

Pollard Pen



May 26, 2017

Important Dates

May 29

No School
Memorial Day Observed

June 1

Instrument Trials
5-7pm @ the PAC

June 2

Field Day
(June 9 Rain Date)

June 5

Instrument Trials
5-7pm @ the PAC

June 14

2nd Grade Picnic
(June 15 Rain Date)

June 19

Pre-K Celebration
9:30-10:30

June 20

5th Grade Celebration
5:30pm @Pollard

June 21

Last Day of School
12:00 Dismissal



Dear Pollard Families:

It seems like just last month that I welcomed our new kindergarten students to Pollard School! Our last day of school this year will be Wednesday, **June 21st** and we will be dismissing at **noon**. Our AM kindergarten children will go home at 11:10, as usual and PM Kindergarten students that have signed up for our Kindergarten Move up Day will leave at this time as well. I am sure I speak for everyone when I say that we will miss our 5th grade class. They are moving on to the middle school where I am sure they will find great success! For now, our teachers will be planning activities that will keep the children moving and learning. Unfortunately summer weather is already here (depending upon the day) and I thank all the parents that have sent their children in with water bottles and light clothing during those hot days.

Teacher assignments will be mailed home in mid-August. A letter from me will let you know who your child's classroom teacher will be and that teacher will also enclose a letter to you and your child that will introduce herself and give some basic classroom information. Remember you are not responsible for purchasing any classroom supplies, just your child's back pack and lunch box. If you need assistance with either of these items please give me a call or email me to let me know. We have partnered with some local businesses and they have provided us with some wonderful back packs. We want every child to feel comfortable and ready to go on the first day of school (August 31st!), please let us know how we can help.

Last year's Open House night was a great success and we will again invite all of our Pollard students and their families to come "**Meet the Teachers**" on **Wednesday, August 30th**

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>

from 5:00-7:15 PM (see schedule below). You will have an opportunity to meet the teacher with your child and to visit the classroom. Our hope is that seeing your child's classroom and meeting the teacher before starting school on Thursday, August 31st will make both you and your child more comfortable and to begin the home school connection right away.

I would like to thank the **PTA Board** for all of the time and effort they put into helping to make Pollard School a great place to learn! Jackie Freeman -President, Erica Stack -Vice President, Kate Sherman-DeRoche-Treasurer, Shauna Manthorn -Secretary and Kelly Fox-Box Tops Coordinator. We appreciate all that you do!

I hope you all have a great summer. We will see you August 30th for the open house!

Michelle Auger
michelle.auger@timberlane.net

Join us for our Pollard School's Meet the Teacher Night on Wednesday, August 30th

5:00-6:00 PM AM Kindergarten, AM Pre-K, Full Day Kindergarten & Grades 1-2

6:15-7:15 PM PM Kindergarten & Grades 3-5

*The bus will be in our center circle for kindergarten & grade one students to check out and sit on.



Pollard 5th grade class had a wonderful visit to the Plaistow Historical Museum this week. This "Neighborhood Field Trip" supported their unit on Plaistow History. They learned that Plaistow was incorporated in 1749, and had a trolley, brick making company and five elementary schools. Through research students have learned about the important benefactor Mr. Author Pollard, who gave money to build our school. Next week these students will go on a walking tour of our own colonial town, as they continue to learn about Plaistow's history, homes, businesses and people.



Mr. Shawley's Corner



It is unbelievable that the school year is coming to a close. My first year went by so quickly and I enjoyed meeting all the students and families of Pollard. We had many accomplishments this year, the children have grown both academically and socially. Pollard is a special place and I have been lucky enough to enjoy taking this trip with everyone. I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy summer!

Just a reminder that continuous practice of math and reading skills is important to maintain during the summer. I encourage students to avoid the “Summer Slide” by finding ways to incorporate simple skill practice that is meaningful which helps students practice their skills.

Tips: Stopping the Summer Slide:

All students can benefit from a trip to the local library.

Parents of younger students can create a summer reading list with their children, and then reward them when they finish each book.

Additionally, parents can encourage their kids to think outside of the box with arts and crafts. Sites such as kids.gov and NGA Kids have great ideas that will let any child's imagination run wild and stimulate creativity.



Have you ever heard the term “sensory break” or “brain break” and weren’t quite sure what it meant? A sensory break or brain break is a term used for taking a break from seated learning activities or sedentary activities. For children with sensory needs, this is often referred to as a sensory diet or sensory break. It is a time for them to gain the sensory input they need in their bodies to stay alert, on task, and focused.

Each of us has our own way in which we modulate or control our sensory systems. A person who is able to modulate well is someone who notices the sensory stimuli coming in, filters out unimportant information and their emotions and behaviors reflect appropriate responses to the situation or environment. Most of us take brain breaks naturally but sometimes students need these scheduled into their days or teachers see that their student(s) need one.

Sensory breaks are a way for any person, whether they have sensory needs or not, to reset, decompress, and get the blood flowing back into their brains. Giving all students breaks throughout their day lets their brains take a rest and reset.

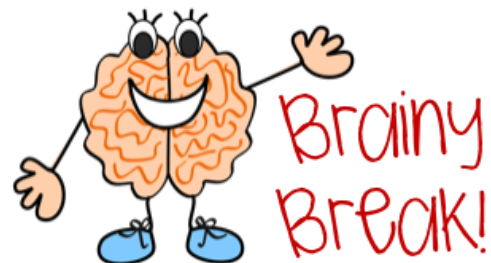
It has been suggested that children ages 3-9 need a break every 15 minutes. Children younger than 3 can really not be expected to focus for much longer than 5-10 minutes, and some much less than that. For children in fourth grade and above it is suggested to have a break at least every 45 minutes.

Some simple brain breaks you can do if you notice your children need to reenergize or focus: do a few jumping jacks, do wall pushes, listen to upbeat or calming music, or do a few yoga moves!

Happy Learning,

Doug Blay

Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator



Hello Families,

One of our district goals this year is to celebrate diversity. We will be sending home books this summer so that you can be a part of this celebration! Students in each grade will receive a specific book about diversity to read during the summer. This book can be read independently, with you if it is too challenging, or as a family read-aloud.

Research clearly states that children who don't reading during the summer can lose up to three months of reading progress and that this loss has a cumulative, long-term effect. The expectation is that your child will read it at least once during the summer. At the start of the 2017-2018 school year, your child's teacher will be discussing the book and doing activities and lessons on the book.

Please look for this book and an introductory letter to be coming home in June.

Kindergarten - The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi

First Grade - It's Okay to Be Different by Todd Parr

Second Grade - Fly Away Home by Eve Bunting

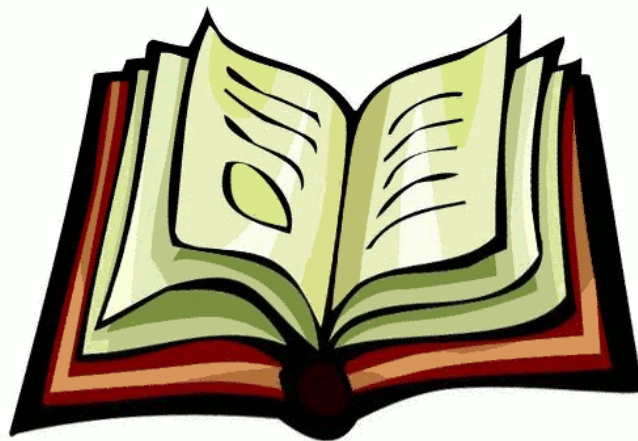
Third Grade - Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

Fourth Grade - A Handful of Stars by Cynthia Lord

Our fifth graders going to the Middle School will have another activity chosen by sixth grade teachers.

Happy reading!

Susan Tozier
Literacy Specialist



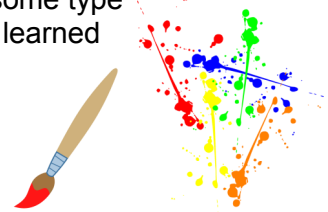
As we wrap up the 2016-17 school year, I am proud of the accomplishments of our many talented Pollard artists. We started out the year with 26 of our Pollard students published in a regional art book called Celebrating Art! That is the greatest number of students we have ever had selected in this national contest. They say they only publish the top 25% of artwork submitted!

In March, we had two Pollard artists selected to have their artwork published in the New Hampshire Fire Safety calendar. This is the 4th time I have entered third grade posters into this contest, and the 4th time we have had artwork selected! It was even more exciting, this year, when we were notified that we had 2 winners chosen! There are only 13 winners in this statewide contest, and we had 2 of them! Congratulations to Libby Wagnitz and Brooke Langlois! This contest is only open to third graders across the state, and the purpose is to educate students about fire safety in hopes that they will pass the information to their families. As we discuss the topics for each month, the students are also learning information that could save lives.

In April, all students participated in the annual Arbor Day poster contest sponsored by the Plaistow Conservation Commission. This year's winners were, Travis Lavoie -1st grade, Bella Segura -2nd grade, Allison Harb -3rd grade, Ava Cudmore -4th grade, and Emma Sharpe -5th grade. Congratulations to this year's winners!

I guess I am ending the year with a little bragging about the successes of our artists! I am very proud of these winners, and the accomplishments of all of our students. I love to see a reluctant artist realize that everybody can enjoy and be successful at some type of art! The greatest thrill is when they tell me they are trying what they learned in art, at home!

Wishing you an art-filled summer!
Best wishes to our wonderful 5th graders! We will miss you!
Mrs. Lightizer



Greetings from the Music Room!

It has been a tuneful, beatful, and artful year here in the music room at Pollard! Students have been developing their musical ability through exploration of songs, dances, instruments, and games in music class. Our 4th and 5th grade chorus gave two successful concerts at the PAC and we are looking forward to our 5th Grade Solo and Ensemble Concert that many 5th grade Pollard chorus, orchestra, and band members will be performing in. This unique concert will be taking place on Wednesday, May 31st at 7 p.m. in the Pollard cafeteria--all are welcome! I also wanted to thank everyone for making my first year at Pollard such a wonderful experience! It has been such a pleasure getting to know all of the students over the course of the year and I am looking forward to many more musical adventures next year! Congratulations to all graduating 5th grade students-- my hope is that you have an appreciation for the artful expression in music and in you for the rest of your lives.

Have a music-filled summer!
Miss Pinard
General Music Teacher and Chorus Director



Dear Pollard Families,

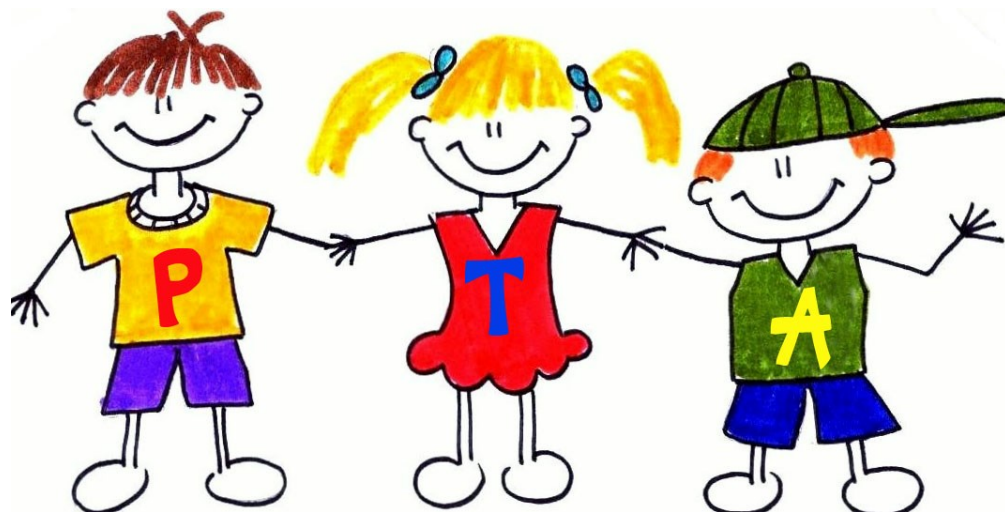
On behalf of the Pollard School PTA, we would like to thank everyone for the yearlong contributions to the PTA and Pollard School. We have been so fortunate to have support from both parents and staff, to help make Pollard School a thriving school community. The PTA was able to fundraise for various activities and offer fun events for students school wide and contribute to events for the teachers:

- Playground donation and community build
- Pancake Breakfasts
- Bingo for Books
- Teacher Appreciation Week activities
- Conference Day staff luncheons
- The Ned Yo-Yo Show
- Silent Auction

We couldn't have done this without the amazing Pollard School families. We will be sending out a list of next year's meeting dates and an outline of potential event dates at the beginning of the next school year. If you would like to be involved we would love to hear from you!

Sincerely,
Shauna Manthorn, PTA Secretary

Jacki Freeman- President: jayfree9603@comcast.net
Erica Stack- Vice President
Kate Sherman-DeRoche- Treasurer
Shauna Manthorn-Secretary: shaunabelle@yahoo.com
Colleen Ferrante- Teacher Liaison



YMCA SCHOOL AGE NEWS LETTER

May 2017

Hooray for May! We had so much fun this month at the YMCA Before and After School Program where we engaged in so many amazing activities! This month we: celebrated Cinco De Mayo by making and playing with maracas, learned about flowers and plants and made our own button flowers, and we celebrated Disney week by engaging in many Disney-themed activities. The children were especially excited to create and wear their very own Mickey Mouseketeer hats! In addition to engaging in our monthly curriculum activities, we also created Mother's Day/Special Person projects and celebrated May The 4th Be With You (Star Wars) Day! As the school year is beginning to wind down, we wanted this month's pictures to highlight the friendships that the children have formed in our program this year. It is a very rewarding feeling to see the caring community that we have helped to create.

