

## Dates to Remember

<b>Tuesday, March 9</b>	<b><u>Early Release Day</u></b> Dismissal at 12:55 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, March 9</b>	<b><u>School Committee Budget Hearing</u></b> 6:00 p.m., Cambridge City Hall
<b>Wednesday, March 10</b>	<b><u>5/6 Ballroom Dancing Performances at CRLS, 7:00 p.m.</u></b>
<b>Thursday, March 11</b>	<b><u>1/2 Social Studies Gathering</u></b> 9:00-10:20 a.m., in the Gym 10:20-11:00, in the classrooms
<b>Tuesday, March 16</b>	<b><u>7/8 Students v. Faculty Basketball Game</u></b> 6:00-8:00 p.m., King/Amigos Gym 100 Putnam Ave., Dinner food for sale
<b>Wednesday, March 17</b>	<b><u>NO SCHOOL - Evacuation Day</u></b>
<b>Monday, March 22</b>	<b><u>Grades 5/6 MCAS ELA Test</u></b>
<b>Tuesday, March 23</b>	<b><u>Grades 4 and 7 MCAS ELA Test</u></b> Writing Compositions
<b>Tuesday, March 23</b>	<b><u>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Biogen (Group 4)</u></b>
<b>Tuesday, March 23</b>	<b><u>School Council Meeting</u></b> 6:30-8:30 p.m., Music Room
<b>Wednesday, March 24</b>	<b><u>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Biogen (Group 2)</u></b>
<b>Thursday, March 25</b>	<b><u>Grades 5/6 Play - Room 215</u></b> Room 215 Proudly Presents: <b>Divided Loyalties.</b> Show starts at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
<b>Friday, March 26</b>	<b><u>School and Extended Day Math Night and Dinner</u></b> 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, March 31</b>	<b><u>Grades 5/6 Play - Room 216</u></b>
<b>Thursday, April 1</b>	<b><u>7/8 Oratory Presentations</u></b> 6:30-8:30 p.m., in the classrooms
<b>Tuesday, April 13</b>	<b><u>Rooms 117, 118 &amp; 123 Trip to Children's Museum</u></b>
<b>Thursday, April 15</b>	<b><u>Grades 5/6 Play - Room 212</u></b>

### Ballroom Dancing Showcase

March 10, 2010 - 7:00 PM  
CRLS Gymnasium

The fifth and sixth graders at the Amigos, Kennedy-Longfellow, King, King Open, Morse and Tobin are pleased to announce that they will be showcasing their newly acquired Ballroom Dancing talents in a Showcase at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School Gymnasium on Wednesday, March 10, 2010. This event will also include lessons, provided by a professional instructor, for anyone interested in participating in the event.

Come watch or join in!  
Fun for all!

### An Announcement From Our Librarian

5/6 readers, the time has come...time to vote for the Massachusetts Children's Book Award! Your teacher will give you ballots on Monday, March 8. You must return your ballot and sign the voter's registry by Thursday, March 11. Ms. Jen will reveal the K.O. winner at a party - Friday, March 12, at 12:15. Bring your lunch to the library - Ms. Jen will provide cookies and other sweet treats. Voters only!

### Lynn's 7/8 Humanities Classes C and D Present: *Speaking in Her Voice: A Women Activists Oratory Project*

Thursday, April 1st at 6:30 in the 7/8 classrooms at the King Open School  
Tea, Coffee, and Sweets will be provided

# A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL TIM

Dear King Open Families,

Over the past two weeks I have written to the community about budget cuts for King Open. The cut that has been most upsetting to the staff and many others in the community has been the proposal to eliminate two upper-grade Ola classrooms and combine students in other King Open classrooms. This past Tuesday we had the chance to come together as a full staff to share feelings about the Ola cuts. It was a meeting in which people spoke openly about our perspectives and feelings. By the end of the meeting, I felt we had come together as staff more unified than ever before. An hour later at School Committee, I shared with the Superintendent the feelings of our staff. Many members of the Ola community and teachers both in Ola and not in Ola came to that meeting to ask the Superintendent to reconsider this cut. He told me that he had heard from many in the community, discussed the situation with School Committee members, and agreed that it would be best to remove the budget cut from the Ola Program this year and instead ask me to develop with our whole community, Ola and others, possibilities that would strengthen learning opportunities for all students in our school. With common commitment to excellence in learning for all King Open students, I have confidence that we have the opportunity to grow together. I will share with the whole community steps that we can take together in the weeks ahead. Thank you to the many, many people in our community who spoke up to lobby for what is most important to them. Because of your voices, we have time and resources that will make positive changes much more possible.

On a completely different topic, students in grades 3-8 will be taking MCAS tests certain days between March 22-April 7. English Language Arts will be tested on the days shown on the calendar below.

Again in May, students will take MCAS tests in Math, and students in grades 5 and 8 will take tests in Science. (continues on the right)

As their teachers, we ask students to work diligently and to do their best on these tests. These tests give us all information that helps us see how effective our teaching and learning is in the important areas that are tested. We also tell students that there will be parts of these tests that are hard and not to expect that they will understand every question. We do not want students judging themselves by these tests, and we do not think that the tests give a complete picture of what our students know and can do.

If your children are taking an MCAS test, please let them know that doing their best is all that any of us want and that we will all be very proud of their best effort. Taking tests generates lots of pressure for students, and we want to help them stay confident and keep a healthy perspective.

-- Principal Tim

## PEACE PROJECT

Please join us in the lobby every other THURSDAY morning to celebrate the Peace Project's all-school read-a-thon to benefit Heifer International.

Our next THURSDAY in the lobby will be Thursday March 11th. (We changed from Fridays so we don't conflict w/Green Streets Walk-Ride Days)

It's easy:

1. Get a bookmark from us there and decorate it on Thursday morning between 8 and 8:40 AM.
2. Write your name and 5 books you read (once you've read them) on the back of it.
3. When you're done reading, bring your bookmark back in two more Thursdays. (We'll be in the lobby every other Thursday. Alternatively, bring your completed bookmark to the KO library, turn it in and get a new one--anytime.)
4. We'll hang all completed bookmarks on our Peace Tree in the lobby to show how much KO kids are reading.
5. Bring spare change for our project in Guatemala. We are also donating some of the money raised to relief efforts in Haiti. In addition to this change, we are soliciting donations from local businesses in honor of our Read to Feed program.

Join us!

--The Peace Project

King Open MCAS ELA Schedule				
March 22	23	24	25	26
Grade 5 / 6	<i>Writing Compositions</i> Grades 4 Grades 7		Grade 7/8	Grade 7 / 8
29	30	31	April 1	2
Grade 3 / 4			Grade 3 / 4	Holiday
5	6	7	8	9
Grade 5/6		*Writing Comp Makeup (4and 7)		