

From Mrs. Smith's Desk

Dear Families,

I can not believe we only have two weeks left of the 2019-2020 school year! This is certainly a year we will never forget. I want to thank you all for your patience as we navigated distance learning together. I also want to thank you for your outstanding efforts as you tackled teaching your child(ren) each day with the materials we provided during our closure. We could not have done this without you. I heard this quote recently, "We are not all in the same boat, but we are all in the same storm." This is so true. Everyone's situation is different, however at the end of the day we all did our absolute best and that is what matters most. On Tuesday, May 12 we had a virtual parent meeting to collect feedback regarding our distance learning efforts, hear suggestions and answer any questions parents had about the rest of the school year, fall and transition to Middle School. We appreciate all of the feedback you provided as it will greatly help us tweak our plans moving forward. We understand your concerns about the fall of 2020. It will look different but we will be prepared to meet our students where they are at and move them forward. Our teachers will be having conversations with the previous grade level teachers to determine essential skills and topics to tackle at the start of the 2020-2021 school year. I want to reassure all of you...that your children will be fine. We have missed you all so much. We look forward to welcoming your children with open arms in the fall.

Student Belongings Pick Up

Our teachers have been busy collecting your child's items from their lockers, desks and classroom bins. We are in the process of bagging up all items. Mrs. Gronlie, our art teacher, has been busy packing up each student's art pieces so that our students can share their amazing artwork with you. Student belongings may be picked up from May 26 through June 19 during the hours of 9AM - 2PM. If these pick up times do not work for you, please call our office so that we can determine another plan. Also, when picking up your child's belongings, please return any library books your child has at home. We will have a library book return bin outside near the entrance of our school. We will also have our Lost & Found rack outside for you to look through to ensure your child has all of their items. After June 19, any items remaining on our Lost & Found rack will be donated.



Principal's Reading Challenge & Read to Ride Challenge

Our Principal's Reading Challenge is still taking place. We will collect completed forms when you pick up your child's belongings. We will also collect forms during the summer (you may drop it off or mail it in) and students may also return the form in the fall. If 75 students complete the challenge we will have an Egg Smash Challenge. Also, students in grades 3 through 5 will have an opportunity to participate in the Read to Ride Challenge. Messalonskee Middle School is also participating, so our 5th grade students can turn in their Read to Ride Passports at the MMS main office in the fall. *"Summer is the perfect time to explore the world through books — learn about topics of interest, escape to real and imaginary places and let your mind explore new worlds. To make summer reading even more fun, take the Read to Ride Summer Reading Challenge. Read at least 500 minutes this summer to qualify for a chance to win one of 48 bikes and helmets generously donated by the [Maine Freemasons](https://www.maine.gov/doe/learning/content/ela/initiatives/literacyforme/readtoride)."* (<https://www.maine.gov/doe/learning/content/ela/initiatives/literacyforme/readtoride>). Both forms are attached to this newsletter. ****You may log minutes read on both forms. :)**

PRINCIPALS' READING CHALLENGE 2020

Each box must be a minimum of 20 minutes reading time

Read to your pet	Read under the covers	Read a comic book	Read Outside	Read for 20 minutes
Read a book that won an award	Read in the dark with a flashlight	Read a book with no pictures	Read for 25 minutes	Read in a comfy chair
Read in a fort	Read to an adult	Read in your pjs	Read for 30 minutes	Read to someone over Facetime or computer
Read a book with pictures	Read a nonfiction book	Read for 40 minutes	Read on a Friday night	Read while eating a snack

You must:

1. Mark off 15 or more boxes (you may only mark one box/day)
2. Have an adult sign off in each box
3. Send a picture of you with your completed form to your teacher by email or Dojo or return it when we return to school

IF 75+ students complete the challenge, Your Principal will complete the Egg Smash Challenge!

Virtual Talent Show



Mr. Engleright is hosting our 1st ever Virtual Talent Show. Parents can sign their child(ren) up to participate in the talent show by emailing Mr. Engleright at pengleright@rsu18.org no later than Wednesday, May 27. In the email, please include the student's first and last name, and the talent they will be sharing. (Examples: Juggling, singing, shooting a basketball, doing a gymnastics routine, etc.). Each student will have 3 minutes to show their talent. Students are encouraged to practice to ensure that their performance meets the 3 minute criteria. I can't wait to see the talents our students showcase!

Educationally Yours,

Melanie Smith

Summer Resources for Parents & Students to Check Out

These sites are amazing!

<https://www.pbs.org/parents/page/summer-fun-activities> - fun activities, ideas and games

<https://thewonder.us/explorers-club/> - go on adventures around the world

<http://camp.wonderopolis.org/> - free STEM-based and literacy based activities

<https://diy.org/#courses> - "Drawing Bootcamp", "Strange Science" & "Build Anything Lego"

<https://www.startwithabook.org/> - reading material, vocabulary & hands- on activities

<https://www.varsitytutors.com/virtual-summer-camps> - Legos/ Minecraft/Crack the case

<https://brainchase.com/register/> - academic scavenger hunts

IMPORTANT DATES

May 25: NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day

May 26 - June 19: Families will be able to pick up their child's belongings from 9-2PM staff will meet you at the door to pick up your child's items.

May 27: Last day to sign up to participate in the Virtual Talent Show

May 29: WES Virtual Talent Show hosted by Mr. Engleright at 6PM

June 5: Last Student Day

June 10: 5th Grade Promotion Event at WES at 6PM

June 17: Report cards will be mailed home.

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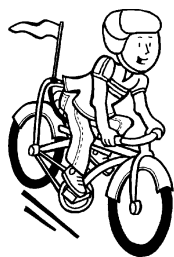
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Read to Ride

Summer 2020 Reading Challenge



Summer is the perfect time to explore the world through books—learn about topics of interest, escape to real and imaginary places and let your mind explore new worlds. To make summer reading even more fun, take the *Read to Ride Summer Reading Challenge*. Read at least 500 minutes this summer to qualify for a chance to win one of 48 bikes and helmets generously donated by the [Maine Freemasons](#).

Follow these simple steps to complete the challenge:

- Read (or for young learners, be read to) at least 500 minutes this summer—that’s just 20 minutes a day for 25 days.
- Record your reading on the *Read to Ride* Passport.
- Ask your parent/guardian to document your reading by signing your passport.
- Return your passport to your school principal by September 4, 2020.

All completed passports will be entered into a school level drawing. Two students from each participating school will have their names entered in the Maine Department of Education’s drawing to be held on September 25, 2020. Winners will be notified on September 25, 2019.

Note: If your school participates in [Scholastic Summer Read A-Palooza](#), it is an allowable method for logging and documenting your reading minutes. Follow your school’s instructions for documenting you have completed at least 500 minutes of reading.

