

Mather Partners' Newsletter

1 Parish Street, Dorchester, MA 02122

www.matherelementary.org | 617.635.8757 (PH)

Dear Parent, Guardian or Student,

The Mather School works with many amazing partners to offer opportunities to improve academics, play a new sport, develop skills and build relationships. Please be sure to check out what is offered and join as many programs as possible! Participation in after school activities is proven to contribute to success in school, higher attendance, increased test scores, and improved behavior/social skills.

Daily Programs: On-site

Mather Before & Afterschool Program

Mather provides Before School programming from

7:30 to 9:30am for \$7/day or \$35/week

After School Program is 3:30-5:30pm for \$8/day or \$40/week

A variety of activities are available to students including homework help, games, arts & crafts, guest speakers, etc...Additional activities may be available for additional costs such as instrumental lessons (Ms. Washington & Mr. Lyons), Tae Kwon Do, Spanish lessons.

Contact: Kim Marshall; Applications available in the office



Upcoming Events

January 21

City Sprouts Science Club resumes

February 13

BRYE Extension resumes

February 16-20

February Break

March 7

HOPE Worldwide Saturday Academy begins

March 23

America SCORES begins

Mather's Website & Social Media

Please be sure to check the Mather School's website as well as its Facebook pages and Twitter account to stay up to date on all school events and activities.

www.matherelementary.org

<https://www.facebook.com/matherschool>

Daily Programs: Off-site

Sportsmen's Tennis and Enrichment Center (STEC)

Ready Position Academic Enrichment Program provides homework support, hands on academic enrichment, and guidance on self-advocacy in the classroom to 1st-5th grade students Monday through Friday from 3:30pm to 6pm. After homework is completed, students engage in a rotation of English language arts, mathematics and science through an enriched project-based curriculum derived from the core standards of the Massachusetts Frameworks. Additionally, students have support in MCAS/PARCC preparation, reading and writing enhancement groups, and supplemental grade level math groups from our new math pilot "40 Love". Ready Position will enhance students' growth in their core subjects. All Ready Position students are offered introductory tennis clinics twice per week for one hour depending on homework completion. Transportation is available TO the site from Mather at 950 Blue Hill Ave. Dorchester, but pick up arrangements FROM Sportsmen's are on own. Cost is \$25 weekly with an annual fee of \$50 for 1 child, \$75 for 2 children.

Contact: Nadine Houston, nhouston@sportsmenstennis.org

Viet-AID's Scholarly Program

This program provides daily homework help and one-on-one/ small group tutoring, followed by one of the following activities each day: academic enrichment (largely literacy focused), book club, gender specific programming, student-led service learning projects in conjunction with the Youth Venture curriculum, and student-selected rotating clubs (like science, cooking and art). There is also a heavy emphasis on parent and family engagement.

Programming takes place at Viet-Aid, located in Fields Corner Dorchester, 42 Charles Street. Alternate transportation may be possible for bus students to the site, but pick up from Viet-Aid is required when the program ends. Cost is sliding scale per trimester, vouchers accepted. Program is 3:00-5:45pm Monday-Friday.

Contact: Thanh Nguyen, tnguyen@vietaid.org

Saturday Programs

Sportsmen's Tennis

Leadership and Mentoring programs for students ages 7-17 from 11:30-2:00pm.

Hey Sister for girls:

<http://www.sportsmenstennis.org/the-learning-center/hey-sister/>

DEUCE for boys:

<http://www.sportsmenstennis.org/the-learning-center/deuce/>

Parents are free to use athletic facilities while children are in programming!

HOPE Worldwide

The Saturday Academy of HOPE Worldwide takes place at the Mather School from 9:00-11:45am. The curriculum includes a variety of fun classes such as: Science & Technology, Drama, Arts & Crafts, Sports, and Civics. The free program promotes character development; teaches conflict resolution skills; builds self-confidence, self-respect and responsibility. **Contact Ms.**

Owens,

bnajjarowens2@bostonpublicschools.org

Social/Emotional Support: In School

10 Boys' Initiative: A lunchtime mentoring program for 5th grade boys of whose components are academic tutoring, social/emotional growth, leadership, and parent engagement. Lunch meetings include looking at assessment data, book talks, and discussions around what it means to be Black or Latino. Students keep a journal and talk about community and national events.

Arbour Counseling Services and Home for Little Wanderers:

Offer individual and group mental health counseling services within the school setting during school hours. Therapists work closely with designated school staff. Students may be referred for evaluation by their parents, teachers, guidance counselors, or by the Department of Child and Families. Services may include Therapeutic Mentoring, In Home Therapy Services, Children's Behavioral Health Initiative Services, psychological, neuropsychological and educational testing and evaluations; on-going consultations with parents and school personnel and clinical consultation to teachers, aides, school psychologists, and guidance counselors.

Mentoring/ Character Development Programs

Boy Scouts/ Cub Scouts

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) goal is to train boys in grades 1-5 in responsible citizenship, character development, and self-reliance through participation in a wide range of outdoor activities and educational programs.

Contact: Robert Cline, robert.s.cline@gmail.com

Daisies/ Brownies/ Girl Scouts

Our mission is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place through activities in science and technology, business and economic literacy, and outdoor and environmental awareness. Girl Scouting provides girls with opportunities for fun and friendship while fostering the development of leadership skills and self-esteem. Girls develop their leadership potential through activities that enable them to discover their values, skills, and the world around them; connect with others in a multicultural environment; and take action to make a difference in the world.

Contact: Brownies, Mary Grady, marygradymarygrady@gmail.com, Lucia Colombaro, lucia.colombaro@gmail.com, and Sierra Rothberg, hellosierra@gmail.com; Daisies, Jenny Miller, jmiller@teachplus.org, and Rebecca Strimer, rebeccastrimer@gmail.com

Strong Women Strong Girls

Strong Women, Strong Girls utilizes the lessons learned from strong women throughout history to encourage girls and young women to become strong women themselves. In the Spring, a team of 3 to 4 college women mentors meet weekly with 3-5th grade girls to identify an issue in their community, such as bullying or environmental awareness, to design a project to address the problem, to implement their solution, from creating a newspaper to designing a mural, and to present their project to peers, parents, and community members.

Contact Ms. Settles, ksettles@bostonpublicschools.org

Sports/Dance: Before & After School

3 Point Foundation Boys' Basketball Program

The program for 4th and 5th grade boys meets on Thursday's from 3:30-5:30pm. Students read about and discuss the importance of character as part of sports and then go out to the basketball court for an hour of practicing and playing basketball. As part of the basketball sessions, coaches incorporate the character lessons discussed in class.

Contact: Sarah Condon, Sarah.the3pointfoundation@gmail.com



America SCORES

The soccer program is for boys and girls in 3rd-5th grade. It meets Monday-Friday, 3:30-5:00 (game days may be longer). The program promotes health, academic advancement and development of the whole child through soccer, poetry and service-learning programming. Includes writing resources, uniform, snack, and transportation to games. The season begins in March and goes through May. It culminates in a big Jamboree. The cost is \$25 each season.

Contact: Katie Hussey, khussey@bostonpublicschools.org



Building Our Kids' Success (BOKS)

BOKS is a free before school program for K-5th graders 2-3 days per week from 8:00-9:00am beginning in February for 12 weeks. Kids get moving in the morning to help boost their academic & physical performance, and overall confidence and well-being. Classes start with a warm-up game, transitions into running, relay races or obstacle courses and group games and end with a quick nutrition tip developed to help children learn about healthy choices.

Contact Ms. McLaughlin, emcloughlin@bostonpublicschools.org
or Mr. Nguyen, danielnguyenBPS@gmail.com



Dance with Books

The program is for boys and girls in K-2nd grade. It meets on Friday's from 3:30-5:00 at the Mather School. Each session is \$3.00. Dance with Books gets students engaged in fun dance and fitness activities. They create dances, practice multicultural dances and read books about Dance. There is a recital at the end of the year. Dates are January 9 to June 12.

Contact: Sharon Shakur, joyfuldance@aol.com

DEA Youth Dance Program

This free program for boys and girls in the 5th grade, offers students an opportunity to learn various hip hop dance routines from a professional instructor in a fun environment. The class meets on Mondays from 3:30-4:30 until April 6 at the Mather School. The DEA Youth Dance Program, a part of the DEA Educational Foundation, was established to empower kids by providing a free and positive after-school alternative to drugs through the fun, healthy and expressive art form of dance.

Contact: Cristine Dhimos, cristinedhimos@aol.com

Skating in Schools

The free program is for boys and girls in the 4th and 5th grade. It meets on Wednesday's from 3:30-6:00pm until March 11. A bus picks up and drops off students from and to the Mather School and goes to the Frog Pond skating rink in the Boston Common. The program helps to develop skills related to the sport as well as life-long positive attitudes toward health and fitness through skating.

Contact: Fred Palascak, fred.palascak@scboston.org

Sports/Dance: In School

BalletRox

BalletRox's in-school dance program provides creative movement once a week to students in grades K1 and K2. Supported by the MCC and Edvestor's, BalletRox works with teachers to incorporate classroom curriculum to learn elements such as time, space, directions, force, tempo and levels to build gross motor skill development. It culminates in a dance recital at the end of the year.



Boston Bikes

Boston Bikes encourages bike riding by teaching the skills to ride safely and creating sheltered opportunities to practice to increase physical activity as well as provide bicycle education. Boston Bikes joins our 4th & 5th grade Physical Education classes for 2 weeks, with a team of professional instructors and a fleet of bikes and helmets for 3-4 visits. The 1st session is a classroom-based interactive bicycle safety workshop to discuss the importance of wearing a helmet, following traffic laws, and the safe maneuvering of the bike. The 2nd lesson moves to on-the-bike activities such as a variety of drills and games to reinforce lessons.

Tenacity

Tenacity's aims to improve the scholastic, character and physical development of urban youth by combining tennis instruction and academic support with a focus on life skills. It works with our P.E. teachers to provide periodic mini-clinics to expose children to their the sport of tennis.

Music

Boston City Singers (Out of School)

Boston City Singers provides weekly singing classes and chorus rehearsals to ensure singers receive unparalleled music instruction coupled with performance, youth development, cultural exploration, leadership training and community service components. Singers develop progressive mastery of skills with children from backgrounds different than their own, engaging hearts and minds during the critical after-school hours.

Contact: Melissa Graham, melissagraham@bostoncitysingers.org

Classroom Cantata

2nd grade children work with Cantata Singers Teaching Artists during school in their classrooms to compose and perform an original cantata. Working with texts and themes that are integrated into the core curriculum of the classroom, students explore the language of rhythm and melody, giving shape to their individual voices while deepening their understanding of the core subject matter. Students share with their peers in the enriching process of composition, rehearsal and performance.



Academic/ Enrichment

Boston Refuge Youth Enrichment (BRYE)

Phillips Brooks House Association's (PBHA) BRYE Extension teaches an academic enrichment curriculum to recent immigrant and refugee children after school in a small classroom setting. There are three class levels, with the youngest class ranging in age from 6 to 8, a middle class 8-10, and a class for more advanced students generally ranging from ages 10-12. All classes focus on improving English and reading skills with the older two classes also incorporating quantitative enrichment through interactive experiments and activities. The program runs from 4:00 to 5:30 on Friday afternoons on site in Dorchester at the Epiphany School.

Contact: Eric Po or Anna Gomez, bryeextension@pbha.org

Brookline Literacy Partners

Free weekly one on one tutoring coordinated through Mather Afterschool program on Monday's from 3:30-5:00pm after school with Brookline High School students.

City Sprouts

In coordination with Mr. Wright, our Science teacher, City Sprouts offers a weekly afterschool program on Wednesday's for 4th and 5th graders that focuses on the Life Sciences through gardening in our edible gardens and making observations in the BSI outdoor classroom.

Contact: Annabel Raby, Annabel.raby@foodcorps.org

e-Inc

e" inc. works with our Science teachers in Science class to bringing exciting & dynamic science sessions to students about our current topic, zero waste. Students learn about beings, biomes, resources, and systems of the planet using experiments, observations, games, artwork, field work, green mapping, and more. Students use their new understanding to help current environmental challenges such as working to affect local or global concerns.

Health & Wellness Partners

New England Eye Institute Teaching Affiliate of the New England College of Optometry helps the School Nurse with vision screenings.

New England Eye On-Sight provides periodic visits to the school with their mobile vision clinic from the New England College of Optometry to provide eye care accessibility to all. Correcting and maximizing vision creates opportunities for learning and reading, socialization, work and play, safety and independence, and better emotional and physical health. Services include free eye exams and eyeglasses.

Smart Smiles

A collaboration between Boston University School of Dental Medicine, Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, and Commonwealth Mobile Oral Health Programs that provides comprehensive oral health services. The goal is to help prevent dental problems and to identify, treat, or refer for treatment any student who has existing oral health problems. Using portable dental equipment, the Smart Smiles program provides oral health education, dental screenings, dental sealants, fluoride treatments, and restorations.

The Hive: Parent Child Reading Writing Group

The Hive will help families to grow stronger readers and writers in 2nd & 3rd grade. Parents and their children will participate in a variety of fun and engaging activities that focus on reading a selected piece of children's literature followed by large group and family discussions. The club will meet for 8 weeks beginning in March. Participants share dinner; childcare provided to siblings not attending the club. Families will have a publishing party to share collective and individual entries into the final book project. Each family will receive a copy of the final book. Wednesday's 6-8pm. **Contact: Ms. King or Ms.**

Thames

Vietnamese Heritage Program

The Vietnamese Heritage Program will teach children about their Vietnamese heritage through literacy enrichment and cultural activities. The program will encourage development of literacy through the study of interesting and relevant topics related to Vietnamese traditions and holidays. It will also help build contextual knowledge for children familiar with some of the holidays, but less familiar with how the history of traditions and rituals were developed. Students will be provided with extra time to develop their literacy skills, as well as the opportunity to develop confidence and experience success in a less formal academic setting. Students will build a stronger connection to their cultural heritage that allows them to view their different background in a more positive light, rather than one which served to separate them from their peers.

Contact: Ms. Trinh, mtrinh@bostonpublicschools.org or Mr. Nguyen, danielnguyenBPS@gmail.com

Winsor School Reading Buddies

Free weekly reading buddies program on Wednesday's from 3:30-5:00pm after school with Winsor High School students. **Contact Ms. Vickie**

Community Partners

Boston Cares: Coordinates volunteers for school projects and events.

Boston Police: Provides weekly mentoring in classrooms.

Catholic Memorial: Supports after school programs and various school needs. Coordinates Winter Carnival.

City Mission Society of Boston, Boston Urban Outreach: Provides volunteers, coordinate coat drives.

Columbia Management: Organize classroom material drives, collects Box Tops for our school.

Family Nurturing Center of Massachusetts: Provides referrals to families and community resources.

Fidelity: Provides volunteers and funding for events.

First Parish Church: Provides space and assists in event planning and community building.

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades: Provided painting services and materials.

New England Regional Council of Carpenters: Assists with school repairs and shelf building.

St. John's Preparatory: Organizes backpack and coat drives. Supports after school programs and various school needs.

Target: Provides volunteers and funding for events.

UMASS Boston: Provides volunteers for various projects.

Summer and Vacation Programs

Many of our partners offer summer and vacation programs. Please inquire directly with those partners to find information. Also, please be sure to get a copy of the Boston Youth and Families Guide to Summer Programs, and sign up early for programs!

<http://www.cityofboston.gov/BCYF/programs/Summer.asp>

- 3 Point Foundation Boys' Basketball: Vacation and Summer Programs, Contact: Sarah Condon, Sarah.the3pointfoundation@gmail.com
- America Scores Summer (Soccer): Contact Ive Mendoza, imendoza@americascorusboston.org
- Boy Scouts Summer: Contact: Robert Cline, robert.s.cline@gmail.com
- Girl Scouts Summer: <http://www.girlscoutseasternmass.org/programs/summer-camp.html>
- Museum of Fine Arts February programs: http://www.mfa.org/programs/series/martin-luther-king-jr-day-open-house?utm_source=dm_open-house_mlk&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=open-house&utm_content=2015-01-05_events
- Sportsmen's Tennis and Enrichment Center Vacation and Summer Programs: <http://www.sportsmentennis.org/community/vacation-week-camps/>
- Viet Aid Summer: Contact: Thanh Nguyen, tnguyen@vietaid.org

Other School Partners

Achievement Network:

ANet provides interim assessments that give educators timely, actionable, and student-specific data and develops assessment questions that align to the standards and format of state summative assessments to help teachers understand the standards students are mastering and the ones they aren't.

Fair Foods: Provides \$2 bags of fresh food/produce on Friday's from 3:00-4:30pm

Lesley University (Literacy Collaborative): Provides on-site professional development, leading to the creation of a school leadership team; and a research-based instructional model that aligns with the Common Core Standards in English Language Arts, and meets the requirements of Response to Intervention (RTI).

Safe Routes: Works to improve pedestrian safety and student wellness

Wheelock Teach Boston: Teachers in training assist in classrooms

Program	Ages	Days	Cost	Times/Dates
3 Point Foundation Basketball	4 th & 5 th grade Boys	Thursday	Free	3:30-5:30pm; 10 weeks; start date Jan. 15, to be confirmed
America Scores	3 rd -5 th grade	Monday-Friday	\$25	3:30-5:00 (game days may be longer) 3/23-5/30
Boston City Singers	Various K-5 th grade	Wednesday until May *NOTE: classes will move to Ashmont location in February	\$200 and up or Free (financial aid available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kodaly Singing Class for age 4 – Kindergarten, classes now at 1st Parish Church on Wednesdays from 4-5pm • Melody Makers for grades 1-2 at Mather on Wednesdays from 4-5pm • Training Chorus for grades 3-5, classes now at 1st Parish Church Dorchester on Wednesdays from 4-5:15pm
Boston Refugee Youth Enrichment (BRYE)	1 st -5 th grade	Friday	Free	4:00-5:30 Feb. 13 until May 1
Building Our Kids' Success (BOKS)	K -5 th grade	Monday, Wednesday & Thursday	Free	8:00-9:00am, begins in February, 12 weeks
Cub Scouts	1 st -5 th grade	Friday	Free	3:30-4:30 until June 15
City Sprouts Science	5 th grade	Wednesday	Free	3:30-5:00, Jan 21 to June 10
Dance with Books	K-2 nd grade	Friday	\$3/ week	3:30-5:00 until June 12
DEA Youth Dance Program	5 th grade	Monday	Free	3:30-4:30 until week of April 6
Girl Scouts/Brownies	2 nd -3 rd grade	Friday	\$35, financial aid available	3:30-4:45 every other Friday until May, contact for schedule
Girl Scouts/Daisies	K2-1 st grade	Thursday	\$35, financial aid available	3:30-4:30 every other Thursday, contact for schedule
The Hive, Parent Child Reading Writing Group	2 nd grade	Wednesday	Free	6:00-8:00pm, 8 weeks, begins in March; for parents and their students in 2 nd grade
Hope Worldwide	1 st -5 th grade	Saturday	Free	9:00-11:45 am; March 7 to April 11
Mather Before & Afterschool Program	K-5 th grade	Monday-Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AM: \$7/day or \$35/wk • PM: \$8/day or \$40/wk 	3:30-5:30 pm, coincides with school schedule Financial aid may be available
Skating Club of Boston, Skating in Schools	4 th -5 th grade	Wednesday	Free	3:30-6:00pm, Frog Pond, Boston Common, until March 11
Sportsmen's Tennis & Enrichment Center	1 st -5 th grade	Monday-Friday	\$50 annual fee (or \$75 for 2 children) plus \$25/wk	3:30-5:30pm, at 950 Blue Hill Ave., transportation to site available, coincides with school schedule, Financial aid may be available
Strong Women Strong Girls	3 rd -5 th grade	Thursday	Free	3:30-5:00pm, February to April 6
Viet AID Scholars	1 st -5 th grade	Monday-Friday	Sliding Scale	3:30-5:45pm, at 42 Charles St. coincides with school schedule
Vietnamese Heritage Program	1 st -5 th grade	Monday & Wednesday	Free	3:45-5:45pm, Jan. 12-Feb. 11