

P'ville Newsletter

Safe ~ Respectful ~ Responsible



Dear Pawtucketville Families,

December brings the holiday season, our annual Pancake Breakfast, the Kindergarten concert and spirit week. The first report card is also released followed by parent/teacher conferences.

We encourage parents and guardians to come in for conferences to meet with their child's teacher. Students do better when schools and families stay connected. Pawtucketville teachers will be sending home information regarding how to schedule a meeting. Also, please remember that attendance plays a very important role in a child's education. Help us by making sure that your child is on time every day.

A reminder that the cold weather is here. Students should come to school prepared for the cold. Sending children in with some layers of clothing they can put on and take off is the best way to make sure your child is not too cold or too hot in school. Also, make sure your child is coming home with all the clothes you send them in with in the morning. This is the time of year when our Lost & Found starts to grow fast. We send kids out for recess most days, even on those cold winter days. Be sure to send your children to school with jackets and hats.

Remember, the snow is on the way so the traffic out front will inevitably slow down. Please be sure to leave plenty of time in the morning and afternoon. Drive slowly, remain in the car drop off lane, and avoid distractions. Safety is our top priority.

I hope you all have a wonderful winter break!

Dr. Mathew McLean
Principal

Important Dates

3rd ~ PTO Meeting 4:00

5th ~ Early Release 1:30

8th ~ Pancake Breakfast

21st ~ Polar Express Pajama Day (No Slippers)

21st ~ All School Assembly

24th-1st ~ Holiday Break (No School)

2nd ~ School Re-Opens



Kindergarten

Thank you for all of your contributions to the Thanksgiving feast! We appreciate all of your help in making this event such a success.

We are going to be learning about many different winter holidays in the upcoming weeks. We will be having our Holiday Show on December 19th at 10:00. Families are welcome to come and enjoy listening to the kids sing some holiday songs.

Please continue to practice the sight words each week with your child! Thank you for your continued support!

~Kindergarten Team



First Grade

We hope you all enjoyed your Thanksgiving weekend. We have 4 weeks of intense learning. Please be consistent with homework routines at home.

In Math, we just finished Module 1 and skip to Module 4. The new module builds on the foundations of counting on, decomposing, and counting strategies that were established in Module 1. This gives students the opportunity to work with numbers up to 40.

In Writing, we are working on Persuasive letters. Students have been working on convincing Dr. McLean, their teachers, parents and many other people that they would like to make a change.

In Reading, students have been regrouped with the new Fountas & Pinnell assessment results. They are working hard on reading skills in their classrooms.

Please remember warm clothes for recess. The children go out to recess almost everyday.

~First Grade Team

Second Grade

Our first Grade 2 Math Bee for the 2018-2019 School Year was held on November 20th. Nicholas Aspilcueta of Room 1073 earned First Place. Logan Cobb of 1074 came in Second. Third place went to Aiden Estrada of Room 1072. Coming in Fourth Place was Sophia Nganga of Room 1073. Knowledge of basic Math Facts is very important in developing understanding and precision with higher order Math Skills. We were proud to see how quickly most of the children were in providing the sums for the Math Facts. Many students who lost their round were only seconds behind in providing the correct responses. Our next "Subtraction Bee" will be held close to the February Vacation.

In Literacy, we are beginning Unit 3- Investigating and Inquiring Expository and Narrative Informational Text. The focus will be on non-fiction. Students will listen to a variety of informational texts in order to determine the main idea and supporting details. We will be finishing up our Opinion/Persuasive Reviews in Writing. The Grade 2 Teaching Team went to Professional Development on November 16. There are some changes being made to the Non-fiction writing and the "All About Books". We were excited to find out that the students are going to have many experiences to gather information and to write 6-9 shorter books focusing on topics that interest the students. This Unit carries over into January. We plan to schedule an "Expo" so that you can come to meet our authors and to share our books.

ART ROOM

"Great Art picks up where nature ends."-Marc Chagall

December 8th is our annual Pancake Breakfast! Masterpieces by Dion, Riddle-Duffy, Mendonca, Bernier, and Cotman-El artists will be on display!

The PTO buys clay and glaze for the whole school. We are starting ceramics; all students should take home a fired ceramic piece by Spring!

Lowell's Western Avenue will host Holiday Open Studios Saturday and Sunday December 1-2 and December 8-9 noon to 5pm. There is a glass blowing studio and a traditional Cambodian ceramicist!

~Ms. Amlashi



In Eureka Math, we are beginning Module 4, Addition and Subtraction Within 200 with Word Problems to 100. In this Module, the students will be exposed to a variety of strategies to add and subtract numbers. There are concrete strategies where students use actual place value disks to solve problems. Pictorial strategies include drawing place value charts and place value disks to solve problems. The Chip Model is similar, but the students will draw chips to represent place value disks. Other strategies are more abstract such as “New Groups Below”. This is similar to the algorithm you are familiar with.

In Science, we have finished the Solids and Liquids Unit. We will begin our “Engineering Challenges”. We expect the District to send us some exciting projects where the students follow a “Think”, “Draw”, “Test”, “Improve-Fix-Make Better”, and “Test Again” procedure. Last year’s challenges included designing a Pom-pom Launcher, building a Pipe Cleaner Structure to support pennies, building Structures with Cubes, and creating a Paper Plate Search Platform. We are looking forward to engineering with our Grade 2 scientists!

~Second Grade Team

Third Grade

In writing we are well into our realistic fiction stories. The children have creative ideas. We can’t wait to read the finished products! Next, we will move to informational writing.

In math we are focusing on time, measurement, rounding, and two and three-digit addition and subtraction. Please help your child read the clock at home. We will have our first multiplication bee in December. Going over multiplication flashcards with your child would be very helpful.

During interactive read-a-loud we are focusing on the big idea/theme. The children are discussing what they think the author wanted them to know or learn from reading the texts.

It is getting cold outside! Please send your child to school with a warm coat, hat, and mittens. It would be helpful to also have a sweatshirt. The temperatures sometimes fluctuate inside the classrooms.

Also, please remember to send your child in with a snack. The children are hungry mid morning and ready for a snack! This is a busy time of year and as always we appreciate your support. Happy Holidays!

~Third Grade Team

Fourth Grade

December in 4th grade will be a very busy and fun filled time as we learn new concepts and celebrate the holidays. In Math, we have started Module 3, which will cover multi-digit multiplication and division. Please remind your child to practice their multiplication facts each night at home by using computer programs or websites such as xtramath.com, using flashcards, or any other mode of studying that works for them. If children know their math facts, it will make math much less stressful and challenging. This is an extremely important skill to master in fourth grade as it connects to everything we do. In Writer’s Workshop, we will continue working on writing personal essays.

We are looking forward to several exciting events that are taking place this month! December 5th is an early release day with dismissal at 1:30. Report cards also go home on this day. December 8th from 9-11 am is the Pancake breakfast. Save money and pre-order your tickets. The week of December 17 is Spirit week where there will be a different theme each day. On Wednesday December 19th, we will be going over to the Wang to watch their production of the musical, “Elf.”

December 21st, is our All School Assembly and Polar Express Day. Christmas Break begins at the close of the school day on the 21st.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. We hope you have a great month!

~Fourth Grade Team



SCHOOL BANKING

Pawtucketville Memorial Elementary School has a partnership with Jeanne D’Arc Bank.

JDCU comes every other Tuesday and makes deposits at the school. The children get a deposit slip at the time of the deposit. In December, the banking days are the 4th and the 18th.

Any questions with the banking program please email: kmarandola@lowell.k12.ma.us

Thank you,
Kathy Marandola

Music Room

Happy Winter! I can't believe it's December already. Winter is always a very busy time in the music room and this year is no exception. Fourth Grade has been playing instruments and learning about Pachelbel and his ever so famous Canon in D. They have been using their knowledge of reading music to decipher their own sheet music and play contrasting parts from the other students around them. This is pretty tricky stuff and they have been doing a great job following directions and keeping a resilient attitude.

The Chorus and Recorder Ensemble will be playing at the Pancake Breakfast. This is an awesome opportunity students to get used to singing/playing in front of an audience. They can grow confidence in the safety of their own community.

Third Grade has been receiving their first belts in recorder karate. Ask your musician to play for you and you will be surprised to hear the improvement.

Second Grade is starting to really read music now. Before long they will be playing on instruments and singing from sight out of books. They are very excited to be learning and eager to see what is coming next.

First Grade has been having fun learning the groundwork for singing rounds and ostinatos. They have been learning many songs, and some in different languages ask them to sing you their favorite!

Kindergarten will be putting on a major winter show this year. Come check out their work at the December All School Assembly and their concert. So much is happening in the next few weeks please keep eyes and ears peeled for more information!

As always, thank you for all that you do.

~Ms. Knight



Math Resource Center

Reminder: Parents can find out more about the Eureka Math program by visiting <http://www.greatminds.org>. On this site you can find homework help for grades K-4, parent tip sheets, sample problems and more! The Parent Tip Sheets provide fun activities for you to do with your child at home to directly support their learning at school. Why not spend some time over Winter Break playing some fun math games with your child?

The cold weather has come and it can be harder to get outside to play. If you are stuck indoors, why not try some math games that can engage the entire family in mathematical thinking?

Rummikub - Is a 2-4 player game that combines Rummy with Mahjong and has lots of tiles to play with and sort. Rummikub is about color/number matching, but it is also a game of strategy and skill. Great for students grades 2 and up.

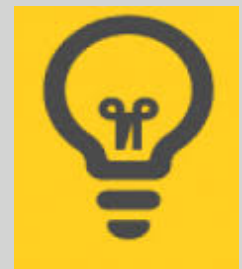
Hi-Ho Cherry-O - The game consists of 2-4 players trying to gather 10 cherries. The player spins a spinner to see how many cherries they should "pick". Great for students from preK - 2.

Connect 4 - This game is a childhood classic that supports geometric thinking, planning and pattern recognition. It is a great game for two children to play together! Basically, Connect 4 is similar to tic-tac-toe, except it is played on a 6-row high, 7-row wide grid. Great for students grades K and up.

~Ms. Delehanty

CONTENT LITERACY

Time is flying by, it's nearly December! Fourth Grade students have been working on different types of energy, like kinetic/potential, vibrations/sound, and electrical. They are learning how energy transfers and makes objects work. Third Grade has spent a lot of time learning about the Industrial Revolution and the innovative inventions that were developed during this time. Second Grade has been working on economics, like: saving, spending, sharing money, wants, needs, goods, and services. They have identified that sometimes we do not need to buy things unless they really need it. First Grade has learned a lot about animals and adaptations. Some animals have special features that help them survive and live. Kindergarten has been identifying different types of matter, into: solids, liquids, and gases. Sometimes matter changes states! It has been a very eventful month. Looking forward to December!



If you have any questions, contact me via email at: fchahine@lowell.k12.ma.us

~Ms. Chahine

Social Worker's Corner

In November, our students have been busy in morning meetings learning all about Friendship. During our monthly community meeting, we have reviewed what friendship is and what it means to be a good friend and not a good friend. We have also talked about the definition of bullying and reinforced that bullying will not be tolerated at Pawtucketville.

DECEMBER: BE RESPONSIBLE!!

Congratulations to the following students that have been selected as our 2018-19 Pawtucketville PALS:

Kailyn Chau	Kaylee Rodriguez
Josephine Ogunseye	Nyla Baez
Nghi Nguyen	Logan Uy
Shane Gannon	Kayla Moriarty
Peter Cote	Ava Mennella
Kyle Novo	Chelsea Quealy



The PALS have already been off to a busy start. In October, they participated in a Leadership workshop. Through activities and discussion they learned all about what makes a good leader and how teamwork is an important part of Leadership. This year the PALS will be broken up into 4 smaller groups and have more opportunities to assist at All School Assemblies and School Wide Events. Also, each group will be responsible for 1 community service project throughout the year. This month, our PALS will be organizing a food drive to benefit the Merrimack Valley Food Bank. We will be collecting non-perishable food through December 19th. The classroom that collects the most food will receive a munchkin and hot cocoa party in their classroom. Our goal is to collect 500 items.

~Mrs. Mangion



PARENT LIAISON



We hope to see many of our P'ville families at our annual Pancake Breakfast on December 8th at 9:00am. You can purchase tickets in advance or at the door.

Be sure to send your children to school with jackets, hats and gloves or mittens as the weather is getting colder and colder.

Attendance and punctuality are incredibly important in order for your child to make effective growth. Missing school or even being late frequently causes your child to miss instruction. Please make sure your child is here every day possible and here on time.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at (978) 937-7667 ext. 11005 or ccote@lowell.k12.ma.us.

Wishing you all a magical holiday season!!!

~Mrs. Cote

PTO's *No Fundraiser* Fundraiser

Help the **Pawtucketville** PTO reach \$20,000 by December 8th!

Life is busy and many Pawtucketville Families struggle to participate in the fundraisers the PTO has traditionally organized. This year, we are trying something different with the **No Fundraiser Fundraiser!**

We are encouraging each family to donate or raise \$30 per child (\$60 per family). If you would like to support your PTO but don't have time to participate in the catalog sales, simply write a check or send in cash and your job is done for the year! The PTO is a nonprofit 501(c)(3). **100% of the money we raise is spent on our school, staff, and students.**

The Pawtucketville PTO helps the students in many ways including funding field trips, supporting teachers with supplies and money for special projects, and purchasing technology for classroom use. If you prefer to raise money the more traditional way through our catalog sales, this opportunity will be available throughout the year as well.

Every family that donates will be entered to **win one of these exciting prizes:**

- Grand Prize: Chromebook**
- Second Prize: \$150 Amazon Gift Card**
- Third Prize: \$100 Barnes & Noble Gift Card**



Families will be automatically entered in the drawing: one entry per \$10 donated. Winners will be drawn at random during the Pancake Breakfast on December 8 (you don't need to be present to win).

Donations are accepted via check, cash or through our new Paypal account <http://bit.ly/PawtucketvillePTO> and will automatically enter you into the raffle.

2018-2019 Pawtucketville Parent & Teacher Organization (PTO) Cash or Check Contribution

We appreciate anything you can do and understand that everyone's ability to contribute is different.

Checks can be made out to: **Pawtucketville PTO**

Donation amount \$ _____ (you will be entered in the drawing once per \$10 donated).

P'ville Student _____ Classroom _____

Person/Family making donation _____

Phone number _____ Email _____

Please complete this form and send it, together with your cash or check donation, in to school with your Pawtucketville student. **Thank you for your support!**