

Friday, February 17, 2017

School Notes and Athletics

Mr. Bagnato, Principal

It has been a stormy couple of weeks. However, as we have had a few "normal" days, school is now feeling more settled and students are getting into their routines.

Recess is so much more fun with the snow.

Thanks to everyone for completing last week's survey regarding our school calendar. Next year we will add snow days to the calendar. Reminder, the last day of school is currently scheduled for Thursday, June 15th.



The Agency of Education mandates that each year schools need to make public their "report card". The report card must include testing data and progress on the school's action plan. Please see the **Newton School Report Card** by clicking [here](#). Also, if you would like to examine more testing data, you can click [here](#). Both of these items are available on the front page of the [website](#).

Athletics and Upcoming Events:

WINTER SPORTS BANQUET (Basketball and Nordic Skiing - middle school racers) - Plan for 5:30 - 6:30 on Wednesday, 2/22.

- Students in grades 3/4 please bring paper plates, paper cups, and napkins
- Students in 5/6 please bring drinks
- Students in 7/8 please bring some sort of finger food

The last basketball game of the year will be for 7/8 on Monday, February (Girls at 5:00 pm and Boys at 6:30 pm).

The Middle School Ski team will continue practices through next week.

For more information on the schedule please go to our [Google Calendar](#)

Kindergarten News

Ms. Kicza

Kindergarten has enjoyed three science lessons with Hannah from VINS. They explored movement by pushing, pulling, rolling, colliding, and changing directions with toy cars, balls, a scooter, and other objects. They solved a problem to change a car's direction and get it to a target without touching it. They recorded their results in drawings and words, discussed them, and in the end taught someone how to solve the problem. Great work, kindergarten scientists!



1-2 News

Ms. Longcore & Mrs. Robinson

On Tuesday the K-2 celebrated Valentine's Day by decorating bags, delivering valentines, and making special cards for our friends at the senior center. They very much appreciated receiving them from our kids.

3-5 News

Ms. Cote, Mrs. Hill & Mr. Walker

The students in the 3-5 Cluster enjoyed a trip up to the Strafford Historical Society on Thursday afternoon. The students heard a presentation from Stefanie Johnston on the Strafford Copper Mines. The presentation included learning about how the mine was important in Strafford and also nationally. Students also had a chance to explore a miner's helmet, hold a piece of ore, and investigate other artifacts and posters from the mine. At the end of the presentation students enjoyed exploring the historical society and the special map of the Copper Mines. Many students wished for more time at the Historical Society, so we encourage them to go back with their families when it reopens officially in the spring. We really appreciated working with Stefanie Johnston in helping organize this visit and presentation.



Library & Technology News

Ms. Simone Pyle

We've been learning about biographies in grade 2 library! After reading and looking at different kinds of biographies, I asked the kids to think about their own biography--what would someone write about them in the future? Visit [the library blog](#) to see them all!

This is *Adriana's* biography.



Health News

Nurse Ellen

We continue to see students with an upper respiratory illness and a significant cough as well as a stomach bug. A friendly reminder that having your children get extra rest and staying well hydrated helps children get better sooner. Please call Nurse Ellen if your child is diagnosed with a bacterial infection and started on antibiotics.

We are in our third week of the Passport to Winter Fun. Fun - fun - fun with snow - snow - snow. Nurse Ellen is helping her nephew learn to snow board this weekend.

Encourage your children to draw a picture of the activity they do each day and don't forget the programs they can participate in as they reach the indicated milestones. Have fun.

[Local Resources for Families Information](#)

PE News

Mr. Casey Grimes

The **K-2 cluster** have been working a dance unit this week and next.

The **3-5 cluster** are starting a bounce blast unit. Bounce Blast uses an exercise ball on a stand that students throw other balls at the stationary ball and they bounce off and the students have to try and catch before it hits the ground. There are 48 blue and red balls spread out in the gym for them to grab and throw. It is very exciting and a lot of movement.

The **6-8 cluster** are going to be going outside next week and playing some broom ball on the court that we have built.

Winter class has been outside building igloos and other designs of their choosing. We will be finishing our creations next week.

One Planet News

Ms. Kiersten Harlow



On Tuesday we had a wonderful afternoon skiing with Bonna! For some of our kids it was their first time on skis!



Mask Masking!

PTA News

Mrs. Amy Donohue & Ms. Shannon Varley

The PTA is gearing up for two of it's BIGGEST events of the year, Town Meeting Lunch and Winter Carnival and we need your help!!!

Town Meeting Lunch Fundraiser - March 7th

Town Meeting Lunch is one of three big fundraisers we have that allow us to fund projects such as the artist-in-residence, field trips, plays, and enrichment activities that the school budget doesn't cover. Many volunteers are needed on the day of town meeting, especially for cleanup and the week before making phone calls soliciting food donations. Making phone calls is an easy way to contribute to this fundraiser without ever leaving your home! We need 8 callers, so please consider helping in this way if you can't help the day of Town Meeting.

You can sign up [HERE](#). [Shannon Varley](#) will provide instructions for calling, please provide your email on the sign-up sheet.

Winter Carnival - March 10th-11th

Winter Carnival is a fun annual tradition for everyone to get outside before the winter season comes to an end and we hope everyone can participate this year!!!

NEW SCHEDULE THIS YEAR!!! - We will kick off events starting Friday, March 10th after school at Harrington Hill. There will NOT be Strafford Lions Club Ski Program that day but there will be a make-up day at the end of the season. We will have sledding, ski and snowboard races 1:00-4:00 at Harrington Hill with movie night to follow. One Planet will be joining us. The remaining events will be on Saturday 12:00-3:00 at Varney Field with Dinner and Awards at 5:00 and Bonfire at 7:00 at Varney Field. More details and a complete schedule, including a volunteer signup sheet, will be sent home soon as we are still adding events. Please contact [Hilary Linehan](#) or [Amy](#)

Announcements and Upcoming Events

[Mardi Gras Celebration](#)

[The Sharon Academy Arts Day](#)

[Earn-A-Bike](#)

[Winter Break Camps](#)

[2018 Paris France, Switzerland, The Alps and Germany](#)

[Revels Kids 2017/Revels Kids 2017 Traditions of Zimbabwe](#)

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Stay Connected



"The strength of the team
is each individual member.
The strength of each
member is the team."

- Phil Jackson