



December 20, 2019

Pollard Pen

Dear Pollard Families,

The holiday season is all around us and we encourage everyone to take the time to reflect on this past year and all of the successes we have experienced. I would like to thank all of our students and staff for a great first four months of the school year. Besides all of the impressive work happening inside the classrooms, we've had lots of super kind behavior! I can't wait to see all of the growth to come.

We have been excited about how the students and staff lit up the school with kindness. The random acts of kindness lightbulbs are filled with thoughtful acts that our students and staff have done. If you are in the building please take the time to read some of our students' thoughtful acts.

Our fantastic PTA have been so active, wanting to make sure all students have everything that they need. Special Persons Day, Holiday Pancake Breakfast, and our Holiday Shoppe...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!

I'd also like to remind families to please avoid turning around on local streets when exiting the school during student dismissal. We realize staying on main roads will add time to your drives but we are trying to be good neighbors.

I wish you all a restful and happy holiday season!

Happy Holidays!

Doug Blay
Pollard School Principal

Pollard School S.W.I.M.'s

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Important Dates

Dec 23- Jan 1
Holiday Break

January 7
Science Club—
4:15pm Pick Up

January 9
French Club—Pick Up
@ 4:30pm

January 10
Pollard Spelling
Bee—9am Pollard
Cafe

January 14
Pollard Winter
Concert @ the PAC -
7pm

January 16
Spanish Club—
4:30pm Pick Up

January 20
No School
Martin Luther King
Jr. Civil Rights Day

January 21
Pollard PTA Meeting
6pm Pollard Library

January 23
Pollard PTA
Spaghetti Dinner
5pm-7pm Pollard
Café-Snow Date
1/24



Pollard School Holiday Charities



PreK

McColley/Radjavitch

Lion's Club Power Packs

Kindergarten

Jess Hood

Lion's Club Power Packs

Crystal Masera

Lion's Club Power Packs

Jacob Piedra

Lion's Club Power Packs

Grade One

Ashley Haselton

NHSPCA

Leslie Laudani

NHSPCA

Sandy Ward

NHSPCA

Sherry Bell

NHSPCA

Grade Two

Kim Bellmore

Cards for CMC Patients

Kara Bloom

Cards for CMC Patients

Colleen Ferrante

Cards for CMC Patients

Matt Velonis

Cards for CMC Patients

Grade Three

Terry Bolduc

Animal Shelter

Jody McFarlin

Animal Shelter

Laura Shute

Animal Shelter

Jess Winter

Animal Shelter

Grade Four

Jeff LaVallee

Jimmy Fund/Toys for Tots

Hope Williams

Jimmy Fund Toys for Tots

AlexisVengren

Jimmy Fund/Toys for Tots

Grade Five

Dolores Coyle-Quirk

Lions Club Stocking Stuffers

Julie Hazelton

Lions Club Stocking Stuffers

Barbara Kane

Lions Club Stocking Stuffers

JoAnn Robichaud

Lions Club Stocking Stuffers

All of our penguins' care and share!

Pelletier's Perspective



A lot of parents ask what they can do to help their little mathematicians home. You don't need to buy any fancy at home programs or workbooks. There are many things that you can do within the course of your everyday life. Here are some ways to help build number sense and math excitement at home:

*Be positive about math. When the topic comes up, how you respond could shape their own feelings about math.

*Bake together- when you're in the kitchen measuring out recipes, there are plenty of opportunities for kids to work with fractions. They will get to see hands on, real-world examples looking at those measuring cups. Asking questions about whether a $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ cup is bigger will help build experience with these figures.

*Measure Stuff- Kids love to work with tape measures and live out their carpentry dreams. Give your little Bob Villa a tape measure and ask them to estimate, then measure, several items around the house.

*Grocery store- Have them estimate what the final cost will be about as you pick up each item at the grocery store. Exercising their working memory to retain the previous total as they add in each new amount will be purposeful, challenging, and fun!

*Gas station- Given about how many dollars each gallon is, have your children estimate the total cost needed to fill the tank given its size. Or if you are spending a specific dollar amount have them estimate how many gallons you will be able to purchase.

*Restaurant- Estimate the total cost of the bill. Round off all those \$12.95's and 7.99's, and come up with the best guess for when the damages arrive at the end of the meal.

*Problem-solving skills- NO NUMBERS REQUIRED! – When your little mathematician runs into a problem at home don't jump to fix it. Letting them work through it creatively helps to build the same skills that will come in handy when they have real-world math struggles.





Pollard School students in grades Pre-K - 3 heard all ten of the books on the 2019 Ladybug Picture Book Award read aloud during the month of November and last week they voted for their favorite picture book. Inky's Amazing Escape got 79 votes and was the favorite here at Pollard. Our votes have been sent to the state and we are anxiously awaiting the announcement of the winner in late December.

Fifth grade students learn about the history of Canada and Mexico as part of the social studies curriculum. I have introduced the culture of our two neighboring countries to them and this week we are learning about Christmas traditions. Students have learned about the significance of Nova Scotia sending Boston a Christmas tree each year, learned about symbols of Canada by listening to a Canadian version of the 12 Days of Christmas, listened to the Legend of the Poinsettia, and learned about Christmas posadas in Mexico. Fourth grade students are studying regions of the USA in social studies and this week they have created a Google Slide Show about Christmas traditions in each region. They have enjoyed learning about Christmas being outlawed in colonial Massachusetts, alligator Shish Kabobs being eaten in the Southeast, and elks giving sleigh rides in the Mountain states.

January will be a very busy literary month for our students. The Youth Media awards will be announced in late January and our students will read lots of great books as part of mock award programs. We will also read our way up to World Read Aloud Day on February 5th. We have 5 Author Skypes scheduled and January will be spent reading lots of Amy VanDerwater, Juana Martinez Neal, Heather Montgomery, Susan Tan, and Laura Shovan.

Happy Holiday Reading
Patricia Collins, Library Media Specialist





Hello Pollard Families!

First grade has begun their sound and light science unit. Through various guided explorations, students are learning that sound is a type of energy that is generated when matter vibrates. The vibrations of sound move in waves. Students made drums using recyclable materials. With their drums they demonstrated how vibrations make sounds. Also, they used their drums to communicate to their peers. First grade is excited for their next sound exploration after the holiday break.

First grade has also participated in a winter STEM challenge by building bridges using toothpicks and marshmallows. Students used their background knowledge of polygons, 3-D shapes, and measurement to create three-dimensional bridges that met an expected length and held weight.

Pre-Kindergarten has been having fun with Gingerbread Man STEM. Students were excited to use their engineering and problem solving abilities to create a boat that safely carried the gingerbread man across the water. Also, students enjoyed various math games associated with the gingerbread man stories they have been reading throughout the month of December.





News from Ms. Silva the Physical Education Teacher

Hello everyone,
November has come and gone. Don't even remember it being here and December is almost over. In November all grades worked on cooperative games. Cooperative games help students work with each other, be nice to each other and can sometimes accomplish a certain task.

During the month of December every grade worked on fitness. We played fitness games that included healthy foods as well as unhealthy foods. Each class worked on how to find heart rates after each warm up activity and will continue to do this throughout the year. We also learned about how one becomes physically fit. We learned what strength, flexibility and cardiovascular fitness activities are. We did many activities in these areas.

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday break with family and friends!



Happy holidays from the art room! The Pollard artists have settled in nicely and are making great progress. They seem enthusiastic about learning new art skills!



The kindergarten students have gotten used to the art room routines and procedures. They all have jobs, you could see if they remember what job they have. They have done a lot of work on cutting and gluing with different types of glue. We have done some teacher led drawings which have been very impressive. We are working on coloring with colored pencils and crayons neatly, so we can see the beautiful pencil work below.

First graders have done apple tree and school bus paintings, and model magic spiders. They are currently working on gorgeous ginger bread house collages.

Second graders did leaf rubbings, and then leaf prints. They just finished wonderful pressed fern trees.

Third graders just finished gratitude tree paintings inspired by “The Tree of Life” by Gustav Klimt. I think you will love them, not only for their beautiful gold paintings, but for the words hidden in the branches of all the things they are thankful for. They are now working on snow globe collages, which require a lot of careful craftsmanship.

Fourth graders learned about “Zentangle” and practiced a little before beginning a collage/zentangle project also inspired by Gustav Klimt. Many of them LOVE zentangle, which is a relaxing, but thoughtful, careful doodle. I love this project because it is a fun way to learn about the principles of design (balance, contrast, movement, emphasis, pattern, rhythm, and unity).

Fifth graders finished up lovely realistic pumpkin drawings or paintings. They were allowed to choose a medium for this work, and put their pumpkin in a background from their imagination. They have been continuing work on shadows. It has been tricky for some. After vacation we will start clay cone figures.

Several times a year, I enter student artwork into a contest for exceptional work. I am thrilled to say we have thirteen students chosen to have artwork published in the fall addition of “Celebrating Art”. The book contains artwork from the Northeast, including New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania! I am excited to say that Pollard School continues to be the leading school in all of New Hampshire for the most artwork published! This includes artwork from middle schools, high schools, and private schools! I believe this is a great opportunity to have our students’ hard work and art skills validated by experts beyond our school community. The students selected to have artwork published in this fall book are: 5th graders for their pumpkins: Kasey Fitzgerald, Bode O’Connor, Ayla Hill, Brooke Braley, and Sonya Greekwood; 4th graders for their Day of the Dead oil pastels: Emily Brown, Vivian DeCoito, Reagan Walling; and 3rd graders for their Picasso witches: Brooke Sargent, Emma Popa, Lukas Markiewicz, Matthew Agneta, and Lilly Jones! Congratulations to our amazing Pollard artists!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about art, feel free to contact me. I hope you enjoy the holidays, making memories with your family and friends!

Becky Lightizer



What's happening in **technology**?

During the first trimester, **kindergarteners** worked on using the mouse--clicking, double-clicking, and clicking and dragging. They also began using the keyboard.

1st graders worked on logging onto the computer using usernames and passwords. They practiced using the mouse—learning when to click, double-click, select, and click and drag. They also practiced opening and closing folders and programs.

In a collaborative effort, **2nd graders** worked on their “My Community” social studies unit in technology class. We focused on the following questions: Is it important to be part of a community? How does where you live influence how you live? Which is more important: goods or services? We used ebooks and BrainPOP Jr. to learn about community. On Community Hero Day, put together by Mrs. Rodriguez, students interviewed Plaistow community members, and wrote paragraphs about it. You should see their final drafts. Amazing!

In addition, **2nd graders** used Destiny, with the help of Ms. Collins, to search for books in our library that connected to the community of Plaistow. They then read their books and wrote some text-to-self connections. Ask your 2nd grader about his or her book. Finally, 2nd graders learned about many different pieces of computer hardware and software.

3rd graders discussed a lot of important topics. Students learned about in-person and online responsibilities. They learned about how their behavior affects themselves and others. They also learned about the purpose and importance of passwords. In addition, they learned about cyber bullying and online safety. Finally, students used Prodigy to practice math, and used Bookflix and Storyline Online to listen to and read stories.

4th graders created their own Google Sites based on the United States regions. Mrs. Rodriguez, Ms. Collins, and I worked together to create a comprehensive study of the U.S. regions. Prior to making the site, each student was assigned a region to research. Students used Scholastic TrueFlix books, Lightbox books and region videos to gather facts about their regions. Ms. Collins created note-taking papers to collect facts, and Mrs. Rodriguez explained how to create the site. The sites aren't done yet, but they look great. Ask your child to view his or her Google site. You'll be amazed!

5th graders researched several different topics. First, they researched a community cause using a Destiny Collection created by Ms. Collins. The information gathered was used to create speeches for Kid Governor. Second, 5th graders researched one of the world's biomes. Finally, students researched an animal that lived in the biome they researched.

During these research projects, **5th graders** used several databases to gather information, and Ms. Collins and I reviewed note taking and writing in the first person. The final product of the animal research is a brochure. Ask your child to see his or her brochure; it can be found in their Google Drive. They're looking good!

Stay tuned for 2nd trimester happenings, which include, but aren't limited to, coding, creating spreadsheets, slideshows, and keyboarding.

Email Mrs. Kennedy at lisa.kennedy@timberlane.net if you have any questions.

Have a great vacation!

Mrs. Kennedy





Congratulations to Pollard School 5th grader Kasey Fitzgerald! She will sit on the 2020 New Hampshire's Kid Governor Executive Council. First, she won her school's Primary and was sent on to the Statewide Kid Governor Election. Kasey was then chosen as one of the top 7 candidates. In November, 5th graders across the state of NH evaluated the online campaign videos of the final 7 candidates and cast their votes for the student and platform that they supported. Kasey ran on a platform of Anti Bullying. The student receiving the most votes will now serve a one-year term of leadership and advocacy, working to fulfill their campaign platform and mobilize students to take action and make a difference on the winning campaign issue. Kasey did well in the election and will now be part of the New Hampshire's Kid Executive Council, and will spend the year carrying out her own platform and supporting the elected NHKG. To learn more about her platform watch her campaign video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=5&v=v4jDLdK_YLs&feature=emb_logo And to learn more about the NH Kid Governor program visit their web page <http://nh.kidgovernor.org/>



Glad tidings from the music room!

It has been another tuneful, beatful, and artful month in music class! This week, a special guest named Mr. Ernie came to Pollard School to share his gift of storytelling and song. He lead students in a holiday sing-along which was enjoyed by all. Pollard's winter concert is quickly approaching! This concert features Pollard's band, orchestra, and chorus and will take place on Tuesday, January 14th at 7:00 p.m. at the PAC. Admission is free and all are welcome! Thank you for supporting Pollard School music! Have a musical holiday season!

AnnMarie Pinard

Pollard School Music Teacher

Things are Getting “Wild” in 5th Grade

By Dolores Coyle-Quirk

Students in 5th grade have been learning about Ecosystems in science. They have learned about the “interdependence” of all living things on our earth. Through collaborative work groups, fifth graders studied six major biomes on the earth. They researched using various informational sources and created slide shows to present to the class. In technology class, they made a pamphlet about an animal from the biome. Using modeling clay they all made a clay animal model. Then at home, students created wonderful dioramas of their biome and gave their model animal a habitat of their own. This was a lot of fun and a wonderfully engaging learning experience. However, the students were even more excited when they walked through the halls that had been converted into a “wild jungle”. Mrs. Coyle-Quirk's class dressed in animal costumes and went on parade through the school.

