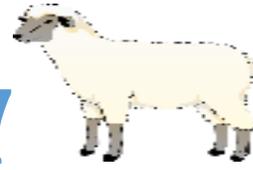


# SANDOWN NORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER



# MARCH 2017



**FROM THE DESK OF JO-ANN GEORGIAN, PRINCIPAL**

It was so nice to welcome our students back from vacation. They had lots of stories to tell for sure! Our Universal team is taking the lead in reminding us all that, to feel safe and comfortable in a school community, we must show empathy and kindness to each other. It seems like common sense, I know. However, in this fast paced culture of ours, with the accompanying pressures, sometimes we all forget to think of each other. Developmentally, children are ego-centric; they think of themselves and what matters to them. As they go up in the grades, we do see them considering the needs of others more often. We have great students and they definitely care about each other. It's just in some situations, they need support to remember that we are all in this together.

The same is true of us as educators and families as well, honestly. In our busy lives, we go from one thing to another and may not realize that our friend or neighbor could use a smile or kind word. It is so important for our children to see us take the time to lend a helping hand to another, to compliment someone, or to include another in a group. I know when I make the conscious effort, not a phony one but an honest reach-out, it is not only that person who feels better, I do as well. Connections are all important in a community; we all want to and need to belong somehow.

Recently, our staff was involved in an activity that allowed us to look at the connections our students have within the building to trusted adults. Everyone has someone but we would like to grow the number of connections for some of our students. Again, it will be in a positive, supportive, real way. It is simple: when we connect with others our self-esteem is boosted and we can perform academically and emotionally at a higher level.

I tell you with great pride that this staff is amazing. When challenged to make our school an even better place for kids and for each other to come to learn and work together, they come up with ideas and supports that no one person would have thought of alone. All are involved in our school. We each do whatever it takes to be sure that our children are happy and comfortable. Smiles are commonplace in the building as are kind words. My career has been a long one. I have worked with many people in many schools in different cities and towns. I do not say this lightly. This staff is exceptional!

All staff are thinking about real ways, not artificial ones, to support our students. I ask you, just as I have asked them and myself, to be aware of what we model and what our students see. Frustrations and anger, which will occur, need to be shared quietly with a friend or spouse, but not with the children. Our children worry about us too. If they think we are upset, they carry that concern into school and struggle with learning that day. As adults, we set the stage. Let's all work together to do it in a positive way!



### **FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

On Monday evening, March 20<sup>th</sup>, the Timberlane Parent Advisory Forum (TPAF) will be meeting with parents to share and discuss Competency Based Education and Reporting. Included in this week's Express is a flyer with more information. If you are unable to attend, the meeting will be broadcasted via Live Stream at [livestream.com/TRSD/TPAF](http://livestream.com/TRSD/TPAF) .

Beginning this month our students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will be taking the NH standardized Smarter Balanced Assessment. **It is important that your child is present and arrives to school on time. Testing will take place first thing in the morning beginning at 9:00am.** Students arriving late will not be allowed to join their classroom until after the session has been completed for the day and will make-up the test at a different time. Your cooperation and support is much appreciated.

#### **Test dates are as follows:**

<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>March 27<sup>th</sup> - April 4<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Grade 3</b>	<b>April 3<sup>rd</sup> – April 11<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Grade 5</b>	<b>April 10<sup>th</sup> - April 18<sup>th</sup></b>

Make up days are built in to the schedule.

The following tips may help you prepare your child for the assessment:

- Explain the purpose of the test. Remind your child that this is not a test that a student can fail. It is an opportunity for students to show what they have learned in school.
- Be sure that your child gets plenty of sleep and has a nourishing breakfast and lunch.
- Send your child with a healthy snack and water bottle.
- Be sure your child is at school on time as we don't want students rushing and worrying about being late.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your child's classroom teacher, Mrs. Georgian or Mrs. Stafford.

Mrs. Stafford, Assistant Principal  
[nancy.stafford@timberlane.net](mailto:nancy.stafford@timberlane.net)  
887-8505 x 7500



## **FROM THE UNIVERSAL TEAM**

Hi Families,

At Monday Morning Meeting, we discussed the behavioral expectation of our new rollout – Kindness + Empathy = FRIENDSHIP. The children viewed a video clip on Tarra (a dog) and Bella (an elephant) and their friendship. In every setting a student is in, it is important that s/he is kind and empathetic to others.

Please talk with your children to think about ways to be kind and show empathy:

- Complimenting friends
- Helping others
- Listening carefully to friends
- Speaking with a kind voice

Of course, as adults, we always have to model these behaviors. Children listen to what we say but learn most from what we model or show. Modeling kindness and empathy will provide the children with other ways to show friendship.

The more they practice, the more successful students will be. It should even help you at home, too!



## **MUSIC NEWS**

March is national Music in Our Schools Month! Come support our Sandown North musicians by attending one or both of these concerts:

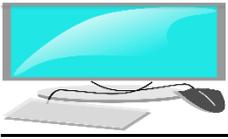
- Grades 4-7 Chorus Concert: Wednesday, March 22, 7:00 PM at the PAC
- Grades 5-7 Band Concert: Tuesday, March 28, 7:00 PM at the PAC
- 

As always, please contact me if you have any questions about your child's progress in music class.

Musically yours,

Alison Yankowskas

[Alison.Yankowskas@timberlane.net](mailto:Alison.Yankowskas@timberlane.net)



## **TECHNOLOGY FUNDAMENTAL**

File Management: The ability to efficiently save and retrieve documents is essential to completing long term projects. As students work through fazes of inspiration, research, and refinement they will build on the work they have already completed. Both online through GApps and within our district's local network, students are learning to store, organize and access files in folders and subfolder. Specific skills include: labeling folders, naming files, saving files to specific locations, moving files, and retrieving documents.



**PTA**

Dear Families,

The PTA has some exciting events coming up this spring! This month we are hosting an “Under the Sea” themed Father/Daughter dance on March 24<sup>th</sup> at Sandown North. Dads, Step-Dads, Uncles, Grandfathers, and any other significant figures are invited to attend. This is an event for Pre-K through grade 5. We hope you can make it; it is going to be so much fun! On April 8<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting an Easter Bunny Pancake Breakfast! Watch for more information to come home soon! Our next meeting will be held on April 12<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm at Sandown North. See you there!

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### **REMINDER!**

Tuesday, 3/14 - No School/Professional Development Day

Tuesday, 3/21 - Spring Picture Day