



**March 31, 2017**

## Important Dates

### April 4

Honors Orchestra , Band  
& Chorus Concert  
7pm @ the PAC

### April 11

DARE Graduation  
6:00 @ the PAC

### April 12

1st Year Band/Orchestra  
Concert 7pm @the PAC

### April 13

2nd Grade Play  
6pm @the PAC

### April 14

Lip Sync  
6:30 @the PAC

### April 17 - 21

Pollard Spirit Week

### April 18

ASD Parent Support  
Group 5:30pm—Café

### April 20

Pollard FLES  
Performance 6:00 @ the  
PAC

### April 21

Progress Reports

### April 24-28

Spring Break



Dear Pollard Families:

Happy Spring! This year has been such a crazy winter with a record 7 days off for snow, then warm weather, then cold days and more snow...it's been hard to keep up! Luckily for us 4 of those days have been Blizzard Bag/Online Learning days! I appreciate all of the effort parents, guardians and students gave to getting blizzard bag work in on time, Pollard made our goal for all four days. Our new last day of school will be Wednesday, June 21, 2017 (which is an early release of 12 noon).

Incoming Kindergarten registration has already begun and I want to remind everyone with children that will be entering Kindergarten in the fall that they should call our main office to begin the registration process. For those that have already begun the registration process, we will be sending out invitations to our Kindergarten Screening soon. We plan on having all incoming kindergarteners in for screening the week of May 1st. Parents of students entering first grade that did not come to kindergarten at Pollard should call or come to the school to register your child as soon as possible. At this time you can make an appointment to meet with the guidance counselor. We are also taking names for our 4 day Preschool program, but unfortunately we have filled our allotted spaces so any students signing up will be going on our waiting list. We look forward to meeting all of our new students!

I am also 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 things motivate your

## **What you do today makes a difference tomorrow**

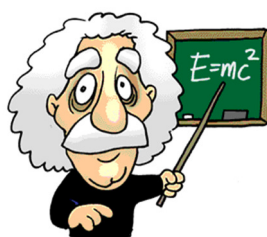
120 Main Street, Plaistow, NH 03865  
Phone: (603) 382-7146 Fax: (603) 382-2782  
<http://www.pollardschool.com>

child but naming a staff member will not help in his/her placement. It is important to note that all children are different and certain teachers may be a better match for some students but not so much for others. Please trust that your child's current teacher, specialists, our school counselor and administration all have a hand in placement and we want the best for everyone. We will have some teacher movement again this next school year. Please get your placement forms to me by April 7th.

We have many activities planned for the remaining months of our 2016-17 school year and I invite you all to join us. We are excited to be hosting the 5th annual "Run of the Savages" in memory of Chief Stephen Savage who lost his battle with cancer in 2014. This 5K Run/Walk community event will be held on April 8th and is being organized to put a positive spin on a deadly disease by focusing on something greater than the disease: a fun community event and a cause for a cure. Please consider joining us in the "Run of the Savages" to help battle cancer. All proceeds of this race will be donated to The Jimmy Fund, Dana Farber Cancer Institute. We also will be hosting our annual Thank You Volunteer Luncheon, Wellness Day and Field Day as well as our end of year concerts! We hope that you can join us for these events!

I would like to thank everyone that voted for the TRSD school budget on March 21, 2017. Along with many important items, our TSSU (support staff union) contract was approved. On behalf of all of them, I thank you. They are truly the heart of our school and I am glad that this was acknowledged through your votes. Although I am a bit bias, the entire Pollard School staff is among the best and truly deserve your support.

Thank you again!  
Michelle Auger, Principal



## **Mr. Shawley's Corner:**

**Dear Pollard Families,**

Our Smarter Balanced testing has been going well. Grades 3-5 will continue testing through April 18<sup>th</sup>. I would like to thank all the students for their hard work and cooperation through this test. There is a New Hampshire of Education Smarter Balanced assessment portal <http://nh.portal.airast.org>. This portal provides several links and helpful information for teachers, staff and families.



#### REMINDERS:

Parents dropping off students in the morning are reminded to be vigilant of students and cars arriving and departing. The safety of the students is our greatest concern. We would also remind families driving their children to school that the NH State requires kids under 18 to wear a seatbelt. Students that are arriving late need to be signed in at the office and receive a late slip.



Parents, this is a friendly reminder that POKE' MON cards are to stay home. This has been an issue on the bus and during school. Keeping these cards at home will help eliminate any issues and allow the students to focus on their academics.



#### BINGO FOR BOOKS

On February 17th, the PTA, planned a great evening for our students. Students and families enjoyed an evening of fun playing Bingo. The students and families loved participating in the event which helps encourage reading. The teachers and parents who chaperoned also had just as much fun as the students. During the event, children played many different variations of bingo, and enjoyed interacting with their peers and family. Thank you to the PTA for providing our students with this opportunity.

!

## Go Out and Play!!!

"Just as early bonding establishes the foundation of trust between parent and child, the earlier a child develops a "bond" with the natural world, the more likely that child will feel trust and comfort in nature versus fear and dread." Vicki Bohling-Phillipi, "The Power of Nature to Help Children Heal"

Childhood has changed drastically in recent years, with children spending more time indoors or in highly structured, supervised activities outdoors (such as sports practices). Yet research indicates that unstructured, outdoor play and open-ended activities in natural environments produces healthier, more creative human beings.

### The Key Reasons To Go Out and Play!

1. Unstructured outdoor play produces more creative, healthier children; physically, socially and emotionally.
2. More time in outdoor play is associated with less risk of obesity and attention problems; both risks have been drastically on the increase in recent years.

The research says children that play outside actually perform better at school!

"There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrain of nature-the assurance that dawn comes after night, and spring after the winter." Rachel Carson, *A Sense of Wonder*

Happy Spring and I hope to see you all outside,

Doug Blay

Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator





GERMS, GERMS everywhere!

DID YOU KNOW....

- that germs can travel 100 mph when you cough or sneeze, that's faster than a car on the highway!

- germs love moist places, like your nose, eyes and mouth. Eewwww!

- that it is not good to share food or drink when you are sick because it will spread the germs and make other people sick.

- that you shouldn't put your hands near your eyes, nose or mouth. If you do you should wash your hands!

- that you should wash your hands before you eat.

- that you should get 9-11 hours of sleep to stay healthy.

- that you should cough or sneeze into the bend in your arm in order to catch the germs and stop the spread of illness.

- that washing your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds will stop the spread of germs. That is the time it takes to sing your "A, B, C's".

Mrs. Bellmore's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class recently learned about germs. You can watch the video that they made on TRSD.TV at:

<https://vimeo.com/207367508>.



## FROM MS. SILVA, IN THE GYM

During the cold and long winter, students in all grades worked on jumping and hopping skills. This month students have been working on underhand throwing and bowling. I am hoping this winter weather breaks soon!



## YMCA SCHOOL AGE NEWS LETTER March 2017

Hello and Happy Spring from the YMCA Before and After School Program! The days are finally becoming longer and warmer. It is so very important for children to have time for active play each day. Our program schedule includes at least half an hour of active play time each day, both during our morning and afternoon programs. Weather permitting, we will be going outside to play every afternoon. On cold or rainy days, we enjoy playing in the school gym. The children were all very excited to finally be able to play outdoors again this month, after a cold and snowy winter. Some of the childrens' favorite curriculum activities this month included: learning about the four food groups and creating their own food group plate, and creating cloud puppets, to celebrate the arrival of spring!

