

Danbury Elementary Newsletter

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des.sau4.org
Ann Holloran, Principal

Parents and Guardians,
Ms. Holloran is swamped this week with administration paperwork. Below is some of the inspiration she draws on during the busy times to keep her going. May it be inspiring to you as well!

Believe & Succeed
Courage does not always roar. Sometimes, it is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying,
"I will try again tomorrow."

Guidance Corner

I feel strongly I need to start this week's Guidance update with this comment, "Your children are simply lovely." This past week, our little school faced a challenge no school wants to experience through the loss of Mrs. Paquette's daughter.

With your support from home, along with the special time set aside in school, the children demonstrated how we can all come together to support each other. The outpouring of love shared through art and words were truly heart warming. It was clear they understood the importance of their actions. The classrooms were quiet with intentional choices, the hugs were provided when needed, and the children smiled with pride as they offered to show us their gift to Mrs. Paquette. All notes and drawings will be sent to Mrs. Paquette to treasure in the quiet of her home.

The children were encouraged to share their feelings with us any time, at home, and of course to Mrs. Paquette when she returns. We also let all of the children know there is no one right way to cope with death, but together we can find and create ways that bring us relief. There were questions your children asked about details. With care, we shared that this was such a private life event we did not know the answers, but we could still reach out to be loving and supportive without all the answers. The response in all classes was so graciously met. I was so impressed, I felt as though I could see the kids' brains saying, "Okay, we got this. Now we have to do our job and help each other."

My very best to all of you!

Mrs. Connor



Jump Rope for Heart

Last month, through PE class, our students participated in Jump Rope for Heart. Congratulations to DES for raising \$876.00 for this excellent cause! Top fundraiser was Sarah Ford in grade 4. Money raised will benefit the American Heart Association. To see a thank you video from the ACA and learn about the difference our students have made, visit the website www.heart.org.

Music Mondays

As the school year rolls along, music class has been in full swing. We have been working hard learning about and internalizing patterns to deepen our understanding of music. These patterns are either rhythmic and determine when the notes of a pattern are played, or melodic which are what notes are played. Rhythmic patterns are organized around the beat of a song, which is the steady pulse you may find your toes tapping to. The beat can be divided and organized in all types of interesting ways to make a song unique. Melodic patterns are organized traditionally using solfege, the do, re, and mi notes popularized by "The Sound of Music." These notes are a valuable learning tool that musicians have used since the 11th century! We have been using these tools to help learn songs and make our own up too. I am excited to demonstrate our work during the upcoming concert, which will be May 15th. I hope to see you then! DES Rocks!

Second Grade Stars

We have been busy in 2nd grade! The class is continuing to learn how to work as one cohesive unit, which is resulting in great teamwork and even better work! This class has come a long way this year and it is great to see them maturing. In Foundations, we have moved toward r-controlled vowels and vowel teams. These are a difficult task for 2nd graders because now when they hear a sound, it could be many different spelling options. To help with our spelling, we have been leaving a blank space in the word when we hear that spelling option, and test out the different possibilities. If the word is unfamiliar, we use a dictionary to find the correct spelling. By reading every day, it will become easier for the students to recognize the correct spelling of the word when they see it in text.

In math we have been working on addition and subtraction when the students either have to bundle to make a ten or hundred, or decompose a ten or hundred when subtracting. Now that they have learned the process, they have been able to add and subtract many numbers within 1,000! Word problems continue to be something that we practice due to the confusion when the problem has two or more parts. Practicing different word problems at home would be a great help so the students can have more exposure to the math vocabulary.

In literacy, we have been focusing on our fluency and comprehension. The end of the year goal for 2nd graders is to read 87 words correct per minute with 97% accuracy. This is a tough goal to reach, so we have been reading in our small groups to have more exposure to chapter books with a continuing story line. We have also been focusing on retelling the story to remember the important details. When reading at home, try to ask your child who was in the story, what were they doing, and what message is the author trying to send. These will help your child better remember the stories they read. Thank you for your continued support at home!



Lunch Menu Mar 27-31, 2017

Monday

Grilled Cheese
Tomato Soup
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Tuesday

Breakfast Sandwich
Tater Tots
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Wednesday

Beef Burrito
Refried Beans
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Thursday

Pasta with Meat Sauce
Italian Veggies
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Friday

Pizza
Carrot Sticks
Garden Salad
Fresh Fruit

Breakfast \$1.25
(reduced \$.30)
Lunch \$2.75
(reduced \$.40)
Milk \$.35

This facility is operated in accordance with the USDA policy, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender, disability, religion, or national origin.



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

The Newfound Area School District will hold its annual Kindergarten Connection for all children who will be entering kindergarten in September 2017 as follows:

- Tuesday, May 9 for children residing in Bristol & Alexandria (744-2761)
- Wednesday, May 10 for children residing in New Hampton (744-3221)
- **Thursday, May 11 for children residing in Danbury (768-3434)**
- Friday, May 12 for children residing in Bridgewater/Groton/Hebron (744-6969)

If you have a child who will be five years old on or before September 30, 2017 please complete the information below and send to the school in which town you reside.

Note: Children who reside in Alexandria will attend either the Bristol Elementary School or the Bridgewater-Hebron Village School. Determination is made according to physical address. You may contact either school for more information.

Newfound Elementary Schools – Kindergarten 2017-2018

Please complete all requested information.

Registration forms and information about Kindergarten Connection will be sent to you shortly.

Name of Child: _____ Date of Birth _____

Parent Name _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

Mailing Address _____

Email Address _____

Town of Residence _____