

P'ville Newsletter

Safe ~ Respectful ~ Responsible



Dear Pawtucketville Families,

If September is about setting up routines and expectations, then October is all about diving deep into the curriculum. This newsletter offers some insights and highlights into each grade level's curriculum but there is so much more. Our teachers offered high quality instruction that is rooted in best practices and tailored to the need of each child. It is rewarding and insightful to walk from room to room and witness how our talented staff engage students and bring them to new levels of understanding.

Our official school web page can be accessed through the Lowell Public Schools site. It contains a detailed calendar that marks all our family events for the year as well as other useful information. Be sure not to miss our annual Scary Story Night on October 25th or Pawtucketville's Roller Kingdom Night on Monday October 29th. We finish the month with our annual Vocabulary Parade during our All School Assembly. "Like" our Facebook page for real time updates.

October also brings our Options Based Training. The students will practice a series of emergency response procedures including soft and hard lockdowns, evacuations, classroom barricades, and counter. The intention of this training is provide teachers with a series of response options in the unlikely event of an intruder. We train students to follow the decisions made by trusted adults. The consensus in local law enforcement is that an options based response is more relevant to modern day situations. We approach the training in a developmentally appropriate way meaning it looks and feels different in a fourth grade classroom than in a kindergarten classroom.

A letter will be sent home soon and I will post more information on our website--including the social story we use as the basis for instruction. This is year four of this training and our older students have become well versed in the protocols. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns about this training.

Thank you,

Dr. Mathew McLean
Principal



Important Dates

1st ~ PTO Meeting 4:30

3rd ~ Early Release 1:30

5th ~ Picture Day

8th ~ No School

15th ~ Paws for a Cause

25th ~ Scary Story Night

29th ~ Roller Kingdom 6:00

31st ~ All School Assembly



Pre-K

The preschoolers have been working on classroom rules and routines. Friendships are being made and they are having fun at learning centers. In October, we will be learning about each other. The curriculum unit is All About Me. We will be focusing on the five senses, how we change from babies to adults, and the community we live in.

~Mrs. Genest

Kindergarten

Kindergarten is well underway. Our rules and routines are set and we have been jumping into our curriculum.

In ELA, we have begun a unit called "Our Community/Weather and Trees". We started off learning about each other and we are moving on to learn about our community. We have gone on a few outdoor adventures to look at trees, find seeds, and touch trees in real life. Sight words and phonics are extremely important to practice each and every night. We thank you for your help with this!

In math, we have been working on number formation, one to one correspondence, sorting, and basic understanding of numbers 1-5.

In writing, we have been practicing making an illustration to tell a story. The children are starting to understand that their pictures and words need to match. We have just started labeling. Encourage your children to hear the sounds.

We will be going on a field trip to Parlee Farm in Tyngsboro on October 2nd. We are excited to pick apples and pumpkins!

~Kindergarten Team

First Grade

September has been a very busy month in first grade. During Math, we have been studying the number bond graphic organizer. Students are learning that in addition, we add 2 parts to make a whole. Students are practicing counting on. Please ask your child about this strategy and practice it at home. Students are asked to put the greater number in their head and count on to the whole.

In writing news, students have been recalling real life events that give them a strong feeling. Our hope is to stretch these moments into a small moment.

Students are reviewing short vowel sounds during phonics.

Please remember to pack Take Home folders on a daily basis. Homework is due on Friday.

~First Grade Team

ART ROOM

"Art is something that makes you breathe with a different kind of happiness."

-Anni Albers

Fall is fantastic! I cannot wait to go apple picking, to the Deerfield Fair, and to Canobie Lake Park! The biggest pumpkin ever is in the art room. Western Avenue Studios will be hosting an Autumn Celebration October 6th and 7th. The artwork in Western Avenue Studios is very inspiring; Open Studios is the first Saturday of every month throughout the year!

We are painting, printing, and collaging to make fall inspired masterpieces. Scary Story Night will be Thursday, October 25th and these masterpieces will be on display! Art from Bonfillio, Kularski, Duchesne, McNarmara, Marandola, Rachal, Dugan, Bingham, O'Brien, Desmond, and Malboeuf will be hanging up!

~Ms. Amlashi



Second Grade

In Eureka Math, we are working in Module 3-Place Value, Counting, and Comparison of Numbers to 1,000. Students are working to build a solid foundation of place value in a base-ten system. They are building strategies to add and subtract 2 and 3 digit numbers. They will be comparing two 3-digit numbers using greater than, less than, and equal to. The Module finishes with 1 more/1less, 10 more/10 less, and 100 more/100less. There are a lot of hands-on activities which make this a fun Module to study.

Math Bee-Our first Grade 2 Math Bee is scheduled for Tuesday, November 20 at 10:00. The big idea of the Math Bee is for students to learn their Math Facts. Fact Fluency is an important skill in acquiring ease and expertise in higher level Math. This Bee will practice addition facts through 20. Get a jumpstart and start to practice your Math Facts!

The “Vocabulary Parade” is scheduled to be held during the All School Assembly. It’s not too early to begin thinking about choosing an interesting vocabulary word to portray. The big idea is to wear some kind of a costume to represent a tricky vocabulary word. It would be helpful for students to have a word chosen well before the day of the parade. Students will be given cards to record their vocabulary word, or you can create your own card. This is always a big hit with the students and staff as well! We have already planned our Teaching Team Theme!

In Literacy, we are finishing our first Unit. We are wrapping up writing Personal Narratives and talking about what a story is about using key details from the text. We will begin Unit 2-Lifting the Quality of Thinking, Talking, and Writing about Characters, Lessons, and Craft. In Interactive Read Aloud, students will listen to stories and write responses where the focus will be to describe how the characters react to major events and challenges and in understanding the central message. At the end of the month, Writer’s Workshop will focus on Opinion Pieces/Persuasive Reviews.

~Second Grade Team

Third Grade

We can’t believe how quickly the month of September went! After spending a few weeks getting the routines and expectations in place, we are now well into our year of learning! In math, we will be spending the next few weeks continuing to work on our introduction to multiplication and division. We will be moving into place value and units of measure by the end of the month. In writing, we continue working on our personal narrative unit and building stronger pieces of writing. In reading, we will continue working on the importance of retelling stories and character traits.

Please make sure you are sending your child in with a healthy, allergy aware snack daily. Also, please send them in with a sweatshirt. It does get chilly in the classroom throughout the day!

~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. Schedules went home with your children the last week of September. In October, the banking days are the 9th and the 23rd.

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

Thank you,

Kathy Marandola
Bank Liaison



Fourth Grade

October is a busy month as we move from building routines and delve deeper into content.

In Writer's Workshop, we will be working on realistic fiction. Children are learning to develop descriptive paragraphs that capture the reader and tell an interesting story.

In math, the children are working on Module 1 that includes place value, rounding and estimation. Some of this is review, so they are catching on quickly. As a reminder they should be studying multiplication facts each night using flashcards, computer games or any other means available at home. Also your child should be reading for at least 20 minutes each night.

This month the fourth grade will be taking a field trip to the Lowell Boott Mills to participate in the program Engineer It! Please be on the look out for the permission slip.

~Fourth Grade Team

Music Room

Music is moving along fast and fourth grade has already done their recorder ensemble auditions. They will also be performing at this months (October) All School Assembly.

Third grade has started recorder and our routines are fingers are all falling in to place. The students have been having fun earning their white belt! If your child has not already brought money in they still have time!

Second grade has been dancing circles around me and first grade is already learning to read music! My room has been quite loud this year with many students participating, trying new things, and having fun. It has been a great start to a new year!

Please, if you have any questions feel free to e-mail me at jknight@lowell.k12.ma.us.

~Ms. Knight



PARENT LIAISON

The Family Compact will be going home with students this month, please sign and return this form to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Also, a purple volunteer form will be going home soon. There are many volunteer opportunities at P'ville. If you are interested in volunteering, please complete the form and return it to school with your child or contact me at ccote@lowell.k12.ma.us or 978-937-7667 ext. 11005. A CORI must be completed each school year to volunteer.

~Mrs. Cote

Nurse's Corner

We are committed to helping your student have a healthy and successful school year!

A few reminders:

- All school medications must be brought in by an adult. A doctor's order is required for medication administration by the school nurse. For the safety of our students, Please do not send medications in your child's backpack.
- If your child has a new medical diagnosis, please update the school nurse.
- In the month of October we will start height and weight screenings for children in grades 1 and 4.
- Students in grades K and 4 need to have an updated physical exam form on file. Please send a copy to the school nurse.

Children **must remain home** if they have any of the following:

- A contagious illness like chickenpox, flu, or strep throat, until the doctor or public health department official says it is safe to return or the child has been on antibiotics for 24 hours.
- A rash or skin condition not diagnosed by a doctor
- A fever that causes chills, sweating or muscle aches
- Temperature over 100.4 in the past 24 hours
- Vomiting / diarrhea in the past 24 hours
- Active head lice
- Notification by the school nurse/ health department that immunizations are not up to date. (Exclusion notice) pens are a necessity, and may save a life!

~Nurse Jill

Social Worker's Corner

Our students have been busy in morning meetings during September learning all about safety. We have reviewed and reinforced with students the importance of safety in our classrooms, hallways, and on buses. We will let families know the topic each month in our newsletter so that you can also continue these conversations with your children at home. Also, at the end of every month, 1 student from each classroom will receive the PAW Award at our All School Assembly for consistently demonstrating the skill learned during the month throughout our school community.

Each morning our students and teachers gather together in a circle within their classrooms for 15 minutes to interact with one another while engaging in activities that promote social emotional development. It is hoped morning meetings will provide daily opportunities for children to practice skills such as greeting, listening and responding, speaking to a group, reading, and group problem-solving.

New this year, we have implemented grade level community meetings to kick off the topic of the month. During these community meetings, the entire grade gathers together to discuss what the theme is for the month and encourages entire grade level discussion about the upcoming theme.

~Mrs. Mangion

October: Be Respectful!



LITERACY

Save the date! Our annual Vocabulary Parade will be on Wednesday, October 31st. Students are invited to choose a new or interesting vocabulary word and come to school "dressed-up" as that word. More information will follow.

~Mrs. Gregoire



Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

For more on school readiness, visit attendanceworks.org and reachoutandread.org