

# Pollard Open



## Important Dates

### Oct. 1—Oct. 17

PTA Box Tops Contest

### Oct. 8

Cross Country Meet  
in Stratham

### Oct. 13

Columbus Day  
No School

### Oct. 14

PTA Meeting 7:00

### Oct. 20

Gr. 5  
Mt. Major

### Oct. 23

Mt. Major  
Rain Date

### Oct. 24

5th Grade  
Parent Committee  
Halloween Party  
6:30 - 9:00

### Oct. 28

PTA Stargazing  
at TRHS

### Oct. 31

Halloween Parade  
1:15

### Nov. 4

Gr. 2 Fieldtrip  
Stockbridge Theater

### Nov. 6

Picture Retake Day

### Nov. 10

Early Release @ 1:00

Dear Pollard Families:

I am always happy to say "Welcome Back" to our students, families and staff as well as a "Welcome" to all of our new friends that are joining us for the first time. We have many new staff members again this year so please welcome them to our Pollard Community when you see them. This year we also have student teachers joining our staff. I think it is wonderful to have them choose Pollard as their final learning experience. I have highlighted each of our new professional staff, as well as our new support staff in this newsletter and I hope you take the time to read what wonderful people we have hired. I believe that they can bring so many new and innovative ideas to our teachers and students, we are happy to have them!

Our first few weeks have gone very smoothly! I would like to thank everyone that attended our Meet the Teacher Night on August 26<sup>th</sup>. It was a great success. I heard many wonderful things from our students, staff and parents. I welcome all of you to make this the year that you volunteer either directly at Pollard or during one of our PTA events. If you would like to help out but not sure how, give me a call or call Jacki Freeman, your PTA President.

During this past summer staff members have been busy learning new ways to reach and teach all of our students, regardless of ability. Instruction conferences, curriculum writing, a Transforming Instruction Conference at Keene State College are just a few examples of activities our staff have completed this summer. Pollard Staff will continue to work on Action Plan Goals again this year. We will remain focused on reading and math and have added a goal to learn and be trained in our new STAR Assessment program

## **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>

as well as a goal to incorporate guided reading into our whole group instruction. We will be focusing on a specific grade level skills in both Reading and Math and trying to achieve mastery based on those skill areas. Staff will also be using the Tripod data collected last school year to help focus on instructional techniques that will engage our students in the learning process. I know all of their hard work will make teaching and learning here at Pollard the best that it can be!

I would like to remind you that we would like all sick children and adults to stay home when they are sick. We know and understand that most parents are working outside of the home but we think that we all need to try to keep the germs out of school as best as possible. Please remember to let us know why your child is being called out sick when you call the absent line. (382-7146 x-1) If the nurse calls to have you come pick up your child because they are sick please try your best to get here as soon as possible. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Welcome and let's have a great year!  
Michelle Auger  
Principal

**Parents Right to Know**

In response to regulations set by the New Hampshire Department of Education and the United States Department of Education, we are required to notify you of our staff's highly qualified status. All teachers, Title I tutors, and support staff at Pollard School meet these requirements and are highly qualified to teach. We are also required to inform you that parents have the right to request information regarding their child's performance level in the classroom or from Title I. Any parent of an English language proficient student has the right to withdraw his/ her child from English language instruction. If you have any questions about the above regulations, please contact Michele Vance.

**POLLARD SCHOOL NEW STAFF**

**Olivia (Hope) MacDonald, Grade 4 teacher:**

Ms. MacDonald joins the Pollard Family as a fourth grade Teacher. Ms. MacDonald is not a stranger to Pollard though. She was Pollard's SSR teacher for the past 2 years. She received her Bachelors from Plymouth State University and is currently completing her Masters in Technology Integration from Southern New Hampshire University. You may have also seen her before or after school as she worked as the lead counselor for YMCA before and after school program at Pollard. She also completed her student teaching with Mrs. Marvin here at Pollard in 2011. Welcome Ms. MacDonald, we are all excited that we have been able to watch you grow professionally with us and to truly be a part of our Pollard family!

### **Amanda McMeniman, Grade 3 Teacher:**

Mrs. McMeniman joins the Pollard Family as a third grade Teacher. She may be new to Pollard but she is no stranger to the teaching profession. She earned her Bachelor Degree at UNH and her Masters in Education from Wheelock College. Mrs. McMeniman, her husband and three children live in Hampstead, NH. Mrs. McMeniman and her family are true "rink rats", spending much of their time at the hockey rink cheering on her husband and son. She is also a dance instructor at night. A cool fact about her is that she taught elementary school in Hawaii for 5 years right after she was married. Welcome to the Pollard team Mrs. McMeniman!

### **Jessica Hood**

Mrs. Hood is our newest half-day (AM) Kindergarten teacher. She earned her elementary teaching degree from Plymouth State University and worked at Danville Elementary School as a para educator before being hired by Pollard School. Mrs. Hood has a smile on her face and an energy level that is contagious. She has many interests ranging from painting to dance. All of these interests will come in handy teaching her morning kindergarten class, welcome Mrs. Hood!

### **Taylor Jones**

Senorita Jones is our new Foreign Language in Elementary Schools (FLES) Teacher. She earned her Bachelors of Science and Arts from Keene State College in Education and Spanish. Senorita Jones has a true love for the Spanish language and culture and can't wait to share this with her new Kindergarten students! Hola Senorita Jones!

### **Elsa Naylor, Pre-School Occupational Therapist:**

Ms. Naylor received her Master's Degree from the University of New Hampshire. Since graduating in 2009, she has worked in a range of settings including the Franciscan Hospital for Children and the Boston public schools. Elsa is excited to be part of a school where the children are challenged, encouraged, and celebrated by teachers who promote each child's unique individuality and independence.

### **Kim Orloski, Pre-School Speech and Language Teacher:**

Miss Orloski received her Master's Degree in Speech and Language Pathology from Syracuse University. She is currently completing her ASHA Clinical Fellowship Year. She has experience in both the clinical and preschool settings. Kimberly already feels Pollard School's sense of community where the faculty and staff work together to elevate all students to their highest potential and help them become well-rounded individuals that are better prepared for the future.

### **Allison Wagner**

Ms. Wagner joins the Pollard community as our School Psychologist. She has a BS in Psychology from The College of New Rochelle, in New Rochelle, NY and a Masters (MS) in School Psychology/Education from the same college. She started her career at the Hommocks Middle School in Mamaroneck, NY (grades 6, 7, &8) for two years and then when she moved to NH worked for Chester Academy. Mrs. Wagner has worked at the TRSD as a school psychologist for the past two years and now joins Pollard as our full time psychologist this year. Welcome Ms. Wagner!

### **Sarah Cronin (Long Term Sub for gr. 2/Bellmore)**

Mrs. Cronin (formally Miss Cunningham) completed her student teaching here at Pollard last year in second grade with Mrs. McFarlin and returns to the second grade team this year as Mrs. Bellmore's long term substitute. Mrs. Cronin earned her Bachelor's Degree from Southern New Hampshire University in Elementary Education and Special Education. Welcome Sarah!

### **Elise Merrill (Long Term Sub for Gr. 1/Ferrante)**

Miss Merrill earned her Bachelor's Degree from Keene State College and this past June she received her Master's In Elementary Education from the University of New Hampshire. She also worked as a para educator in the East Kingston Elementary School for one year. Welcome Elise!

We also want to welcome all of our new support staff. Pollard School could never run as smoothly as it does without the assistance of these new family members!

Samantha Saltalamacchia, Kindergarten Educational Assistant (KEA)

Donna Clegg, Para Educator

Kelly Fox, Para Educator

Samantha Benson, Para Educator

Ashley Nimmo, Para Educator

Kim Bourque, Para Educator

Melissa Finneran, Para Educator

Susan Ferullo, Title I Tutor

Lindsay Desilets, Title I Tutor

Darci Militello, Title I Tutor

Laurie DuFord, Title I Tutor

Lisa Smith, TLC Secretary

In the spirit of life-long learning, Pollard often serves as a starting point for college students finishing their studies with an internship. This is often a win-win situation, as new and prospective teachers bring new and innovative ideas with them. We would like to welcome this year's student interns: Katie Breen will be working in Kindergarten with Mrs. Alter and Ms. Nee, Irene Lanchester will be working with grade 2 in Mrs. McFarlin's classroom & Mrs. Champion and Brigette Dinkle will be working with Mrs. Ward in grade one.



Howard (HOWIE) Coombs was a custodian here at Pollard before passing away last spring. We wanted to find a way to honor him in a way that fit best and I think we did! Kendall Morrill, a fifth grader this year here at Pollard and Emily Bourque now grade 6 designed this mural of our friend Howie that is proudly displayed on our cafeteria wall. Becky Lightizer, our art teacher, led the work on the painting of the mural along with a few staff members this summer. The two girls won the spring contest overseen by Mrs. Lightizer. More than half of our students entered the contest and it was difficult to pick. Now Howie is still with us each day at lunch!



Michael Hollow was the Winner of the Pollard School Safe Routes to School LOGO contest held last spring. Michael is now a 6th grader at the MS. The logo has been placed on the new Plaistow Highway signs created with the Safe Routes grant money. Signs are available to be placed in Plaistow resident's front yards. Pictured above is Town Manager, Sean Fitzgerald, and Interim Police Chief Kathy Savage, Michael Hollow, Michael Hollow (dad), Michelle Auger and Dr. Earl Metzler, Superintendent of Schools.



Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, Pollard School 4th and 5th graders participated in the Town's annual 911 ceremony. Breeze Dennis led the Pledge of Allegiance and then Anthony Beltran, Evan LeBlanc, Josiah Lopez and James Collins read short poems in remembrance of the victims and their families.

## **From the desk of Mrs. Vance, our Assistant Principal**

### **Dear Pollard Families,**

What an amazing start of the school year. Thank you all for doing such a wonderful job getting your child(ren) ready to learn each and every day. I have had the pleasure of observing the classrooms and notice our Pollard students are excited and motivated to take learning risks. To continue to foster a learning community I wanted to share with you this resource for *Family Game Night*. I know at my house board games are still as popular as the electronic ones and we truly enjoy those moments of playing together.

### **Fun family activities everyone enjoys:**

Playing board games at home isn't just a low-cost way to spend an evening; it's also a really great way to dedicate quality time to your family! You may want to dedicate one night a week or even one night each month to family game night. Here are some suggested games to include in your family night:

#### **For Kids One Year Old and Up:**

- Simple table puzzles with large pieces
- Oversize floor puzzles
- "Junior" versions of simplistic board games

#### **For Kids Four Years Old and Up**

- Simple card games like *Go Fish* and *War*
- Memory Games like *Flip n Match* and *Memory*
- Search and seek games like *Where's Waldo*, *I Spy* and *Guess Who?*
- Tabletop activity games like *Connect Four* and *Hungry Hippos*
- Simplisitc board games like *Candy Land*, *Chutes and Ladders* and *Trouble*
- "Junior" versions of more complex games like *Monopoly*, *Clue* and *Scrabble*
- Activity floor games like *Jumbo Checkers* or *Twister*

#### **For Kids Eight Years Old and Up**

- Card games like *Uno*, *Phase 10* and *Apples to Apples*
- Board games like *Monopoly*, *Clue*, *Yahtzee* and *Boggle*
- Interactive DVD games like *Scene It*
- Memory Games like *Flip n Match* and *Memory*
- Activity floor games like *Jumbo Checkers* or *Twist*

Create fun memories and remember -- its all about having fun.  
Enjoy your Family Game Night!



Sincerely,

Mrs. Vance

## Curriculum Corner

The New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP)

The Spring 2014 Grade 4 Science NECAP results have been released. This assessment will be the *only* NECAP assessment we will continue to administer in the Spring of 2015. The breakdown of our students' scores are as follows:

51% scored proficient (level 3)

42% scored partially proficient (level 2)

7% scored substantially below proficient (level 1)

If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact Mrs. Vance, our Curriculum Coordinator.

### From the Desk of Mrs. Silva, Physical Education Teacher

Welcome to a new school year at Pollard! It's hard to believe September is over. Our program at Pollard consists of developmentally appropriate activities that create maximum opportunities for development of skills, knowledge, health-related fitness and ultimately, the confidence to enjoy an active, healthy lifestyle. Physical education courses offer the chance for your child to develop habits for a lifetime of fitness and health. During the school year, we want to encourage you to participate in your child's physical development and fitness. Children need a minimum of at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day and what a better way than playing together. Go for a walk, take a bike ride or toss a ball. It is so important for your children to see you physically active as a role model. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

#### September Happenings

##### Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

September has been crazy and busy in the gym. Indoors we have been learning protocol, self-space and body awareness, locomotor skills, levels and pathways. We played a few fun games.

##### 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade

We reviewed classroom protocols, self-space, and locomotor skills. We played a few fun games. After the games we started a unit in soccer. We learned dribbling, passing and kicking skills with the soccer ball. We also played a few lead up games after the skills were taught. During these units emphasis has been placed on challenging yourself and working at the skill level most appropriate for personal skill development

**Mount Major trip for 5<sup>th</sup> graders is Monday, Oct. 20, 2014**

**(Rain date is Thursday Oct. 23, 2014. )**

**Pollards Cross Country team is having a  
blast!!!! Go Pollard!!!!**





## Counselor Corner

Greetings Pollard Families:

We are all so happy to see your children back to school and excited to learn. I am sending you some information that might be helpful with the start of the school year. The program is called Internet Essentials from Comcast. Its purpose is to provide families who may be struggling to purchase a computer or get internet in their homes.

### Introducing Internet Essentials from Comcast

We want to bring the power of the Internet to more students and families across the country. Internet Essentials was created to offer home Internet service for only \$9.95 a month.

### Four ways Internet Essentials gets you connected — for less.

While participating in Internet Essentials:

You get fast home Internet service for only \$9.95 a month, plus tax

You never have any price increases or pay any activation or equipment rental fees

You can buy a computer at initial enrollment for the low price of just \$149.99 + tax

You can get free Internet training — online, in print and in person

You also get these benefits:

Constant Guard™ Protection Suite, (\$360 value) the most comprehensive online protection suite of any Internet provider, at no additional charge.

Top-rated Norton™ Security Suite and IDENTITY GUARD.

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# October is Bullying Awareness Month

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For the past few years Pollard has been a Bucket Filling school. Students work very hard to follow our core values of Respect, Responsibility, and Safety while keeping their bucket full as well as the others around them. They do this by Helping Others, Encouraging Others, Accepting Others, Respecting Others, and Thinking of Others. When they follow these 5 things, they show how Pollard has HEART.

During this month all Pollard students will be involved in a variety of activities to show they have H-E-A-R-T! For students in Kindergarten through grade 2 we focus more on the positive side of being a bucket filler. For students in grades 3 through 5 we will begin to focus more on identifying bullying behavior and what they should do as a bystander in addition to the bucket filling. At the end of the month students will be sharing with other classrooms all they have learned.

We encourage parents to talk with their children about being a Bucket Filler and showing that they have H-E-A-R-T. Please visit <http://www.bucketfillers101.com/> for more information about Bucket Filling and ways to order materials for your home. If you have any questions, feel free to contact your child's classroom teacher or the main office. We thank you in advance for your support.



## Happy New School Year from the Art Room!

Our youngest artists are settling in quite nicely to the art room routines. We have a new addition to the art room this year. You may have heard about Roy the goldfish. The kids love Roy, and it seems like the feeling is mutual!

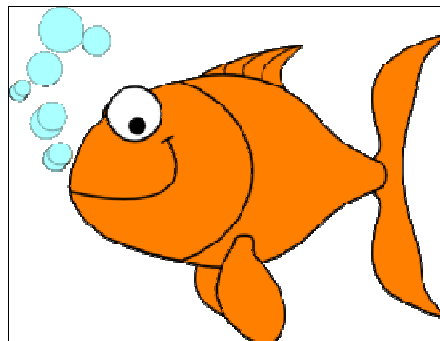
Kindergarteners and first graders are learning where the art supplies are kept, and our set-up and clean-up procedures. Kindergarten started with drawings of Roy, and then did a line project and a cutting project. They will be learning basic art skills, like cutting, gluing, painting, and collage, this year. First graders started with silly paper plate fish, and then moved onto school bus paintings. This year, they will be learning about colors, shapes, and lines, and working with a variety of art materials.

Second graders began with goldfish bowl collages. They are now working on space, and making objects look near and far. This year they will be doing many projects with a theme of nature.

Third graders started with koi fish oil pastel resist paintings. They are now working on Picasso witch collages. They will be exploring art from other cultures this year.

Fourth graders began with some amazing Zentangle inspired goldfish drawings. They are now working on oil pastels of Day of the Dead skeletons. Next, they will be starting Japanese Anime self-portraits, always a favorite! They will be working on many projects that show their individuality.

Fifth graders started with Roy Lichtenstein inspired paintings. Many chose to use Roy the goldfish (named after Roy Lichtenstein) as their subject matter. This year, they will be perfecting the skills and concepts they have learned about in art, as well as exploring a variety of famous artists. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade project that has become a real favorite is the inventor puppet project. I am looking forward to an exciting year with all of these talented and enthusiastic young artists!





## BOOKMARKS: Occasional notes from the library

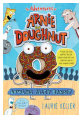
Pollard School Library has been very busy during the first weeks of school and has been well used by students at all grade levels.



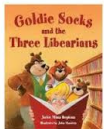
Fifth graders have learned some 60 second strategies for choosing a good book and have heard some book talks about some outstanding novels. Many of the children are excited about the book Just Jake, which was written by a 12 year-old.



Fourth grade students have begun a biography project. Do you know who Betty Skelton was? Ask a 4<sup>th</sup> grader about the amazing records she set in the air, on the speedway, and in the water.



It is a long bridge from Henry (and Mudge) to Harry (Potter). Third grade students have looked at the characteristics of transitional fiction and are excited to read about Clementine, Martin Bridge, Stink, and Winnie.



Second grade students have been focusing on "thinking like Goldilocks" to make "just right" book choices. They have met Goldilocks' friend "Goldie Socks", who taught them the "Five Finger Rule".



First grade students read The Gingerbread Man Loose in the School and then went on a QR code hunt to visit the VIP's in the school and see the rooms they worked in. Coming in October: The Gingerbread Man Loose on the Fire Truck.