone for a wonderful school year and I hope that you have a safe and happy summer!

1st Grade

Mrs. Melissa Albro, Miss Tina Periera

First Grade finished up the Reading theme: Special Friends. We read about people and animals that made new friends. We have been working on many phonics skills and strengthening reading comprehension. In Reading-Writing Workshop the children learned to write a friendly letter.

In math we completed a chapter on counting money. The children used coins to practice counting up to \$1.00. They started a chapter on measurement. They will use inches, centimeters and feet to measure objects.

We have a lot of fun end of the year activities planned. The children got to experience what second grade will be like on Moving Up Day. We had fun blowing bubbles on Bubble Day and worked as a team on Field day. We will have our end of the year party the last week and celebrate a successful year in first grade! Have a great summer!

2nd Grade

Ms. Jamie Hollick, Miss Danielle Pearce

June already? Where does the time go? Second graders are as busy as ever this month. We are in our last reading theme "Talent Show" where we are enjoying stories about very talented boys and girls. Children are also writing personal narratives about their own unique experiences. In math, students are working with numbers to 1,000 and brushing up on basic math facts. In science children are learning about dinosaurs and changes over time. Please be sure to encourage your children to participate in our "Summer Reading" program. Have a wonderful summer!

3rd Grade

Mrs. Debra Redding, Mrs. Kristen Rosimini

In Reading/Language Arts, the third graders have been reading stories in their last theme, which is entitled "What a Day!" In this theme, they are also writing a persuasive essay during their Reading/Writing Workshop.

In Math, the students are learning how to multiply and divide greater numbers. They are learning different strategies that will enable them to do this. They will continue practicing their basic multiplication facts to make this process a little easier.

In Science, third grade just finished learning about plants and the water cycle. Mr. Ed came in and planted mammoth sunflower seeds with our classes! This was so much fun!

The third graders can't believe that this school year is coming to an end so quickly! They have had so many good times, and they have created so many wonderful memories that they will take with them throughout their lives.

Mrs. Rosimini and Mrs. Redding just wanted to wish all the third graders good luck in the fourth grade! We are very proud of you! Have a great summer!

4th Grade

Mrs. Jill Bond, Mrs. Jennifer Higgins

Our little pirates have been working so hard getting ready for their performances! We are looking forward to Hobby Day; it is always so much fun to see each other's talents and unique interests.

This has truly been a productive and interesting year in your child's education. We have enjoyed the part we have played in contributing new ideas and experiences. Your child's eagerness and willingness to learn is a reflection of the importance you place on education. We are so proud of the progress our students have made. Have a wonderful summer!

5th Grade

Miss Tricia Kane, Mr. Justin Runne

In fifth grade, we recently started a new Language Arts Theme entitled, "Do you Believe This??" During this theme, we will learn how sometimes there's a fine line between the real and the unbelievable. "Do you believe" that we are in our last month of school?! Time flies when you're having fun. We enjoyed creating advertisements for the Talent Show in the first story, *La Bamba*. We will be writing Newspaper Articles summarizing the exciting story, *Willie Bea and the Time the Martians Landed*. This month, we also wrote essays persuading the U.S. Postal Service to honor our nominee on a postage stamp.

In Miss Kane's Social Studies class, students learned all about the Revolutionary War. The created "Historical Markers" explaining the reasons why the Continental Army defeated the British. They learned about drafting our country's government, through the Constitution. We are currently learning about the rights guaranteed to United States citizens by the Bill of Rights.

In Mr. Runne's Science class, the students have just begun Module E. In this module, students will learn about electricity, magnetism, and solar energy. The concepts learned will be applied to create a solar oven.

We enjoyed learning all about Fractions in Mathematics. Now, we are able to multiply and divide fractions. We learned a song and dance to help us divide fractions—"Change the sign and flip the fraction." We are reviewing measurement in Chapter 9.

We hope you all have a safe and happy summer! Don't forget to read ☺

6th Grade

Mr. Thomas Antonucci, Mrs. Marianne Goerig

Well!?!? What a year! The Pittsburgh Steelers won their sixth Super Bowl and Beauty and the Beast Jr. was a success. Best of Luck next year to all of Maple Road School 6th graders attending Macopin in September of '09. I hope to see all of you who will be attending West Milford High School walk at

your High School Graduation in 2015! Enjoy your summer!

6G is busily finishing up the year. In reading we are enjoying the novel, "The House of Dies Drear." We are also studying the intriguing Greek gods and goddesses as well as the ancient Greek myths.

R.E.A.L graduation is coming up. It has been a great program with Officer Anthony. We are also looking forward to our sixth grade promotion ceremony. This has been a fantastic year with a wonderful group of students. May they all be part of a great Macopin experience!

6th Grade Drama Club

Wow!! What a fantastic job our cast and crew did—each time they performed the show, they improved. Everyone that I have spoken to was so impressed by the caliber of the performances, the polished look and feel of the play, and the expertise of our stage crew. You are all to be commended; you made us very proud!

I want to especially thank our parent volunteers. Our talented set design crew made a fabulous, beautiful set that only enhanced the performances. Our stage extension crew were efficient in assembling and disassembling the extension. And, how about our kids who worked on the stage for less than a week prior to opening?? Amazing! And, what about those costumes? Thank you to Suzanne Mertrud for hunting down those great costumes for our cast.

Our front stage crew parents—Darlene Maurer and Elizabeth Crisafulli—thank you for assisting the stage crew. Thanks also to Elizabeth and Tony Crisafulli for doing such a great job on the ticket design and ticket sales and I loved the red velvet rope! Perfect! A special thank you to my backstage crew—Sharon Rodums, Mary Hall, Anne Jensen, Diane Campanello, Josephine Galioto, Lisa Curran and Tim Foley—all those headaches were worth it, right?? Sharon and Mary,

thank you for attending all those practices. You really went above and beyond! Thank you to Kevin Hall for providing such a professional looking program! Thank you to Diane Campanello for providing us with a beautiful website and updated play information! Thank you to Terry Kovach for our great flyers! Thank you to Mindy Bottner for handling our Boosters!

Our lobby was buzzing with our Concessions, T-Shirts and Candy Grams. Thank you to Krista Yuhas, Donna Scott, Lisa Curran and Suzanne Mertrud for womanning the Concessions and T-shirts. Thank you to Jill Michel, her daughter, Taylor, and Susan Clark, our Candygram team!! A special thank you to Dawn Smith, Belle's personal stylist. Like Sara said, you made her the Belle of the Ball!

And thank you to our Cast Party duo of April Provenzano and Laura Dota. I understand the kids had a blast!

Last, but certainly not least, thank you to Nick Resavy, our microphone wrangler, chandelier mover and overall mood-lightener! Thank you to Mr. Runne, you make a great banana!

Thank you to our very own Beauty and The Beast, Ms. Kane and Mr. A. Mr. A, whose bark is definitely worse than his bite, thank you for your vision, commitment and talent. In my humble opinion, this was your best show to date. You deserve every accolade for the polished look of the play and the pitch-perfect casting! To Ms. Kane, who was able to make the Beast into a Prince, thank you for your choreography, patience and commitment. You were a great cheerleader and really got the cast excited to perform!! If I have forgotten anyone, I am truly sorry but please know that your contribution was appreciated; it is just a lot for me to remember! Sherry

Cultural Arts

Wow, another year completed and boy did we have some FUN assemblies! Rounding out the end of the year, we will have the Hot Air Balloon demonstration (which hopefully we will have good weather for!) and our final assembly of the year will be the Stunk bike group called "Free Cycle" (good weather would be a plus for that program too!) I hope everyone enjoyed all the great shows we were able to bring to Maple Road this year. We will be planning out next year shortly so PLEASE give any feedback/suggestions that you may have. Some of us have friends and relatives in other schools and other districts...if any of them have good recommendations for shows, we'd LOVE to hear of them.

My final note for Cultural Arts is we are looking for a Co-Chair for next year. Our responsibilities include coordination, payment and (the most fun) attending the shows. If anyone is interested in Co-Chair for next year, please let me know. If the Co-Chair likes the job, they can have it for the following year as my children will be departing Maple Road at the end of 2009-2010 year (sniff sniff...)

Any questions? Call me at 973-208-8181 or email at sjohnson@singletretech.com

Enjoy the Summer!

Suzanne Johnson

Maple Road School 2009-2010 School Supply List

Preschool:

- Large Book Bag (no wheels)
- Tissues – 2 boxes
- Waxed Paper
- Ziplock Bags (gallon/sandwich)
- Glue Sticks (6)

Kindergarten:

- Homework Folder
- Large Book Bag (Big enough to hold projects – NO WHEELS/SUITCASES)
- No additional supplies needed

MD-Masone:

- Crayons
- Highlighter
- Glue Stick
- Elmer's Glue
- Pencils
- Eraser
- Supply Box
- Speech Folder
- Homework Folder
- Tissues
- Baby Wipes
- Ziplock Bags (All Sizes)

Grade 1:

- (1) Glue Stick
- (2) Bottles White Glue
- (2) 1-Subject Notebooks
- (3) 2-Pocket Folders
- (2) Boxes Tissues
- Pencils
- Markers (optional)
- Scissors
- Soft Pencil Case (Pereira)
- Hard Plastic Case (Albro)
- Erasers
- Crayons
- (1) Box Wipes
- Highlighter
- Expo Marker

Grade 2:

- Pencils (throughout the year also)

- (1) Red Pen
- (3) Composition Books (black & white marble cover)
- (3) Bottom Pocket Folders
- Pencil Case - small
- Ruler (with inch & cm.)
- Crayons
- Scissors
- Glue
- Highlighter
- (2) Boxes Tissues
- (2) Boxes Wipes
- Glue Stick
- An old, clean sock
- An old, clean shirt (smock)

GRADE 3:

- (1) 5-Subject Notebook
- 1 1" Binder
- (4) Folders (with pockets at the bottom)
- Pencil Box
- (2) Boxes Tissues
- Crayons (colored pencils optional)
- Markers
- Scissors
- Glue/Glue Stick
- Highlighter
- Pencils
- (2) Erasers
- Red Erasable Pen
- (1) Black Sharpie (thin)
- 12" Ruler (with inch & cm.)
- (2) Black or Blue Erasable Pens
- (4) Expo Markers
- (1) Box Wipes

Grade 4:

- (2) 5-Subject Notebooks with folders (please label with child's name on cover)
- (2) 1-Inch 3-Ring Binders (No Trapper Keepers)
- (1) Folder
- 12 in/cm ruler
- Pencils and Erasers
- Pencil Sharpener (manual only)
- Pens – Blue, Black and Red
- Crayons
- Markers (both thin line and bold)
- Highlighters
- Glue Sticks
- Scotch Tape
- Tissues (please label with child's name)
- (1) Small Supply Box

Grade 5:

- (2) 5-Subject Notebooks (with pockets inside).
- Three (3) Double Pocket Folders
- White Board Markers & Eraser
- Pencils and Erasers
- Markers or Crayons
- Erasable Pens – Blue and Black
- (1) Small Pencil Box
- (1) Box Tissues
- (1) Red Pen
- (1) Black Sharpie
- Highlighters
- Scissors
- Glue or Glue Stick
- Ruler
- Index Cards
- Pencil Sharpener

Grade 6:

- (6) 1-Subject Notebooks
- (6) Folders
- Pencils & Sharpener
- Blue and Black Pens
- Colored Pencils
- Scissors
- (2) Boxes Tissues
- (1) 12" Ruler
- Markers (fine line)
- Glue Stick
- Clear Tape
- Wet Wipes

4th - 5th - 6th Grade Spanish

- (1) 1" 3-Ring Binder with Pockets
- Loose Leaf Paper

Resource Center (Jacobs/Maglio)

- (2) Box of Tissues

PLEASE REMEMBER TO LABEL
SUPPLIES WITH STUDENT'S NAME.

***Homework Planner
Assignment Book***

The Maple Road School PTO will be supplying each student in Grades 2,3,4,5, and 6 with a special Homework Book. This is free to our students. Please do not purchase one! Your support of the PTO fundraisers allows us to donate these.

Please try your best to get as many supplies as you can for the first day of school. You will be using many of these supplies the first day.



The Maple Road School PTO will be conducting a Book Sox Fundraiser the first week of school. A wide variety of new and exciting prints will be available to our students at a discounted rate.