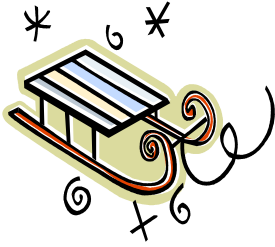
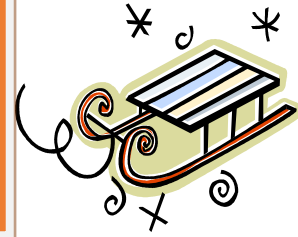


DECEMBER 2015



**SANDOWN
NORTH
ELEMENTARY**



NEWSLETTER



**From the desk of
Jo-Ann K. Georgian, Principal**



I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and that you will enjoy this holiday season. Our students are certainly showing their excitement which puts smiles on all our faces. We keep the routines and schedules the same with just a few changes as we get closer to the break. It is important for the children to have a predictable routine for learning to continue. We can

incorporate some of the holiday fun in their math and in their writing, of course, while continuing on with the teaching and learning of important skills and concepts.

The smiles on our student's faces and the excitement in their voices make the holidays so enjoyable. It was great to see so many of you at the Halloween parade but we did run into a problem with parking. Our "viewers" came early and thought it would be ok to park in the dismissal line. Our fire department is very clear that we cannot use the roadway, or the emergency lane, in that way. Parked cars would seriously impact their ability to get through and to do their jobs. In the future, please find a legitimate parking space on the property. Thanks so much!

There is one more reminder that I feel is important to share. This year, more than any other year, we have had families taking vacations during the school year. I certainly understand that families have happenings that require

their being there but when I saw the number of them happening, I thought I should mention it. If you do choose to take a vacation when school is in session, I ask that you not contact the teacher for work. It is the policy of the Timberlane School District to ask parents to refrain from taking students out of school for family vacations. There is no substitute for the direct instruction followed by the hands-on learning. It would benefit your child to read every day while out of school and to keep a journal of the events, perhaps writing a story telling about the family reunion, for example.



You probably heard that on November 23rd, at Monday Morning Meeting, we unveiled our crayon sculpture, the Statue of Liberty! This incredible opportunity was made possible through the efforts of Allison Lenihan, our Art teacher. All Sandown North students, in grades one through five, had an opportunity to work for three days with the famous artist, Rob Surette. Together they created a crayon sculpture using more than 23,000 crayons. Each student, with guidance from Rob, placed a handful of crayons in a designated spot on the sculpture. Students played a part in creating the whole but were not told what the art

piece would be. Rob finished the sculpture and students unveiled the Statue of Liberty to great applause.

Each year, our students return to school and learn of the new theme the teachers have decided will be the connecting link for the work for the year. This year the theme took on even greater importance as students in grades 4 & 5 have joined us for the first time. Staff members had agreed on the theme of *peace* and the motto of: *Peace, Learn, and Grow*. Evidence of the theme can be seen on doors, in the hall, and in classrooms. The Statue of Liberty sculpture, created as a school community, was thought to be the ultimate representation of a peaceful nation, of a peaceful beginning not only for those who came to our country, but also for the students of Sandown North, who have come together in learning.

Just as the sculpture was being completed, the tragedy in France occurred. The Sandown North community will certainly proudly display this sculpture in the main hallway but will dedicate it to the people of France, the same people who gave the United States the Statue of Liberty. Students would like all to remember that much can be accomplished when people work together peacefully.

I wish you peace and a very happy holiday season!



Morning Parent Drop Off Time Frame

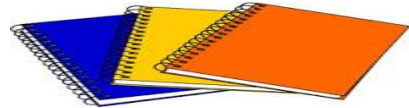
Student drop off time begins at 8:15. Please make every effort to ensure your child arrives at school by 8:25 as class begins at 8:30.



Attendance

Please remember to call the attendance line if your child is absent or going to be late. It is our policy to follow up on every child that has not been accounted for to ensure their safety. In order to do this in a timely manner, we do ask that you call prior to 8:30 AM. Your child's safety is our priority.

Have a wonderful December!



Curriculum News

Next Wednesday, December 9th, the PTA and Sandown North will partner to host an information night to learn more about the New Hampshire Smarter Balanced Assessment. The presentation will begin at 6:00 pm, followed by the PTA meeting. Although all are welcomed to attend, the presentation will be geared towards the parents of grades 3-5 students as those are the students who take the assessment. Mrs. Georgian and I will be presenting, joined by Mrs. Christi Michaud, TRSD Director of Data Assessment and Accountability, who will also be available to answer questions. The information night will cover the basics about the assessments, as well as ways you can help prepare your child for the spring assessment. Last month, parents of 4th and 5th graders received results from last spring's assessment. We will be discussing how to interpret the results as well as what the new state assessment means for your child, ways to support your child and additional resources. I hope to see many of you there. If you have any questions feel free to contact me.

Wishing you a joyful and peaceful holiday season!

Nancy Stafford
Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator



THE BOOK FAIR IS COMING!

Best Book Fairs will be visiting Sandown North from Wednesday, December 9th through Tuesday, December 15th. Individual class schedules will be forthcoming. The fair will also be open Friday night, December 11th from 5 - 8 pm during the PTA Elf Workshop. Hope to see you at the fair!



December Technology News

Thanks to DEKA and Keith Violette for sharing the Luke Arm with our students. We were all amazed by this cutting edge technology. This kind of innovation in

service to important needs is an inspiration to us all.

This is a great time for grade 3, 4, and 5 students to show some of the Google Classroom technology extension activities to their parents. In the Technology Google Class students need to go to file and make a copy to edit documents. Documents that are already started can be found in each student's Google Drive. Please also review your child's progress in Learning.com. Students in grades 1-4 should have completed all tutorials from last year and a minimum of four tutorials this year. Grade 5 students should have at least six tutorials completed this year. Students are encouraged to work on Learning.com at home.



Upcoming performances for Sandown North musicians:

- Tuesday, December 15 at 6:15 PM, PAC--Honors Band and Orchestra concert
- Wednesday, January 13 at 7:00 PM, PAC--Sandown North Winter Concert (band, chorus, strings)
- Sunday, January 17 @ 3:00 PM, Verizon Center, Manchester--Chorus performance at Manchester Monarchs game

