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## Danville Hawkes Soar for Success !

### Newsletter - February 2016



#### Principal's Pen

February 2016

Dear Danville Families,

Life flows smoothly when everything is in balance. That is the tricky part! We want to provide our children opportunities to experience and excel and since they are only young for a short period of time we often try to add too much to their schedules. We want them to experience things we may not have had the chance to do. In 1981, Tufts professor David Elkind wrote the classic The Hurried Child: Growing Up Too Fast Too Soon in which he said "We hurry our children because we hurry ourselves." Now in its 25th edition, Elkind has updated the book given the rise in technology which has become a complicating factor.

Find time to play a board game, read a book, bake cookies, or take a walk. You will find this time well spent and a nice way to connect with

your child. Watching your child participate in organized sports does not necessarily lead to calm conversations in which you can connect, or be considered quality time with your child. Take time to appreciate your child for who he/she is. Relax. Life happens too quickly, and children grow even faster.

It's time to think about planning for next year! If you will be registering a child for school next year, now is the time to let us know. We are currently accepting registrations for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students. Children who will be 4 by September 30 will be eligible for Pre-Kindergarten and children who will be 5 years old by September 30 are eligible for Kindergarten enrollment. Please call the school office at 382-5554 or stop by and request a registration packet. If you have a child currently enrolled in our integrated Pre-School Program, you only need to complete the AM or full day preference form that will be sent home in Danville Delivery.

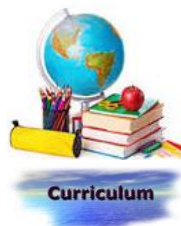
The integrated Pre-School is in session Monday-Thursday, mornings only. There is a fee, yet to be determined, to attend Pre-School and full day Kindergarten. We will have

one full day session of Kindergarten and at least one half day session of Kindergarten. If we have enough half day students we will add an additional session in the afternoon. If you know of a neighbor who has a child that will be entering Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten in the fall, please let them know it is time to contact us. Help us spread the word! We are holding a Kindergarten informational night February 10 in the school library at 6:30 PM. We will host an informational night for Pre-Kindergarten March 9 at 6:30 PM.

We had several students who chose to participate in the PTA Annual Reflections Program. The theme for this year's entries was *Let Your Imagination Fly*. We are very proud of the students who took time on their own to brainstorm and create a creative piece. Some of the art work is on display in our school lobby. Some pieces have been moved on to the next level of judging at the state level. A celebration of student art work will be held March 16 at the Gilbert Hood Middle School in Derry. Treat yourself and your family to a fun evening celebrating the creativity of many students.

Best wishes,

Nancy Barcelos



### Assistant Principal News

Happy February! We recently had a rollout for bus safety and student expectations. Students were reminded to sit quietly, use indoor voices, keep hands and legs in front of them, and place backpacks on their laps. By following these simple bus rules, students are helping the driver to safely navigate the elements on the roads. The students have done a great job following through with expectations. Mrs. Barcelos has given several bus pencils for their positive behavior while riding on the bus, and she hopes to give out many more.

Grades K-5 took time to read the book (*Have you Filled a Bucket Today?*) to their classes. The book is a great way for the students to understand what it means to be a positive role model and how it feels to be kind to others. I am planning on meeting with all of the grades in February to review the book and discuss how having your bucket filled makes you happy and how to fill other students buckets. This is a great book in building a positive learning community here a Danville.

The students have participated in their second benchmark test using STAR.

The STAR test is a product of Renaissance Learning, which is a computer-adaptive test. This test provides accurate information in the areas of Early Literacy, Reading and Mathematics. We will be using this information to help inform our instruction to meet the needs of all our students. I would like to thank all the students for their hard work and cooperation during this time.

#### IMPORTANT DATES:

February 19, Half Day

SCHOOL VACATION

February 22-26 NO SCHOOL



March - April Grades 3 & 4

April-May Grades 5

I wish you a Happy Valentine's Day and a safe winter vacation!



#### [A Message from Nurse Sue](#)

Some things you might not know about head lice:

1. Head lice are not a sign of uncleanliness; lice love clean hair because it is easier to latch on.

2. Lice do not hop, jump or fly; the only way they can get from one person to another is direct touching, head to head.
3. Lice are not passed on pets. The only place head lice can survive and thrive is on the human head.
4. Because of the use and overuse of head lice shampoos, head lice have become resistant to the products that once would kill them, so no head lice product is 100% effective, even if you follow the directions to the letter. That is why combing and nit removal is so important.
5. When found most cases of head lice are **more** than a month old. One sign is a red itchy rash on the back of the neck, just below the hair line.
6. Removing the nits and live lice with a special metal-tooth comb is time-consuming, but the most effective way to get rid of them.
7. Head lice are not a source of infection or disease, they are simply a nuisance.
8. Schools are not the most common place where head lice are spread. Sleep-overs are thought to be the most common way they are spread.
9. "No-nit policies" are no longer practiced, as it has been proven that the policies do not impact the spread of lice.
10. Simple products such as vinegar, real mayonnaise, olive oil, coconut oil, and dawn dish soap have their fans. The way they seem to help is by loosening the "cement" that the nits use to attach to the hair shaft.
11. Danville Elementary wants children treated and back in school right away.
12. "Nits End" in Plaistow has been a great resource for those tough-to-treat students.

Some things you may not know about Norovirus:

1. Noroviruses are a group of related viruses. Infection with these viruses causes

gastroenteritis. This leads to stomach cramping, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Other, less common symptoms may include low-grade fever, chills, headache, muscle aches and a general sense of fatigue. 1 in 15 Americans will get norovirus illness each year.

2. Norovirus can spread **VERY QUICKLY** in places such as schools.
3. Viruses are found in the vomit and stool of infected persons, as well as food or drinking liquids that are contaminated. You can get it by touching surfaces or objects contaminated with the virus (then putting your fingers near your mouth), having direct contact with a person who is infected (caring for someone), or sharing food with them.
4. People are contagious from the moment they begin to feel sick until at least 3 days AFTER THEY RECOVER. Some people may be contagious even longer. The virus can stay in the stool for as long as 2 weeks after recovering.
5. If students or staff are suspected of having the norovirus (and are ill at school) they should immediately be dismissed. Surfaces should be immediately cleaned and disinfected. Wear gloves when handling any soiled clothing.
6. Clothing should be washed at the maximum available cycle length and then machine dried.
7. Staff should not prepare meals for others until 3 days post recovery.
8. Wash any fruits and vegetables before preparing and eating them. Cook any seafood thoroughly before eating them.
9. WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN!

*The child who in unhealthy- physically, socially, emotionally, or mentally- struggles to excel in school just as a child who is underprepared by education struggles to maintain health and well-being, often for years*

*to come. Learning and health are symbiotic, with one serving and supporting the other.*

Stay well,

L. Sue Goodman, RN  
Danville Elementary Health Office



### All About Art!

Dear Danville Families,

We are more than half-way through the year! Boy, does time fly! Our Danville students have already created a number of exquisite artwork. They will be bringing many of their pieces home sometime before February break. Please take the time to look over the artwork with your child and ask questions about the pieces for your child has worked so hard on them!

Here is what's been brewing in the Art Room lately....

The Kindergarteners learned about clay and different techniques to use with clay. They created fish plates using a slab and different tools to create texture in their piece. Presently, they are learning about the Abstract Expressionist painter Jackson Pollock. They will soon be creating their own painting following the technique of this famous artist.

The First graders and Second graders have been working hard on their three dimensional penguins. They used recyclable materials such as newspaper, cardboard, and paper towel tubes to create these animated birds. Students got to

experience using paper mache' to make their structures stronger and acrylic paint to make them life-like. Next week they will add eyes, a hat and scarf made of felt to finish them off.

The Second graders went on a field trip to the Currier Museum of Art last week! They saw countless two dimensional and three dimensional artwork from many art periods. The focus was on the Elements and Principals of Art that the artist used in the artwork. Students talked about the line, shape, color, pattern, balance, etc. that they observed in the artwork. They were able to create their own three dimensional piece of art to bring home at the end of the day. The students, teachers and volunteers really loved it! It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to be able to experience a real museum!

The Third graders just finished their Egyptian unit on King Tutankhamen. They learned a great deal about ancient Egyptian life, the artwork, and the ancient Egyptians beliefs. They also learned about the mysterious Pharaoh King Tut. They created King Tut's Sarcophagus and added Hieroglyphics to their artwork. They colored it with markers and gold paint. Students fully enjoyed learning about this ancient life in a far-away land.

The Fourth graders are working on a winter scene with Cardinal birds. They learned techniques on how to paint a snowy tree. They observed a number of photographs of cardinals to draw their birds using pencil and oil pastels. They turned out just stunning!

The Fifth graders finished working on their slab pots. They had to carefully roll and cut the slabs, add details with clay tools on each piece and glaze their pots using three layers of paint. They came out incredible! Presently, the fifth graders are working on their Tape People. Groups have chosen their theme and they just started creating their head and torso.

Students will be asked to bring in costumes and props for their person sometime in the beginning of April.

Thank you so much for your support of the Visual Arts! Feel free to call or e-mail me with any comments or question.

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Creatively Yours,

Mrs. Rice 



READ ALOUD

with Mrs. Dube

My January choices of read aloud books in kindergarten had more snow in them than we actually had outside this year! We read several books about snow and snowmen, and at one point, we even made fake snow in my classroom! The children really seemed to enjoy that adventure!

Second graders learned some American Sign Language last month. They learned colors, numbers, animals, food, family words, and the alphabet. They very much enjoyed getting up in front of their friends to communicate with their hands by spelling their names, talking about their families, their pets, and their favorite foods.



Third graders did some improvisation by acting out stories I read. They also did some reader's theater. Presenting before an audience of your peers is an important skill and these students participated enthusiastically!

Fourth grade has been focusing on a chapter book called, "Because of Mr. Terupt". The story is about a very special teacher and a group of students who each have their own unique problems. When their teacher falls ill, it is the students who have to band together to make their classroom work.

The fifth graders are listening to "Schooled", a chapter book about a child who was brought up on a commune and now must attend middle school while his grandmother recuperates from a broken hip. What this boy knows about living in the outside world could fit on the head of a pin, but what he teaches the students in his new school and others around him seriously benefits everyone.



### Physical Education

Hello Everyone!

Early January was all about Basketball. Each class worked on dribbling, passing and shooting. Once we were finished, it was on to fitness stations for grades 1-3 while our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders took to the snow for the start of our Snowshoe unit. We will be moving into our Jump Rope unit next week and with that unit comes our Jump Rope for Heart

program. We will be having an after school event once again this year, so please be sure to check your Danville Delivery this week for all of the information I have sent home. 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 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](mailto:Patrick.Ard@timberlane.net)



### Music Note

Mrs. Cook

### **Mark your calendars!**

March 16<sup>th</sup> 7pm Chorus Concert  
March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Rehearsal &  
Concert for all 5<sup>th</sup> grade Band students.  
April 13<sup>th</sup> 7pm Concert for all 4<sup>th</sup>  
grade Band students

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