



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy New Year!

As we ring in 2016, I am having a tough time selecting just one topic to write about this week. I could write about the \$700 million jackpot with Powerball, the struggles of coming back to school with a good head cold, the success of our Winter Activities Program which allows students to experience different opportunities for five Wednesday afternoons, the challenge of having aging parents, another friend being diagnosed with cancer, and the need for our students to wear winter jackets out at recess.

So here are the highlights:

Yes, I will be purchasing a few tickets for Saturday's drawing. It is fun to dream! . . . a lake house, having the ability to pay for my nieces', nephews' and godchildren's college education, and taking a golfing trip to Ireland. . .

Why does it seem I always get sick during vacation? Going on 13 days, two different visits to the doctors, three prescriptions and many boxes of tissues later, I am hoping this new round of medication will help.

Thanks to our volunteers and an amazing staff, our students have the opportunity to select different adventures to try for five afternoons during the months of January and February. We have students skiing and snowboarding Ragged Mountain.

I continue to be fortunate to have my parents live in my childhood home in Nashua. My family is learning to adjust to my father's progressive diseases, loss of vision, and high blood pressure. Through laughter, tears, prayers, communication, support and love, I will be learning a lot while making memories that will last forever! (new learning—helping to build a ramp in the garage)

A phone call was received last night from a friend, sharing that she was diagnosed on Monday with breast cancer. All I can think about is what Christopher Robin says to Pooh, "You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

I understand that sweatshirt hoodies are comfortable and that some students feel that winter jackets aren't a "cool" clothing choice, but with temperatures in the teens and low 20's, students need to be wearing more than a sweatshirt out at recess. It would be helpful as a "team" if we could stress this message over these winter months.

Thanks for reading my random thoughts and have a great weekend!

A handwritten signature consisting of a smiley face followed by the name "Ann".

## Fun in Fourth!

Happy New Year From the Fourth Grade!

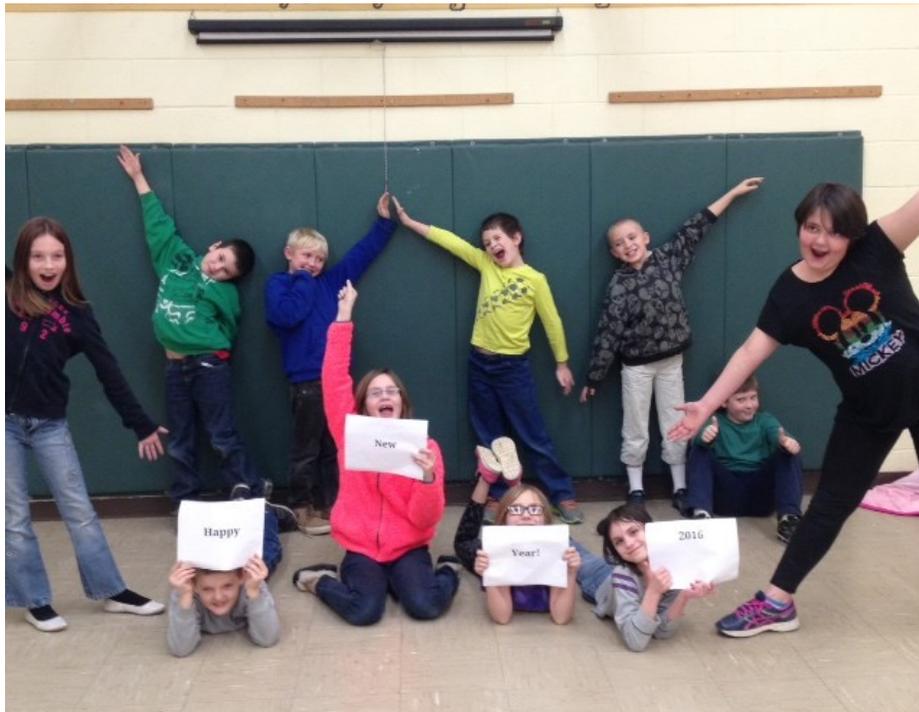
In Math, we will be working on 2 digit multiplication and extended multiplication. For example,  $30 \times 4 = 120$   $3 \times 40 = 120$  and  $30 \times 40 = 1,200$ . We are also continuing our Multiplication Challenge. Please continue to practice our math facts with us at home to support us with this process.

In Language Arts, our new Unit 4 is all about Puzzles and Mysteries. The main question is, "Is there an explanation for everything?" We will focus on really thinking outside the box and extending our imaginations. Our Comprehension Skill will be Compare and Contrast. We will get to explore the life of a Pink River Dolphin!

Our December book projects went better than we could've imagined! Come see our work on the wall outside our classroom. Our January project is called, "I am the Character." We have to read our new book, then present it the same way, explaining the story from beginning to end. While we tell the story, however, we'll tell it in first person, from a character's perspective we've chosen in the story. For example, if I choose Charlotte's Web, I'd begin with, "Hello, my name is Wilbur, and I had a terrible scare this year...." For extra points we have the option of dressing as the character. We will present our January projects the last week of January.

In Social Studies, we will continue our unit on Native Americans. We recently learned about the different types of houses the Abenaki lived in and how the houses differed. Our next unit will be on Explorers and Settlers of New England.

We are so excited about the great things to come in the year 2016!



## **Newfound Nutrition**

### **Lunch Menu Week of Jan 11-15, 2016**

#### Monday

Breakfast Sandwich  
Potato Hashbrown  
Garden Salad  
Assorted Fruit

#### Tuesday

Oriental Chicken  
Veggie Fried Rice  
Oriental Veggies/Salad  
Garden Salad

#### Wednesday

Pasta with Marinara  
Italian Veggies  
WW Dinner Roll  
Garden Salad  
Assorted Fruit

#### Thursday

Nachos  
Chili con Carne  
Carrot Sticks  
Garden Salad  
Assorted Fruit

#### Friday

Pizza  
Spinach  
Assorted Fruit  
Garden Salad

Breakfast \$1.25  
(reduced \$0.30)  
Lunch \$2.50  
(reduced \$0.40)  
Milk \$0.35

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## **Afternoon Plans**

For the safety of your children and help with communication, it is essential that parents take the time to write notes in the morning to inform the classroom teacher and office of your child's plan in the afternoon.

We receive on average 12 phone calls a day regarding a change in students' plans. Many of these calls take place between 1:00-2:00 p.m. when Mrs. Farrell has for the day and Mrs. Robinson is solo in the office. Please remember that Mrs. Robinson could be working with a sick child or working through a discipline problem during that hour in which she is also covering our main office and phones.

Our school continues to work on using different dismissal strategies at school but would also like to share a few ideas with you. Attached to this newsletter is a form that families could send in on Monday to inform us of your child's plan for the week. If you do need to call, please call prior to 12:30 p.m.

**"You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."**

**Christopher Robin to Winnie the Pooh**



# Danbury Elementary



# JANUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Happy New Year!	2
3	4 Back to School!	5	6 Winter Activity Prog.	7	8	9
10	11 School Board Mtg 6:30pm at NRHS	12	13 Winter Activity Prog.	14	15	16
17	18 No School MLK Day	19	20 Winter Activity Prog.	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Winter Activity Prog.	28 Prize Speaking Preliminary	29 No School Teacher Workshop	30 Deliberative Session 10am at NRHS
31						