

Pollard Pen



February 1, 2019

Dear Pollard Families:

Happy New Year! Wow, its 2019 and almost half way through our school year already! In just few days we will be celebrating our 100th day here at Pollard.

Winter has finally shown its ugly side! With each winter comes the possibility of inclement weather that may impact our school day. If school is cancelled, you will receive a School Messenger message on your home phone as listed on your child's emergency information. The SAU tries to get that message out around 5:00 am, if the decision is made by that time. In the event of an unexpected early dismissal, there will also be a School Messenger Announcement call to the numbers that you have given the school; home, both parent's cell and both parents' work. **It is very important that you keep the school updated with any changes to phone numbers.** In the event of an unscheduled early release, please call the school if there will be a change in your student's transportation or if you have questions. Weather may also cause delays with our buses. Please be aware that buses may be delayed at least 30 minutes on snowy days and if this is the case I will try to get a School Messenger announcement out to students' parents for those particular buses. Also, make sure that you have a plan in place for your child in the event that you are delayed in getting home due to poor weather. Please call the school if you have questions.

It is extremely important that you listen to the entire School Messenger announcement for "School Cancellation" days. If a snow days is deemed an **"Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day"** your child will be expected to complete their pre-established assignments. Student in grades Kindergarten through 2nd, as well as those students in grades 3-5 without reliable internet access, have paper Blizzard Bags. Students in Grades 3-5 with internet access have their assignments on google docs. Students (or parents) may contact their classroom teacher or assigned

Important Dates

February 5

5th Gr Parent Committee Meeting-6:30pm Pollard Library

February 6

Title One Night-5:30pm
Pollard School Café
Snow Date-Feb 13th

February 7

Deliberative Session
7pm @ TRHS

February 8

PTA Bingo for Books
6:00pm- 7:30pm-Pollard Café

February 12

Kindergarten 2019-2020
Parent Info Night-6:00pm
Pollard Café
Snow Date-Feb 19th

February 19

Jump Rope for Heart—
3:30pm-6:15pm

February 20

French Club-4:15 PickUp
Prior registration
Required

February 21

Spanish Club-4:30pm
PickUp-Prior registration
Required

February 21

SAU Meeting @7:30pm
SAU Board Room

Feb 25 - Mar 1

Winter Break

March 28

No School—Professional
Development Day

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>

teacher if they have any questions. Our first Online Learning/Blizzard Bag Day was a great success, thank you to everyone that participated!

For those parents that have or know another family that has children entering kindergarten next school year, please mark your calendars. On **Tuesday, February 12th** we will be having a **Kindergarten Parent Information Night here at Pollard at 6:00PM**. If you are unable to make this meeting please call our main office (382-7146 X-5503) and speak to Fran Allen so she can add your child to our list and explain our online process for kindergarten registration to you. If you do not have access to a computer for this please let us know so we can get a packet sent to you. We also have paperwork and basic information online at www.pollardschool.com.

We continue to evaluate our safety protocols here at Pollard, including our various drills and procedures. During the winter months we try to work on those drills that allow us to stay inside. Your child may mention a drill we have had or will be having. It is always a good idea to talk with your child about the drill as drills are not done to agitate children but to prepare them for unforeseen emergencies.

Michelle Auger
Principal



Math facts are the foundation on which higher math is built. Fluency in math facts is a basic skill that needs to be developed in every child. Math facts fluency refers to the ability to recall the basic facts in all four operations accurately, quickly and effortlessly. When a child masters these facts so that he or she can retrieve them automatically, with no effort, this frees up the working memory to focus on problem solving and learning new skills. Students who are not fluent in the basic facts often get confused about new processes because they are spending too much time trying to do basic calculations. Math anxiety often comes into play when a student does not have mastery over these basic facts. Mastery of math facts equals automaticity. Automaticity is the ability to answer in less than one second, without having to think about the answer. Students should be able to retrieve the math fact answer as quickly as they can retrieve the answer to the question, "What's your name?". We encourage all students to practice math facts daily both in school and at home. If your child is struggling with math, taking the time to practice math facts is usually the biggest help. If you need ideas on how to help your child to develop math fact skills be sure to reach out to your child's teacher or myself and we will gladly send information home.

Have Fun With Numbers!

Mr. Blay

Assistant Principal/Curriculum Coordinator

Mr. Shawley's Corner



Happy New Year Pollard families!

We will continue the school year celebrating our great accomplishments. Next month we will be rolling out hallway expectations and what a positive role model looks like while walking in the hallway. Ms. Auger, Mr. Blay and I feel this will be helpful in making sure the students are safe. Students will be reminded to follow these expectations (H- Hands by your side, A-Always Quiet, L-Looking Forward, Low Speed, Proceed W-Walking on Right, A-Always Hold the Railing, Y-Yield to Others).

R+R=S. Pollard School Core Values are Respect, Responsibility, and Safety!



Good attendance makes a difference! It improves academic performance and promotes future success. Below are reasons to go to school every day.

- Each day's lesson builds off what was taught before. Missing just one class can put students behind.
- Absences can affect other students if the teacher has to reteach things that were missed.
- Missing class discussions and explanations can make it harder to understand assignments.
- Class participation is often included in grading.
- Poor attendance leads to lower grades. It also raises the risk of dropping out of school.



and the votes are in...Pollard students, families and staff, thank you to all of you that voted. The winning Social Vision Statement is:

Pollard works together with kindness and caring for all.

We will be working with our Pollard School No Bully Leadership team on next steps in moving toward full program implementation.



On Friday, January 11th, Pollard School held its annual **National Spelling Bee Competition!** Congratulations to the following students who were the top spellers in their classroom contests:

GRADE 4

Richie	Alberg
Brooke	Braley
Benjamin	Coveney
Hannah	Dangas
Joshua	Maranaian
Matthew	McCarthy
Addison	McKay
Olivia	Miller
Logan	Mottram
Dagny	Ouellette
Michael	Peloquin
Caitlin	Rolon

GRADE 5

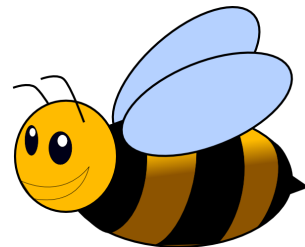
Gabi	Bourque
Lila	Fitzgerald
Tyler	Kuchar
Kyle	Lindblad
Taylor	Martin
George	Panakis
Zachary	Patti
Gabby	Sierra
Luke	Swanney
Lily	Swanson
Hailey	Taylor
Libby	Wagnitz

A special congratulations to the top 3 spellers of the school contest:

First Place: Luke Swanney

Second Place: Lila Fitzgerald

Third Place: Libby Wagnitz



The winning word was:

guise

part of speech: noun

definition: form or style of dress; especially: dress that is unexpected on or foreign to the wearer

*The princess often escaped the palace and wandered the town clad in peasant **guise**.*

Pollard School wishes Luke the best of l-u-c-k when he competes in the NH State Spelling Bee in Concord on February 23rd!



A fun springtime opportunity recently came home in students' Pollard Express:

NH Fisher Cats Reading Challenge

The Fisher Cats Reading Challenge, presented by Velcro USA Inc., challenges students to read five books outside of the normal curriculum during the school year. The students who complete the challenge will earn two tickets to a 2019 New Hampshire Fisher Cats baseball game at Northeast Delta Dental Stadium at a special "Reading Challenge" celebration, presented by Velcro Companies. At the game, students bring their own ball and glove to play catch on the field!

A student reads 5 books and records the titles on the form that came home in Pollard Express.

- ◆ The student's family selects one of the NH Fisher Cats baseball games listed on the form for which the student will receive **2 free** tickets.
- ◆ Parents mail the form directly to the NH Fisher Cats at the address on the form.
- ◆ Additional tickets can be purchased as outlined on the form.
- ◆ **Forms are due to the NH Fisher Cats on or before Friday, March 15, 2019.**

Have you misplaced the form? Check here for more info:

<https://www.milb.com/new-hampshire/community/reading-challenge>



Update from the motor lab:

The January Motor Lab has been a success! Students have had the opportunity to "Roll a Brain Break", completing exercises after rolling a die. The Hands on Learning Station has sparkly salt "snow" to practice writing letters and words in. The Eye Can Do It Station has partner word reading for the older students and a sight word quadrant game for the younger students. The Creation Station has Doodle Tops, tops that have markers and make cool designs as they spin. The final station has a giant lazy 8 on the floor for students to walk on. February motor lab will be opening soon!

Stacey and Danielle

Pollard OT's

Cold, Ice, and Snow Safety

Winter isn't a time to just stay indoors and wait for spring. There's a whole wonderland of sports out there for the entire family - sledding, snowmobiling, and snowboarding, to mention a few. Once outdoors, however, you may need to take extra steps to keep your family safe in the cold. In ice and snow, accidents can occur easily. There are ways to keep safe - and stay fit - during the cold months. By following a few tips, you can have a great time, no matter how much white stuff piles up outside.

If you're going outside in the cold, stay safe - and warm. Make sure your kids have a snack before going out. The calories will give their bodies energy in the cold weather.

And protect your kids' faces with sunscreen. Even though the idea of a sunburn in February can seem odd, snow can reflect up to 85% of the sun's ultraviolet rays.

Kids should dress warmly using layers of clothes - but not before using the bathroom! If the top layer gets wet from snow or freezing rain, they can peel off some clothes down to a dry layer.

Avoid cotton clothing because it won't keep the kids very warm. Stick with wool or other fabrics. Dress them in long underwear, a turtleneck, and a sweater and coat. Add more layers depending on the temperature. Waterproof pants and jackets are great top layers because they don't let the wetness seep into the other clothing. The cold-weather ensemble wouldn't be complete without warm socks and boots to keep feet dry and a hat to top it off.

There's no set amount of time children should be allowed to stay out in the cold. However, when being cold becomes unpleasant, it's time to go inside. Sometimes, though, kids may just need some dry gloves. It helps to have an extra pair of gloves or mittens tucked into their pockets if they plan to be outdoors for a while.

If your kids decide to go sledding on their own for the day, make sure you know about the hill where they will be playing. Is it steep or covered with trees? If so, it's not a good location for sledding. Also, watch out for hills where there are rocks or those that are near busy roads.

Sledding injuries can be very serious, resulting in head trauma, neck trauma, and broken bones. In serious injuries, there often is internal bleeding and abdominal trauma, which is why it's a good idea to supervise when your kids are sledding.

Ice-skating and ice hockey are great cold-weather activities, but they require safety smarts. Make sure your children avoid sports injuries by wearing supportive and properly fitted skates. In addition, rinks are always safer than ponds for skating. If you only have access to a pond, check the thickness of the ice yourself to prevent falls through the ice and supervise your children while they skate. Remember you should always have your child wear a helmet when sledding, skating skiing, snowboarding or playing ice hockey!



The new year has brought new fun to music class! Kindergarten, First, and Second graders have started learning new songs, rhymes, and movements to help them grow in their musicality. Ask your child to sing you a song they learned in music class! Third grade has started learning recorder and is having fun exploring the instrument. Fourth and Fifth graders are working through unit four, which practices compound meter rhythmic patterns. The Pollard School chorus, band, and orchestra had a fabulous performance at the beginning of January. Congratulations to all the students that performed. The next chorus concert is on Wednesday, March 20.

AnnMarie Pinard
Pollard School Music Teacher

NEWS FROM MS. SILVA THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER

Every grade from Kindergarten through Fifth have been working on overhand throwing and catching skills. We've been playing hot potato with the older children for a warm up game and the younger kids have been working on throwing overhand and catching skills. The games we have been playing with Kindergarten thru Second are messy back yard, and outland. Grades Three through Five have been playing wall ball as well as some dodgeball games.

Throwing and catching skills are not easy to do but practicing these skills with your children during the spring, summer and fall makes them better overhand throwers and catchers.





Hello from the art room! Kindergarten just made a Valentine surprise for their families, they are very excited to bring them home! First graders are working on mixing tints of pink from red and white paint, and model magic polar bears. They did a great job with the model magic. I haven't heard "I can't" once. I think they understood that if they mess up, they can squish it up and start again. Second graders just finished beautiful winter birch trees with winter birds. I am a bird lover myself, so I love to pass that on to the little ones. While they worked, we watched a video of cardinals, blue jays, and chickadees coming to a feeder. It's so simple, but they get so thrilled when a new bird flies in. Third graders are working on their entries for the New Hampshire Fire Safety Calendar contest. Only third graders are invited to participate. It is one contest I find really worthwhile. Every year, when we talk about the topics I will have a student that has never heard the information. Several students had never heard of "stop, drop, and roll". The information they learn could save a life, and of course they are perfecting their art skills at the same time. We have had a winner every year, but one! Fourth graders are working on one of my favorite projects, Miro' Bedrooms. There is so much learning going on in this one project. They learn about the artist Joan Miro' and his abstract art, they draw the items in their bedroom in an abstract way, then they learn about creating space in an artwork! They are touching upon perspective, and learning three ways to make objects appear near and far. They will also try water color pencils for their final. Really some amazing work! Fifth graders are finishing up Snowmen at Night in chalk pastels, and this week they are starting their clay cone projects. They are VERY excited about clay! As always, if you have any questions or concerns about art, feel free to contact me. Enjoy the rest of the winter, I heard spring is only 50 days away!

Becky Lightizer

Plaistow Community YMCA

We are currently enrolling students for our Before and After School Program located at Pollard School. Before Care opens at 6:30 am and After Care runs until 6:00 pm. Contact Amy Hanagan 603-257-1541 hanagana@northshoreymca.org for more details.

YMCA Early Education Center is now enrolling children ages 6 weeks - 5 years old. Please contact Diane Lewis 603-382-0641 lewisd@northshoreymca.org for more details.





Pollard PTA News:

The Spaghetti Dinner was a great success, and we appreciate everyone who came out on that cold and windy night to share a meal and support us. The Kid Stuff Coupon Book Fundraiser was a huge success and we were able to make approximately \$ 2600 in profit. Thank you for your support!

Pollard PTA Upcoming Events:

Bingo for Books- Feb 8th, from 6-7:30pm in the Pollard Cafe. We are accepting book donations, please send them in with your child or drop them off at the office. We need volunteers, please contact a PTA member if you are able to help out. There is a signup genius for volunteers posted on the Pollard PTA Facebook page.

Silent Auction will be March 29th. This is our biggest annual fundraiser. We could use your assistance. We are looking for donations of auction raffle items. Donations might include but are not limited to: gift cards, services, product, or a themed basket. Anything will work. Please contact a PTA member if you have an item.

The easiest way to get your Pollard PTA updates is by joining the Pollard PTA Facebook page. You can also leave messages there for volunteering, raffle donations, or to ask questions. We are grateful to the families of Pollard School for all of your time, efforts, and volunteerism. Our students are very lucky to be in such a caring community!

PTA Board Members Contact Info:

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