As you know, our beloved art teacher, Mrs. Alves is headed off to Chelmsford High School this fall. Mrs. Alves has been teaching for a total of 26 years, with 18 of them in Chelmsford and 15 years here at the Center School. I decided to interview Mrs. Alves on this exciting endeavor.

*What will you miss the most about Center School?*
“Mrs. Alves will miss the kids, the fun and when they are really excited about the lesson, especially the clay. I’ll definitely miss the people; a lot of you are not only my colleagues, but my friends.”

*What was one of your favorite lessons?*
“I love the 4th grade plaster masks and the clay. The PTO was responsible for getting the kiln many years ago, which is a huge asset to the art program. I cannot thank them enough!”

*What are you looking forward to most at the high school?*
“I’m looking forward to the challenge of teaching another grade level, the older kids and seeing where they take the lesson. It may even inspire me to do more of my own artwork because I haven’t had time to do much of my own unless I am taking a class. It will be fun to see some of the old kids from Center and how they’ve grown and to see if they have kept up with art. It is nice to see how the kids have grown as artists. I’m really looking forward to expanding my horizons as an artist and teacher.”

*Any last thoughts?*
“I want to say THANK YOU to all of the parents for the past 15 years while at Center. We have a great PTO and parent support with all of the murals and the Art Show help each year. See you soon!”
Library News

I cannot believe that we are wrapping up another year here in the Center School Library. It has been a fantastic and very busy year. We adjusted quite well on our “one floor” library; it felt more like a classroom. We just had our projector mounted on the ceiling and will be ready to use in September, making it much more convenient to use our online resources.

We just finished our annual Scholastic Book Fair and it was very successful! The students and teachers look forward to this every year. We earned about $5,500 for the Center School Library. This really supplements our book budget for the year and gives us a chance to order new materials that we ordinarily would not be able to. Thank you for all your support!

Please have your children continue to read throughout the summer. I have given all the students the information about the summer reading program at the Chelmsford Public Library. They can go down at any time and pick up a reading log. Have a safe and wonderful summer and see you in September!

Tech News from the Lab

Kindergarteners have been practicing the Type to Learn Jr. program, which is teaching them where the keys are on the keyboard. Over the summer, it would be great for these students to practice using a mouse with the computer.

Grade 1 highlights include: Microsoft Word, Microworlds for animations, typing. Over the summer, it would be super if students could continue practicing their home row typing skills at the BBC Dance Mat typing website. http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/

Grade 2 highlights include: typing, Internet safety, animating with MicroWorlds and creating timelines with Timeliner, Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. We just started using Scratch, for programming. Over the summer, it would be super if they could get to Scratch online and keep working on it.

Grade 3 highlights include: Scratch programming, Microworlds programming, learning about cyberbullying, Bee-Bots robots, creating brochures. Over the summer, if they could complete the BBC Dance Mat typing program and work on Scratch that would be great!

Grade 4 highlights include: using the new PICO boards with Scratch, learning about hardware and software, national monuments research, learning about cyberbullying, using Pro-Bot robot cars, and state research with Excel and Timeliner. Over the summer, keep practicing typing!

Recommendations for the Summer

BBC Dance Mat Typing
BrainPop: www.brainpop.com
BrainPopJr.: www.brainpopjr.com
Scratch: scratch.mit.edu
NetSmartzKids – Internet Safety: www.netsmartzkids.org
Roz’s Place – Math Practice: www.eduplace/kids/mw/
Physical Education in the Summertime

It's been a whirlwind of activity in Physical Education this Spring!! All the grades learned about balance, strength and flexibility in our Gymnastics unit, which is always a big hit with the kids. It was followed by our favorite event of the year – The Obstacle Course!!! “Kudos!” go out to those students who turned in their Do-It-Yourself Obstacle Course homework after April vacation!! You demonstrated that you are able to put all the skills you’ve learned this year to good use, while having fun and getting some healthy activity as well!

After April vacation we played Net Games (an introduction to Volleyball, Badminton and Tennis), Track and Field, played Big Bertha Bop to practice throwing, and got our creative juices flowing in our Rhythm and Dance unit. Each class used a different prop to create movement patterns to music.

Our dance unit culminated in a visit from Peter and Mary Alice Amidon who performed and taught folk songs and dances at an assembly for the whole school. Peter then taught in the PE classes for the lucky students in 3L, 2R and 1M. He was such an inspiration as he led the classes through several folk songs and dances.

We will finish up the year with Summer Games, which consists of 6 activity stations that have a summer theme. On a personal note, in case you are wondering who Mrs. Gallagher is, I’m delighted to let you know that it’s me! I was recently married and have decided to take my husband’s name. The process of name change may take a while, so you may still see me listed as Ms. McTeague sometimes.

Have a safe and happy summer!
Art Happenings

The annual Art and Music Show was in May and it was another beautiful evening of artistic masterpieces both in the visual and performing arts. A glorious feast for the eyes and ears! Enjoy the photos of our evening.

🎵 Music Notes 🎵

So much has been going on musically speaking at the Center School this spring. Highlights include the annual Memorial Day Program, Art & Music Show and finally our assembly with Peter and Mary Alice Amidon. What a treat with Mrs. Amidon teaching the music classes that day after the assembly including 3R and the afternoon Kindergartens! Currently 3rd and 4th graders are still rapidly testing for their recorder karate belts at any free moment during the day. In music class, we are reviewing concepts and celebrating our musical tastes through our Music Share days. Have a fantastic summer and keep on singing!