

Plan Now for Summer

And find GREAT programs & camps

Keshav Persad could have done anything he wanted last summer: gotten a job, taken a course, or just hung out with friends.

Instead, the high school junior signed on for The City School's Summer Leadership Program, and that decision set his life on a different course.

"I've always been interested in the law, but now I'm committed to the law and social justice," he says. "And it's because of last summer."

Free summer guides from the Boston Public Schools

Boston's teens — and kids — have amazing summer opportunities to choose from, and the Boston Public Schools has published two handy guides to help families find the right program and camp.

"Summer Stuff" for middle and high school students lists dozens of programs for teens, from internships in law firms to college prep programs at local universities to volunteer opportunities at museums, hospitals, and nonprofit organizations. The guide also explains how to apply for a summer job with the city and with agencies such as ABCD.

"Summer Stuff Jr" for elementary school students includes day and overnight camps, as well as summer arts, academic, and sports programs.

Most programs are free or low cost, and many have scholarships for Boston's kids and teens.

Why summer is so important

A summer job is a teenager's introduction to the expectations of the workplace. They learn how to work with adults, gain confidence and skills, and discover more career possibilities. They begin to imagine the future.

Specialized programs in the arts, sciences, athletics, and community service can do the same. Students can focus on an area of interest — audio engineering at Zumix, for example, or lab science at Harvard Med School's PRISM camp — to perfect their skills.

For younger students, being in a summer program or camp may mean not only more outdoor activities but also more arts, academics, and friends. Those experiences can open a door to the larger world, even for the youngest participant.

The right program or camp

Matching the student to the right program or camp can take some time, but the BPS guides put all the information in one place: eligibility, dates, costs, deadlines, and more.

The City School, which is one of the programs listed in "Summer Stuff," was a good match for Keshav. It offered just what he wanted: to learn about issues such as health and education that affect all communities and to work with others to map out solutions.

His seven weeks at TCS were crammed: an in-depth seminar on violence; daily

classes on a variety of topics; and an internship teaching English at the Somalian Development Center.

Collaborating with peers and doing an internship made lasting impressions on Keshav, who attends Another Course to College (ACC) high school in Boston. "The changes I feel are subtle," he says, "but they're in my everyday life and thinking."

Keshav tells of a recent episode on the MBTA. An autistic person was repeating the name of his stop, his way of asking for help, but no one responded. "The other passengers looked away," Keshav recalls. He reassured the man that the stop was ahead and helped him off when they reached it.

"Before last summer, I wouldn't have done that," he says. "It's the norm to look away, but inside, that's not who I am now. It felt normal to help." ■

Summer Stuff is for families with teenagers in grades 6-12



Summer Stuff Jr is for families with children in kindergarten-grade 5

Summer Stuff Jr 2005

FOR FAMILIES OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Here comes summer!

Are you looking for great summer ideas for children? Summer Stuff Jr. has hundreds! In these pages, you will find all kinds of summer camps, programs, and activities especially for children—including day camps, overnight camps, camps for children with special needs, classes, learning opportunities, and activities for families.

First, read through Summer Stuff Jr. and circle the listings that your children might like. Then, visit their websites or call them. Don't be put off by the cost. Many camps and programs offer scholarships or reduced fees based on what a family can pay. Just ask!

Next, apply — and do it now. You might be able to save time by applying on-line. Many programs are "first come, first served," and they fill up fast.

Good luck — and have a great summer!

Read this first.



When we say:	We mean:
Entering grades.....	The grade your child will be in next September
Languages.....	The languages the staff speaks, in addition to English
Deadline.....	The last day to apply
ASAP.....	As Soon As Possible
FC/FS.....	First Come/First Served
OL.....	Application on-line

Summer Stuff & Summer Stuff Jr ...

What else is in each guide?

- XXX
- XXX
- XXXX

Where can I get copies?

- at any Boston public school
- at any Boston public library
- at any ...

Boston School Calendar

Boston Public Schools/BPS
Main Number ☎ 617-635-9000

APRIL

- 4 ... Warning notices sent home from exam schools
- 6 ... MCAS English Language Arts (ELA) Composition for all students in grades 4, 7, & 10
School Committee meeting ☎ 617-635-9014
- 18-22 ... Spring Recess: No school
- 27 ... School Committee meeting ☎ 617-635-9014

MAY

- 4 ... Report cards sent home from most middle and high schools and from grades 6-8 in K-grade 8 schools
- 9 ... Warning notices sent home with students in EECs, ELCs, elementary schools, and K-grade 5 in K-grade 8 schools
- 11 ... School Committee meeting ☎ 617-635-9014
- 12 ... MCAS ELA Make-Up Composition for students in grades 4, 7, & 10 who didn't take it April 6
- 16-27 ... MCAS Tests* for grades 4-8 (about 1-2 hours for each test)
Grade 4: ELA Language & Literature test, Math test
Grade 5: Science & Technology/Engineering test
Grade 6: Math test
Grade 7: ELA Language & Literature test
Grade 8: Math, Science & Technology/Engineering test
- 17-20 ... MCAS Tests* for grade 10 (about 1-2 hours for each test)
May 17: ELA Language & Literature test, session 1 & 2
May 18: ELA Language & Literature test, session 3
May 19: Math test, session 1
May 20: Math test, session 2
- 17 ... Report cards sent home from exam schools
- 23 ... Warning notices sent home from most middle and high schools and from grades 6-8 in K-grade 8 schools
- 31 ... Warning notices sent home from exam schools

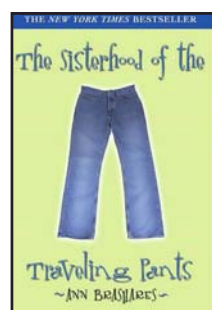
* Some grades take MCAS "try-out" tests and/or other MCAS tests for specific courses students are now taking, such as biology or U.S. history

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Read Me!

BEFORE YOU WATCH THE MOVIE, read the book. Check out these great books at your local library. They are all being made into movies and will be out soon.

And remember: A library card is always free.



All the King's Men by Robert Penn Warren (young adult)
Charlie & the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl (9-12 years)
Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis (young adult)

Boston Public Library
Main Number ☎ 617-536-5400

Harry Potter & the Goblet of Fire by J.K. Rowling (young adult)

Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams (young adult)

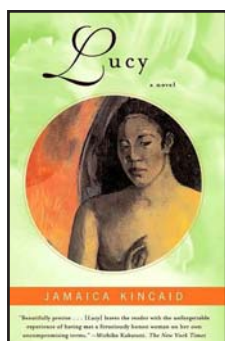
Lucy by Jamaica Kincaid (young adult)

Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens (young adult)

Pride & Prejudice by Jane Austen (young adult)

Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants by Ann Brashares (young adult)

Zathura by Chris van Allsburg (9-12 years)



Parents Ask ...

How will Boston schools make up snow days this year?

(Not sure what TWP's memo to parents meant. Does going through June 30 not make up the five snow days? Need help with this.)