

From Mrs. Smith's Desk

Dear Families,

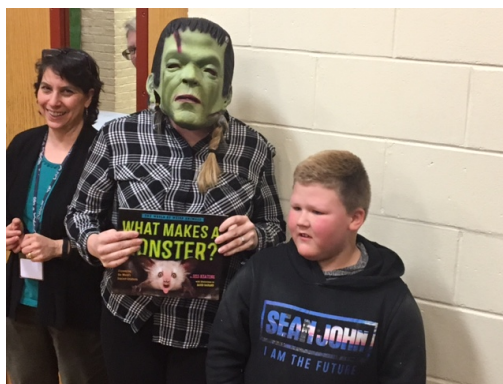
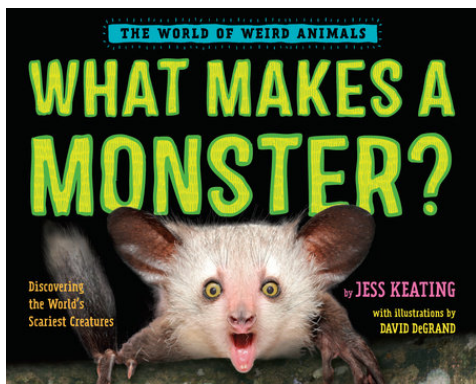
I have greatly enjoyed my first year as your principal at Williams Elementary School. It has been a joy getting to know your children and interacting with them each day. What an amazing group of students! It has also been a pleasure getting to know all of you. I wanted to inform you that I am due to have my baby around April Break. Kim Fish, technology integrationist at Messalonskee Middle School will be my long term substitute when I am out on maternity leave. She has worked for RSU 18 for 24 years. She has experience at all levels including multiple years as an elementary teacher.

Ms. Fish will be at Williams full time. In preparation for a smooth transition, she will visit Williams multiple days prior to my maternity leave to shadow me, meet our students and also visit classrooms.

While I was out on maternity leave at MMS, Ms. Fish filled in for me and did an outstanding job. I am confident she will do an exceptional job at Williams. I will be in constant contact with her while I am out to keep on top of things. If you wish to speak to Ms. Fish about any concerns or questions you may have she can be reached by calling the office at 465-2965 or via email kfish@rsu18.org.

March Madness Finale

On March 21, students attended an epic assembly organized by Mrs. Moody, Mrs. Glueck, Mrs. Levesque and Mr. Pellerin. The energy in the gym was electric as students anxiously awaited the reveal of the #1 nonfiction book! The books battling for the first place spot were *How a Cookie Crumbled* by Gilbert Ford and *What Makes A Monster* by Jess Keating. The winning book for this year's Nonfiction March Madness Book Tournament is...



Author Visit

Each year the students and staff at Williams participate in a one book, one school event. This year the book *Maxi's Secrets (Or, What You Can Learn From a Dog)* by Maine author, Lynn Plourde, was selected as our community read. All of the teachers at WES will be reading aloud *Maxi's Secrets* prior to Lynn Plourde's author

Ways You Can Donate to our efforts to support the Waterville Humane Society:

- Canned kitten & cat food - **most needed!**
- Dry food - **most needed!**
- Bleach
- Jars of all meat baby food
- Dog & cat toys
- Food puzzles
- Cat towers
- Stretch and scratch pads
- Flea/tick preventive
- Rubbing Alcohol & peroxide
- Cotton tip applicators & round pads
- Cotton balls
- Hannaford, Shaw's, Sam's Club gift cards
- Target, Walmart, CVS, Home Depot gift cards
- Paper towels
- Dawn Dishwashing liquid
- Trash bags (55 gallon size heavy duty)



visit on April 11. Many of the classrooms are tracking the life lessons that main character, Timminy, learns from Maxi. In honor of Maxi, Mrs. Moody organized a community service project with the Waterville Humane Society. Families are invited to donate items for our local animal shelter.

On April 11, our school-wide community reading day will kick off with a brief assembly with a representative from the Waterville Humane Society thanking the school community for their donations. During the day, Lynn will be sharing an hour presentation in the WES library with each grade level. Her presentation will focus on the story behind Maxi's Secrets along with some writing insights and advice for our writers. That evening Mrs. Moody and Mrs. Kroemer will be hosting a K-5 Title 1 Literacy parent event with Lynn Plourde. Lynn is hoping to share her new book Wake Up, Baby Bear, as well as a fun, interactive play. Mrs. Moody purchased a copy of Maxi's Secrets for all of the Title 1 reading students. Lynn will give each student their autographed books during the evening event. We are looking forward to another exciting community event at WES celebrating our love of reading!

Odyssey of the Mind Regional Tournament by: Julia Hanauer-Milne

Williams Elementary School's Odyssey of the Mind teams should take a bow! Two teams went to the regional Odyssey of the Mind tournament at Brunswick High School on March 17, the culmination of months of hard work. One team competed in Mockumentary, in which they retold a story (The Hobbit) that included specific criteria such as voiceovers, interviews, and behind the scenes action. That team, co-coached by Julia Hanauer-Milne, Lisette Bordes, and Martha Minkel and with help from OM alumnus Ryan Pullen, placed first in their division and are going on to the state tournament in Biddeford on April 7. The other team, coached by Rebecca Conry and Sara McDougall, competed with 14 teams in Stellar Hangout, and told a story about aliens who meet up in space. They placed 6th. Both teams performed for Williams students and staff on March 28. OM is a creative problem-solving competition in which students must write a script, design and make their own sets and costumes, and perform their work. Adults are allowed to ask questions, but can not provide ideas or other help. It's a big undertaking for these kids and an accomplishment just to make it to competition.

Congratulations to Our Recent Eagles of the Week!



Grade 3: Connor DeFelice - Connor was nominated for helping Mrs. Forney in the classroom without being asked and for having a cheerful attitude.

Grade 4: Jade Baltazar - Jade is a super student and person. She is very helpful and kind to everyone. She even helps keep her teacher on track.

Grade 5: Matthew Bressette - Matthew was nominated by a peer. "Matthew is always listening when the teacher is talking and he always gets his work done without talking. He also always does a great job of helping people."

Educationally yours,

Melanie Smith

IMPORTANT DATES

April 2-6: 3rd grade state testing & make up test sessions

April 3 -7: Zumba (5th grade fundraiser)
4/3 at Atwood Primary Gym 6PM

4/4 - At Williams Elementary Gym 4PM

4/5 - At Williams Elementary Gym 6PM

4/7 - At Messalonskee Middle School Gym 9AM

April 4: School Board Meeting at MMS 7-8:30

April 5: PTA meeting at WES - 6PM

April 6: Glow Fun Night at WES 6PM-8PM (5th grade fundraiser)

April 11: Author Visit & Title 1 Event 4-6PM

April 12: Dine out at Applebee's (5th grade fundraiser) 4-9PM

April 12: School-wide Reward Trip to the Movies

April 13: No School

April 16-20: April Vacation

April 25: School Board Meeting at Messalonskee Middle School 7-8:30

April 26: Spring Photos