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Newsletter - March 2013



## Danville Hawkes Soar for Success !

### Principal News

Dear Danville Families,

We have had our share of winter weather this year! Our children showed the many creative ways they spent the wintry time at home at our recent Invention Celebration. The scientific method of inquiry is something taught beginning in elementary science classes. Each grade level teaches specific concepts. Annually, the children are asked to problem solve solutions to everyday problems they may encounter. Children at all grade levels treated us to some very creative solutions. This year children were given the option of having their inventions judged. From those who chose to be judged, we were very pleased to learn we have 10 students moving on to the state competition at Merrimack High School in Penacook, NH. March 23 ([www.aas-world.org](http://www.aas-world.org)). We also had 12 special awards given to students at the local level. Outside friends from the community, and business partners devoted their time to serve as judges. We had many family members attend the Celebration throughout the day. Whether you supported us by attending our Invention Convention or serving as a judge, your support is very much appreciated. We need to continue to work together for the advancement of our children. We serve as their positive role models.

I would like to thank the parents who supported our skiers and snowboarders this season. Each Wednesday we sent a bus full of children and chaperones to Bradford Ski Hill to brush up on their favorite winter sport. The bus returned to school after 6:00 pm with a group of happy, tired children! Without the support of the chaperones, the program would not have been possible. It really does take a village!

If you are registering a child for kindergarten next year, now is the time to let us know. Please contact the school office at 382.5554. We are in the process of planning for next year and hope to have an accurate count of the number of students expected in order to plan accordingly.

We have a limited number of openings available in our Integrated Pre School class. Your child must be 4 years old by September 30, 2013 for entrance into this program. Please contact our school office for details regarding this program.

Best wishes,  
Nancy Barcelos

## **Assistant Principal News**

The recent Professional Development Day on February 18<sup>th</sup> allowed district staff to further their understanding of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The CCSS have been mentioned in many earlier newsletters and are the focus of all district professional development offerings this year. Our next Early Release Day (March 29<sup>th</sup>) will also provide staff with additional resources to better prepare for new instructional standards. The expectations of CCSS are higher and will require more collaboration, creative use of resources, and systematic use of data when setting instructional goals for students.

Additional data analysis will occur as each staff reviews the NECAP scores released at the end of January. Student results have been sent home, but now the task for staff is to use that information to assist students in their areas of need or to enhance/challenge areas of strength. Though the NECAP test will be discontinued upon full implementation of the CCSS, the data it currently provides, combined with all other forms of student data, will help guide instruction and programming over the next few years as we transition to a new state test.

Further information about the Common core State Standards can be found at [www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org)

W. J. Pimley  
Assistant Principal  
Danville Elementary School

## **Enrichment News**

# Invention Celebration News

Creativity was in the air on February 22, 2013 at Danville Elementary School. It was an excitement-filled day at the school. Students filed into school with incredible inventions that solved a variety of problems, judges came to view and be awed by our students' creativity and staff and guests enjoyed the event as they oohed and awed at all of the wondrous inventions. Students were asked to create an invention of their own design and work if they wished to be judged. Judges judged on how well individual students answered questions about their invention, on the student's oral presentation, on the quality of student work including an application and journal and on their student made 3-D inventions. It was an exhausting but delightful day. One of my favorites each and every year!

Below are the awards that were announced the week of March 4.

Special Awards:

Grade 5:

Tyler Bates-Paper Recycler

Sustainability

Kali McKinney-Steel Foot Work Boot

Palleiko Innovation  
Elizabeth Schott-Pet Petter  
Best Oral Presentation  
Chloe Croteau-Dynamic Dish Duo (and 2<sup>nd</sup> place)  
Most Marketable  
Grade 4:  
Alessandra Rera-Head Lice Helmet  
Innovation and Technology Award  
Abigail Henderson-EZ Carry Tray  
Most Marketable  
Thomas Girotti-Hover Craft  
Innovation and Technology **and** Creativity Award  
Dillon Denton-TV Control  
Electricity and Technology **and** Creativity Award  
Grade 3:  
Bryce Parker-The Sanitized Door knob  
Medical Award  
Grade 2:  
Alison Henderson-Chores2Go  
Most Useful Award  
Grade 1:  
Cameron Dionne-The Electo Belt  
Innovation and Technology Award  
Hannah Boerner-The Heated Shovel  
Most Marketable Award

The following students are invited to participate in the State Invention Celebration in Penacook, NH on Saturday, March 23, 2013:

Grade 1:  
1<sup>st</sup> Charlotte Caldwell with The Super Sock  
2<sup>nd</sup> Logan Sheely with The Duct Tape Hand  
Grade 2  
1<sup>st</sup> Molly Smith the Six Handed Button  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sara Martin with Sister Proof Earmuffs  
Grade 3  
1<sup>st</sup> Konrad Parker with Shin Guard Sock  
2<sup>nd</sup> Owen Donahue with Robot Cleaner  
Grade 4  
1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Amorelli with The Cool Flop **Beat The Heat Challenge**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Meisi Gaudreau with Hampster  
Grade 5  
1<sup>st</sup> Thomas Donahue with Sport the Training Dog  
2<sup>nd</sup> Chloe Croteau with Dynamic Dish Duo

*Also, thank you to all of the community members, parents, grandparents, retired Danville teachers and others who judged the inventions. They day was a success due to your volunteerism.*

Again, Congratulations to all of our inventors.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Wood

# School Store News!

Our School Store will be open only once during the month of March for grades 2-5 during recess time. **Our March school store date is Wednesday, March 20.**

Students are invited to come to see what is available to purchase. Items range from \$.05 to \$3.50. **Students may not borrow money from others or ask for money from others.** Students are encouraged to purchase wisely and only buy if they find something they need. Generally students will not be allowed to spend over \$5.00 at the school store.

Some items for sale include:

**New:** Clip on Bears for \$1.50 (so cute)  
Mechanical Pencils for \$1.25  
Jump ropes for \$1.00  
Pencil "beads" for only \$.05 each  
Animal (Pencil) Pouches for \$3.00  
Locking Diaries from \$2.50-\$3.75  
**New:** fragrant pencils \$.30

**New:** Magnetic buddies for \$1.75  
(koalas, bunnies, cows, rabbits, and much more)  
**New:** Finger Rings for \$.50  
**New:** Mini notes for \$1.00  
Mini highlighters \$.30  
**Plus much more!**

School store profits go toward things like school enrichment materials for special enrichment day workshops, assemblies, and whole school events. Please feel free to contact Mrs. Wood at [Cindy.Wood@timberlane.net](mailto:Cindy.Wood@timberlane.net) if you have any questions or wish to volunteer to help at our school store.

## **Music Note**

Music Note  
Mrs. Cook

### **Band: Mark your calendars!**

- ★ March 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> Rehearsal and Concert for all 5<sup>th</sup> grade band students
- ★ April 17<sup>th</sup> Concert for all 4<sup>th</sup> grade AND 1<sup>st</sup> year 5<sup>th</sup> grade band students

## **Strings Activity**

Advanced 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade strings are busily learning their music for our annual state-wide Stringfest at Mountain View Middle School in Goffstown all-day Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. The American Strings Teachers Association sponsors this every year.

Nearly 300 elementary and middle school strings students from across New Hampshire, gather and rehearse in four different orchestras all day. Then we perform a 3 pm concert for parents and friends.

Wish us luck as we prepare with regular practice at home. What fun to play concerts when we know the music!

Thank you,  
Marjorie

## From the Library



*"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents!" by Emilie Buchwald*

**Mrs. Antonakos'** class is researching planets for their Science Unit. Each student conducted their research in the Library using print materials and the WebPath Express link in Destiny for their investigation. Destiny has a wealth of valuable information for our Timberlane students to use. The class is completing a paperless project using Google Drive. They are showing social responsibility by participating actively with others in a learning situation and by contributing to questions and ideas during discussions. (\*AASL 3.2.2)

**Ms. Allen's** class is currently researching the battles that led up to the American Revolution. They will be using their 21<sup>st</sup> century information literacy skills to investigate their battle. Once they have gathered their facts, they will be creating their evidence by creating a short essay, using their writing and speaking skills to communicate their new understanding effectively.

**Fourth Grade** teachers and I are in the process of planning a collaborative unit on their annual project; the study of the United States. Students will perform research in the library based on several criteria in order to complete evidence that will be presented to their teachers and peers. Working with our students is always an exciting and rewarding process!!! What amazing students they are!

**Third Graders** are completing several information literacy pre-research skills and have begun applying them in their research. Mrs. Perreault's class will begin their research on "New Hampshire, Yesterday and Today", Mrs. Blais' students are completing their essays on their Inventor research while Mrs. Furman's class is researching their favorite animal. Each class will continue to use an inquiry based research process by applying critical thinking skills to information and knowledge in order to construct new understandings, draw conclusions, and create new knowledge. (\*AASL 2.1.1) I look forward to sharing their projects with them! They are learning to become truly, 21<sup>st</sup> Century savvy!!

**First Graders** are continuing their weekly visit with me in the Library. Each week students are having a story read and we are reviewing the details in the story and describing characters, setting, or events for their understanding.

### **Author Visit with Bonnie Becker**

On March 21<sup>st</sup>, first grade students will enjoy a distance learning author presentation with Bonnie Becker. Ms. Becker is the author of the popular Bear and Mouse picture books. First graders will enjoy listening to her wonderful books in the library prior to her presentation.

## Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss.

Each week, at the beginning of their Technology class with Mr. Doughty, I am reading a selected Dr. Seuss text to help introduce students to a new technology skill. It is a pleasure reading and sharing the wonderful words of Dr. Seuss!!

*Happy Spring!!*

Mrs. Kisiel, LMS

*\*Note: AASL stands for the American School Library Information Literacy Standards that are aligned with the Common Core Strands*

## Nurses Notes

March is National Nutrition Month and this year's theme is "Eat Right, Your Way, Every Day". You are the most important influence on your child and can do many things to help your children develop healthy habits for life. Here are some suggestions:

1. Show by example – eat fruits, vegetables and whole grains with meals or as snacks. Let your child see that you like to munch on raw vegetables.
2. Go food shopping together – grocery shopping can teach your child about food and nutrition. Discuss where vegetables, fruits, grains, dairy and protein foods come from. Encourage your child to make healthy choices.
3. Get creative in the kitchen – cut food into fun and easy shapes with cookie cutters. Name a food your child helps make. Serve "Michael's Salad" or "Julianna's Sweet Potatoes" for dinner. Make your own trail mixes from dry whole grain, low sugar cereal and dried fruit.
4. Offer the same foods for everyone – don't be a "short-order cook" by making different dishes to please children. It is easier to plan family meals when everyone eats the same foods.
5. Reward with attention, not food – Show your love with hugs and kisses. Comfort with hugs and talks. Choose not to offer sweets as rewards. It lets your child think that sweets or desserts are better than other foods.
6. Listen to your child – if your child says he or she is hungry, offer a small healthy snack – even if it is not a scheduled time to eat. Offer choices. Ask "Which would you like for dinner: broccoli or cauliflower?" instead of "Do you want broccoli for dinner?"

Offering a variety of foods helps children to get the nutrients they need from every food group. They will also be more likely to try new foods and to like more foods. When children develop a taste for many foods, it is easier to plan family meals. Cook, together, eat together, talk together and mealtime a family time!

## News from the School Counselor

*"It is not our abilities that tell us what we truly are. It is our choices."*

*(Dumbledore - Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets)*

Teaching children how to make good choices is a corner stone of the guidance curriculum in all school programs. Whether it is deciding what to wear, health choices or which friends to invite over, the process is essentially the same.

Parents can help their children by allowing them to make developmentally appropriate choices, and guiding them through the process.

These are simple steps that can be applied to most choices:

1. Decide what the choice is.

2. Gather information
3. Analyze the information.
4. Determine the best option.
5. Implement your option and if it works, you are done. If it doesn't work go back to step 1.

Some examples of simple choices that parents can guide their children to learn are: what to wear to school (weather is important), lunch choices (body and brain support) and who will be their friends (someone who treats you well). You will find that when you model the steps to making good choices, they will learn a skill that will serve them well for a lifetime.

Louise Janelle, School Counselor



## READ ALOUD

with Mrs. Dube

Two basic skills were practiced by the first graders in February. The children learned the difference between informal speaking and formal speaking. We discussed how we are relaxed with friends and family and speak as ideas come to mind, while we must prepare and speak more formally when presenting ideas to our classroom community. The children also worked on solving problems that went beyond simply telling the teacher.

The second graders spent part of the month using pictures but no words (charades) to communicate with their peers. They also took time to really study a photo and give an in depth description of what they saw, felt, and observed.

Third graders wrote Haikus, expressed opinions, and also created and presented a weather forecast. It was interesting to hear the student's opinions of the common areas of the school; the cafeteria, the bus, and the playground.

The fourth graders learned how advertisers get their message across by using jingles, logos, and slogans. Then they prepared and presented a unique commercial for a common product for their classmates.

In fifth grade, the students reflected on the story of Weslandia, in which a young boy, a loner, creates his own garden plants, games, alphabet, and world. The students fashioned their own ideas into 3D models and presented them to the class.

Ask your child what they did in Read Aloud...you may be surprised to hear about it!