

# From Mrs. Smith's Desk

Dear Families,

We are very excited to inform you of our new Principal's 100 Club that was announced to our students mid January during a special assembly.

The goal of the Principal's 100 Club is to: (1) assure a positive school environment (respectful, responsible, and safe) (2) increase desirable student behaviors, (3) decrease bullying, teasing, defiance, disrespect, and (4) provide multiple levels of praise for students, plus positive communication with parents.

Staff members all over the building will be "catching" students showing exemplary behaviors. Some examples of exemplary behaviors could include: random acts of kindness, demonstrating respectful behavior, being courteous and polite, stepping up to help in an incident when someone is being teased or bullied, being extra helpful to adults or to other students, demonstrating fairness and good sportsmanship, as well as many other behaviors that staff might encounter. Students "caught" displaying exemplary behaviors will receive a Principal's 100 Club ticket.

If your child is awarded with this ticket, they will report to the office. Their name will be placed on the 100's board on the bulletin board next to our cafeteria with a corresponding number and they will also be added to our Celebrity Book. That student will receive a positive call home, and their name will be read over the morning announcements. When we achieve 10 in a row on our 100's board there will be a Mystery Motivator awarded to all 10 students in that row.

This is another positive way for us to show our students how proud we are of how well-behaved they are and how they make a positive influence at Williams Elementary. It is also our way of thanking parents/guardians for your continued support and guidance at home.

## The Read to ME Campaign

<https://www.maine.gov/doe/learning/content/ela/literacyforme/readtome>

Did you know **February 1** is **World Read Aloud Day**? What a wonderful day to start The Read to ME Challenge.

Williams Elementary School is registered to participate in the Read to Me Challenge. *"The Read to ME Challenge is a month-long public awareness campaign to promote childhood literacy in Maine held annually during the month of February. We hope you and your child are able to participate in this wonderful challenge. Reading aloud to children is one of the most cost effective and highly beneficial methods of building children's literate abilities. The simple act of reading aloud to a child 15 minutes a day for five years results in 27,375 minutes of language exposure which can put children on the path to high literacy achievement. Reading aloud exposes children to the world around them, helps them see reading as an enjoyable and valuable activity and often strengthens bonds with trusted adults."*



We would love to post pictures in our lobby area of our WES families reading. If you would like to share a picture with us, please email our computer teacher, Dylan Veilleux, at [dveilleux@rsu18.org](mailto:dveilleux@rsu18.org) or send the picture in with your child.

**"What is the Read to ME Challenge?** *The Read to ME Challenge is an opportunity to contribute to a child's literacy growth by reading aloud to one or more children for at least 15 minutes.*

### Steps for Taking the Read to ME Challenge

- Read to and/or have a child/children read to you for at least 15 minutes.

- Read an engaging book, chapter of a novel, newspaper or magazine article, comics, nursery rhymes or poetry.
- Capture a photograph or short video (15-30 seconds) of yourself reading to the child.
- Use #ReadtoME or #ReadaloudME to post the photo or video on social media with your challenge to others to read aloud 15 minutes to a child or children they know.
- Recommended social media platforms include: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or Youtube.
- If you live a distance from a child you'd like to read to, use Skype or Facetime to read aloud via digital means."

## National Children's Dental Health Month

February is National Children's Dental Health Month! In the month of February, the nurse will be going to each classroom to encourage dental hygiene. The students will be participating in fun activities to learn good oral health. A check off calendar to monitor teeth brushing will be sent home to be filled out during the month of February. If the calendar is completed and returned by March 4<sup>th</sup> the student can collect a prize.

## Children's Dental Health Month



## Attendance Update

January = 93%

December = 94%

November = 96%

October = 98%

The below resource is from [attendance.dc.gov](http://attendance.dc.gov) and we thought it may be helpful to use with your child when they are reluctant to come to school.

### WHEN SHOULD I KEEP MY CHILD AT HOME?

#### Send me to school

- My nose is running or I have a little cough, but I don't have other symptoms.
- I have **not** had a fever or taken fever-reducing medicine like Tylenol in the last 24 hours.
- In the last 24 hours, I have **not** had diarrhea or thrown up.

#### Keep me at home\*

- I have a cough that keeps me awake.
- My temperature is higher than 99.6 F.
- I've thrown up or had diarrhea in the last 24 hours.
- My eyes are crusty and pink.

#### Call the doctor\*

- I've had a runny/stuffy nose for over a week, and it's not getting better.
- I've had a fever above 99.6 F for more than 2 days.
- I've had diarrhea or vomiting for more than 2 days.
- My asthma symptoms continue even after using my regular asthma medicine (**call 911** if I'm having trouble breathing after using an inhaler).

\*Don't forget to send a note when I return to school!

Educationally Yours,

*Melanie Smith*

## IMPORTANT DATES

**February 1:** World Read Aloud Day

**February 6:** School Board Meeting 7PM at CO

**February 7:** PTA meeting 6-7PM in the WES music room

**February 8:** PTA Fun Night at WES 6-8PM

**February 12:** NAEP Assessment

**February 14/15:** Margaret Chase Smith Field Trip (grade 4)

**February 18-22:** February Vacation