



February 12, 2021 Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES



- 2/15 No School – Presidents' Day
- 2/16 Board of Education Meeting – 6:00PM (Budget)
- 3/2 Board of Education Meeting – 6:00PM

SHARED SERVICES INTEGRATED PRESCHOOL PROGRAM (SSIP)

The SSIPP is an integrated preschool program serving the needs of children ages 3 to 5 in the towns of Barkhamsted, Colebrook, Hartland and Norfolk. The program is located at the Barkhamsted School and follows the Barkhamsted School calendar.

A screening is being offered on **March 24, March 25, and March 26, 2021**, for parents who have concerns regarding their child's development. The screening process helps to identify children who may need intervention to perform successfully in school. Identified children will qualify to become a participant in the Shared Services Preschool Program. Parents who are interested in having their child attend Shared Services Integrated Preschool Program as a **role model** must submit their child's name at this time as well. In the event that there are more role model applicants than slots, a lottery will be held.

To be eligible for the program, children must live in Barkhamsted, Colebrook, Hartland, or Norfolk; be age 3 by September 1; and must have attended the screening. The lottery will be held on March 29 and parents will be notified of lottery results by March 31, 2021.

Please call the preschool program, before 9 a.m. or after 3 p.m. at 860-379-2729 ext. 202 to schedule a screening for your child. Applications for the preschool program will be available at the screening. This year the screening will be held virtually. Individual Zoom meetings will be arranged for each child. In March, each family registered for the screening will receive an email with the meeting information and a short list of materials that will be needed for the screening tasks.

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Winter is in full swing and "The Icebox" is making the snow right at home. The children are having a wonderful time playing in the snow but unfortunately, socks, pant legs, and shirt sleeves become wet. This results in cold, wet, uncomfortable kiddos of all ages. With that being said I want to urge families to please send an extra set of clothes (shirt, pants and socks) for your child, regardless of age/grade. Children can choose to keep the clothes in a bag in their classrooms. Please label the bag and clothing. The health office has a limited supply of clothing to lend out. On that note, if your child has borrowed clothing from the Health Office please wash and return them.

Healthy Tip

Be active as a family! Suggest that your family eat dinner together and then take a walk together around your neighborhood. This will not only add some extra physical activity into your day, but will create family bonding time as well.

If you ever have any health related questions please don't hesitate to contact me. I can be reached via email at nurse@botelleschool.org or via phone at 860-542-5286 option #3.

PROGRAMS AT THE NORFOLK LIBRARY

Circle the date Feb. 20th at 4pm for a puppet performance and "behind the scenes" chat with Sandglass Puppet Theater and their innovative show exploring themes of social justice and race. Register for *Rock the Boat* on the Library website.

Four TAP lessons starting Wednesday afternoons on March 3rd for ages 9 - 99 yrs!

For anyone who ever wanted to give Tap Dancing a try, this is a fun class for the whole family to participate in!! Class includes warm-up exercises and a short tap routine. Tap shoes and a piece of plywood would be ideal, though you can also take this class in hard soled shoes or even socks. Hard floor is preferred over rugs! This class will be taught by Amber Cameron, who is a Radio City Music Hall Rockette! Information about purchasing shoes on the Library website. Let Miss Eileen know if you want her to pick out books for the family. She might even deliver!

Join Food Explorers to make Cinnamon Sugar Knots with a Registered Dietitian! March 9th - 5:00PM - 6:00PM. This yeast free dough uses Greek yogurt to make a fluffy texture! You'll need the following ingredients: butter, sugar, baking powder, brown sugar, cinnamon, vanilla Greek yogurt, flour, salt and optional vanilla extract. This is a family-friendly program and an adult should be supervising in the kitchen. Please register here to be emailed the Zoom link or call the Library 860-542-5075.



COVID UPDATES

Positive cases in school this week: 0

People quarantining: 3 (all scheduled to return on Tuesday)



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

In November, it was decided that the first 5 snow days would be traditional snow days, not remote learning days and that the topic would be revisited once winter was underway. In typical "Icebox" style, the snowy weather has not disappointed! We are quickly approaching our 5th snow day and have two winter storms forecasted for next week.

As a result, teachers and staff are preparing for remote learning on the 6th snow day and beyond. This will allow us to have more continuity with instruction and prevent us from going long into June. The remote learning days will have a balance of live instructional blocks and independent learning blocks. The day will start at 8:30 and end at 1:30. Please see the schedule below for more specific information for your child's class.

To make this remote learning day positive and productive for your child, please be prepared with a fully charged iPad or Chromebook and a supply of paper and pencils. Children work best when they are dressed for school and sitting or standing at a table. Bedrooms are not ideal for remote learning - there are too many distractions. Set your child up for success and check in often to be sure they are on task and participating appropriately. We appreciate your support!

You will be receiving a letter from Dr. Iacobelli with more information about our snow day remote learning plan.