

# From Mrs. Smith/Fish Desk

Dear Families,

I have been given the wonderful opportunity to meet and greet students and parents during my first week at William's Elementary filling in for Melanie Smith while she is out on maternity leave. I have been out at recesses, in classrooms, visiting teachers, delivering supplies, connecting with students at lunch, among many others trying to connect with students! Some of my experiences include:

- reading to whole class during their read aloud time,
- observing students engaged in science experiments around static electricity,
- jumping rope in physical education class with Mr. Colby and students as well as a math challenge coordinated with their teachers,
- seeing students creating masterpiece fans with Ms. Gronlie, creating their own versions of **Japanese ukiyo-e artist Hokusai** of Mount Fuji,
- Witnessing a survivor challenge in physical education that worked on team work and coordination to complete a course,
- working one on one with students on math or reading, and connecting with students at recess and lunch time,
- listening to books being read aloud by Mrs. Smith, our librarian, a true story teller with her ability to change her voice making books come alive,
- programming with Mr. Veilleux using MIT's Scratch, <https://scratch.mit.edu/>
- and observeing small group instruction around math, reading and writing!

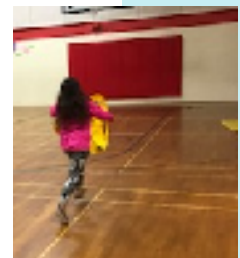
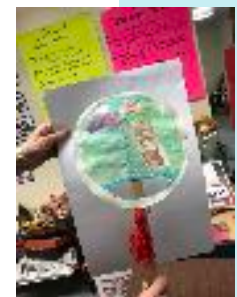
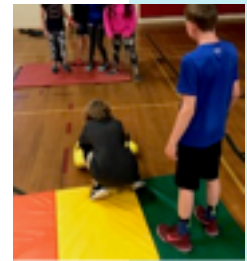
## Assessments

We concluded our MEA testing last week with our science tests; grade five had one test each day, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Our students did an exceptional job as they worked through each question! In the following weeks classrooms will be following up with end of the year assessments with DRA's, reading to assist with assessing student growth, and NWEA's in both reading and math. We use this data for instructional planning in the classroom.

## PTA Family Paint Party

There will be a Family Paint Party for all of Atwood and Williams students and families which will be held at Williams Elementary cafeteria on Tuesday, May 22 at 6pm. The cost is \$20 per person. Each person will get an 11X14 canvas, plus all materials needed to complete the painting. You can view this event on Facebook by going to Cre8tive Events Maine and clicking on the Events page and scroll to the May 22 date for details. You can RSVP right on the Facebook page and send payment to Williams Elementary. The money will need to be sent in before or the day of the event. We encourage people to RSVP and send payment ahead of time to hold their spot. A flyer will be going out shortly to send home with the info. (it will have a space where families can RSVP and send payment directly to Williams Elementary).

**From the PTA:** The 2017-2018 yearbook is done! Thank you Val Jackson!!! This year's yearbook will be in full color! They will be sold for \$8.50/each.





### Bikes for Books

The Oakland Masons are again sponsoring a Bikes for Books program. Children need to read books at their reading level. Each book (or 100 pages for the longer books) allows for an entry to be made for a bike. There are two bikes that will be awarded for each grade level. Date will be announced later.

**Northeast Livestock Field Trip** - On Thursday, May 17, grades 3-5 will be traveling to the Windsor Fairgrounds in Windsor, Maine to attend the Northeast Livestock Expo. We will be departing our school

at 8:15 and we will return to our school at 2:15. Permission slips were sent home on Thursday April 26.

**Dental Cleaning and Sealant Program Kappler Trust Fund:** Through the generous gift of the late Mr. Charles Kappler, we are pleased to offer a dental cleaning and sealant program for Atwood Primary and Williams Elementary second, third, and fifth grade students. The permission slip sent allows a licensed dental hygienist, Alissa Wade, from Prevention Works to provide a dental cleaning and screen your child to see if sealants are needed. If needed, sealants will be placed on your child’s teeth to seal out food and bacteria that cause decay. A fluoride varnish will also be applied to help strengthen the teeth. If you have any questions please call the school nurse or Alissa Wade at 949-2963. Please return the permission slip that was sent home as soon as possible.

### Waterville Creates:

There are two free events for kids both focused on Comics. This Saturday, May 5, the Waterville Library is having a comic artist teach students how to draw themselves as a super hero.



### Congratulations to Our Recent Eagles of the Week! April 30- May 4

**Grade 3: Lily Laflamme** is a great friend who is kind and nice to others. She is always smiling and sweet. She gives great advice to me, and to others. She always invites everyone to play with her and her friends. She is always doing her best!

**Grade 4: Denny Martin** always has an awesome attitude! He is willing to help anyone at anytime. Denny has a great sense of humor and is always open to feedback. Denny is an amazing leader. He always encourages others to do their best and is constantly putting forth his best effort! He is a leader with an awesome attitude and is always ready to try something new.

**Grade 5: Aidan Woodside** always perseveres even when something is difficult. He does not give up- ever! Aidan has been very helpful to his classmates and always does what is expected of him. Whenever he is paired up to work with someone, he has a positive attitude and is very helpful and kind to his peer.

### IMPORTANT DATES

- May 1-25: NWEA Testing
- May 2 Budget Public Hearing on proposed budget- China Middle School
- May 3 PTA Reflection Art Show 5:30-7:30 in WES cafeteria
- May 4- Fun Night for WES students
- May 3: PTA meeting in Music Room 6:00-7:00 pm

- May 8: Permission slips due for Northeast
- May 9: Budget Public Hearing on proposed budget-MMS Cafeteria
- May 17: Northeast Livestock Field Trip
- May 22: Student dismissal at noon; Teacher workshop.
- May 28: Memorial Day- no school
- May 29: Grade 5 Chorus Concert 7 pm PAC MHS

Educationally yours,

*Melanie Smith/Kim Fish*