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Danville Hawkes Soar for Success !

Newsletter - March 2015



Principal's Pen

Dear Families,

Students in grades 3-5 and staff are preparing for the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC). The assessment is aligned to rigorous, 21st Century Standards found in the NH College and Career Ready Standards. The standards help educators understand what students should know and be able to demonstrate by providing clear goals for student learning. The assessment period begins March 17, 2015 and will last until mid-April. SBAC is taking the place of NECAP testing for Language Arts and Math. Each grade level is assigned a time period in which their grade level will be testing. SBAC is a computer based test with a classroom activity called a performance task, assigned for both Language Arts and Mathematics. Writing scores will be embedded within the test for all grades. Grade 4 students will still be assessed in Science during the month of May using the NECAP Assessment Test. Students may take the

practice test as often as they like.

<http://nh.portal.airast.org/>

Accommodations and Designated Supports are provided for those students who need them. Accommodations are listed in student IEP documents. Parents will receive a letter if their child's teacher has recommended a designated support for the test. Our hope is this state mandated assessment will provide teachers and schools with information that will help improve teaching and learning and help students succeed.

Once again Danville School is sending the artistic work of our students to the Annual Reflections Celebration at Hood Memorial Middle School in Derry March 11, at 6:00 pm. I hope you will find time to attend and enjoy the creative work of students K - grade 12 from southern New Hampshire. This event is sponsored by the National PTA. We are very grateful to our PTA for their efforts in encouraging and supporting our students' participation. Congratulations to our students who have been selected to compete at the state level.

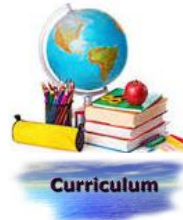
It is time to think about next year for our youngest learners! Once again we are offering an Integrated Pre-Kindergarten program for

children who will be 4 by September 30, 2015 and a half day and full day Kindergarten program for children turning 5 by September 30, 2015. Both programs follow the school calendar. Pre-Kindergarten meets four mornings a week and Kindergarten meets five days a week. There is a fee associated with Pre-Kindergarten and Full Day Kindergarten. Please call the office at 382-5554 for registration information. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your support with Blizzard Bag/Online Learning Days. This has been a winter where we certainly welcome the opportunity to make good use of school cancellations due to weather. As you know, participation in Blizzard Bag/Online Learning Days is not optional. If a student does not do the activity on the snow day they will have 48 hours to complete the activity. If they do not do the activity in that time frame, they will be marked absent from school and are still responsible for doing the activity. Please assist your child in completing the assignment on the snow day.

If you find yourself living in temporary housing situations and are looking for resources, we have information available at school. You may contact Mrs. Salemi, School Counselor at 382-5554 or Mrs. Susan Rasicot, Director of Student Services-TRSD at 382-6119. For a comprehensive list of services available in NH utilize 2-1-1; an easy phone number that connects callers, at no cost, to information about services in their community.

*Anxiously awaiting spring,
Nancy T. Barcelos, M.Ed.*



Assistant Principal News

Spring is just around the corner, we hope! With that will come a variety of activities here at Danville Elementary School. One of those activities includes the new Smarter Balanced test for students in grades three through five. This replaces the former NECAP test. Teachers are continually adjusting instruction to better meet the needs of students. Many assessments are used to refine our understanding of each learner. If time permits please take a moment to go on the Smarter Balanced website (www.smarterbalanced.org) and explore some of the sample tests. Teachers are working closely with each other and with students to help them prepare for the rigor of the new state testing program.

In addition, many school activities will be planned to support our sense of community. There will be School Spirit activities, preparations to meet our incoming Kindergarten students, field trips, speed stacking activities and many more exciting events.

All of the activities are planned to create an atmosphere of community around learning, both academically and socially. Enjoy our increased view of the sun as we transition into spring!



From the Danville Elementary

Library Media Center

Hawke News - Check out the premier of "Hawke News" now on the Timberlane Regional School District Face Book Page. Our Danville fifth grade students have been working hard behind the scenes to make this new club a success. We have students who write the news, report the news, photograph the news and tape it! The staff for the Hawke News is an amazing group of students. Don't forget to check out their first viewing that is also available on the Danville School homepage.

Information Literacy Skills

"Ultimately, information literate people are those who have learned how to learn.

They know how to learn because they know how knowledge is organized, how to find information, and how to use information in such a way that others can learn from them. They are people prepared for lifelong learning, because they can always find the information needed for any task or decision at hand."

American Library Association Presidential Committee on Information Literacy (January 10, 1989, Washington, D.C.)

Kindergarten has begun their weekly lessons and will soon start learning how to navigate the library, and may even conduct their first, short research project.

First Grade students are working on their questioning skills. Questioning or "inquiry" as we teach our students, is an important lifelong skill. Being informative means being able to ask the

right questions and having the correct answers. Our students are working hard to perfect these skills throughout their educational career.

Second Graders have begun their Pond Life research project. We start with our inquiry and research a favorite pond life plant or animal life. This is a wonderful project for students to use the skills they are learning. This project continues to amaze me and their teachers.

Third Graders began their New Hampshire symbols research and will be creating their first power point presentations to present to their peers. They are very excited to learn more about the wonderful state they live in.

Fifth Graders completed their Colonial America research and have done an amazing job researching their colony and writing a persuasive piece on why others should settle in their colony.

It has certainly been a busy winter here in the Library Media Center and we still have plenty of more work ahead of us! I look forward to learning with and from our amazing students.

Think Spring!
Beth Kisiel, LMS



All About Art!

Dear Danville Families,

We have been very busy this winter in the art room! Here is what we have been up to....

The Kindergarteners were working on using model magic to create snowmen. We did a variety of clay-working exercises to warm up our hands first such as rolling a ball, making a coil, pinching, pulling, smoothing, adding, taking away etc. Right now they are learning about what a portrait is and are in the process of creating their own self-portrait. They are looking in the mirror while they are drawing so they are able to really see the color and shapes of their facial features.

The First Graders learned the process of making a coil pot. Just as the Kindergarteners, we did a variety of clay-working exercises to warm up our hands first such as rolling a ball, making a coil, pinching, pulling, smoothing, adding, taking away etc. Some classes blended primary colors of model magic together to create secondary colors for their pot. The First graders are also learning about portraits. They saw a variety of self-portraits done by famous artists. We discussed how you can tell if the portrait is old or new depending on the style and clothing worn by the artist. We also talked about the self-portraits that looked realistic and the ones that look more abstract. The last thing we looked at was what medium the artist used to create his or her self-portrait.

The Second Graders created three-dimensional Penguins using recyclable materials, paper mache', paint and fabric. On their next project they learned about the famous French artist Henri Matisse. Students learned that Matisse did not always follow the rules of nature when creating his artwork. Some of his later works include quite abstract shapes. Students are in

the process of creating a collage after his famous picture, "Beasts of the Sea". Students learned about the difference between organic and geometric shapes. They are learning how to draw and cut out the contour line of the organic shape. They also learned about Contrasting Colors. These are colors that stand-out from one another and are opposite each other on the Color Wheel. They are overlapping their shapes and trying to get the colors to really "pop".

The Third Graders worked on their painting skills and created cartoon versions of themselves catching snowflakes on their tongue. We talked a lot about how to control the paint and not let the paint control them! Students showed great control and neatness as they worked on this technique. Presently, they are learning about African Masks. They learned about all the reasons African tribes use masks and the process they use to make them. Students created their own mask using plaster craft. They learned that plaster is made out of a rock called gypsum. Recently, they took part in placing African symbols, patterns and shapes on their mask and finished it off with neutral and metallic tones of paint.

The Fourth Graders worked on creating a type of rattle called a Percussive Pod. They learned that rattles are the only instrument used throughout the world. We are familiar with rattles as being a toy that infants play with, but they are also often used in tribal ceremonies and are created out of gourds, cocoons and other items found in nature. Students used a slab of clay to begin this process and used different materials to press into the clay to create texture. They created a pocket with their clay to pour sound-making materials into it before sealing. Presently, some classes have started a complex observational drawing of a tricycle. They've used some warm-up exercises such as blind-contour drawing and

continuous-line drawing before starting their final sketch.

The Fifth Graders are working hard on their Tape Sculptures right now. Each student is working with two or three other peers to complete one full tape person. They have already chosen who their person is going to be and the position their character is in. Teams will be graded with a rubric on their Cooperation, Craftsmanship and Creativity. They will be asked to bring in props for their tape person sometime in the beginning of April. Please talk to your child about this project and find out if they need any help with the attire or props that their tape person needs. There will be an exhibit of these structures at the Academic Fair that is held in April.

Donations of any three dimensional materials you feel the students could build three dimensional structures with are welcome. Make sure it is well cleaned out if it contained any type of food or drink. Any donated items that are dirty will not be used in my classroom. Here are some things students love to use:
Small Boxes that are easy to cut into
Paper Towel Tubes
Cardboard pieces
Small Wood Pieces
Plastic Cups
Paper Plates
Craft items

Thank you so much for your support of the Visual Arts! Any questions, comments or concerns feel free to contact me:

Jennifer.rice@timberlane.net or 603-382-5554 x 5307.

Mrs. Rice



READ ALOUD

with Mrs. Dube

The Kindergarteners through Fourth Graders worked on a group project last month. The theme was, "Be the Change You Want to See in the World". Kindergarteners were asked to imagine how they could change their classroom by using kinder words and actions. First grade focused on how to make the school a better place through their actions. Second graders were asked how the playground could be used to show others they care. Fourth grade narrowed in on their community and town to help be part of the solution. All the children brainstormed ideas with their groups, wrote their promise on a large piece of white paper and a bulletin board was created outside my classroom featuring their beautiful faces and their incredible ideas. The idea that although they are young, they have the power to make a difference resonated throughout the lessons.

One fifth grade class finished "Wonder" while the other two are very close to finishing. The students seemed to enjoy the story and for the most part, have learned a bit about compassion, empathy, and sticking up for someone who struggles to stick up for themselves. After a week or so break, I will share "Julian's Chapter", an 80 page

explanation into the life of Julian, who was the antagonist in the story.



Invention Celebration News

Creativity was in the air on February 19 and 20, 2015 at



Danville Elementary School. It was an excitement-filled two days 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 on Thursday, February 19. Guests, staff and students enjoyed the all

school sharing day on Feb. 20 as they oohed and awed at all of the wondrous inventions. Many students were invited by their classroom teachers to create an invention of their own design during the months of January and February. Then on February



19 students in grades 3-5 that wished to be judged shared their invention with our experienced invention judges who judged each student on how well they answered questions about their invention, on the student's oral presentation, on



the quality of student work including the student entry form,

journal and on their student made 3-D inventions.

On Friday, February 20 all students in grades 1-5 that created an invention were invited to share the problem they solved

by sharing their inventive process. Awards were given out that morning to the inventors that were



judged the day before. It was so much fun to view inventions

created by grade 1 students through grade 5 students. Listening to the various creative processes our students employed while solving their problem was thrilling.

Below are the awards that were announced on February 19 and awarded to students on Feb. 20 during our all school Invention Convention Celebration.

- Grade 3 Third Place: Gary Shivell with Tighten Bands**
- Grade 3 Second Place: Logan Sheely with Bed Spreader**
- Grade 3 Best in Grade: Mia Parker with Chairlift Vender**
- Grade 4 Best in Grade: Lillian Burn with Bullet Proof Table**
- Grade 5 Best in Grade: Bryanna Santoro with The Ultimate Hat & Mitten Dryer**

Other Special Awards

- Marketability Award-Bryanna Santoro
- Innovation Award-Lillian Burns
- Helping Others Be Their Best Award- Abigail Bone
- Engineering Award-Logan Sheely
- Community Project Award-Joshua Jones
- Judges' Choice Award-Maia Parker
- Most Educational: Maggie Burkhart
- Practical and Useful: Brandi Garand

We have **5 students** taking their inventions to the state level ICC on March 28. Congratulations to one and all!

Also, thank you to all of the judges who took a day to come to Danville to judge our inventions! Thank you to the staff who supported our students in their inventive process. The event was a success due to the judges' volunteerism and staff support and encouragement.

Again, Congratulations to all of our inventors.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Wood



Counselor's Corner

I hope that everyone had a restful and enjoyable February school vacation week! Your children all came back talking about their break and seemed to come back rested and ready to learn!

Classroom Guidance Topic: Emotional Management

Students are starting to learn how they can manage their emotions. Together, we have looked at "comfortable" and "uncomfortable" feelings and how these feelings can impact how we behave. I continue to use the *Second Step* program to help teach these skills, and your children seem to love all of the activities, videos, and music that go along with the program! Students who can recognize strong emotions and calm down, cope better and are less prone to aggressive behaviors. Through classroom guidance, individual counseling and small group, I have been helping students learn proactive strategies that help prevent strong emotions from escalating into negative behaviors.

"Calm students are better able to use their skills, such as problem solving, to help them get along better with others and make good choices" – Second Step

Practice Second Second Step Skills at Home!: Balloon Breath / Belly Breathing

- Focus your attention on your breathing
- Take a breath that makes your tummy move out when you breathe in, and in when you breathe out.
- Breathe in slowly through your nose and out through your mouth. It should be so quiet that you can hardly hear it.

Dear Parents and Families,

Starting March 14th, I will be out on maternity leave for the remainder of the school year. I am excited to share that Barbara Gallant will be taking my place when I am out. Barbara is an experienced School Counselor and has already been in the school visiting, learning the routines and meeting students and staff. You can contact Barbara by phone at 382-5554 x5310 and/or via e-mail at barabara.gallant@timberlane.net.

I am sad to not be at Danville for the end of the school year, but am very excited to have the opportunity and time at home with our new little one. Enjoy the rest of the school year and see you all next year! 😊

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me!

Elissa Salemi



Physical Education

Hello Everyone!

February was a busy month for sure! We had our annual Jump Rope for Heart after school event and almost tripled the number of students who attended. We have been doing a great job with fundraising money for the program as well! I will have the final tallies by the middle of March but all signs point toward a record year! 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 are beginning our speed stack unit this week and will be moving into gymnastics

by the end of the month. 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.



Music Note

Mrs. Cook

Mark your calendars!

March 12th Chorus concert

March 30th and 31st 5th grade Band concert

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

More information will be sent home as the dates approach.