

Botelle School Newsletter

January 10, 2020



January 17	Early Dismissal at 12:00 – No Lunch Served – Teacher Professional Development
January 20	No School – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 21	An Hour with Lauren - 5:30PM
January 21	Board of Education Meeting - #211 – 6:00PM Budget
January 28	Cultural Event – Forward Motions BMX – 9:00AM
February 4	Board of Education Meeting - #211 – 6:00PM
February 12	Northwest Connecticut Read Aloud – 9:00 AM (snowdate: 2/13)
February 14	Early Dismissal @ 12:00 – No Lunch Served - Teacher Professional Development
February 17	No School – Presidents' Day
February 25	Cultural Event – Laser Science – 9:00AM
February 25	Board of Education Meeting - #211 – 6:00PM Budget

NEWS FROM THE NORFOLK LIBRARY

Merrymakers 2020 will start up again January 27th right after school until 4:30pm. This story time for 1st and 2nd graders will run for 9 weeks before we take a little break for Easter. If your child has registered with the Norfolk Library for this story hour, then there is no need to sign up again. Your reader does need to note to take the school bus to the library. If you have any questions, please contact Eileen Fitzgibbons at efitzgibbons@biblio.org.

PRINCIPALS CORNER

A full week of school in the “Icebox” with no snow or weather interruptions- what a great start to 2020! As you know, our school goals start in September, but the new year is a great time to identify some of the steps we’ve taken as a staff to meet these goals.

One of our school goals is to increase communication with families about what students are learning. Teachers and staff have identified many steps for how we can meet this goal and one way is to use the school website www.botelleschool.org to communicate information about curriculum and instruction. Please visit our website and when you do, you’ll notice a new tab labeled “Curriculum and Instruction”. You’ll find information about how curriculum is developed, an overview of our instructional programs, specific units of study for each grade level which identify what children will learn throughout the year in reading, writing, math, science and social studies. There is also information on standards, assessment and enrichment. We hope that this information provides you with another way to have a conversation with your children about what they are learning and doing at Botelle between the hours of 8:30 and 3:30!

Additional content will be added throughout the year, so please check back often and if you have any questions, we are here to answer them.

Speaking of which, if you are wondering how our students are performing and growing, please join me on Tuesday, January 21st at 5:30 for “An Hour with Lauren”. At the last Board of Education meeting, I shared

information about our students' performance and the action steps we are taking to ensure continuous growth in teaching and learning. I will repeat that presentation for families and give time for questions and answers at the end.

One of the assessments I will reference in the presentation is the STAR assessment. Maybe your children have mentioned it this past week. Three times a year students take this brief computerized assessment in reading and math so we can analyze how they are performing and growing. We use the results of this testing (and other assessments) to determine who might need additional instruction, how instruction might be differentiated for each learner and to measure our success in the instructional strategies implemented so far. It's one of many ways we track student learning.

I hope the cooperation with Mother Nature continues next week and there are no weather interruptions. Enjoy the weekend!