



December 21, 2018

Pollard Pen

Dear Pollard Families,

December has not failed us, it has been quite a busy month. I hope that you all have a chance to spend some quality time with your families or plan to during our holiday break. I am excited to let you know that for the 14th year Pollard classrooms have each chosen a charity to support instead of exchanging classroom gifts. Look for the table outlining the charities they have chosen this year. I think you will be as impressed and as proud of them as I am.

How wonderful it is to belong to a PTA that is so active, wanting to make sure all students have everything that they need.

Grandparents & Special Persons Day, Holiday Pancake Breakfast, and our Holiday Shoppe...Pollard families have been very busy! Thank you to all the parents and staff that have helped with these events, I know that the holiday season makes it hard to fit everything in and we appreciate all that you do!

Speaking of Grandparents & Special Persons Day, I am so thankful that we were able to reschedule this day after school was cancelled on Tuesday November 20th due to snow! I thank everyone (staff, parents, and grandparents) for being so flexible. I hope that our visitors enjoy the day even half as much as our students do. My plan is to take a lot of pictures and get them posted on our website. Please check both the pictures and our website out at www.pollardschool.com.

Report cards went home the first week in December so I hope that you have sat down with your child and discussed his/her progress. It is so important to let them know you value all of their hard work.

Also, please remember to click the box indicating that you have read the report card, this "click" takes the place of signing and returning the slip. At school, students continue to have Tier 2 instruction so they are working with many different staff on re-teaching or enriching our grade level curriculum. We call this WIN time (What I Need). Please ask your son or daughter how WIN Time is going. We here at Pollard are excited about the growth many of our students are making this year in both reading and math. The STAR Assessment has been instrumental in assisting staff with differentiating

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>

Important Dates

Dec 24- Jan 1
Holiday Break

January 8
Pollard Winter Concert
@ the PAC - 7pm

January 9
4th/5th Gr Homework
Club—Pick Up @ 4pm

5th Grade Parent
Committee Meeting—
6:30pm—Pollard
Library

January 16
French Club—4:15pm
Pick Up

4th/5th Gr Homework
Club—Pick Up @ 4pm

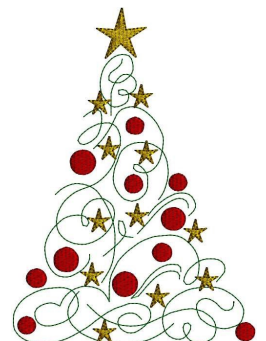
January 17
Spanish Club—
4:30pm Pick Up

School Board Meet-
ing—7:30pm SAU
Boardroom

January 21
No School
Martin Luther King
Jr. Civil Rights Day

January 23
4th/5th Gr Homework
Club—Pick Up @ 4pm

January 30
4th/5th Gr Homework
Club—Pick Up @ 4pm



instruction and we look forward to the results of our mid-year assessment starting in January.

Have a super holiday season and thank you for partnering with the Pollard staff in educating your child.

Michelle Auger
Your Child's Principal



Pollard School Holiday Charities

PreK

Masera/Radjavitch

Lion's Club Power Packs

Kindergarten

Jacob Piedra

Lion's Club Power Packs

Jessica Jones

Lion's Club Power Packs

Jessica Hood

Lion's Club Power Packs

Grade One

Ashley Haselton

Recycled Percussion Toy Drive

Leslie Laudani

NHSPCA

Sandy Ward

NHSPCA

Sherry Bell

NHSPCA

Grade Two

Kim Bellmore

Rylee's Toy Drive/Toys for Tots

Kara Bloom

Rylee's Toy Drive/Toys for Tots

Melissa Wolfe

Rylee's Toy Drive/Toys for Tots

Colleen Ferrante

Rylee's Toy Drive/Toys for Tots

Grade Three

Laura Shute

Recycled Percussion Toy Drive

James Pelletier

Recycled Percussion Toy Drive

Jodi McFarlin

Recycled Percussion Toy Drive

Grade Four

Hope Williams

Recycled Percussion Toy Drive

Barbara Kane

Recycled Percussion Toy Drive

Jeff LaVallee

Recycled Percussion Toy Drive

Alexis Vengren

Run of the Savages

Grade Five

Julie Hazelton

Recycled Percussion Toy Drive

Jo Ann Robichaud

Recycled Percussion Toy Drive

Jessica Winter

Recycled Percussion Toy Drive

Dolores Coyle-Quirk

Recycled Percussion Toy Drive

Mr. Shawley's Corner



Winter weather is here and students continue to play outside at recess during the winter months. It is important to all staff that Pollard students continue to have fun during the winter months. Here are a few reminders to discuss with your child at home.

Dressing for Winter Fun: We do take the children out for recess unless there is a dangerously low wind-chill. Temperatures, including wind chill, are considered before sending students out to the playground for recess. When the temperature including the wind chill factor falls below 20F, students are kept indoors. Please make sure your child dresses appropriately for going outside with a coat, hat, gloves or mittens, snow pants and boots. Unfortunately, if children come Unprepared they will have to stay on the black top.



Winter Playground: The safety of your children on the playground is most important. Ice buildup can cause slippery conditions on some of the playground structures and the throwing and pushing of snow can result in unintentional injuries. We will be reminding students of ways to stay safe and still have fun in the snow.

Wishing you all a safe, happy and healthy holiday season!



Dear Families,

The holiday season is a great time to build literacy skills. This can be done by creating holiday learning traditions. Consider adding some new traditions for your family that will make meaningful memories and strengthen foundations for reading and learning success throughout the year. Here are a few ideas suggested by Reading Rockets.

*Listen to audio books while you're traveling to visit family, wrapping gifts or cooking for the holidays.

*Lyrics to holiday songs are fun to read and sing together. It is also good fun and good collaborative writing practice to make up your own lyrics to familiar tunes.

*Start a story-telling tradition by revisiting holidays of the past. Old family photographs at holiday gatherings will help prompt stories about your own life and family traditions.

*Put reading and writing skills to practical use. Plan holiday meals by reading cookbooks together, writing the shopping lists and finding the needed items at the store by reading signs and labels. Read the recipe and cook together. During the simmering and baking, kids can write and decorate menus or place cards for special holiday meals.

*Set aside time just for reading. Curl up on the couch together and read aloud an old favorite or check out books about another culture's winter celebrations.

*Work on those letters. Improve writing skills with notes or letters to relatives and friends, thanking them for their holiday gifts.

Happy Holidays!

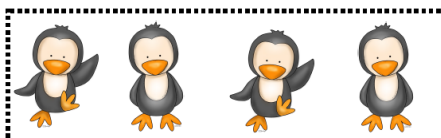
Doug Blay
Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator



Update from the Motor Lab:

The December Motor Lab is open and being enjoyed by students. This month activities have been a big hit! The "I Like to Move it Move it" Station includes a tunnel to crawl through and an agility ladder, followed by bear walks or crab walks. The Hands on Learning Station has speed stacking cups. The Eye Can Do It Station has marble mazes. Creation Station is Geo Boards and pattern cards. We also left the popular Give a Flip boards that work on modulation of force and eye-hand coordination. Over vacation have your student show you their exercises like Superman or Popcorn that they have been doing in the motor lab! Have a great vacation! See you in 2019!

Stacey and Danielle
Pollard OT's



Counselor Corner



Hello Pollard Families!

Can you believe it's already winter! Wow!

I wanted to offer some suggestions on helping your children gain a sense of responsibility at home, which will hopefully carry over to school and become part of their lives as they get older. Here are some suggestions from Biglifejournal.com (you can sign up and get weekly tips and ideas on all kinds of things). Hope they are helpful.

Happy holidays to you all.

**Marcia Blutstein
School Counselor**

5 Effective Tips to Get Your Kids to do Chores:

Don't call them chores- instead call them responsibilities, ways to be helpful, or family contributions

Set a positive, cheerful tone- be a good example. If you grumble about your responsibilities and family contributions, children will do the same.

Set reasonable expectations. Have them do age-appropriate tasks and if you see them struggling or resisting, ask if there is some way you can help

Create visuals. If they can't read you can make a simple chart with pictures of children helping out around the house. Sometimes a step by step chart to do a task is helpful.

Offer choices- "Do you want to take out the trash or sweep the kitchen?"

Lastly- offer effective praise with emphasis on how the task they did contributed to the family.





News from Ms. Silva the Physical Education Teacher

Pollard School students finished up working on cooperative games and started the month of December working on bowling and underhand throwing skills. I have incorporated games to practice and enhance these skills while also working on good sportsmanship with classmates.

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday with family and friends!



Community Resources Highlight

The Upper Room is a Family Resource Center located in Derry, NH. This center serves individuals and families within the southern New Hampshire community. Programs and resources change with the needs of this community. Some of the services offered include:

- * Parenting Groups
- * Parenting Resources
- * Preventative Counseling Services
- * Young Adult Strategies
- * Family Wellness
- * Adolescent Programs
- * Challenge Course



Check out The Upper Room website for available resources. www.urteachers.org

The Upper Room, a Family Resource Center

36 Tsienneto Rd

Derry, NH 03038

603-437-8477

603-425-6256 (fax)



Happy Holidays from the art room!

We are accepting the change in the weather with some wintery art work. I just hung some kindergarten cardinal and pine tree paintings in the case, they are a huge hit already! Just adorable! First graders are working on hot tea or cocoa paintings. They are using only warm colors on their mug and plate, and only cool colors for their background. Second graders read the story "Old Bear" about hibernation and the seasons. They painted bears, and printed with leaves painted white to create a frosty looking background. Third graders are just starting to weave, and they LOVE it! Don't be surprised if they confiscate cardboard boxes during the holidays to make looms. They may also ask Santa for yarn! They just finished up a unit about lines. They did continuous line drawings, and blind contour line drawings, leading up to stunning drawings of a stuffed bear or bunny. Fourth graders printed winter designs with foam printing plates, this week. (They may be asking you for foam meat trays!) They took a break from a Zentangle project, and just finished a Day of the Dead oil pastel project. Fifth graders also experimented this week with printing with foam. You may get a card that they printed. They just finished an Anime self-portrait project. Their self-portraits are getting rave reviews! After vacation they will be working with chalk creating shadows in their "Snowmen at Night" drawings.

HOT OFF THE PRESS: I just heard today that several of our students have had artwork selected to be published in the fall issue of the book, "Celebrating Art". The regional book that includes New Hampshire accepts artwork from all of the eastern United States. Their website states that they only accept the top 25% of artwork submitted, so it is quite an honor! Lindsey Liszewski, Gavin Cudmore, and Kasey Fitzgerald were chosen to have their "Day of the Dead" drawings published! Candace Wyman had her Anime self-portrait selected, and Owen Lee had his cake painting chosen! Congratulations to these artists and their families!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about art, feel free to contact me. Happy holidays, I hope you are all able to make some great memories with your families during this season!

Becky Lightizer





Glad tidings from the music room!

It has been another tuneful, beatful, and artful month in music class! In December, a special guest named Mr. Ernie came to Pollard School to share his gift of storytelling and song. He lead students in a holiday sing-along which was enjoyed by all. Pollard's winter concert is quickly approaching! This concert features Pollard's band, orchestra, and chorus and will take place on Tuesday, January 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the PAC. Admission is free and all are welcome! Thank you for supporting Pollard School music! Have a musical holiday season!

AnnMarie Pinard

Pollard School Music Teacher

Things are Getting "Wild" in 5th Grade

If you have made a trip upstairs to the 5th grade wing, you might have thought learning is getting pretty wild! If so, you would be correct. The grade 5 students have been really engaged in their learning and have just wrapped up their science unit on Ecosystems.

Students learned about the relationship of ecosystems and the impact of humans. Fifth graders worked in collaborative groups to learn about the major biomes. They used inquiry skills to gather information from text, and then created slideshow presentations. In technology class, they researched a specific animal from their chosen biome. In art class, all students made clay animals. Then students created wonderful models for "Animal Zoo Habitat Projects" at home.

All of this learning and hard work culminated, when students arrived to school one morning to see the hallway and classrooms converted to rainforest and jungles. Please ask them to share their learnings.

