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IF IDANVILLE Hawkes Soar for Success!

Newsletter - December 2017



Dear Danville Families,

In our busy world, our minds and bodies can get wrapped up in the hustle and bustle, and may have a hard time slowing down. It is also easy to get stuck thinking about things from the past or in the future, while forgetting to focus on the here and now. We all start out with a healthy ambition to accomplish and grow our abilities. Sometimes along the way when things don't seem to come naturally to us, it is easy to give up. We can't! We need to think positively and persevere. Anyone who excels in their field has come upon hard times. They succeeded because they persevered and learned through experience. The children are our future. We are role models for them. Let us take this busy time of year to reflect and be prepared to hit the reset button starting January 1! We owe our children the gift of love, time, and the ability to persevere.

Wishing you a happy holiday season. I hope you find time to do everything that is important to you and your family.

Kindly,

Nancy Barcelos



Assistant Principal News

Report Cards

Our new Elementary Report Cards will be ready to view through PowerSchool on December 8th. Parents will see a new interface and new reporting indicators. As you have heard, Timberlane is moving to a competency based education system. At the elementary level, we are excited to be the harbinger for reporting out to parents. You will find many resources and supporting documents on the school website under the Parents tab, or by clicking on this http://www.timberlane.net/newlink: report-card-information-k-5/. Here you will find the PowerPoint slides from presentations given at Parent Information Nights, a parent guide on competency education, a brochure explaining knowledge and skill acquisition expectations for each grade level aligned to competencies, and the curriculum documents adopted K-12.

As teachers and administrators prepare the report cards for upload at the end of the week we are excited about the information they give to parents. While the learning toward progressions end of year expectations and competencies are not articulated in a document for your review, please know that each child has been assessed through collecting of a body of evidence to document where students are along the learning progression of each and strand content area of that content. What is reported in the first trimester document, based on the evidence collected, is how your child fares with the grade level expectation for this benchmark as it relates to year-end. This means that as rigor and expectations increase, their performance indicator may change next trimester, either higher or lower. Students receiving a 2 in a competency will be given instruction to support them in progressing in a different way to students who are showing sufficiency at this time. This is one way we are moving to a more personalized education for students. In addition, we want to ensure parents that while teachers are covering all topic areas more time has been given at different grade levels to certain strands, therefore these areas will have had more evidence collected to demonstrate sufficiency (3) rather than emergent (2). The goal is for students to achieve basic competency in all areas by the end of the year. As we continue to shift our instruction to a competency based system we expect to see students demonstrating independence in applying and transferring acquired knowledge and skills in new tasks.

With all new things comes a learning curve, and opportunities for improvement. Please send me any feedback you have on the new report card or the reporting process. I will be sure to share your feedback at our district report card committee meeting in January. In addition, Mrs. Barcelos and I would like to offer an informal feedback session on December 15th at 9:00 a.m. in the library as a way to collect your feedback.

Lucy Canotas lucy.canotas@timberlane.net 382-5554 x5302



Notes from the Nurse:

It is always good to review proper handwashing techniques with your children!

- Wet hands with warm water. Use warm water, not hot. Hot water can contribute to skin irritation.
- Apply soap enough to get a good lather.
- Rub hands together vigorously for at least 20 seconds. Use the ABC song or the happy birthday song.
- Lather all surfaces of hands and fingers. Do this away from running water so that you do not wash the lather away. Scrub between your fingers.
- Rinse with water. Keep your arms angled downward in the sink so that the water goes down the sink and not down towards your elbows.

- Dry with a disposable towel if available.
- Use the towel (if available) to turn off the faucet.
- Dispose of the towel.

Sue Goodman, RN Danville Elementary School Health Office



Dear Danville Families and Friends,

The Original Works of Art Fundraiser was a great success as usual! Thank you to all who participated and I hope you enjoy the beautiful products you've received.

What's going on in the Art Room?....

The Kindergarteners are learning about the Color Wheel and created their own using model magic. They enjoyed manipulating the Primary Colored model magic to make the Secondary Colors.

The First Graders learned about the Solar System recently. We looked at the eight planets in comparison to where they are located from the sun. The students then created their own planets using a wet-on-wet watercolor technique with analogous colors.

The Second Graders learned about the method of Zentangle. They used line and shape patterns to create their own "tangles" within their artwork. The Third Graders are learning about Native Americans and their artwork. They are creating their own buffalo hides with Native American Symbols. Some students are creating stories on their hide and other are choosing symbols solely for their aesthetic beauty.

The Fourth Graders are learning about Masks from different cultures. They watched a power point on African Baule Masks. After, they were introduced to a material called Plaster Craft which is a non-toxic material that can be used to make many three dimensional products. Students will be creating their own masks using this material.

The Fifth Graders learned about the famous artist Gustav Klimt. They learned about some of his most famous artwork such as "The Kiss" and "The Tree of Life". They created their own Tree of Life following the beautiful style of this artist.

Please consider donating your recyclable materials to the art room or any crafty items you want to get rid of. Students love building with three dimensional materials during their free art time and we would really welcome anything you think we could use.

As usual thank you for supporting the Visual Arts!



Science. Technology. Engineering. Art. <u>Mathematics</u>. with Mrs. Dube

The Kindergarteners began the month exploring the story of The Little Red Hen. We discussed the problem the hen had; she didn't have any help. We talked about creating something that would help her. I quickly designed a wagon out of paper, tape, pipe cleaners and brads. Next, we heard the story of The Three Little Pigs. The children teamed up to design and create a house out of their choice of materials; tape, pipe cleaners, Qtips, popsicle sticks, tooth picks, and play-doh. One group was successful on their first attempt. Others were given the opportunity to choose another material from the list above, and face the Big Bad Wolf (my mini-fan) again. The students shared ideas and all ended up successful!

Fourth and fifth graders worked in pairs to create a wrecking ball-type contraption called a Pumpkin Annihilator. They were limited to certain office supplies, they had to have a swinging component, they could not put their wrecking ball (a gourd) closer than two inches from the pins, and they could not swing the wrecking ball back any taller than the tallest part of their design. Their first task was to knock down 10 pins. The second task was to set up only three pins and test for accuracy by indicating which pin they would knock down.



Music Note Ms. Soha

5th grade Band parents: you received a letter in Danville Delivery explaining our exciting computer program Smart Music! Please download this free program. Your child has assignments to complete and lots of music to play for fun! If you lost your letter with your child's user name/password, please contact me at <u>Kimberly.soha@timberlane.net</u>

Mark your calendars!

January 10th 7pm Winter Concert (Band, Strings, and Chorus) March 26th and 27th Rehearsal & Concert for all 5th grade Band students. March 29th 7pm Chorus Concert (rehearsal at 6:30) April 11th 7pm Concert for all 4th grade Band students

All events take place at the PAC (Timberlane Performing Arts Center). More information will be sent home as the dates approach.



Physical Education

Hello Everyone!

December showed up quickly this year! Time flies when you are having fun! We have just finished up with our Cooperative Games Unit & will be starting Volley Skills this week! Most classes will be earning an "Open Gym" session right before our holiday break as well.

With the weather changing and snow soon to fly, please make sure that your son or daughter brings sneakers to change into for P.E. class. This will keep our nice wooden floor in good shape as the winter moves along.

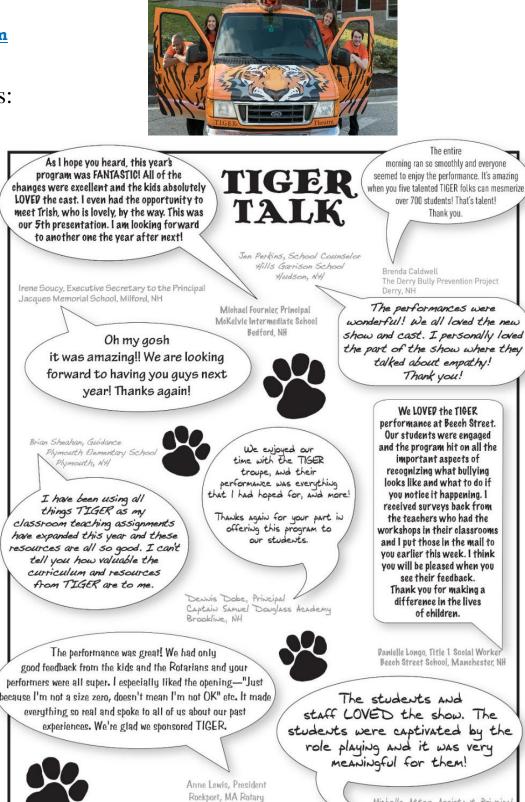
As always, if you have any comments or questions, feel free to email me and I will get back to you as soon as I can! I hope this note finds you happy and active!

Patrick Ard – Danville P.E. Patrick.Ard@timberlane.net



Upcoming Events:

On December 13. 2017 Danville is very happy to have TIGER from **Plymouth State** back again. TIGER stands for: Theater Integrating Guidance. Education, and Responsibility. Our entire school will enjoy a performance called "Just Between Friends!" Remember to ask your Danville student all about it!



Michelle Atter, Assistant Principal Memorial Elementary School Winchendon, MA