

Washington School News

Principal: Cheryl Cunningham
ccunningham@lowell.k12.ma.us

Clerk: Elaine Nolan
enolan@lowell.k12.ma.us



November 2017

Volume 7

Issue 3

Principal's Corner

It is really hard to believe that it is November already! The first two months have flown by.

We have been faced with a huge dilemma of how to safely have our students enter and exit the schoolyard. Until we can get sidewalks, parents and guardians must use **extreme caution**. No students should ever be dropped off at the first gate, as there are moving cars in that area. All drop offs should be made at the second gate only.

As far as exiting, without sidewalks, it makes it difficult to exit out either gate and parent support is needed. Please do not allow your child/children to run ahead of you, especially when using the first gate, as there may be cars moving at dismissal time. Teachers will not send students to the gate, unless an adult escorts them. Parents must walk in.

I am working to get sidewalks installed, but until that time, we need to use caution to keep all of our students safe!!

Thanks for your cooperation with this!!

Attendance Goals & Rewards

Individual Awards:

Perfect Attendance for the month= charm

Outstanding Attendance (1 absence and/or 1 tardy)= charm

Classroom Award: 10 minutes of bonus recess for classes that meet benchmark for the month
Congratulations to Rm. 5/Mrs. Brady and Rm. 8/Mr. Deshler for meeting October's benchmark of 11 perfect attendance days! They will earn a bonus recess!

November's Benchmark is: 11

Thank You

to the Lowell Police Unions for providing our school with a special treat on October 20th. The weather was perfect, our students were great, and everyone never looked happier! All that hard work over the summer paid off in a big way!!!



Kudos to Our Families

The name project results were spectacular! We had over 120 students participate and our halls are lined with really great work!

It was great to learn the significance of so many names!! We hope you enjoyed spending quality time together and will join us for our next project!



Next Family Project is Disguise a Turkey!!



Watch for information to come home!!

Safety Drills

We have been practicing safety drills. Thus far, we have practiced:

- Fire Evacuation
- Medical Emergency
- Soft Lockdown
- Hard Lockdown
- Lunchroom Lockdown
- Playground Evacuation

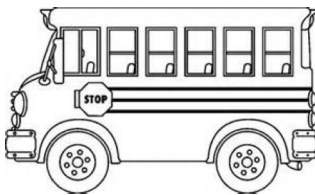


This week, classroom teachers will be preparing their students for Options-based response drills, which will be held within the next few weeks.

I encourage you to discuss these drills with your children and contact the school if you have any questions.

Bus Evacuation Drill

All students in grades K-4 will participate in a drill to prepare them for evacuating a bus in case of an emergency in the next few weeks.



Move-A-Thon

Our Move-A-Thon was a huge hit! The weather was perfect, we had lots of parents come to cheer and help, and we raised over \$3300! Thanks to all that contributed; it is very much appreciated!!!



MCAS Results Are In!

Our results are pretty positive!

Our third and fourth graders made us proud once again!

62% of our third graders scored in the meeting or exceeding category in ELA and Math.

49% of our fourth graders scored in meeting or exceeding category in ELA and 58% scored in meeting or exceeding category in Math.

This was a new version of the MCAS and the expectations were higher! Washington students scored significantly higher than the district and state average in most areas!

These results reflect the hard work done at every grade level and the attention to detail by all involved!

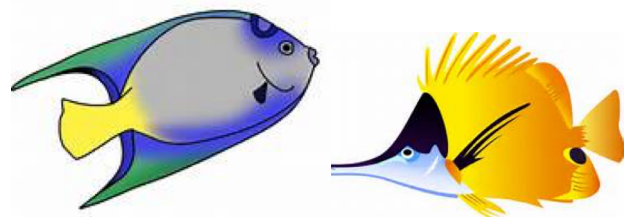
Three cheers for a dedicated staff and committed parents!!



Aquarium Field Trip

Just about all of our classes will be going to the New England Aquarium on December 4th thanks to several of our teachers writing a grant to pay for admissions!

We will need chaperones, so if you are interested, make sure your CORI application has been submitted.



Charms

Our charms are a hit! Students were all provided a keychain that should stay on their backpack. Each month they have a chance to earn charms for a variety of things that include:

100% Attendance

Outstanding Attendance (absent or tardy 1 day)

100% Homework (includes reading 4X per week)

Caught Being Good

Random Acts of Kindness

Teacher Selected Awards

Student of the Month

3 Pledges for the Move-A-Thon



Gr. 4 Leadership Teams

PALS- The PALS met last week and discussed many topics. They were asked to think of some ideas for a community service project they could work on together. Pennies for Patients, Holiday Malls, and field trips were also discussed. Mrs. Chan is looking forward to working with such a positive group of student role models!

Recycle Team- Team assignments were established during the first meeting. Monday & Wednesday will be the pick up days. Students will work in partnerships to collect bins and empty the bins. In addition to helping in the lunchroom, the next assignment will be to learn more about which materials are recyclable so team members can educate others.

Photography Team- The photographers are learning by doing. Their talents were needed immediately. The photography students learned how to use a digital camera and take good pictures with very little class time. Mrs. MacPhail was extremely impressed! An exceptional group of talented students!

School Beautification Group- We will meet soon to begin planning our work. We are hoping to get grant funding to remake the Kindergarten play space and to improve other spaces in our school.

Homework

Homework is a School Committee mandate. Suggested Amount of Homework Time Nightly is as follows:

Grade 1 20-30 minutes

Grade 2 25-45 minutes

Grades 3 & 4 40-60 minutes

We have tried to simplify it at all grade levels to make it predictable and easy to accomplish. Students in grades 1-4 will have math and word work assignments M-TH. In addition, K-4 students are expected to read at least 4 times a week for:

Grades K & 1 10-15 minutes

Grade 2 15-20 minutes

Grades 3 & 4 20-30 minutes



All homework should be kept in their blue communication folder for easy access.

Students completing 100% their homework each month will earn a WOW charm for their keychain.

The classroom with the highest percent of 100% Homework will take possession of the Homework Trophy for the month and will earn a **BONUS RECESS!**

Mrs. Cahill's class was the September winner with 80%! Kudos!!!

Next Friends of Washington

Parent Meeting

November 13th.

Please join us from 6:30-7:30



Character Education

September's Most Responsible

PreK AM	Alejandro Serrano
PreK PM	Aria Ngen
K/3	Allen Roath
K/6	Teven Soy
1/4	Karleigh Harrison
1/5	Reinol Chim
2/1	Maya Patenaude
2/2	Miranda Heng
3/7	Gabby Leduc
3/8	Victoria Sophal
4/9	Ethan Do
4/10	Annia Ses



October's Most Respectful

PreK AM	Mazzy Kelley
PreK PM	Jonan Jin Russell
K/3	Sarah Nazary
K/6	Aleena Roath
1/4	Kolsen Croxford
1/5	Talha Syed
2/1	Madelyn Leduc
2/2	Narya Yoth
3/7	Kham Chanthavongsack
3/8	Ava Koehn
4/9	Hillary Tap
4/10	Aubrey Norinth



Character Education

November Trait: Honesty

- Choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do
- Not taking things that do not belong to you
- Admitting when you make a mistake
- Not bending the truth
- Really meaning what you say
- Caring enough not to mislead others
- Making sure others are able to trust you



Important Dates

November

2 nd	Jeanne D'Arc Banking
7 th	No School/Voting Day
10 th	No School/Veteran Day
13 th	Friends of Wash/PTO Mtg. @ 6:30
15 th	School Committee Math Awards @ 6:30
17 th	Turkey Projects Due
21 st	Dental Program for Grade 2
22 nd	Early Dismissal @ 11:10
23 rd	Thanksgiving Recess
24 th	Thanksgiving Recess
27 th	School Reopens
30 th	Jeanne D'Arc Banking

December

4 th	Field Trip to Aquarium
4 th	Hour of Code week begins
6 th	Early Release @ 12:50
6 th	Report Cards Grades K-4
7 th	Parent Teacher Conferences 6-8
14 th	Jeanne D'Arc Banking
20 th	Gr. 4 to Tsongas Center
22 nd	Full Day/Holiday Sing-A-Long

Holiday Mall tentative dates: Dec. 13-15th

Happy Holidays!!!

Stay Connected



School Website:

<https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/Domain/29>



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