



PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER



**WELLFLEET
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Mary Beth Rodman, Principal

November 2017

Report Cards & Parent-Teacher Conferences

Marks close on Wednesday, November 8th. The first term Report Cards will be sent home on Wednesday, November 15th. Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Thursday, November 16th and Friday, November 17th. Conferences provide parents an opportunity to discuss their child's progress with teachers and specialists. Childcare will be provided and we ask that you register in advance. To reserve a spot for childcare, contact Mrs. DeSandis at 508-349-3101 ext. 10 or at desandisa@nausetschools.org.

Save-the-Date

Come celebrate "A Night in the Library" on Tuesday, December 5th from 5:30 – 6:30 PM. All WES families are invited to come read a nighttime story with a high-school volunteer, create a night sky, wrap a book to give to a special person, enjoy a warm beverage, and much more!

November School Holidays

Please note on the WES November calendar:

1. School is CLOSED on Veteran's Day: Friday, November 10th.
2. School is CLOSED for the Thanksgiving Recess: November 22nd-26th.



School Picture Retake Day

Hayward Photography will be at WES on Thursday, November 16th for School Picture Retake Day. If your child missed Picture Day in September or if you would like their photo retaken, you can order photo packages in advance online at <http://www.haywardphotography.com>

PTA Reminder

Parents and staff may join the PTA at any time during the school year. There is no time commitment required to join. Just bring your ideas and enthusiasm!

The next PTA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 6:00 PM in the WES Library. Meetings typically last an hour.

For more information about PTA and upcoming events, please contact PTA President, Charity Robinson at charityanne75@aol.com.

Annual Coat Swap

The Wellfleet Elementary School Council's Annual Coat Swap will run from Wednesday November 1st through Friday, December 15th. You are welcome to drop off donations of gently worn coats, snow pants, boots, hats, gloves, and scarves in the WES Main Office during school hours. You do not have to bring a donation in order to take an item from the Coat Swap.



Farmer in the School

Farmer Stephanie wrapped up fall classes at the end of October. Our hoop house volunteer, Ema Chomsky, has returned to her home town of Mexico City! This fall students participated in planting, growing, and eating pea shoots, radishes, lettuce, and kale. They harvested potatoes, garlic, and rosemary, which Mrs. Nannini served roasted, in the cafeteria. Students also planted and harvested basil and sampled homemade pesto at lunch. Lessons included the creation of soil, weather and climate change, the impact humans have on the environment, the water cycle, and much more. Farmer in the School curriculum supports the DESE standards by grade level with hands on, experiential learning. We thank the WES PTA for helping to fund this program. We hope to see Farmer Stephanie back at the end of March!



Flu Prevention

This is good time of year to consider getting a flu shot for you and your family. It is the best way to prevent seasonal flu. Other prevention strategies include good hand hygiene by washing hands well and often. Teach children to "catch their coughs and sneezes" in their elbows. If you or a family member does get sick, limit contact with others, take time to rest, and stay hydrated. Also, use analgesic medication such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen, keep the room cool and allow fresh air to circulate. Gargling with warm, salt water can soothe a sore throat and drinking water with honey and lemon helps to soothe a cough. It's time to seek medical care if the cough lasts longer than a week, a fever is higher than 104 degrees and does not go down with home treatment or lasts more than 3 days, the person is not drinking enough fluids or can't hold them down, has a stiff neck or severe headache, has unusual sensitivity to bright light, presents with unusual skin rash, or has severe swelling of the throat, or just doesn't seem to be getting better.

Light on Literacy - with Mrs. Kocaba

Did you know that November is Family Literacy Month, during which time we acknowledge and celebrate the important role that families play in their children's literacy development? Here are a few suggested activities for families:

- Set aside time each day for literacy-related activities (e.g., reading for 20 to 30 minutes)
- When you watch a video or movie, read the book version and discuss the story.
- Share and discuss current news, sports, cultural, and school events.
- Host a reading, science, art, dance, or music activity at your home and ask neighbors to take turns as hosts.
- Create family portfolios reflecting pictures, stories, poems, and drawings with captions.
- Develop a family action plan for wellness, i.e., nutrition, stress management, exercise, etc.
- Make regular visits to the library.
- Use everyday activities to incorporate literacy (e.g., develop shopping lists, read signs and labels at the grocery store, count money, measure and read recipes when cooking, count and read street signs when traveling, etc.)

Again this year!

Open year-round, the **Parent ShELF**, a special section created just for parents, has become part of the ELF Corner in the WES lobby. This lending library operates on the honor system. You'll find an interesting selection of books on a variety of topics. Make yourself comfortable and read right there or check out your selection(s) the old-fashioned way. Just fill out the index card located in the book and file it in the card box. When you return the book, just note the date on the card and replace it in the book. It's that simple.

Please visit my Teacher Site on the Wellfleet Elementary School homepage for more information about upcoming events and topics related to reading.

<http://www.nausetschools.org/webpages/kkocaba/>

