



POLLARD PEN

120 Main Street, Plaistow, NH 03865
Phone: (603) 382-7146 Fax: (603) 382-2782
<http://www.pollardschool.com>



Our School Motto: **WHAT YOU DO TODAY MAKES A DIFFERENCE TOMORROW.**

◆◆March 11, 2011◆◆

principal thoughts

Less than 2 weeks until spring and finally we are seeing some relief! Any temperature above 50 degrees is welcome here at Pollard. Unfortunately along with the warmer weather comes melting snow and therefore MUD! Please remember to have your child bring their boots along so they are able to change once they are back in class. Spring can be a messy time but at least school doesn't get cancelled due to excessive mud.

Spring also means we get a bit busier with various day and evening events. One of the highlights for me is always the Spelling Bee. Congratulations to Brandon Yeager who won our school bee. What a great job everyone did. We have a few pictures and a list of participants inside our newsletter, please check it out. The School-Wide Invention Celebration was fantastic again this year! What great participation from our students! I think that we have some budding inventors here. Thank you to all the parents, students and staff for all of your hard work in helping Pollard celebrate science! Please check the school calendar, we have concerts and other events scheduled in the coming weeks so it is always good to plan ahead.

We are currently working on incoming Kindergarten student registration. I want to remind everyone with children that will be entering Kindergarten in the fall to please fill out a registration form at the back of this newsletter and return it to the school as soon as you can. Parents of students entering first grade that did not come to kindergarten here may also complete the registration form and send it in to the main office. We look forward to meeting all of our new students!

Along with this Pollard Pen, I will also be sending home a letter and form for parents to fill out as we get closer to placing students in classes for next year. As the letter indicates, PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST A SPECIFIC TEACHER. We want to know what types of teachers motivate your child but naming a staff member will not help in his/her placement. Due to the decrease in enrollment, some teachers could be moving to different grade levels. Please get your placement forms to me by March 26th.

Michelle Auger, Principal



Important Dates to Remember

March 16
PTA Meeting 7pm

March 18
Spring Photos

March 18
5th Grade Movie Night 5:30pm

March 21
Combined Chorus Concert at the PAC 7pm

March 24
Optional Parent/Teacher Conferences

March 25
Report Cards go home

March 25
Bingo for Books @ the High School 6-8pm

March 31
DARE Parent Info Night

April 1
PTA Silent Auction



Hello from Mrs. Joyce, our Assistant Principal



Dear Parents,

I am sure you all have been hearing much about bullying on the news. On February 18th, after one and one half hours of training on the new law pertaining to bullying from Dean B. Eggert, Esquire at the PAC, the Pollard School Staff returned to Pollard to continue the discussion on what our role is and what are our next steps. Amy Dailey, a teacher here at Pollard, has been instrumental in spearheading our initiative. A group of staff members have also had additional training in Owelus, a bullying prevention program that is presently being used at the Middle School. More information will be forthcoming.

The following is an article I found that may be helpful:

Help your child examine his or her friendships to determine which are healthy and which may need to be ended. Here are some questions for your child to think about:

A friendship is not healthy if one person uses the other. It should be equal. Who is giving and who is taking in this friendship?

Friendships are always changing; some will change for the better, some for the worse. What are some ways your friendships have changed?

Healthy relationships should make a person feel safe and comfortable. If you do not feel this way, why not?

Identify things that you have done or changed just to please another person. Did the other person also change?

Look at present relationships. List why certain people are better friends than others.

List the qualities that you think make a good friend.

The results of 2010 NECAP scores are sent home this week. Students in grades 3-5 took the assessment test this past October and as part of our SINI Plan we will need to make annual yearly progress (AYP) for two years in a row. We will find out if Pollard made AYP at the end of this month. Until then, we are busy analyzing scores to measure the effectiveness of the curriculum and instructional practices. NECAP testing is only one measure of our academic progress. We also know that it is important to consider a child's growth physically, socially and academically when monitoring progress and measuring growth.

Physical Education Corner – Mrs. Silva



What the classes did and are doing:

During the month of January with all the snow days all grades worked on basketball skills. The skills we worked on were dribbling, passing shooting.

During the month of February each grade participated in jumping and hopping skills. We worked with the long jump rope and short jump rope in some stations and in other stations we did jumping and hopping skills. The rest of February we participated in games students all enjoy.

Hoops for Heart and Jump Rope for Heart was a great success. Thanks to all the volunteers. I would have not been able to do it all with out your help.

During the month of March we are moving to music and teaching students a little about yoga and we are also going to do a Cardio segment.

I hope everyone had a restful and fun February vacation!





BOOKMARKS



Pollard School will host its annual book fair next week, March 14-18, 2011. The theme of this year's Scholastic Book Fair is "Your Ticket to Read." There is a flyer in this week's Pollard Express that highlights some of the books that will be available at the fair. Your child's class has been assigned a time to shop at the book fair. The classroom schedule is included with the book fair flyer. We will be open Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, March 15th and 16th until 8:00PM for family and community shopping. All proceeds from the book fair will support future school wide literacy events.

Meet The Author - From a Distance ~ Students in Mrs. Bloom and Mrs. Toscano's second grade classrooms had the opportunity to meet author and storyteller Carmen Agra Deedy via Distance Learning. Deedy, who tells the Cuban folktale **Martina the Beautiful Cockroach** and is the author of **The Library Dragon**, told the students when she emigrated to the United States from Cuba, what her favorite books were when she was young, and talked about writing ideas she is presently working on. She also introduced the children to her husband and her dog! In preparation for the visit the children learned a lot of information about the Cuban cockroach and some Spanish vocabulary.



The fifth graders will have the opportunity to meet author Jacqueline Kelly via Distance Learning on March 25th. Kelly received a Newbery Honor Medal for her novel **The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate**. Through historical fiction Kelly introduces her readers to some interesting botany and some impressive vocabulary words. The Newbery Medal is part of the fifth grade information literacy curriculum and I am excited that the children will have a chance to participate in an interactive program with a winning author.



Mark Your Literary Calendars Pollard School will go "batty" on May 26th when we host author/illustrator Brian Lies. Brian's books include **Bats at the Beach**, **Bats at the Library** and **Bats at the Ballpark**. Brian is also the illustrator of the book **Deep in the Swamp**. Brian will do five presentations about his work for children in grades K-3.

Patricia Cossins Library Media Specialist



On January 28th, in front of their peers, teachers, and families, twenty-three fourth and fifth graders braved their nervousness to participate in Pollard's Spelling Bee. It was an exciting contest! The finalists were: 3rd Place - Vaughan Bourassa, 2nd Place - Aidan Fisher, 1st place - Brandon Yeager. Congratulations to these boys, and good luck to Brandon when he competes at the Regional Spelling Bee on Saturday, March 12th!





News from Everyday Mathematics

Kathy Fowler, Elementary Math Coach

From the *Everyday Mathematics Home Connection Handbook*:

Games in Everyday Mathematics

Everyday Mathematics (EM) games reinforce concepts in a valuable and enjoyable way. They are designed to help children practice their basic facts and computation skills and develop increasingly sophisticated strategies.

Children are often asked to play EM games with family members as part of their home practice. As you learn to play the games yourself, you will understand how the games help children learn mathematics. Many of the games can be played with a regular deck of playing cards. Ask your child to teach you some of his/her favorites.

Many games you have at home or see in stores also involve mathematical thinking. Here are some with the age-levels suggested by the manufacturer.

Counting, Adding, Subtracting

Chutes and Ladders® (3+)

Hi Ho! Cherry-O® (3+)

Sorry! ® (6+)

Trouble® (5+)

Uno® (6+)

Attributes, Patterns, Geometry

Crazy Eights-traditional card game (4+)

Guess Who? ® (6+)

Guess Where? ® (6+)

jigsaw puzzles

Rummikub® (8+)

Strategy, Spatial Perception

The a-Maze-ing Labyrinth® (8+)

Battleship® (7+)

checkers (3+)

Clue® Jr. (5+), Clue® (8+)

Connect Four® (7+)

Jenga® (6+)

Mancala (6+)

Memory/Concentration (many names exist for this game of matching face-down pictures) (3+)

Mille Bornes® (8+)

Othello® (8+)

From *Games and Their Uses in Mathematics Learning (Sharma, 2008)*, Dr. Sharma recommends the following games, in addition to those above, as a means to developing the skills in parenthesis:

Black- Box (logic)

Chinese Checkers (patterns, spatial)

Cribbage (number relationships, patterns, visual clusters)

Four Sight (spatial, patterns, logic)

Go Muko (patterns, spatial)

Hex (patterns)

Krypto (number sense, arithmetic facts)

Master Mind (sequencing, logic, patterns)

Parcheesi (sequencing, patterns)

Pyraos (spatial)

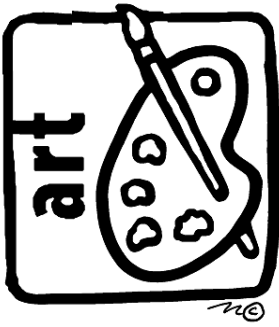
Quarto (spatial, patterns, classification)

Qubic (patterns, spatial, visualization)

Reckon (facts, estimation, basic operations)

Simon or Mini Wizard (sequencing)

Stratego (spatial, logic, graphing)



LINES FROM THE ART ROOM- Ellen Stutman

As always lots is going on in the art room. First graders have been busy exploring drawing with ink; they've learned how to make lighter and darker shades, using only black ink and water. In celebration of Chinese New Year they are making Chinese scrolls with ink and watercolor.

The second graders used both pastels and oil pastels to see what was different between them and which ones they liked better. They are also doing a project inspired by Chinese New Year. They have been learning the art of calligraphy, writing Chinese words; they will use this and will make a Chinese style ink drawing.

Third graders have just finished a watercolor unit inspired by the Swiss artist Paul Klee. They looked at his abstract paintings of many small blocks of color and did their own watercolor interpretation. They are currently making totem poles, which connects with their classroom study.

Grade four students learned about New Hampshire artist Augustus Saint-Gaudens and looked at his monumental sculptures commemorating Civil War heroes. They are making their own large- scale (not so big as his!) animal sculptures; they are working as groups, cutting their shapes out of paper and then stuffing them with newspaper.

The 5th graders took a break from their wood sculptures to print their holiday cards. They had to make 2 prints of the same design; one of their cards they donated to a homeless shelter. The people at the shelter really appreciated them, both for their gesture and for how beautiful the cards are. We've just about finished the wood- snow days and holidays have put some classes ahead of or behind each other- and are ready to start on our next big project.

I hope that you're warm and well and are encouraging your children to draw or make things. They can always bring them in to school to show me; I love to see what they're doing at home.

All my best wishes for a good 2011.



Ski Club



Pollard's Ski and Board Club has completed its season on the slopes at Ski Bradford! The kids learned a lot in their lessons and had fun during free ski. A gigantic thank you goes out to all the parent volunteers, and especially to the club advisors: Don Harnois, Nancy Doherty, and Paul Riccio.





Notes from the music room.....Mrs. Bird

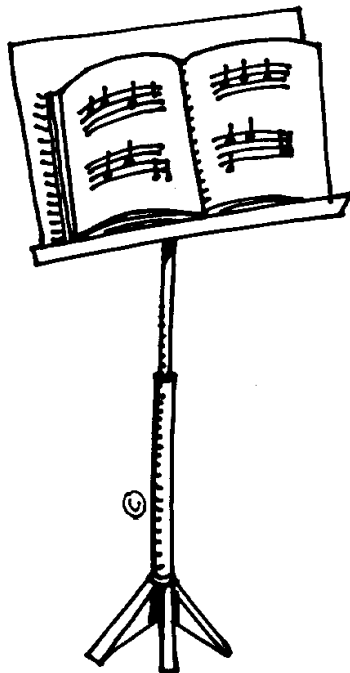
In grade one we are learning how to play more classroom instruments to accompany our singing. Our focus is steady beat and singing with our singing voice.

In grade two we are preparing for our spring musical How Does Your Garden Grow. Perhaps you have heard some of the songs at home!!! We will be sending home more information about the performance soon.

In grade three we are mastering reading the pitches GAB in the treble clef !! We can play Hot Cross Buns, Ice Cream Cone and Merrily We Roll Along. The pitch D is next and then we will play Mary Had A little Lamb! Please continue to encourage your child to practice. They also know how to practice silently.....it's called silent fingering!!!

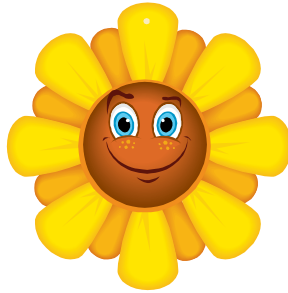
In grades four and five we are learning how to play drums in a drum circle. We play hand drums, conga drums and various percussion instruments. This drum circle method is called World Drumming.

The Pollard School Chorus will perform on March 21, 2011, 7:00pm at the PAC. Hope to see you there!



Silent Auction & Family Fun Night

Friday, April 1st
6:00 to 8:30 pm
Pollard School Gym/ Café



We are currently seeking donations. Would you like to donate or know someone who does? Do you own your own business and can help your child's school? Please contact Kelly Flibotte at kflib74@yahoo.com or Colleen Ferrante at colleen.ferrante@timberlane.net

Activities for the evening:

Lollipop Pull



Class Baskets



Raffles



Auction Items



Cake Walk



Face Painting



Dancing



INVENTION CONVENTION WINNERS

FEBRUARY 16, 2011

KINDERGARTEN:

1st Place:

Cody Brackett - Skate Master (Hamilton AM)

Jazmine Shah - Snow Melter (LaRosa AM)

2nd Place: Nikolas Langlois - EZ Toast (LaRosa PM)

3rd Place: Abby Miller - Taco Ice Cream (Hamilton PM)

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle:

Katie Smith - Craft Organizer (LaRosa PM)

Jacqueline Fuller - Cereal Dispenser (LaRosa AM)

LaRosa AM and PM

Heidi Ricker - Most Marketable

Kyle Bourque - Practical & Useful

Derek Coyle - Practical & Useful

Frank Maragioglio - Technology

Nicholas DeLucia - Judges Choice

Ledger Russell - Judges Choice

Ava Alexopoulos - Fun & Leisure

Aliyah Samoisette - Judges Choice

Akaash Walker - Technology

Hamilton AM and PM

Josephine Beaulieu - Environmental

Jaiden Rexach - Practical & Useful

Lucas Fitzpatrick - Original & Unique

Evelyn Morin - Judges Choice

Brandon Bowman - Humor

Avery Patles - Practical & Useful

FIRST GRADE

1st Place:

Brady Sola - Nanny Rocker (Bell)

Cameron DiMarco - Snuggle Mom & Dad (Bell)

2nd Place:

Ethan Nickerson - The Fish-Anator (McFarlin)

Mikael Colon - Alone Dome (Gallagher)

3rd Place:

Matthew Fairhurst - Bus Tracker (Ward)

Taryn Fox - Hand Writer (Laudani)

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: James Collins - Recycle Helper (Ward)

Bell

Olivio Rando - Practical & Useful

Tucker Sciola - Original & Unique

Gallagher:

Evan LeBlanc - Technology

Andrew Randall - Practical & Useful

Emma Scully - Original & Unique

Anna Alberti - Humor

Jordan Schofield - Practical & Useful

Laudani:

Ryan Heffernan - Fun & Leisure

Taylor Holt - Practical & Useful

Jacob Lambert - Technology

1st Grade continued

McFarlin:

Samantha Marino - Fun & Leisure

Jack Mushow - Practical & Useful

Julia Romel - Practical & Useful

Annika Smith - Most Creative

Ward

Aidan Cesati - Special Needs

Jacob Cruz - Most Creative

Emily Lovett - Environmental

Akella Mysliwy - Most Marketable

SECOND GRADE

1st Place:

Benjamin Laudani - Sled Helper (Toscano)

Kamilah Cannon - The Leash Light (Bloom)

2nd Place: Gwyneth Demers - Cat Nip Sponge (Ferrante)

3rd Place:

Hannah Fifty - Sink Rinser (Toscano)

Liam Lord - Bus Buddy (Toscano)

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Billy Savage - K-Cups (Bloom)

Rube Goldberg: Christian Petry - Intruder Alarm (Toscano)

Bellmore:

Delaney Miller - Most Marketable

Joshua Noonan - Judges Choice

Devon Perelgut - Medical

Gavin Perrault - Environmental

Ryan Aubin - Electric

Bloom:

Matteo Fina - Judges Choice

Chassity Gregoire - Original & Unique

Kendall Santiago - Most Creative

Ferrante:

Ryan Freeman - Practical & Useful

Devon Patnaude - Fun & Leisure

Christopher Yeager - Technology

Olivia Lund - Judges Choice

Alexis Owen - Judges Choice

Toscano:

Rosalie Averill - Most Creative

Caleb Vlack - Practical & Useful

Michael Demers - Judges Choice

Mackenzie O'Toole - Most Creative

THIRD GRADE

1st Place:

Iain Sidor - Smart Spoon (Marvin)

Emily Query - Bus Finderinator (Rodriguez)

2nd Place:

Logan Dennison - Ladder Safety (Lindquist)

Meghan Query - Solar iPod (Comeau)

3rd Place:

Allison Ward - Shovel O'Matic (Marvin)

Bryce Langlois - Handy Stairs (Rodriguez)

Grade 3 continued

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Ashley Hunter-Lane - Robot Pencil Maker(Rodriguez)

Comeau:

Seth Donnelly - Judges Choice

Abigail Ferullo - Environmental

Matthew Lajoie - Technology

Nicholas Patti - Judges Choice

Lindquist:

Kyle Bakanosky - Fun & Leisure

Bridget Buckley - Judges Choice

Caroline Collins - Practical & Useful

Ashley DiVito - Technology

Shaan Walker - Environmental

Marvin:

Cameron LaFontaine - Special Needs

Cody Fleming - Practical & Useful

Riley Donovan - Environmental

Jason Ramos - Most Marketable

Rodriguez:

Heather Catlin - Humor

Dylan Coyle - Judges Choice

Caleb Demers - Most Marketable

Sarah Hailson - Original & Unique

Christopher Lund - Practical & Useful

FOURTH GRADE

1st Place:

Nicholas Valhouli - Sunscreen Sprayer 2000 (Kane)

Christopher Busi - Shovel Pick (Shute)

2nd Place: Madison Mawn - Fire Hydrant Locator (Shute)

3rd Place: David Pica - Heated Snow Plow 5000 (Winter)

Rube Goldberg:

Carolynn Kennedy - Dog-O-Feeder

Kane:

Devin Farrell - Most Marketable

Ciera Riddle - Special Needs

Alexis Sinotte - Fun & Leisure

Shane Johnson - Practical & Useful

Shute:

Anthony Caporizzo - Original & Unique

Abigail Bloom - Medical

Sara Watkins - Original & Unique

Vengren:

Seth Curtis - Environmental

Dylan Machado - Technology

Matthew Marcotte - Practical & Useful

Kelsey Grenier - Most Marketable

Emily Heffernan - Practical & Useful

Danielle Duhamel - Judges Choice

Winter:

Joseph Doherty - Original & Unique

Cameron Marion - Practical & Useful

Maxwell Szczapa - Most Marketable

FIFTH GRADE

1st Place:

John Matthews - Remote S'more Maker 3000 (Kennedy)
Jared DeLucia - On Board Code Computer (Coyle-Quirk)

2nd Place: Kayla Bowen - Mitten / Hat Warmer (Kennedy)

3rd Place: Julia Lovett - Dog GPS

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Noah Beaulieu - Newspaper Glass (Kennedy)

Rube Goldberg:

Heather Ricker & Lindsey Whittaker - The Recycle-A-Rube

Tyler Roy & Nick Pigott - Recycleanator

Coyle-Quirk

Jacob Devlin - Judges Choice

Patrick Downing - Fun & Leisure

Gavin Gallagher - Technology

Sean McClure - Practical & Useful

Dylan Tremblay - Original & Unique

Hazelton:

Emily Grady - Judges Choice

Ryleigh Lukas - Special Needs

Taryn MacKinnon - Fun & Leisure

Kirstin Perry - Technology

Caitlynn Wilkins - Practical & Useful

Brandon Yeager - Most Marketable

Kennedy:

Robert Gahn - Practical & Useful

Robichaud:

Travis Paradis - Most Marketable

Jason Schieber - Practical & Useful

Rube Goldberg Inventors

I would like to recognize our **other** students who took that extra time to make a Rube Goldberg Invention this year! We had twice as many as last year and Room 505 was buzzing all evening on February 16, 2011 with interested viewers. Many of our judges were mechanical engineers and were very impressed by their creations.

Grade 5 students: Gillian Hanson and Briana Hammond, Alana Miller and Bella Howard, Hannah Perry, Joe Catino, Connor Ross and Jake Patten, Casey Broadhurst and Ryan Perrault, Amanda Hailson and Bailey Holt.

Grade 4 students: Vaughan Bourassa and Jake DiBurro

Karen Sullivan

Enrichment Specialist