

# Around Dawson

With Assistant Principal Barbara Diamond

April 2010

## Mount View Honor Society Visits Dawson on Read Across America Day



Dawson hosted 35 eighth grade Honor Society members from Mount View School who came to share their love of reading on Read Across American Day. The students were hosted by Mrs. Morrissey where they celebrated the birthday of Dr. Suess by sharing his books, Miss Cataldi where they shared fiction and non fiction books on a variety of sports in addition to their favorite stories and Mrs. Zinkus where they shared their favorite picture books. The Dawson students were delighted to have older students read to them and staff was also delighted to have some of their former students participating in this engaging reading event.

## Dawson Presents Check to Red Cross for Haitian Relief



At the monthly IALAC awards assembly, the Dawson Student Council presented Mrs. Nicole Valentine of the Red Cross a check for \$650.00 that will be used to send needed supplies to the people of Haiti. Mrs. Valentine presented the school with a white flannel blanket that has the American Red Cross design on it since this is one of the items that will be sent to Haiti. The blanket is on display in the school hallway. Student Council made collection boxes, designed posters and flyers asking for change to “Help Change Haiti” and sponsored a week long drive in conjunction with the Dawson PTA.

## Primary Grades Learn About the Danger of Thin Ice from the Holden Fire Department



Dave Chapin of the Holden Fire Department presented a program about how to be safe around ice which created an awareness of the danger of walking on frozen bodies of water. He conducted an experiment that allowed the young students to understand what hypothermia is and how quickly the body can suffer hypothermia. Children received pamphlets to bring home for discussion with parents. While our thoughts are moving on to spring, the engaging lesson is sure to stay with the students the next time they are in the midst of a New England winter.

## Ben Franklin Visits Third Grade



An actor portraying Benjamin Franklin visited third grade. He told students he became interested in Franklin because he didn't know of another man who did so much in one lifetime. The students learned that Franklin only had two years of formal schooling but educated himself by reading. When he had achieved success, this enabled him to start the first free lending library in the United States in the town of Franklin, Mass. Franklin also invented over 500 inventions and created the patent system in America. He served as the first postmaster general, worked on the Constitution to give Americans their freedoms and also experimented with electricity. Among the inventions that are still in use today are the odometer found in cars, bifocal glasses, the rocking chair, swim fins, the wet cell battery and the electromagnetic generator. Students enjoyed asking questions and learning about the life and times of this famous American.

Until next time, Barbara Diamond