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Danville Hawkes Soar for Success !

Newsletter - October 2014



Principal's Pen

The days have that autumn feel of warmth without humidity but the heat is on as the fourth and fifth grade cross country team makes their mark competing against elementary schools in southern NH. This is the eighth year Mr. Ard, an avid runner, leads Danville School teams toward determination, endurance, and self-motivation. Each meet brings a positive feeling of accomplishment to each team member as they gain benefits from their commitment to self-improvement. Our students are setting a fine example for all of us.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at Open House. The beginning of a school year brings so many mixed emotions. Knowing you support your children and show your commitment and energy to work with school staff sends a very strong message. For that, I am grateful. It truly takes a village to educate our children. The Danville Staff knows how lucky we are to be partnered with you.

Best regards,
Nancy Barcelos

Find time to ask specific questions about your child's school day. It is very typical to hear, "Nothing," when you ask what they did in school today. Trust me, there are no days when that would be the truth! Teachers have established routines with students. The universal screening has been completed and students are organized in learning groups to help each student learn what they need to be successful in school. At Danville School we are not trying to place too much focus on state driven tests and instead think of what is best for the students to develop into 21st century citizens.

All of us have an interest in keeping our students safe. Please speak to children about keeping themselves safe while riding the bus by staying in their seats when the bus is moving. They are expected to use partner voices so as not to startle the drivers. Bus Safety week is October 20-24. This year's theme is "At my stop, you stop!"

Assistant Principal News

The month of October will bring increased data analysis by staff as we investigate into the new STAR Assessment information gathered in September. Teachers will have more understanding of the data, combined with other student information, to discuss with parents at November conferences.

In addition to work with new programs and assessments, the district is making a tremendous effort updating curriculum. Many teachers and administrators are involved in important work developing a framework and content information for curriculum in many subject areas. The work is difficult, but thought provoking, leading to many new ideas and common understandings.

Danville Elementary students are off to a good start in this new school year. Many students are demonstrating appropriate behavior as well as increased focus on their instruction. Thanks to all the parents who support their students and staff here at Danville. We have a great community!

W. J. Pimley
Assistant Principal

Parents Right to Know:

In response to regulations set by the New Hampshire Department of Education and the United State Department of Education, we are required to notify you of our staff's highly qualified status. All teachers, Title I Tutors, and support staff at Danville Elementary School meet these

requirements and are highly qualified to teach. We are also required to inform you that parents have the right to request information regarding their child's performance level in the classroom or from Title I. Any parent of an English language proficient student has the right to withdraw his/her child from English language instruction. If you have any questions about these regulations, please contact Mr. Pimley at 603-382-5554.



All About Art!

Hello Danville Families!

The year is off to a great start in the Art Room! We are participating in the Art Fundraiser from the program "Original Works of Art" again this year. This fundraiser is to raise money for specialty art projects that the students do at Danville. All students are creating a piece of artwork in the art room at this time. Once they are finished they will be sent home with information about how you can order your child's artwork on a variety of products for a reasonable price. This year you will be able to order online and through paper so stay tuned for more information coming your way soon! In Pre-School the students just finished working on their fundraiser project of a beautiful rainbow. It was wonderful to have them in the art room for this very special project!

In Kindergarten students have been practicing different types of lines and shapes. They have been working hard to create a brilliant hot air balloon for their fundraiser project. They are using lines, shapes and patterns in their picture.

In First Grade students created some brilliant butterflies for their fundraiser project. They are showing shape, pattern and color patterns as well as learning about the word symmetry. They have also been working on a drawing of a cat on a mat. They've been practicing using a ruler to draw straight lines.

In Second Grade students are working on a fantasy landscape for their fundraiser project. They have learned about including things in the foreground, middleground and background of their picture. They have filled in some of their landscape areas with patterns of line and shape. They have also been working on a magical rainbow fish that shows a pattered border and an aquarium setting.

The Third Graders are also working on a landscape for their fundraiser project. This project includes a radial sun that students had to make using their ruler along with land, water, and plant life. They've also learned about the artist Henri Rousseau who is a 19th century artist known for his paintings of jungles. Students have been working on creating a jungle or rain forest scene of their own.

The Fourth Graders are working on a celestial sun for their fundraiser project. They learned that the sun is a symbol of life and fertility in many circles and that many ancient cultures worshipped a Sun God. They are using their knowledge of symmetry to create a sun with a face and are using simple lines and shapes to add detail. They've also learned about the artist Vincent VanGogh. We specifically looked at his painting "Sunflowers". Students are doing an observational drawing of a still

life of sunflowers and daisies. They are using oil pastels to color it in.

The Fifth graders are doing a silhouette of their choice for their fundraiser project showing a sunset background using water colors. They are also working on drawing the correct proportions of the human body. We are using wooden models to work from and we have talked about making our figures eight heads high. Later, students will learn about "Value" and shade their figure drawings in to give a three dimensional effect.

If you would like to donate items to the Art Room, here is an idea of what we need at this time:

Paper towel rolls
Egg cartons
Newspapers
Magazines(school appropriate for children to cut out pictures and use in a collage)
Paper plates, paper cups
Cardboard-small pieces

Thank you so much for your support of the Visual Arts! If you ever have any questions, comments or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me: 603-382-5554 X5307 or jennifer.rice@timberlane.net

Sincerely,
Mrs. Rice



READ ALOUD
with Mrs. Dube

Full day kindergarteners are coming to Read Aloud and I couldn't be happier! The little ones come twice a week for twenty minutes each time. We have been working on a routine of a story and short activity the first day, and a crafty activity the second day. This is the first time I've taught kindergarten aged students, so this is all new to me as well!

The first graders have been treated to a variety of books and activities geared toward the beginning of a school year. They are learning or reviewing acceptable behaviors and skills. The students are well aware of what a teacher expects when she says, "Give Me Five"!

The second graders are finding connections between themselves and the main character in a book called, "Keena Ford and the Second Grade Mix-up" by Melissa Thompson. Keena is a big-hearted little girl who often times finds herself in the middle of a big problem of her own making. She learns more lessons at school than the average student!

Third graders have been enjoying a book called, "The Beginning of the End" by Avi, which is a story of friendship

and adventure. The story involves a snail and an ant who embark on a great escapade down a branch and back. Along the way, they interpret their experiences as only two tiny creatures can.

Fourth grade students have been involved in a contest as we read, "No Talking" by Andrew Clements. In the story, two students engage their whole grade in a no talking contest. The rules are simple: it's the boys against the girls, no talking at school or at home except if an adult asks a question, then the students can answer in three word sentences. Our contest only involves the time the students are in my classroom, so as not to disrupt their learning. So far, the girls are in the lead!

Fifth graders have delved into *Wonder*, the story of August Pullman. Born with a physical deformity, August finds himself attending school for the very first time as a fifth grader in middle school. Your students have shown great empathy and compassion for this character and his family. I believe this story will stay with them for a long time, and someday, when they meet an "August", they will treat him/her with respect, sensitivity, and admiration.



Music Note

Mrs. Cook

Band: Mark your calendars!

January 16th 7pm Holiday concert including both 4th and 5th grade students.

March 30th and 31st Concert for all 5th grade band students.

April 15th Concert for all 4th grade AND 1st year 5th grade band students.

More information will be sent home as the dates approach.



Physical Education

Hello Everyone!

October is here and with it comes a lot of exciting P.E. activities. We have just finished up with our soccer unit and are moving quickly into our throwing and catching skills. As the month progresses we will be wrapping up with Halloween games, which are always some of the most interesting lessons of the year! Our fourth and fifth grade cross country team will be finishing their season in the middle of October and have been doing a wonderful job so far. I am always amazed at the amount of interest that running in a field or woods can bring to a child. Thank you to everyone who has supported our team this year! Get outside with your child and enjoy the wonderful fall weather! 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.

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