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Danville Hawkes Soar for Success !

Newsletter - April 2015



Principal's Pen

Dear Danville Families,

While we missed some school time due to weather in January and February, we are making up for lost time now! Students and staff have risen to the occasion once again with special offerings during recess and after school clubs for students. We do like to have fun at Danville School but are balancing the extra curricula activities with academic rigor. Students continue to be progress monitored for academic growth through STAR Assessments. Currently students in grades 3-5 are participating in NH state assessments. Our students are putting forth good effort in all they do.

Students and classroom teachers are collaborating with the librarian and her assistant to learn research skills. They are applying new skills by demonstrating their newly learned information through brochures and Power Point presentations. Much of their finished products will be on display during the Academic Fair April 23. We do hope you will

find time to bring your family to visit our school for this celebration of learning. More information will follow in Danville Delivery.

I hope you have heard we are proudly offering choices with our kindergarten program once again next year. We will continue to offer our half day program and a full day renaissance kindergarten class. Both sessions include Spanish instruction. Kindergarten classes are five days a week and follow the school calendar. You must be five years old by September 30 to attend kindergarten in the fall. Please call the office at 382-5554 for registration information. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

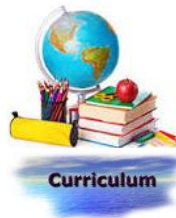
Foreign Language in the Elementary Schools (FLES) was introduced to Kindergarten students this year. We are pleased to say we will be continuing this instruction in first grade for the 2015-16 school year. FLES instruction is proficiency-oriented. This means that there is a greater focus on meaningful communication than on grammatical structure. Students are encouraged first to understand and then to produce in the language. Throughout a lesson, students and teachers use the target language as much as possible. Research tells us students who study foreign languages develop a deeper understanding of their own and other cultures.

Those who receive second language instruction are more creative and better at solving more complex problems. Students who study foreign languages score statistically higher on standardized tests conducted in English. Our goal is to continue adding Spanish to one grade level each year. At the end of your child's career at Danville School, we hope to provide 6 years of Spanish instruction beginning with the class of 2027, current kindergarten students.

This is a reminder that food is not allowed on buses due to students with food allergies. The only exception would be for medical reasons. In the same respect we ask that students not open any scented items on the bus as we do have students with sensitivity to smells. This would include perfumes, colognes, and hand sanitizer. Thank you in advance for reminding your children about this policy.

Students go out for recess daily, weather dependent. Soon we hope the weather will be warmer outside! With warmer weather comes a change in apparel. Please remember we ask students to wear proper footwear for safety purposes. Students should be wearing shoes with a back strap. Flip flops are not allowed. They are easy to walk out of and do not offer the foot support needed. Shoes with raised heels are not allowed. We are experiencing some accidents on the playground due to improper footwear. Please help your child make good decisions when choosing school clothing. If students are in school wearing clothing or shoes that are not appropriate, they will be asked to call home for a change of clothing or offered an alternative item of clothing.

Best,
Nancy Barcelos



Assistant Principal News

Spring is here! At least there are small signs of spring peeking through the remaining snow. Let's remain hopeful for some good weather during the month of April. From a school perspective the month of April will include Smarter Balanced testing for students in grades three through five. As referenced in earlier notices, fourth grade students have completed their two week testing window at the end of March. Grades three and five will test consecutively with grade three testing March 30th through April 10th and grade five from April 13th through April 24th. The students and staff will have earned their April vacation!

Smarter Balanced testing replaces the former NECAP state testing. The new Smarter Balanced test is computer based and adaptive to student performance. The test questions require more authentic performance from students with embedded writing responses in both reading and math areas.

April is also the month for our Academic Fair. Parents are encouraged to visit the evening of April 23rd to see student work from many disciplines. Please watch for additional notices with visitation times.

Special thanks to our staff members who provide additional grade appropriate activities for students. Current after school activities include Science Sleuths, Chess Club, SPARKS and an upcoming Speed Stacking Club. They are all great activities that engage the mind in different ways.

Think Spring!
W. J. Pimley, Assistant Principal



[From the Danville](#)

[Elementary Library Media Center](#)

**Timberlane Regional School
District's First Annual
Family Literacy Night
Thursday, April 16th from 5:00-7:00
PM at the Performing Arts Center**

Join us to listen to a fun musical performance by **Steve Blunt & Friends**. Come and meet **several authors visiting our elementary schools** and get the opportunity to purchase books and get their autograph.

Information Literacy Skills

Kindergarten - We are beginning a mini research project on "weather." Using our Wonder Words, "who, what, where, when, why and how," students are practicing asking questions. We will be discussing weather using nonfiction text and the students will have the opportunity to show us what they have learned. They are learning about book parts, we have learned about the spine, the front and back cover of a book and the information they can find there. How amazing!

First graders have finished up their first research project, "Inspiring Inquiry using Images." They had fun book walking and used wonder words to inspire questioning. It was enjoyable to see them present their work in the library. Their peers were amazed at how much they have done!

Second graders are continuing their project on Pond Life. Each student has chosen a plant or animal to research. We have guided our research through classroom inquiry, and have cited our sources. They are putting to use their information skills and have begun the note taking process. They are very hard working!

Third graders have completed a New Hampshire research project with me. They have used Microsoft Power Point to synthesize, or put together their evidence. I have been so impressed by their technology skills. They were able to complete a seven slide project with all the ability of a seasoned graphic designer!! I cannot wait to see their presentations.

Fourth grade will begin their United States research project. This exciting project will give the fourth graders the opportunity to perfect those information skills and an opportunity to create a 3d model of their state, with Mrs. Rice, our art teacher. This project will take several weeks and I look forward to working with them.

Fifth Grade - Wow, this year is going by rather quickly and our fifth graders will begin their education in the sixth grade come fall! It has been a pleasure meeting and working with these students. We have completed many projects and learned so much! This month and through May, the students will be reviewing their info skills and have the opportunity to discuss the use of evaluating web sites. I continue to enjoy working with them!

Clubs

Hawke News - The next taping of "Hawke News" is now available for viewing on the Danville School Homepage under the Media Gallery. We hope you enjoy this month's broadcast.

Book Club - The second Book Club is well under way and we are reading "Out of My Mind, by Sharon M. Draper." This is a wonderful, real

life story about a young girl with cerebral palsy. From this novel we are learning to be very aware of those around us, to embrace others differences and to advocate for those who cannot for themselves.



READ ALOUD with Mrs. Dube

This month, the kindergarteners have focused on manners, perseverance, and learning about animals just waking up from a long winters sleep. The students have become thoughtful listeners and love to share their ideas by using their imaginations.

In first grade, we encouraged Spring by making construction paper Robins. The children were very excited to tell me when they'd seen a red robin in their yard. We also practiced problem solving skills and began to listen to a few stories by Robert Munsch, one of my favorite authors.

The second graders learned a lot about themselves as we read "The Treasure Tree", the story of four best friends who work together to reach a goal. Ask your child: Is he/she most like Lance the Lion, who always walks and

talks like he's in charge? Or is he/she most like Honey the Golden Retriever, whose caring heart and sweet ways make everyone feel happy? Perhaps he/she is most like Chewy the Beaver, who is always prepared and constantly wants everything to be just right. I think we can agree we all have a little bit of Giggles the Otter, who adds fun and spice to every meeting of the four best friends. Can you match your child's idea of who they are most like? I did!

The third graders listened to a book called "Someday" and then wrote Someday poems of their own. Some of our students want to be astronauts, veterinarians, doctors, nurses, or artists. Others want to be athletes, singers, wrestlers, or pilots. All have big plans for their future. It's great to dream big!

The fourth graders leaned to listen to clues in a book to try to solve a mystery. They also viewed and reported on some optical illusions and then during testing weeks, played a game I created called "Danville-opoly" to help them learn a bit more about their hometown.

Fifth graders finished "Wonder" and have now heard most of "Julian's Chapter" which tries to explain Julian's attitude and bully problem. So far the students do not show much sympathy for the reasons behind Julian's unkind ways.



Music Note

Mark your calendars!

March 30th and 31st 5th grade Band concert

April 15th Beginning Band Concert (all first year players)

I'm looking for large empty plastic squeeze bottles (12-32 oz) with the cap. So if you finish your squeezable jelly or ketchup bottle, please don't throw it out! Thanks!

-Mrs. Cook



Physical Education

Hello Everyone!

March came in like a lion and left as one too! The numbers are in for our annual Jump Rope for Heart Fundraiser and we have set a new record! We were able to raise \$4,550.00 in less than five weeks of fundraising! I really want to thank all of the students and parents that made this event possible. We are doing a great service to those who have been affected by heart attacks or strokes.

We just finished our speed stacking unit and have moved into gymnastics. We will be flying into floor hockey and dance right before April vacation. Please continue to make sure that your son or daughter brings sneakers to change into for P.E. class. This will keep our nice wooden gym floor in good shape as the spring moves along.

As always, if you have any comments or questions, feel free to email me and I will get back to you as soon as I can! I hope this note finds you happy and active!

-Patrick Ard

Danville P.E.

Patrick.Ard@timberlane.net



Enrichment Program

Around the World In 1 Day

A Multi-Cultural Experience Day:

Friday, June 5, 2015

At Danville Elementary School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Danville Enrichment Team is planning our next whole-school enrichment day with the theme of cultures around the world. We are looking for people who would like to come in and share their interest for either:

- 2 sessions in the morning for grades K-2 (ages 5-8) or grades 3-5 (ages 8-11) or K-5 (you choose the grade level you are most comfortable with for the two morning sessions)

or

- 2 sessions in the afternoon-with one session for grades k-2 and THE OTHER SESSION FOR GRADES 3-5.

There are many countries with many interesting cultural aspects. Please let Mrs. Wood know which country you would like to share about or possibly which continent and then what your emphasis would be for your workshop (examples: dance, geography, art, natural wonders-see more ideas at the end of this article). The workshops are 45-50 minutes long so starting with some information by using pictures or books to share your interest/emphasis would be a great way to begin your workshop for the first 15 minutes. Then you may want to spend the rest of the time teaching the children about the culture by including a craft, dance, song, etc. that they can learn or do (plan something active as sitting for 45 minutes is too long for elementary students).

Mrs. Wood will pair you with a teacher that will host you in his or her room. That staff person will help you with any question you may have about how to present to children if you need some ideas. They will also help with general workshop management and student names and behaviors on June 5 (but not to worry, our Danville students are wonderful to work with and love to learn about new things).

If you are interested in sharing for 2 workshops (see information above) on Friday, June 5, please email Mrs. Wood at Cindy.Wood@timberlane.net by April 10. She will be happy to answer any questions you may have about presenting.

Thank you for your consideration,

The Danville Enrichment Team: Ms. DeCost, Mrs. Kisiel, Mrs. Perreault, Mrs. Antonakos, Mr. Pimley, Mrs. Rice, Mrs. Percival and Mrs. Wood

Ideas for What You Could Emphasize for Your Specific Culture

Your emphasis could include one or more of the following: music, dance, language, geography, sports, food, famous authors, fairy tales, history, architecture, holidays, fashion, art, famous people, crafts, education, etc.

Please contact Cindy Wood no later than April 10 if you are interested in presenting. She will need to know of your interest by that date to plan and coordinate the events of the upcoming enrichment day.