

Botelle School Newsletter

March 6, 2020



March 9	PTO Meeting – 6:00PM
March 9 – March 13	Spirit Week
March 13	Spirit Week – Movie & Pizza Night 5:30PM - 8:00PM – Hall of Flags
March 13	2 nd Progress Report
March 16	Invention Convention
March 17*	Parent/Teacher Conferences – Evening * (New Date)
March 18	Roaring Brook Nature Center here – Intermediate Classes
March 18	All District Choral Concert @ NWR7 – 6:00PM
March 19	Early Dismissal @ 1:15PM – Parent/Teacher Conferences
March 20	Intermediate (3/4) to Hartford – CT Science Center
March 30	Cultural Event – African Drums & Dance @ 9:00AM
April 2	Roaring Brook Nature Center – here for Early Primary & Primary Classes
April 6	PTO Meeting – 6:00PM
April 7	Board of Education Meeting – 6:00PM
April 9	Early Dismissal – @ 12:00 – No Lunch Served
April 10	No School – Good Friday
April 13 – April 17	No School – Spring Vacation

BATTELL ARTS FOUNDATION YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS

As part of the Battell Arts Foundation support for young peoples' involvement in the arts, the organization is now soliciting applications for scholarships. Applicants must be residents of Norfolk or Colebrook, in grades 4-12, and studying an artistic endeavor -- such as dance, music, theater, or the visual arts. Two scholarships of \$500 are awarded. Applications are due April 9, 2020 and must be accompanied by a recommendation. For more information, contact Tom Hodgkin at 542-1222 or Hodgkin.Tom@gmail.com

NEWS FROM THE NORFOLK LIBRARY

Corner Club after school programs in March

Wednesday March 11th

Darby O'Gill and the Little People {1959}

This beloved Disney movie runs 3:45-5:15pm with Irish snacks offered. Please let us know if you can make this event.

Wednesday March 25th 3:45pm

Irish Step Dance

Members from the Horigan Academy will come to demonstrate and teach some Irish step dancing.

Pageturners Book Club- 3 spaces left!

This book group grew so large the past few years, we had to limit it to 5th and 6th graders. This spring we would like to invite 4th graders to be part of it. The book **WISHTREE** by Newbery award winner Katherine Applegate, will charm middle readers with the way creatures talk to each other and are challenged to puzzle out mysteries along the way. They will learn just enough science {to say nothing of current events} to be satisfied that this story is grounded in a familiar world. The readers, perhaps nestled under their own tree, will reflect how this country has always been shaped by newcomers who stay. This novel has been compared to a certain classic in which a tiny spider, protecting a sweet, smart runt of a pig, teaches us the power of friendship.

Please let Eileen Fitzgibbons aka Miss Eileen know if your child would like to join the Pageturners. The Norfolk Library will provide the books for the reader to keep. We will hand out the books next Wednesday. The discussion date will be decided by the group. There are only 3 spaces left so please email efitzgibbons@biblio.org asap.

Documentary Film: Always in Season

Date: 03/12/2020

Time: 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

The documentary film *Always in Season* will be shown at the Norfolk Library on Thursday, March 12, at 6:00 p.m. Combining observational footage with first-person testimonies and expert insights, the film is the first feature documentary to spotlight recent grassroots efforts to acknowledge the victims of lynching, repair the damage, and reconcile. Narrated by Danny Glover, the film explores the lingering impact of the lynchings of African Americans from over a century and connects this form of historic racial terrorism to racial violence today. The film premiered at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival and was awarded the Special Jury Prize for Moral Urgency. A moderated discussion will follow the screening. **Suggested for ages 16 and up.**

LEGAL NOTICE FOR AREAWIDE

Records Disposal

In keeping with state and federal regulations on records retention and disposal, school officials plan to destroy records of **Special Education and 504 students** who left or graduated from **Regional School District No. 7, Barkhamsted Elementary School, Colebrook Consolidated School, Botelle School in Norfolk or Hartland School** on or before June 30, 2014 or were born before July 1, 1996.

Please be advised that records may be needed for Social Security benefits or other purposes. The destruction is scheduled to take place after June 30, 2020.

Anyone wishing to review his/her records or obtain the original may do so by calling Quentin Rueckert, Director of Shared Services, at 860-379-8583, before June 15, 2020.

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

When I went to elementary school (which was longer ago than I care to admit) I never learned to write stories, poems or essays. Writing was handwriting and I learned to print all of the letters of the alphabet correctly and later "learned" cursive - a skill I rarely use today. I had to write book reports and research papers but those were assignments. I didn't learn how to write clearly or with appropriate elaboration until later. Some of you may have had a similar experience.

This isn't the case for our students. Writing is a critical literacy skill that is explicitly taught at every grade level. Students learn how to write well structured personal or fictional narratives, informational texts like How to Books, All About Books and informational essays. They even learn to write their opinions - about books and characters, current events and topics of relevance to children this age. Students write about what they know using their life

experiences or information they've learned through research. Here's the kind of writing our students are learning about and trying their hand at now-

Early Primary- How to Books like *How to Do Morning Meeting*, *How to Share*, *How to Knock*, and *How to Get Ready to Go Home*.

Primary- Opinion Writing like *Why You Should Go to Washington DC*, *Why You Should Read Henry and Mudge*, *Why you Should Go to R & B Sportsworld* and *Why You Should Read Piggie and Gerald*.

Intermediate- Historical Information Writing on The Boston Tea Party, The Battle of Gettysburg, The Loyalists vs. the Colonists and The Declaration of Independence- to name a few.

Upper Intermediate- 5th Grade is writing Historical Information Writing about the Westward Expansion. Topics include transportation methods, the Oregon Trail, the Alamo, Lewis and Clark, and the Goldrush.

6th grade is researching topics of personal interest to write opinion essays. Topics include the Civil Rights Bus Boycott, stray cats, important women in history, and eating bugs- it's good.

To find out more about our curriculum and what students learn, please check out this page on our website.

<https://www.botelleschool.org/copy-of-curriculum-and-instruction>

Best,
Lauren Valentino