# P'ville Newsletter



Dear Pawtucketville Families,

The return of nice weather brings a host of fun activities to Pawtucketville. I am pleased to share that Pawtucketville will be hosting a week long Playworks pilot program the week of May 20-24th. Separately we will have our first school-wide Playday & Cookout on May 31st.

Playworks is a national non-profit headquartered in Boston that is interested in expanding to Lowell. Interim Superintendent Durkin asked the Pawtucketville and the Morey to host a Playworks coach for a week long pilot program. Playworks describes their mission as follows:

Playtime is kids' time. But schools can and should create play environments that help kids be their best. Studies show that recess matters: a thoughtful approach to recess improves children's physical health and social and emotional learning Playworks helps schools and districts make the most of recess through on-site staffing, consultative support, professional development, free resources, and more.

In short, Trevor, the on-sight Playworks coach, will build student play skills by teaching new recess games, teaching kids how to overcome conflicts that occur during play, and by promoting the power of play. Trevor will set up and teach activities during recess as well as offer coaching sessions to each classroom outside of recess hours. For more information about Playworks, I encourage you to check out their webpage at Playworks.org.

Separately, Mrs. Branco has designed a schoolwide Pawtucketville Playday on May 31st. The entire school day will be dedicated to unstructured play including physical play, board games, and free play. This P'ville Playday will be combined with our annual cookout and focus on promoting positive student interactions through play. In addition to the skills taught by Playworks, teachers will use morning meeting and community meeting to promote teamwork and to enhance students skills with regards to sharing and cooperating through play.

Please feel free to contact me with questions about these activities.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mathew McLean Principal



#### **Important Dates**

1st ~ Early Release 1:30

6th ~ PTO Meeting 6:00

7th ~ Teacher Appreciation

10th ~ Kindergarten Spring Celebration 10:00

13th ~ 4th Grade MCAS

14th ~ 3rd Grade MCAS

15th ~ 4th Grade MCAS

16th ~ 3rd Grade MCAS

20th ~ Paws for a Cause 3-7

27th ~ No School (Holiday)

31st ~ All School Assembly

## Kindergarten

We hope you all had a wonderful April break and got some time to relax! In ELA the children will be introduced to long vowel sounds and rules. We are still in full swing with reading groups so please continue to send back the book bags each day. We will be finishing Module 4 in math within the next couple of weeks and then we will move on to Module 5. It is important to keep practicing those addition and subtraction facts! For writing we will be beginning to write small moment pieces. This will showcase all the children have learned about personal narrative writing throughout the year. The end of the year is coming up so quickly and we have many exciting events in store for our kindergarteners. Please carefully read the list below:

- -Spring Fling Celebration: Friday, May 10th at 10am (one guest per student)
- -David Farmland Field Trip: Monday, May 20th
- -Graduation: Tuesday, June 4th or Wednesday, June 5th (there will be 2 classes scheduled per day)

As always, thank you for your continuous support!

~Kindergarten Team

#### First Grade

Hopefully everybody is having a great spring. It seems like the weather is finally cooperating. On days that are in the 50's or below, please remember to send in a light coat for your child. We are very busy for the next seven weeks and academics continue right to the last day of school.

In Math, we are beginning Module 6. In Module 6, students learn addition, subtraction, comparing, and place value with numbers up to 100. Please continue math fluency with flashcards are home.

In Writing, students have begun writing series books in fiction. The children have been enjoying using their imagination with creating characters and writing different adventures about their characters.

In Reading, students are reading fiction and will be F & P tested in May. The stopping point for first grade is level L, grade level is J or K. Please read with your child(ren) every night. And most importantly please have them continue to read over the summer. Solid reading builds strong students!

Enjoy the month!

~First Grade Team

### **CONTENT LITERACY**

April was a fun-filled month. In Content Literacy we spent time talking about how we can help our Earth by recycling, reusing, and reducing. Fun fact: Earth Day was April 22 this year. Fourth graders studied natural resources and light (energy). We learned about renewable and nonrenewable resources. Third graders finished up an ongoing project: make your own animal. This was a creative opportunity for them to use their imagination. Second graders worked on mapping landforms. They created Earth Day themed paper-bags that were used to bag groceries at the nearest local Market Basket. First graders learned about bears and planted sunflower seeds that they will take home in the upcoming weeks. Kindergarten learned a lot about recycling and Earth Day. We spent time discussing why it is important to recycle, reduce, and reuse.

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

~Ms. Chahine



#### **Second Grade**

Our final **Math Bee** is scheduled for May 24th at 10:00. It will focus on addition and subtraction facts. Be sure to practice, practice!

In Eureka Math, we have begun *Module 7-Problem Solving with Length, Money, and Data*. The students are using bar graphs to understand categorical data. Story problems involve coins and bills. They are asked comparing questions about the data, such as "How many more...?" and "How many fewer...?" The students will use line plots to record and interpret numerical data. It's a fun Module, because the students enjoy working with data!

Module 8-Time, Shapes, and Fractions as Equal Parts of Shapes will be included in Math lessons in May. This extends the students' knowledge of part to whole relationships through decomposing and composing shapes. We will study the attributes of polygons such as sides, corners (vertices), and angles. They will see that 6 congruent squares form a cube and study a cube's attributes including edges, faces, and corners. Shapes are divided into the fractions of ½, 1/3, and ½. Time is connected to skip counting by 5's. Telling time on an analog clock also is connected to the fractions of one quarter and one half.

In Literacy, we are working on writing our adaptations of Fairy/Folk Tales. We have some fun plans in the works to celebrate all of our hard work. We have planned an all day Fairy/Folktale Day Extravaganza for May 10. Included will be making some fun crafts such as creating a Magic Mirror and a Magic Wand, a Reader's Theatre where the students can act out some of the popular tales, and some neat STEM projects where the students will design and build tale-related structures, Students may wear fancy clothes to represent princes and princes, or any story book character, but fancy dress is totally optional. We are planning to end the day with a movie. We will give you further details as we approach the date.

**Field Trip** - Mrs. Marshall has made us reservations to visit Franklin Park Zoo on May 29th. If you wish to chaperone, and do not have an approved CORI on file, you can fill out the form as soon as possible. We'd love to have you come along! We'll send you more details as the date nears.

~Second Grade Team

#### **Third Grade**

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a relaxing break. We had our second (there will be one more...so keep studying!) grade level multiplication bee. All of the children all did very well. We continue to see so much improvement! A very special congratulations to....

First Place: Jasmine Ly

Second Place: Yassine Jala

Third Place: Bella Mienkowski
Fourth Place: Alex Kuria

We have finished the MCAS ELA assessment. All of the children worked so hard and did their best. We are so proud of them! One more to go.....the MCAS math assessment is quickly approaching. There will be two testing sessions on May 14th and May 16th. Please make sure your child is well rested and has a healthy breakfast, so they will be prepared to do their best. We will be speaking with the students and our hope is that they will not feel any stress regarding the assessment. Please offer words of encouragement and support.

Please keep practicing the multiplication tables with your children. It is so helpful!

Also, please remember to send your child in with a snack. The children are HUNGRY mid morning and ready for a snack!

~Third 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. The banking days for May are the 7th and the 21st. Banking will be done for the year on May 21st.

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

Thank you,

Kathy Marandola / Bank Liaison



#### Fourth Grade

Greetings! We can't believe that May is here! Before we know it, June will be upon us! The fourth grade students worked very hard on the ELA MCAS in April! We are very proud of the perseverance, determination, and resiliency they showed throughout the test. We have been working to prepare for the Math MCAS, which will be on May 13th and 15th. Please make sure your student is at school on time those days!

Math MCAS Academy final day will be on May 2nd from 8:00AM-9:00AM. If you signed up, please make sure your student arrives on time! Please contact your teacher if you have any questions.

Field Day is planned for June 7th. We will be visiting Canobie Lake Park on June 11th. Fourth Grade Graduation will be held on Thursday, June 13th. The Clap Out will be June 14th. Please keep your eye out for more information coming home soon!

Thank you for all of your support!

~Fourth Grade Team



#### **PARENT LIAISON**



Our end of year events have been scheduled! If you are interested in volunteering for any of these events you MUST have an approved CORI on file. If you have not completed a CORI form and would like to volunteer/chaperone, then please contact me at <a href="mailto:cote@lowell.k12.ma.us">cote@lowell.k12.ma.us</a> or 978-937-7667 ext. 11005. CORI forms MUST be completed before May 17th in order to volunteer for end of year events!

Field Day is Friday, June 7th and the rain date is scheduled for Monday, June 10th. All volunteers MUST have a CORI on file.

We will be having our end of year BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE Scholastic Book Fair the week of June 3rd. Be on the look out for the flyer. When it comes to summer reading, there is great power in connecting kids to books they love. If they love it, they will read it! Kids who read over the summer continue to build their vocabulary, reading skills and knowledge. This gives a head start on the next school year.

~Mrs. Cote