



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

May 29, 2020

Dear Botelle Families,

Congratulations to REX! The invention he made, You Got Mail, advanced to the NATIONAL Invention Convention competition. Judging at the national level takes place in June. To learn more about Rex and his invention, be on the lookout for an article in the Norfolk Now by Dr. Virginia Coleman-Prisco. Way to go Rex!



More good news to share... our 6th grade students will be getting their own Chromebooks to take to Northwestern. Patricia Coffey, Ava's mom, submitted a grant proposal to the Norfolk CT Children's Foundation and it was approved.

Our Safety and Security Committee will meet next week to discuss the reopening of school. The committee is comprised of parents, teachers, staff, administrators, local emergency and health officials and Board of Education members. Although we have not been given all of the guidance we will need to make a comprehensive plan, the committee will begin discussions and will share information with families as soon as we have it.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 6/2-6/5 Teacher Professional Learning from 1-3pm
- 6/2 BOE Meeting @ 6pm
- 6/9 Virtual Field Day (rain date 6/10) - schedule and details below
- 6/12 Last Day of School and Reverse Parade - times TBD



Original Works Fundraiser

Don't miss out on the opportunity to order your child's Original Works artwork! Please see the Original Works information for instructions on placing an order. It's easy to order and the products will be shipped right to your house! Feel free to contact Darlene Torrant at darlenetorrant@yahoo.com if you have any questions. Thank you for supporting our PTO!



Library Book Return

Mrs. Dubecky is collecting library books. Please drop off books next week between 8:30-2:30. Mrs. Dubecky will email the list of books your child has checked out. The return book bin will be located outside the main entrance. There will be gloves, disinfecting wipes and germ squirt for you to use to return the books safely.

We also want to be sure that children have access to engaging books this summer. Reading (or being read to) develops vocabulary, comprehension and increases a child's overall reading ability. To support summer reading, Mrs. Dubecky has created an interest survey for students to complete. Based on that, she will choose 5 books for your child to read and we will hand those books out on the last day of school during the Reverse Parade. The link to complete the survey is here. <https://forms.gle/EbGzkFd5wzA8s8669>



Teacher Professional Learning Days

Classroom teachers and some support staff will participate in professional learning from 1-3pm on June 2, 3, and 4. This professional learning will support math instruction and a new curricular resource that will be implemented next year. Teachers will not be available via email or for office hours during that time. It will take them longer to give feedback on work too. Thank you for your understanding.



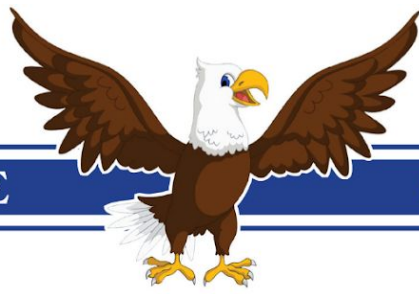
Virtual Field Day

Mr. Thorne-Kaunelis is planning a VIRTUAL field day! Each class will have an opportunity to compete in a variety of fun activities from the water balloon toss and egg spoon race to the bottle flip challenge and the dress up relay. The activities feature equipment that you have at home (water balloons will be sent home). The schedule and equipment list is at the end of the newsletter, along with the list of activities. Mr. T-K is making videos of each activity so students can participate at another date or time if they can't make the live event. Field Day is scheduled for Tuesday, June 9th with a rain date of Wednesday, June 10.



Summer Learning Activities

Each summer we encourage students to participate in the Governor's Summer Reading and Math Challenges. This year however, we want to provide families with greater options that match their interests and needs. Do you want your child to be able to use their iPad or Chromebook for summer learning? Do you want a summer packet with review worksheets for literacy and math? Please answer this 2 question [survey](#) so we know how to prepare for your child's summer learning.



Progress Reports

Students will get a progress report for the last marking period. The progress report will have different performance codes because of distance learning. The comments section will be longer for more detailed comments so you know your child's strengths and areas for growth in each content area. If you would like a virtual parent-teacher conference before progress reports go home, please contact your child's teacher.



Reverse Parade

On the last day of school we are having a "reverse" parade. Families will drive to school where staff will be holding signs and cheering for our students. There will be a pick up and drop off location. You will be able to drop off devices, library books, recorders, and other school materials. You will also be able to pick up your child's progress report, summer learning materials, personal belongings, and a special gift! Times will be scheduled by class and social distancing practices will be followed. See the flyer attached to this message for more information.

Tech Help for Parents and Students

Do you have tech issues to troubleshoot? Maybe you want a tutorial on Seesaw or Google Classroom. Join Mrs. Dubecky on Tuesday from 1-2 for live help over Google Meet. Click on the [link](#) to join. Students who want to meet with Mrs. Dubecky to troubleshoot tech problems and learn how to use different digital resources can join a weekly Google Meet session on Wednesday. K-2 students can join from 1-1:30 and students in grades 3-6 can join from 1:30-2.



Readers BLOOM in May

Your child has plenty of screen time, but what about book time? Time spent reading is the single biggest contributor to reading success. To encourage our students and families to read together, please play our reading BLOOM game. During the month of May, complete the bingo reading game called BLOOM. For more details visit the library media [website](#). The BLOOM playing card can be found there and is also posted on Google Classroom and Seesaw.

Health Updates from Mrs. Ayers

Check out Mrs. Ayers' [website](#) for healthy tips and recipes to boost immunity. Much needed during this unprecedented time.

Attendance

Teachers and staff take attendance daily. Students are reported as present if they attend live instruction OR complete their assignments. If your child is sick and will be unable to participate in live instruction or complete assignments, please email your child's teacher and Mrs. Lasko. Your email is sufficient. We do not need doctor's notes at this time.

School Website

Please visit our website for distance learning resources and information. If you've misplaced important information that was sent home in print or electronically, you can find it on the website. www.botelleschool.org

Local Resources

There are resources available to children and families in need during social distancing. Please contact the First Selectman, Matt Riiska at 860-542-5829 or by email at firstselectman@norfolkct.org

Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions big and small. We are happy to help! You can email me, message me through Class Dojo or Seesaw or call me at 860-840-7818.

Lauren 😊

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