



DANBURY ELEMENTARY

Volume 11, Issue 2
September 11, 2015

Some Odds & Ends

Dear Parents and Guardians,
As we have started the school year, I thought I would give you some additional information.

Intramurals are Back!

Our primary PE teacher, Mrs. Kernan will be at DES until 3:00 on Wednesdays. With this additional after school time, she will be providing a special opportunity to our students. To start, intramurals will be focused with our upper grades. A flyer was sent home to students in grades 2-5. Space may be limited, so it is important if your child wants to participate that you return the paperwork in a timely fashion.

We have a new phone system

In the middle of August, the district started to install a new phone system within all of our school buildings. This upgrade will continue to improve the safety and security within each building and has put a phone in each classroom. During this month, each staff member will be setting up a voicemail and will have his/her own extension number. We have had a few glitches with the new system and are working closely with the company to resolve those problems. We will publish our extension numbers in a later newsletter and post them on our website soon.

Drop-off & Pick-up

Although some faculty and staff might be here earlier than 7:00 a.m., students should not be dropped off prior to 7:00. There is no supervision of students until 7:00 a.m. When our part-time Administrative Assistant, leaves at 1:00 p.m., Mrs. Robinson takes care of the phones, main office and assists teachers with dismissal. In addition to those responsibilities, she is our school nurse and assistant principal. If at all possible, it would be helpful to receive "end-of-the-day" changes and phone calls prior to 1:00 p.m.

Project Promise—our after school program

Did you know that your child could receive homework help, a healthy snack and participant in enrichment activities from 2:00-5:30 on Mondays thru Thursdays right here at DES? The cost to participate in this safe and exciting program is \$8.00 per day (full rate), \$4.00 per day (reduced lunch rate), or No Tuition (free lunch rate). If you would like more information, please call the office.

My schedule

As most of you know, I am also principal of New Hampton Community School. My schedule this year (and I am successful at this about 85% of the time) will be Tuesday, Thursdays and every other Friday at DES. If you need to reach me on the other days, please call 744-3221. In addition, my email is aholloran@sau4.org.

Hope to see all of you tomorrow at the DES PTO Pancake Breakfast. Also stop by to put your hand on our community rock, we are usually located across from the fire station.

UPCOMING EVENTS

9/22 BOOK FAIR & OPEN HOUSE
Book Fair opens at 6:00 p.m.
Parents in classrooms for 6:30 p.m. presentation.

Note: This year children will stay in the MPR for a movie while parents meet with their classroom teacher.

9/23 EARLY RELEASE
Student dismissal at noon. NO Project Promise but the TTCC is open.

9/28 PICTURE DAY

Glimpse into Kindergarten

SAU4 News

On Monday, September 14th, the Newfound Area School Board will be discussing the plan to move the 6th grade from the middle school to the 4 elementary schools. The plan will be presented by Superintendent of Schools, Stacy Buckley. The School Board will then discuss and determine the plan. There will be opportunity for public input on the plan. It is important that parents attend this meeting so that they have the correct information as the Board moves forward. The meeting will be held at Newfound Regional High School and will begin at 6:30.

Routines and Procedures: We are settling right in to our daily schedule in the kindergarten room. Remember to check your child's bag every night for a red folder (M-Th) or a yellow folder (Friday). Also check in their book buddy bags for Just Right Books! We exchange books once per week!

Daily Schedule:

- 7:30-7:50 Unpack, Attendance, Morning Meeting and Calendar
- 7:50-8:20 Foundations
- 8:20-8:50 Whole Group Literacy
- 8:50-9:35 Flex Reading Groups
- 9:35-9:45 Snack
- 9:45-10:00 Recess
- 10:00-10:40 Whole Group Math
- 10:40-11:10 Flex Math Games
- 11:10-11:35 Lunch Recess
- 11:35-12:00 Lunch
- 12:00-12:30 Quiet Time/RTI (Intervention Time)
- 12:30-1:00 Centers/Science/Social Studies
- 1:00-1:15 Read Aloud/ Pack up
- 1:15-2:00 Specials
(M- Music, T- Guidance, W- PE, TH-Art, F- ICT)

As we get a little further along in school and transitions become easier, please work on saying good-bye to your child after the pledge in the Multi-Purpose Room. This makes for an easier transition for all students in the classroom. We are all working on becoming independent kindergarteners. :)



Every week we have new jobs!



Brody and Matthew during K/1 flex grouping math games

Newfound Nutrition September 14-18

<p>14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BHOP Pizza Cal Blend Veggies Garden Salad Assorted Fruit</p>	<p>15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Shepherd's Ple Green Beans Garden Salad Assorted Fruit</p>	<p>16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Stuffed Shells with Marinara Sauce Fresh Broccoli WW Bread Sticks Garden Salad Assorted Fruit</p>	<p>17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Grilled Cheese Sandwich on WW Bread Mixed Veggies Garden Salad Assorted Fruit</p>	<p>18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Beef Burger w/Cheese on WW Roll Mixed Garden Veggies Garden Salad Assorted Fruit</p>
---	---	--	--	---

A Special Thank You

We would like to say a special thank you to Laura Radwell, who has worked in the DES kitchen for the past year. She has served our yummy food with a smile! She will be moving to the middle school and will be missed. We welcome Heather Shaffer as her replacement to the DES family!

Time & Homework: Notes from Guidance

Time is a funny thing! It keeps moving. Our kids are growing, and thank goodness we keep growing with them. My children are now both in High School. I know I started having children later in life, but I still can't believe I am old enough to have one child on the edge of graduating from High School. I was amazed this year to see our students returning and seeing how over two short months the growth and maturity they had gained.



Since my children were young, they have taught me the value of time. To cherish it and spend it wisely. They grow so fast! When school begins, how we use our time changes. And like many of you, we have the added challenge of homework.

Homework, as I am sure many of you have experienced, has always been a glitch in our time. My kids were not eager to sit and do homework after a full day at school. In fact both of my boys wrote persuasive essays in Middle School making an argument for no homework. It did not work, but they felt good about sharing their opinions and having them discussed and validated in class.

The good news is every year we found a routine that would work. Yes, every year the routines changed as they changed and the homework changed. I have one child who likes to be in the middle of things, can tune people out, feel surrounded by family, and "pretty much" stay on track. Another who only after playing or being active for a few hours can settle into a quiet place to work. There were years where a day with minimal hugs meant an afternoon of lots of hugs and tickling going on before homework could even be entertained.

My kids have taught me that I need to be flexible. My needs and their needs are different. I have learned to sit beside my kids and read while they read, to write reports while they wrote reports, to practice math facts and go over spelling lists while driving, making, dinner, or washing dishes. And I have learned sometimes I need to jump on the trampoline when they jumped because, we simply did not have enough play time together. Home work is considered an important part of our kids learning and I had to learn with my kids how to make that happen without stress. Not always easy, but with time, lots of watching and listening, every year we seem to find a way to develop a new routine.

I wish us all success this year while we develop our new routines with our amazing children! In next week's newsletter look for some tried and true Helpful Hints for completing homework!