

From Mrs. Smith's Desk

Dear Families,

We are thankful! As we prepare to take a short break from school for Thanksgiving, we want to express our gratitude for everyone who makes it possible for as many students to come to school every day, on time, ready to learn. We thank:



•Our students and families for making daily attendance a priority since they know the habit of attendance will help them do well in the classroom and eventually in a job.

•Our average attendance for October was 97%!!!!
AWESOME JOB EVERYONE.

- Our wonderful teachers who pour their energy into making each classroom an exciting place for exploration and knowledge so children do not want to miss out on learning
- Our support staff and community volunteers who provide the extra hands and attention our children need

We appreciate each one of you so much.

We especially appreciate everyone's efforts to avoid taking extra days off during the Thanksgiving holiday. Just a few missed days here and there, even if they're excused absences, can add up to too much lost learning time and leave your child behind in school.

As we approach cold and flu season I thought I would share a graphic I find very helpful when discussing attendance with students and families. We appreciate you keeping these guidelines in mind during the winter months.

WHEN IS SICK TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?



Send me to school if...

I have a runny nose or just a little cough, but no other symptoms.

I haven't taken any fever reducing medicine for 24 hours, and I haven't had a fever during that time.

I haven't thrown up or had any diarrhea for 24 hours.



Keep me at home if...

I have a temperature higher than 100 degrees even after taking medicine.

I'm throwing up or have diarrhea.

My eyes are pink and crusty.



Call the doctor if...

I have a temperature higher than 100 degrees for more than two days.

I've been throwing up or have diarrhea for more than two days.

I've had the sniffles for more than a week, and they aren't getting better.

I still have asthma symptoms after using my asthma medicine (and call 911 if I'm having trouble breathing after using an inhaler).



Adapted with permission from Baltimore City Public Schools.

THANK YOU WES PTA!



Last month, our WES PTA sponsored our Maine author and wildlife photographer Tamra Wight's visit to our school for an all day school event and a special evening literacy night. Students enjoyed hearing about Wight's writing process and the importance of including quality details. During our evening event families had an opportunity to hear a special presentation by Wight and participate in Cooper and Packrat themed activities in our cafeteria. Students were able to take photos with friends and family in our camp themed Photo Booth, participate in a loon themed board game, explore animal tracks with stamps and enjoy a delicious s'more. Our PTA also purchased a book for each of our students. We greatly appreciate our PTA for providing this special opportunity for our students.

School Wide Read In

We have an extremely exciting, fun filled community read in occurring on November 26. Students will participate in engaging literacy activities all day long. Activities could include reader's theater, literacy games, book mark making, literacy Kahoot, and/or mad libs. Be sure to ask your child about the activities they participated in during this special day. We will have a community read in at 10:30AM in our gym on November 26. We hope you can join us! Don't forget to bring with you your favorite book.

Parent/Teacher Conferences & Scholastic Book Fair

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the 1st trimester. Our school-wide parent/teacher conference night is November 26. Classroom teachers have started sending home conference sign up sheets. We encourage you to attend as our teachers are excited to share with you the progress your child has made during the first trimester. We will also have the Scholastic Book Fair open the night of conferences so please stop by and check out the awesome books we will have available for you to purchase. We are looking for parents to volunteer an hour or two of their time working at our book fair. If you are interested in volunteering your time to help our with our book fair please contact Melanie Smith at msmith@rsu18.org or by calling 465-2965. Thank you. Everyone will receive a flyer with all of the Scholastic Book Fair details.

Educationally Yours,

Melanie Smith, principal

PLEASE HELP US SUPPORT THE WATERVILLE HUMANE SOCIETY

Our Kindness Crew members have organized a food and supply drive for our local humane society. Please see the list of items below if you would like to donate. Thank you.

- Dawn dishwashing liquid
- Dye-free dry cat/kitten food
- Canned cat food
- Dye-free dry dog
- Wet dog food / -blankets or towels
- Tennis balls & cat toys
- Slow feeders (for food / water)
- Kitten Milk Replacer (KMR)

IMPORTANT DATES

- 11/7: PTA Meeting in the WES Music Room
- 11/8: NO SCHOOL - Teacher Workshop
- 11/11: NO SCHOOL - Veterans Day
- 11/14: Gr. 3& 4 Music Concert 6:30PM at MHS PAC
- 11/26: Community Read In at 10:30AM in our gym
- 11/26 Parent/Teacher Conference Night 3-7
- 11/25-11/26 & 12/2-12/6: Scholastic Book Fair at WES
- 11/27-11/29— Thanksgiving Break. **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

