



November 13, 2020 NEWSLETTER

IMPORTANT DATES



- 11/20 First Progress Report
- 11/23 VIRTUAL Parent Teacher Conference (Evening)
- 11/24 Early Release - VIRTUAL Parent Teacher Conferences (Afternoon)
- 11/25 - 11/27 No School - Thanksgiving Break
- 12/1 Board of Education Meeting - 6:00 PM - Room #104
- 12/2 Picture Retake Day

NORFOLK WANTS YOUR HELP!

The Norfolk Town Fiber Optic Study Committee, recently created by Norfolk's Board of Selectmen, is exploring the viability of developing a municipally owned high speed fiber optic broadband network with accessibility for every resident and business in town. Of all the work the committee is undertaking, nothing is more important than gathering pertinent information from you and your neighbors. Please help by filling out this simple [survey](#) by December 15th.

CHANGE TO THE SCHOOL DAY

On November 30 we will return to our typical school day of 8:30-3:30. We adjusted the length of the school day to provide time for our distance learners to meet with teachers. 99% of our students are now in person learners and an extra 2 and ½ hours a week of instructional time adds up. The bus routes remain the same, and you can expect your child home at least 20 minutes later.

MASKS

Please check your child's mask to ensure it is fitting properly. Masks must consistently cover the nose and mouth. When we notice your child's nose consistently exposed, we will provide them with a disposable mask.

COLD WEATHER GEAR

The cold weather is approaching! Please be sure to send your child to school with a jacket and if there's snow on the ground, boots. We plan on eating lunch outdoors as often as possible and students have outdoor recess unless the temperature or wind chill is below 20. They will be more comfortable with the appropriate clothing.

SNOW DAY UPDATE

In our reopening plan, we proposed using a distance learning instructional model on days when school is closed due to severe weather conditions. After a great deal of discussion at the state and local levels, we've determined that it is not a particularly viable plan. Severe weather conditions are likely to cause power outages which would impact access to the internet. This is just one example of potential obstacles. Therefore, school closures due to weather (at least the first 5) will be "snow days" and will be made up at the end of the year. In the event that the winter is excessively harsh, we will rethink this plan again.

NEWS FROM THE NORFOLK LIBRARY

SMALL ACTS OF ART

On Tuesday, Nov. 17th, Susan Smith from Second Nature will lead a family workshop on Mobile Making. This eco-friendly mobile is fun to make with everyday household items such as scissors, glue, brushes, rulers, colorful papers or magazines. If you want more items, a packet can be picked up containing a dowel, embroidery thread, metal washers, and cardboard. You may pick up this packet on Nov. 14th or Nov. 16th after you have signed up for the workshop on the Library website or by calling 860 542 5075. This program is limited to 15 families and best for children in grades 2-6th grade.

PICTURE BOOK MONTH

Remember the man who won the big prize at Jeopardy? When he was asked how he did it, he said "I read PICTURE BOOKS!" November is PICTURE BOOK MONTH and the Norfolk Library invites you to read 12 PICTURE BOOKS or EASY PICTURE BOOKS this month. Illustrated children's books, also known as Picture Books and Easy Picture Books are not easier. Beautifully illustrated, they are longer and often have a more complex storyline. Some are about historical figures or events. Others are about artists and musicians describing the twists and turns of their youth. Come in and choose the ones you want, or we can pack up 12 books for your family to explore. Families who read at least 12 books by Nov. 30 will receive a \$10 gift certificate from the Berkshire Store. Sign up for this family challenge by calling the Circulation Desk at 860 542 5075! Send us a photo to post on our website!

HOMEMADE RAVIOLI

On Nov. 18, 2020 join Katie from Food Explorers and make homemade ravioli. You will learn to make your own pasta and whip up a delicious filling with NO pasta machine! All you need is a rolling pin and some basic ingredients. What fun just before Thanksgiving. Please sign up at the Norfolk Library website under Adult Programs to get the list of ingredients which are basic. You may also call the Circ Desk. We will send you a Zoon link when you register. This workshop is limited to 12 households so join up today!

HELLO FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Fall is here! I hope you have been enjoying the weather and having fun outdoors. You all have been doing a great job communicating important information with the Health Office and staff here at school. 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. I wanted to give you a friendly reminder about some things.

1. **Important Note:** If your child attends Preschool please don't forget to have them receive a flu shot. Flu shots are mandatory for Preschool students in the State of CT. Once your child receives their flu shot please send an updated immunization record to the Health Office. If you have any questions or concerns with this mandate please feel free to contact me.
2. Thank you all for calling before 9am if your child is out sick. If I am unavailable at the time of your call please leave a detailed message of the reason your child is home. A detailed message is helpful and will not require a follow up phone call. The phone number to call to report your child absent is 860-542-1904.
3. If your child is being dismissed from school from the Health Office they will be exiting and escorted from the Hall of Flags Doors (Door A4).
4. When your child returns to school after an absence please remember to send them with a [School Excuse Note](#). The link will take you to a premade note for your convenience.

5. Please remember to check the [Health Office webpage](#) often for updates and helpful information. The link will take you there directly.

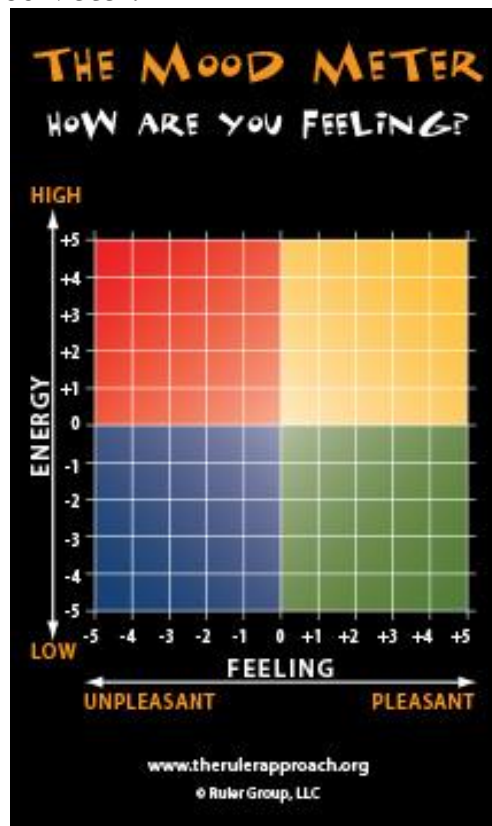
Healthy Tip of the Week

If you or your child do not like to eat fruits and vegetables don't be discouraged or give up. It takes up to ten times of trying a new food to decide if you like it or not. So try a fruit or vegetable that you have not had in a long time or a new one. You may be surprised this time!



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

I feel PROUD which is a very pleasant, high energy emotion. Proud is a feeling word in the yellow quadrant of the Mood Meter. The Mood Meter is another of the RULER core routines. Students are taught to use the Mood Meter in order to label their emotions. Our students also learn feeling words for each quadrant in order to understand the depth of emotions. Adults can use this tool too. There's even a Mood Meter app! Core routines like the Charter and the Mood Meter develop our emotional intelligence. Students who participate in social emotional learning also experience academic gains but emotional intelligence is a life-long skill that can be developed throughout our lives. Here's a graphic of the Mood Meter.



The reason I feel proud is because of the work our students and staff did to honor our veterans this week. Students made homemade cards and wrote letters. They sang patriotic songs, performed and played their instruments. Ms. Kleisner, Ms. Krusch, Mrs. Asselin and Mr. Snyder helped prepare students for their important roles. Mr. John DeShazo videotaped the performances and Ms. Krusch created an AMAZING video to share with our veterans. It wasn't the same as having our veterans and their families here on November 11 to celebrate in person, but I hope they know how much we appreciate them. If you have a veteran or someone who's active in our armed forces in your life, please share this video with them.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gtwxziEF1xRsTwYzWJL217qcbWnEdG_P/view?usp=sharing

You can also access it from our school website www.botelleschool.org

BOTELLE PTO

HANDMADE CHRISTMAS TAG PARTY FUNDRAISER

Handmade Christmas Tag Party

A Virtual Zoom Party on December 4th, 7:00 pm

Leslie Watkins will demonstrate how you can make your own beautiful Christmas tags and alternate cards. Grab some snacks, your favorite beverage and get ready to have some good crafty fun with friends... PJs are optional!

If you can't make the live Zoom party, you can still make a donation, order your tag kit and watch the video tutorial at your convenience—but you won't have the opportunity to win a prize.

Register by donating \$25 or more to get your Zoom party link, a tag kit and the chance to win a prize! Or, to simply make a donation.

[Register Here](#)

This Norfolk Community Garden Fundraiser
is presented by

The Botelle Elementary School PTO

