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MAY 2017

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# SANDOWN NORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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**From the Desk of Jo-Ann Georgian, Principal**

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At this time of year, every year, I am always surprised that another school year is drawing to a close. The end of this year seems to be bringing with it some challenges but with everyone's continued partnership and support, we are confident that our students will continue to thrive. The challenge that we have been facing is continued growth in the community and anticipated faster growth with the addition of newly built apartment units. We are happy to welcome new families but need to have plans in place to accommodate them. To that end, Mrs. Stafford and I are working with our SAU staff to do our best to examine our growth needs in order to continue to offer high quality education with a strong learning community feel. If we are proactive in our approach, we will be prepared come August. It's always difficult to predict numbers exactly, but being prepared for possibilities will make a smooth start to the 2017-2018 school year.

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## Upcoming Events

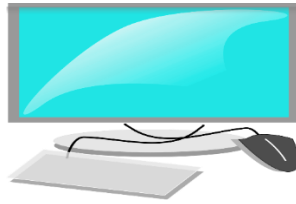
- May 3, 6 – 7 pm  
**PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT  
For Parents/Guardians of  
Incoming First Grade Students**
- May 4 – 11  
**Sandown North Book Fair**
- May 4  
**School Board Meeting**
- May 9, 7 pm  
**Elementary Orchestra 2<sup>nd</sup> and  
3<sup>rd</sup> Year String Students at the  
PAC**
- May 10  
**Book Fair 5– 7:30 pm  
and Arts Night 6 – 7:30 pm**
- May 18  
**School Board Meeting**
- May 22  
**Grade 5 Instrumental, 6 - 7 pm  
At Sandown North**
- May 24 (Rain Date 5/31)  
**Fifth Grade Field Day**
- May 25  
**Fifth Grade Field Trip  
Boston Freedom Trail**
- May 26, 1:00 pm  
**Early Release**
- May 29  
**No School, Memorial Day**
- May 30  
**Second Grade Field Trip  
Adventurelore**

We want our school to also be an attractive building, so that as new families pull up, the building gives a warm, welcoming feeling. The district has been helpful in providing us with bark mulch and with having our grounds people give us some ideas about the future and what we can do and plant that will pretty much maintain itself with some help from our students. We are looking towards creating consistent, simple, yet still attractive garden areas. We so appreciate the time that our families have put into planting the flower gardens for YEARS and thank Alison Kellerman for being our official Garden Steward. The work that families have done have made our school a more welcoming building to pull up to and created some curb appeal that we were sorely lacking. We truly appreciate the help. This Saturday is our second Cleaner Greener Timberlane Day. We will be here at school, with coffee and doughnuts, and would love to have you join us to clean up and begin to beautify our school grounds. Do coffee, doughnuts, great company, and a free T-shirt help to entice you to spend your morning at Sandown North?

Our Sandown North community is so supportive of us and our families. We took the opportunity to thank groups of people and to simply recognize that we are all part of one cohesive group, working to make not just our school, but our town, a place where we all are happy to be. We thank you for your contributions that helped us create “thank you” baskets for our fire department, police department, library staff, town hall staff, post office employees, and Fox Den residents and staff.

Additionally, in the news, they have been frequently reporting about schools that have higher than desired levels of lead in their water as well as contaminants. I want to assure you that our water is tested on a regular basis, actually it is tested every 3 months.

Our results have continuously been within normal limits with no corrective action being necessary. Knowing that the water quality is monitored regularly is reassuring to all of us.



## May 2017 Technology Fundamental

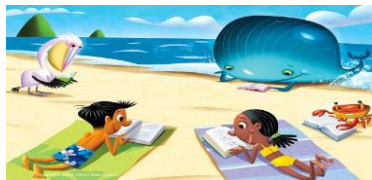
Digital Citizen: The International Society for Technical Education (ISTE) promotes responsible use of technology to promote inquiry, collaboration, purpose, and creativity. Digital citizens use the tools of technology in service to community at all levels. At Sandown North we emphasize safety, positive collaboration, care, and purpose as the cornerstones of digital citizenship:

- Students are encouraged to seek teacher and parental guidance.
- They are taught not to share personal identifying information.
- They have opportunities to work together in informal and structured groups.
- They are expected to take care of shared tools.
- They receive guidance and instruction in developing productive technology habits of use.

This last point is the most challenging. For every tool for research, learning, problem solving, and creating, there seems to be an army of distracting alternatives. Understanding purpose and developing effective habits of use are essential to leveraging technology to the digital citizen's advantage.

### Justin Bentley-Melle, Technology

### More Important News



### Summer Reading, 2017

A district goal is the celebration of diversity. We are inviting you to be part of this process, by sending home books (in June), for students to read over the summer. Each grade has a specific book to read that highlights some form

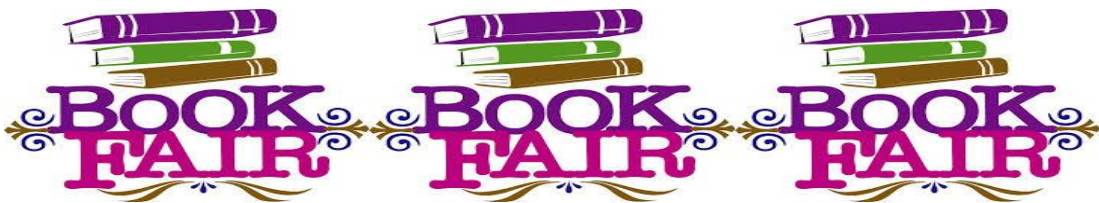
of diversity. This book can be read independently, or with you, if it is too challenging. Sometimes diversity can be difficult to talk about. Books are a nice way to initiate this conversation, because the focus is on the characters and what is happening in the story. The expectation is to have all students reading their summer books so they can participate in classroom literature discussions when we return in the fall (2017-2018 school year). We encourage you to embrace this opportunity of sharing reading and learning with your child.

Happy Reading!



Diane Chauvette,  
Literacy Specialist

### LIBRARY NEWS



The Book fair has arrived!!

The Fair will run from May 4<sup>th</sup> through May 11<sup>th</sup>. Check your child's Sandown North Express to find out the specific day and time his/ her class will be attending the Fair.

The Book fair will also be open during Arts Night from 5:00 – 7:30 PM

Hope to see you at the Fair!

**Laura Ross, Media Specialist**



## PTA NEWS

Dear Families,

Welcome back! We hope you enjoyed your spring vacation! On April 8<sup>th</sup> the PTA hosted our annual Easter Bunny Pancake Breakfast. There was a fantastic turn out...thank you to all our volunteers and participants for making it another great success! The month of May marks Teacher Appreciation, if you are interested in volunteering or helping the PTA with our planned events for our wonderful teaching staff, please contact us. Our next meeting will be held on TUESDAY May 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6 pm at Sandown North. At this meeting voting will take place for the 2017-2018 PTA board members. If you would like to become involved or run for a position we welcome you to join us!

Thank you for your continued support!

☺ Ashley Smith

### May 2017 Music News



A warm welcome goes out to our music intern, Ms. Allison Laporte, a senior from Timberlane High. Allison, an accomplished violinist, will be attending University of New Hampshire in the fall as a music major and aspires to be a music educator. She will be working with our fourth and fifth graders through the end of May.

During March and April, students in general music have been learning new folk dances and the protocol required to perform them safely and musically. Students in grades 2-5 have also been notating rhythm patterns by rote and/or dictation with craft sticks. First graders have begun working on songs for their play, "The Sky is Falling," to be presented on Monday, June 5 at 2:00 at Sandown North.

April concerts included *superb* performances by our students in beginning band and strings, as well as those in the elementary honor ensembles.

Upcoming May events are:

- Monday, May 8 from 7:00-8:00 PM at the PAC: dress rehearsal for 2nd and 3rd year strings

- Tuesday, May 9 at 7:00 PM at the PAC: 4-8 strings concert
- Wednesday, May 10 at Sandown North: Arts Night from 6:00-7:30 PM
  - Grade 3 recorders perform at 6:00 PM
  - Chorus performs at 7:00 PM
- Monday, May 22 at 7:00 PM at Sandown North: Solo and Ensemble Night for Grade 5 band and strings

The music department will send out flyers this month about sign-ups for instrument study. Students currently in grades 2, 3, and 4 may elect to play a stringed instrument (violin, viola, cello); those in grades 3 and 4 may also consider a band instrument.

Please feel free to contact me or Mr. Mainella if you have any questions about your child's progress in music class or lessons.

Musically yours,

Alison Yankowskas

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[John.Mainella@timberlane.net](mailto:John.Mainella@timberlane.net)



Ethan Pickering and Dylan McGregor from Mrs. Vanderhoof's class create Popsicle stick rhythm patterns.