



Happy Holidays!

Pollard Students Not only Know Our School Motto, “What We Do To-day will Make a Difference Tomorrow!”, we live it!

Once again Pollard students will be donating to charities instead of exchanging holiday gifts with their classmates. Teachers are always genuinely impressed with how generous their student and families are with this endeavor. The charities vary but are all worthwhile causes. I am sure that having experienced the wonderful feeling of giving to others will help to make this holiday season a memorable one for all of our students. Thank you in advance to everyone that donates.

Here are the people and places Pollard School students and staff will try to help this season

- PRE-K** - Salem Animal Rescue League
- KINDERGARTEN** - Raymond Senior Center
- GRADE ONE** - NHSPCA
- GRADE TWO** - wrote, edited, published, and selling a cookbook with proceeds going to the playground fund
- GRADE THREE** - Shute, Lindquist & Rodriguez - NHSPCA
McMeniman - Ace Bailey Children’s Foundation
- GRADE FOUR** - The Joseph Middlemiss “All You Need is Love Mission”
- GRADE FIVE** - “Toys for Tots” in memory of Christopher Chester
- STUDENT COUNCIL / POLLARD SCHOOL** - Holy Angel’s Food Bank

What you do today makes a difference tomorrow

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

Important Dates

December 12
PTA Holiday Breakfast & Shop

December 15
5th Grade Parent Committee Meeting
7pm

December 24 - January 1
Holiday Break

January 12
PTA Meeting
7pm - Library

January 18
No School
Martin Luther King Jr.
Civil Rights Day

January 20
Winter Concert



7pm @ the PAC



Dear Pollard Families,

The past month has been quite a busy one! I hope that you all have a chance to spend some quality time with your families or plan to during our holiday break.

How wonderful it is to belong to a PTA that is so active, wanting to make sure all students have everything that they need. Grandparents & Special Persons Day, Holiday Pancake Breakfast, and next our Holiday Shop...Pollard families have been very busy! Thank you to all the parents and staff that have helped with these events, I know that the holiday season makes it hard to fit everything in and we appreciate all that you do!

Speaking of Grandparents & Special Persons Day, I enjoyed meeting so many grandparents and special friends the Tuesday before Thanksgiving break. We had over 700 visitors throughout the day and I thank everyone for being so flexible. The PTA had volunteers helping to point our visitors in the right direction and the "Someone at Pollard School Loves Me" key chains were a great touch. I hope that our visitors enjoyed the day even half as much as our students. We took a lot of pictures and they have been posted on our website. Please check both the pictures and our website out at www.pollardschool.com.

Report cards went home the first week in December so I hope that you have sat down with your child and discussed his/her progress. It is so important to let them know you value all of their hard work. At school, students continue to have Tier 2 instruction so they are working with many different staff on re-teaching or enriching our grade level curriculum. Please ask your son or daughter how this is going. We here at Pollard are excited about the growth many of our students are making this year in both reading and math. The STAR Assessment has been instrumental in assisting staff with differentiating instruction and we look forward to the results of our mid-year assessment starting in January.

Have a super holiday season and thank you for partnering with the Pollard staff in educating your child.

Michelle Auger
Your Child's Principal



From the desk of Mrs. Vance, Our Assistant Principal

Happy Holiday Season from my family to each of yours. This is a busy time of year and expectations are high to complete projects and wrap up units of study prior to vacation. I want to share with you a book that changed my views on handling new learning and processing stress when I make mistakes. Two year ago the staff at Pollard School completed a book study on *Mindset* by Carol Dweck. I believe as a parent and an educator that anyone involved with educating children need to read this book.

So many of our students are perfectionist and lack the abilities to be risk takers and see the connection between mistakes and success. I truly believe if we educate ourselves on our *mindset*, we will be able to cultivate their success.

Mindset is a simple idea discovered by world-renowned Stanford University psychologist Carol Dweck in decades of research on achievement and success—a simple idea that makes all the difference.

Mindset explains:

- Why brains and talent don't bring success
- How they can stand in the way of it
- Why praising brains and talent doesn't foster self-esteem and accomplishment, but jeopardizes them
- How teaching a simple idea about the brain raises grades and productivity
- What all great CEOs, parents, teachers, athletes know

In a fixed mindset, people believe their basic qualities, like their intelligence or talent, are simply fixed traits. They spend their time documenting their intelligence or talent instead of developing them. They also believe that talent alone creates success—without effort. They are wrong. In a growth mindset, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work—brains and talent are just the starting point. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment. Virtually all great people have had these qualities. Teaching a growth mindset creates motivation and productivity in the worlds of business, education, and sports. It enhances relationships. When you read *Mindset*, you will see how.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season.

Fondly,
Mrs. Vance



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Lead and Copper Water Quality Monitoring & Reporting Requirements Not Met

The Pollard School water system violated drinking water monitoring requirements. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct the situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the compliance period(s) and year of Q4: Oct 1-Dec 31, 2015 we exceeded the Action Level for lead and copper and were required to take water quality (WQ) samples.

What does this mean?

Typically, lead and copper enter water supplies by leaching from lead or brass pipes, copper pipes and plumbing components.

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short period of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the date by which water quality samples were due, how many samples we were supposed to take, how many samples were actually taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Type of Samples	Samples were due by (month and year)	Number of samples we were required to collect	Number of samples we collected on time	When all samples were (or will be) collected
Water Quality (pH and alkalinity)	Oct, 2015	2 source WQ 2 distribution WQ 1 source lead/copper	10	Complete

Steps We Are Taking: We are currently working with the Director of Facilities to replace older faucets and piping in the older Pollard building, as this is where our violations appear to exist.

We anticipate resolving the problem within the next monitoring period (Jan-March, 2016). For more information, please contact Jim Hughes, Director of Facilities for the Timberlane Regional School District at (603)490-4637 or Michelle Auger, Principal of Pollard School at (603) 382-7146.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

PWS ID: 1935010

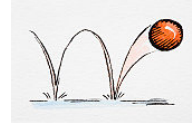
Date distributed: December 11, 2015

From Ms. Silva in the Gymnasium

Fall is just about over and winter is approaching. During the month of November Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade worked on soccer skills. They learned how to control dribble and pass a soccer ball. We played lead up games that went along with those skills. We also played warm up games that taught students about fitness and health.

During the month of November 3rd, 4th and 5th graders played many different cooperative games. We played some warm-up games that taught students about fitness and health. We just started a new unit last week working on hockey skills.

I hope everyone has a happy, healthy, and safe holiday break.



Counselor Corner

Greetings Pollard Families:

Does your child give you a hard time about coming to school? Does your child say, "I don't want to go to school" or take too long getting ready in the morning? It's a common problem! Here are some tips to help curb these habits before they turn into a serious concern.

- Have a bedtime routine that allows for your children to get enough sleep. Kids who are tired will definitely not want to get up in the morning!
- Be consistent with your expectations. Make sure your child knows what you expect. If the morning routine means waking up, getting dressed, making the bed, eating breakfast, brushing teeth, packing lunch & backpack, then make sure your child completes all those duties before letting them play or watch television. Work together by telling them if they can get ready quickly enough, there will be time to read a book together.
- Make breakfast easy. It's the most important meal of the day! Have healthy options in a place where children can get to them. Cereal, instant oatmeal, bagels or toast are all items that most children can prepare themselves.
- Prepare the night before. Have clothing picked out, take baths or showers, make sure all items needed are in the backpack ready to go! Have the kids put their backpacks near the door.

Let your child learn the consequences of dilly-dallying in the morning. For example, if the bus has arrived and she still hasn't brushed her hair, send her to school with messy hair. Ignore your embarrassment and let her learn. The next morning she'll probably get ready a little quicker!

If your child starts complaining that they don't want to come to school, sit down and have a talk about reasons someone should stay home from school (or work if they're an adult). Fever, vomiting, contagious illnesses, accidents, family emergencies are all legitimate reasons not to be in school. There are other times when we might not feel up to 100% of normal, but we can still make it through the day. By following these guidelines, children are learning how to be punctual, dependable and responsible. As always, please contact me with any questions or concerns. I hope your family has an enjoyable holiday season.

Marcia Blutstein

Marcia.Blutstein@timberlane.net 382-7146 x250

Reminders from the Front Office:

If your child will be **absent** or **late to school**, please remember to call the attendance line by **9am** at 603-382-7146, #1 with the reason for the absence or tardy.

Students who are absent due to illness or are late or dismissed due to a doctor's appointment will have their absence, tardy or dismissal excused only with a note from the doctor verifying the absence or appointment.

Students who arrive by car may not be dropped off at Pollard's car drop off area until 8:15am. Students need to be at school by 8:25am in order to ensure that they are not tardy. **Students who are not in their classrooms by 8:30am will be marked tardy.** If your child is tardy, please sign them in at the front office.

When your child has a change in their dismissal plan, we need to have it **from you in writing**. If that change involves your child taking a bus, **we need to have the bus number and the address to which your child is going.**

It is very important to keep your contact information up to date in case of an emergency. Please remember to let the office know of any changes in your **contact information** and that of your **emergency contacts**.

Thank you for helping us with this important information

Happy Holidays from the Art Room!



We are off to a great year with many enthusiastic artists! Pollard artwork was on display at the SAU from November 9th to December 4th. We had pumpkin paintings on display from kindergarteners Caden Marquis, Nathan Whittaker, and Sydney Peters. First grade school busses by Emily Murphy, Kasey Fitzgerald, and Dagny Ouellette were also hung. Second grade Model Magic pumpkin patches by Matthew McFadden, Ailey Dowie, Allison Harb, Vincent Defina, Kasidee Castro, Brooke Langlois, Raymond Chen, and Emily Agneta were part of the display. Lovely koi pond paintings by third graders Emma Norcott, Elijah Wadleigh, Olivia Kennedy, Kira Sutka, Zac Farnell, and Sofia Narinkevicuis were also displayed. A large collection of imaginative Day of the Dead skeleton drawings by fourth graders Lily Sola, Alivia Cerasulo, Michael Lewis, Skyla Wise, Brady Stack, Kristen Regis-McGee, Annie Ketcham, Lily Brien, and Alana Shanahan filled one display. Finally, some amazing shaded pumpkins by fifth graders Nattalie O'Donnell, Brian Carvahlo, Connor LaFleur, Tess Simmonds, Autumn Stacey, Emma Soucy, Nick DeLucia, and Kaeleb Moley impressed viewers. Congratulations to these talented artists!

I am also very excited to announce the newest Pollard artists accepted to have their artwork published in a beautiful full color book called Celebrating Art! Thirteen Pollard students have been selected to have their artwork published in this regional contest! Their artwork was in competition with other student artwork from the eastern United States, only the top 25% of entries are chosen to be printed! Congratulations to fifth graders Brian Carvahlo, Nattalie O'Donnell, Nick DeLucia, Connor LaFleur, Tess Simmonds, Kaeleb Moley, and Emma Soucy for their stunning shaded pumpkins; fourth graders Alivia Cerasulo, Gina Sciacca, Jacob Raymond and Hannah Scully for their detailed Zentangles; and third graders Sofia Narikevicuis and Kira Sutka for their beautiful koi ponds. This is really an artistic achievement to be very proud of! I hope you child tells you about what they are learning in art. Ask your kindergartener how to make the color orange. First graders may be able to name the artist Wassily Kandinsky, if not, they can tell you about his painting. Second graders did two lessons with leaves, a leaf rubbing and a leaf print. Third graders have mastered weaving. If you have a long piece of cardboard and some yarn, they could make a scarf. Fourth graders just learned about the abstract artist Joan Miro', ask them about how they show the illusion space in their abstract bedroom paintings. Fifth graders are very excited about the work of M. C. Escher! I wonder if they could teach you how to make a tessellation? I hope you are all able to enjoy the holiday season with your loved ones.

Happy Holidays!
Mrs. Lightizer



Greetings from the PTA!

Some wonderful things have been happening throughout the first part of this year.

Mrs. Bloom's class and Mrs. Hood's class tied for first in the membership drive. Both classes will be receiving pizza parties for bringing in the most PTA memberships

Congratulations to Pollard School for raising over \$1600.00 from the box top contest! A big congratulations to Mrs. Larosa's class for winning the classroom contest. Keep collecting those box tops, there will be another contest in the spring. If you have any box tops that will expire before then, please turn them in! Thanks for supporting Pollard school.

As always we will be having our annual PTA auction in the spring. If you or someone you know may be willing to donate it would be greatly appreciated!

There will be no PTA meeting in the month of December but we will reconvene in January. We hope to see you at our meeting on January 12th at 7:00pm in the library.

We hope everyone has a great Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!

-Pollard PTA

Note for the Technology Lab Hour of Code!

December 7th - 13th is Hour of Code and all Pollard students will be participating by working with coding puzzles. These tutorials use problem-solving, logic, and creativity to help students construct simple pieces of programming or code to solve problems (puzzles) for the characters.

The developers of this site have incorporated familiar characters such as Angry Bird or the Minecraft world to engage and motivate the students to solve the puzzles. The students use click and drag command blocks that snap together to work out the solutions (each block stand for a written piece of code). When the kids solve a puzzle they can click a button to see the actual code they have created.

We will be using the website www.hourofcode.org or www.code.org. There are short videos to promote the computer sciences. Videos are also used during the tutorials to instruct the students on new strategies such as how to use a repeat block.

In addition to getting an introduction into Computer Science through this learning campaign, these problem-solving activities foster collaboration, persistency, planning and visualizing direction.



BOOKMARKS: Occasional notes from the library



Pollard School participated in the Global Read Aloud for the third year in a row in 2015. Five classrooms participated this year and all of them had the opportunity to make global connections with other students in the United States. Mrs. Bell and Ms. Ferrante's first grade students did an author study of Amy Krouse Rosenthal's work. One of the highlights for them was deciding if an optical illusion was a duck or rabbit and then researching some facts about the animal. Mrs. Cipriano and Mrs. McFarlin's second grade classes read **The Year of Billy Miller**. All of the students had the opportunity to review the book when we got to the end and many gave it five stars! Mrs. Kennedy's class read **Fish In A Tree** and was able to participate in a Google Hangout with author Lynda Mullaly Hunt.



Books in My Holiday Book Bag: My favorite seasons readings of 2015 are **Me and My Dragon: Christmas Spirit**, a terrific read aloud with a great message at it's core; **The Miracle on 133rd Street**, a multi-ethnic Christmas story full of personality, written by Sonai Manzano -otherwise known as Maria on Sesame Street; and **Oskar and the Eight Blessings**, a beautiful picture book set in New York city in 1938 when the last night of Hanukkah was Christmas Eve. For more information about some great holiday reading, I urge you to visit <http://kidlit.tv/2015/12/2015-holiday-childrens-book-special/> and watch KidLit TV's 2015 Holiday Children's Book Special where several experts in the field share their favorite titles of the season.



"A Book is a Present You Can Open Again and Again." Here are some titles I would put on my gift-giving list for Pollard aged readers: Picture Books: **Little Elliot, Big Family** (Curato); **Lady Pancake and Sir French Toast** (Funk/Kearney); **The Whisper** (Zagarenski) Chapter Books: **The Story of Diva and Flea** (DiTerrlizzi/Willems); **Princess in Black and the Perfect Princess Party** (Hale/Pham); **Danger in Ancient Rome** (Ranger in Time #2 - Messner/McNorris) Novels: **Fish in a Tree** (Mullaly Hunt); **Lost in the Sun** (Graff); **The Honest Truth** (Gemeinhart) Nonfiction: **Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear** (Mattick/Blackall); **Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina & New Orleans** (Brown); **How to Swallow a Pig** (Jenkins/Page)